

## *Cyber Ethics 4.0: Serving Humanity with Values*



Photo by [Erik Eastman](#) on [Unsplash](#)

# Module 8

## Spying and Intelligence



# Introduction

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*“Without our ability to access telecommunications call data and intercept communications [we] cannot guarantee the level of safety assurance that people expect .... The fact is that in the last eight or nine years we have stopped four mass casualty terrorist attacks ... and nipped quite a number of others in the bud at the very early planning stage.”*



# The Context of Intelligence: An Ethical Exception?

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Intelligence is a secret information, or activities conducted to produce or procure it, in order to maintain or improve national and international security





# The Context of Intelligence: An Ethical Exception?

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Secrecy is “an intrinsic and necessary feature ...  
of [an agency’s] mandate and functions”



# The Context of Intelligence: An Ethical Exception?

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What is ethically acceptable does not apply as easily to the domain of intelligence

## Classical and Current Thinking on Ethics

- The concept of ethics is generally based on an understanding of what is acceptable and moral, as determined by the rules and values of a given society;
- it is “a set of behavioral guidelines based on certain beliefs regarding the role of intelligence in society”





A young boy is looking through a telescope mounted on a tripod. The scene is set in a room with a large window that looks out onto a balcony and lush greenery. The boy is wearing a light-colored shirt and patterned shorts. The telescope is a classic brass and black model. The overall atmosphere is one of quiet observation and discovery.

# Classical and Current Thinking on Ethics

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Interrelationship between ethics and law –  
what is morally questionable yet legal, or  
morally justifiable but illegal.

## Classical and Current Thinking on Ethics

Members of Al Qaeda and the Taliban were not entitled to prisoner-of-war status, so international law was not applicable, allowing for 'non-white collar' treatment.







# Classical and Current Thinking on Ethics

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Intelligence gathering will not always be ethical, but neither will it always be legal. Better guidelines for ethical intelligence need to integrate ethics, the concept of harm and law.

Classical and  
Current  
Thinking on  
Ethics

Kant

Machiavellian

21st Century  
Intelligence:  
New  
Challenges  
for Ethics

**The Changing  
Nature of  
Threats**



21st Century  
Intelligence:  
New  
Challenges  
for Ethics

**The Changing  
Nature of Threats**

**Technology**

21st Century  
Intelligence:  
New  
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for Ethics

The Changing Nature of  
Threats

Technology

Outsourcing

21st Century  
Intelligence:  
New  
Challenges  
for Ethics

The Changing Nature of Threats

Technology

Outsourcing

Cooperation



21st Century  
Intelligence:  
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for Ethics

The Changing Nature of Threats

Technology

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Cooperation

Norms and Values

Three  
Dilemmas:  
Ethical  
Intelligence in  
Practice

**Ethics in  
Practice: Public  
vs Primary  
Goods?**

Three  
Dilemmas:  
Ethical  
Intelligence in  
Practice

**Ethics in Practice:  
Public vs Primary  
Goods?**

**Ethics in Practice:  
Wartime Vs. Peace?**



# Three Dilemmas: Ethical Intelligence in Practice

**Ethics in Practice: Public vs  
Primary Goods?**

**Ethics in Practice: Wartime  
Vs. Peace?**

**Ethics in Practice: The Ethics-  
Effectiveness Trade-Off?**

The End