



The geopolitics of emerging technologies: AI, innovation and cybersecurity in an age of digital competition

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CIDOB. Elisabets 12, 08001 Barcelona

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The current geopolitical competition between the US and China has a significant technological dimension. Emerging technologies, such as Artificial Intelligence, are central to national security strategies, economic competition, and policy measures like semiconductor export controls or restrictions on social media platforms. These technologies are double-edged swords: they are essential for innovation but can also drive authoritarianism. They impact international security and relations in a world of interconnected digital economies and cybersecurity challenges. Balancing economic growth and national security, innovation and democracy, and competition and global governance of emerging technologies are critical challenges for the transatlantic relationship between the US and the EU.

**The seminar will be a closed roundtable conducted under the Chatham House Rule.*

Programme

09.45 - 10.00 **Welcome coffee**

10.00 - 10.10 **Welcome**
Pol Morillas, Director, CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs)

10.10 - 11.30 **The geopolitics of emerging technologies**
What is the current state of the US-China technological competition, and what role can the EU play? What are the democratic challenges posed by emerging technologies? How can we balance innovation with national security? How do emerging technologies impact international relations? What are the main threats and opportunities for cooperation between the US, China, and the EU in the field of emerging technologies?

Lindsay Gorman, Managing Director and Senior Fellow, German Marshall Fund Technology Program

Shawn Powers, Director for Strategic Planning and Communications, Bureau of Cyberspace and Digital Policy, U.S. Department of State

Shane Tews, Nonresident Senior Fellow, American Enterprise Institute

Moderated by **Javier Borràs**, Research Fellow, CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs)

Followed by a debate between all the speakers and invited participants.