

## **Program #77**

### Legislating Intelligence: Information Verification and Avoiding Groupthink in Cross-Border Intelligence Sharing.

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**Program Type:** Committee

**Track(s):** Public International Law

Today's conflicts require worldwide cooperation between civilian and military intelligence providers in maintaining the integrity of the decision-making processes in winning the global war on terror. Intelligence gathering may be dictated to the extent that foreign entities provide only what is expected or agreeable to their patron consumer, the United States. The specter of 'groupthink' in intelligence collection and interpretation is manifest in multiple contexts, such as Iraq, in our ready support and acceptance of information from such self-interested actors as Akhmed Chalabi. However, even among autonomous entities, closed information systems may peremptorily reject independently verifiable information which flies in the face of deeply rooted institutionalized prejudices. A panel will discuss the causative factors underlying such fatal phenomena, and present both systemic and institutional approaches toward the implementation of legal mechanisms and institutions necessary for the independent verification of intelligence critical in maintaining the integrity of the decision-making processes and winning the global war on terror.

**Sponsoring Committee(s):** National Security Committee

**Additional Committee/Other Sponsors:**

**Program Format:** A group of experts will discuss the causative factors of groupthink as it applies to international intelligence gathering, and suggest implementation of legal institutions and mechanisms necessary for independent information verification.

**Speakers:** Chair/Moderator: Jonathan Meyer, National Security Committee

Legal/Military:

Margaret D. Stock, Lieutenant Colonel, Military Police Corps, US Army Reserve, (assigned as a Drilling Mobilization Augmentee) (DIMA) (Associate Professor), Prof. of Law and National Security, Department of Social Sciences, USMA, West Point, NY.

Legal Scholars:

Additional Law Professor: Law, National Security & Intelligence, Presently contacting, TBD

Social Scientist, TBD

Authors Articles, TBD

**Target Audience:**

ABA Website Posting General & National Security Committee  
E-mail to SIL & Committee Listserve  
E-Mail to ABA Standing Committee on National Security Listserve  
University Outreach  
Government Agency Outreach....

**Additional program description:** This panel will discuss the causative factors underlying groupthink as applied to international intelligence gathering, and present both a systemic and institutional approach toward the implementation of the legal mechanisms and institutions necessary for the independent verification of intelligence.

**Is this a CLE program?** Yes

**Program Proposal Received on:** 9/25/2008

**Notes from Proposal Submitter:**

**Additional Notes:**