Surveillance & the EU’s Trade Controls

1. About the research topic
2. On COCOT questions

Machiko Kanetake

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1. **About the topic**

- Surveillance technologies & trade controls?
  - Export controls: applicable both to tangible and intangible transfer of technologies
    - E.g., software, technical data, and knowledge and the provision of technical assistance
- Dual-use export controls: primarily military risks
- Overarching question:
  - How can the protection of security and human rights be integrated in trade restrictions on digital and emerging technologies?
  - The main aim is to understand and evaluate the EU’s role, both internally and externally.
2. **COCOT questions**

- Values (to be) integrated
  - Security
    - Weapons of mass destruction
    - Cold-War narrative (balance of powers)
    - Whose security?
  - Human rights (not mutually exclusive: human security)
    - Rights of those in destination countries
    - Which rights? Potential conflict within human rights norms
    - International regulatory harmonization vs EU’s ‘unilateral’ controls
  - Risk assessment
2. COCOT questions (cont’d)

- Tensions at multiple levels
  - Conceptual tensions (security, military, and human rights)
  - Political tensions – broadly (1) among EU institutions, (2) among EU member states, (3) between the EU and international trade and export control regimes
  - Normative tensions (e.g., within various human rights)
- Effectiveness and legitimacy
  - Effectiveness: regulatory harmonization through multilateral regimes
  - Normative legitimacy for the EU’s trade controls