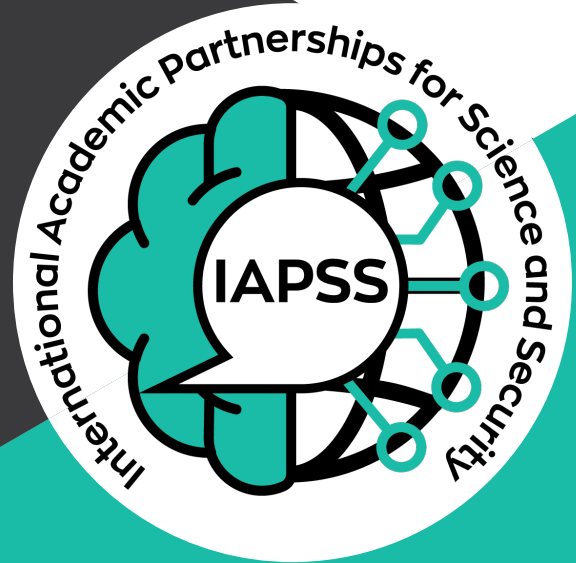




Conducting Research in the National Security Space:

**Security Clearance, Access, Data and
Ethical Considerations for ECRs to Consider**



SUMMARY



Overview

Research in the National Security domain offers a chance to significantly contribute to knowledge, policy, and practice amidst evolving global challenges. In this webinar, Sara K. Thompson shared insights into navigating the complexities of research in the national security space.

Sara emphasised the importance of access, ethical considerations, and researcher positionality, highlighting how relationship-building, understanding security clearance processes, and employing equitable methodologies can enhance research outcomes.

Resources

For questions or further details about the webinar, you can contact Sara K. Thompson directly at:

skthompson@torontomu.ca

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Key Takeaways

- ▶ **Access and Networking:** Building and maintaining relationships is crucial for access to National Security practitioners and communities. Start early, and focus on trust and mutual benefits.
- ▶ **Security Clearance:** While most community-based research doesn't require clearance, classified research demands organisational sponsorship based on the sensitivity of the material.
- ▶ **Working with Vulnerable Populations:** Community-based methods ensure equitable collaboration and minimise power imbalances, leading to richer, more relevant findings.
- ▶ **Diversity and Mentorship:** Diversifying researchers and mentoring early-career scholars are key to advancing National Security research and tackling complex modern challenges.