



# The War Against ISIS Through Social Media

July 6, 2015 **Richard M. Harrison**

**Related Categories:** Cybersecurity and Cyberwarfare; Middle East

On July 7, the American Foreign Policy Council (AFPC) held the fourth installment of its Defense Technology Program's Understanding Cybersecurity lunch briefing series for Congressional Staffers. This event, entitled, "How the Caliphate is Communicating: Understanding and Countering the Islamic State's Messaging outlined how and why the Islamic State has been winning the "war of ideas" through the use of social media, and how the group is using social media to further its operations.

The event was moderated by AFPC Defense Technology Program Director Rich Harrison and featured cyber and social media experts Dr. Abraham Wagner, Dr. Rand Waltzman, and Amb. Alberto Fernandez.

The experts addressed areas where ISIS has been successful, discussed social media trends, and identified areas where the West can take advantage of ISIS' vulnerabilities and disrupt its propaganda campaign, recruitment efforts and other means of attack. The three articles enclosed herein are based on the speakers' presentations.

*To access the full report in its entirety, please read the downloadable file below.*