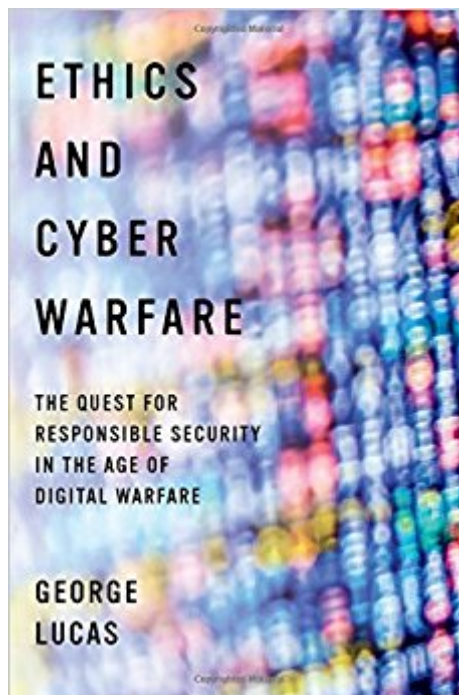


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# Ethics And Cyber Warfare: The Quest For Responsible Security In The Age Of Digital Warfare



## Synopsis

From North Korea's recent attacks on Sony to perpetual news reports of successful hackings and criminal theft, cyber conflict has emerged as a major topic of public concern. Yet even as attacks on military, civilian, and commercial targets have escalated, there is not yet a clear set of ethical guidelines that apply to cyber warfare. Indeed, like terrorism, cyber warfare is commonly believed to be a war without rules. Given the prevalence of cyber warfare, developing a practical moral code for this new form of conflict is more important than ever. In *Ethics and Cyber Warfare*, internationally-respected ethicist George Lucas delves into the confounding realm of cyber conflict. Comparing "state-sponsored hacktivism" to the transformative impact of "irregular warfare" in conventional armed conflict, Lucas offers a critique of legal approaches to governance, and outlines a new approach to ethics and "just war" reasoning. Lucas draws upon the political philosophies of Alasdair MacIntyre, John Rawls, and Jürgen Habermas to provide a framework for understanding these newly-emerging standards for cyber conflict, and ultimately presents a professional code of ethics for a new generation of "cyber warriors." Lucas concludes with a discussion of whether preemptive self-defense efforts - such as the massive government surveillance programs revealed by Edward Snowden - can ever be justified, addressing controversial topics such as privacy, anonymity, and public trust. Well-reasoned and timely, *Ethics and Cyber Warfare* is a must-read for anyone with an interest in philosophy, ethics, or cybercrime.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 208 pages

Publisher: Oxford University Press; 1 edition (December 13, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0190276525

ISBN-13: 978-0190276522

Product Dimensions: 9.3 x 0.7 x 6.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 1 customer review

Best Sellers Rank: #355,243 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #88 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Public Affairs & Policy > Military Policy #96 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Elections & Political Process > Media & Internet #173 in Books > Textbooks > Social Sciences > Military Sciences

## Customer Reviews

"...a convincing case for relying on incrementalism and experience. Essential." -- Choice "There is no more 21st century issue, in both its technology and complexity, than cybersecurity. And yet the conversation around it is too often simplistic and stuck in the past. In this new book, George Lucas helps turn the tide. He lays out the critical new legal and ethical issues, in war, in peace, and in that fuzzy space in between, providing much needed depth and nuance. A valuable resource for those interested in the crucial new areas where technology, war, and ethics cross." -- Peter W. Singer, Strategist at New America and author of *Cybersecurity and Cyberwar: What Everyone Needs to Know* and *Ghost Fleet* "This highly engaging book raises new and important issues relating to cyber warfare ethics that deserve our thoughtful attention." -- Dorothy E. Denning, Distinguished Professor at the Naval Postgraduate School and author of *Information Warfare and Security* "In this remarkably clear, succinct, and engaging narrative, George Lucas illuminates the bewildering terrain in which cyberwars are already being waged... With a deep appreciation for the history and foundations of military ethics, George Lucas is uniquely positioned to address controversies surrounding the various approaches to manage the dangers cyber warfare poses to humanity. In his extremely able hands, ethics does not function as rationalizations for actions after the fact, but rather serves as the application of a 'sound strategy' toward combating the cyber insecurity that haunts those charged to safeguard the public." -- Wendell Wallach, Interdisciplinary Center for Bioethics, Yale University, author of *A Dangerous Master: How to Keep Technology from Slipping Beyond Our Control* "Lucas proposes a foundation on which future ethics can be developed. Citing a variety of well-known authorities, he makes a convincing case for relying on incrementalism and experience...Summing Up: Essential. All readership levels." --CHOICE

Recently retired as the Distinguished Chair in Ethics in the Vice Admiral James B. Stockdale Center for Ethical Leadership at the United States Naval Academy, and as Professor of Ethics and Public Policy at the Graduate School of Public Policy at the Naval Postgraduate School, George Lucas is currently a Visiting Distinguished Research Professor at the John J. Reilly Center for Science, Technology & Values at the University of Notre Dame. He is the author of *Anthropologists in Arms* (Alta Mira, 2009) and *Military Ethics: What Everyone Needs to Know* (Oxford University Press, 2015).

I read this for interest in the subtitle 'The quest for responsible security in the age of digital warfare.' Moral philosophy is a poor approach for learning the issue. The important considerations are entirely practical. Except for deletion of information on Stuxnet and the Tallinn attacks, the book

would require little change if applied to conventional or nuclear weaponry. This is a five star discussion of the moral philosophy of war with only vague applicability to cyber security. Perhaps I'm not qualified to read this book without prior research.

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