Abstract

This thesis explores the potential of machine learning in enhancing the enforcement of cluster and nuclear international regimes. Machine learning might prove to be a powerful tool for processing large amounts of information and could enhance the capabilities of non-state actors to increasingly participate in controlling regime compliance.

The theoretical foundation of this thesis is built upon three key pillars: regime theory, machine learning and constructivism. Regime theory provides a framework for understanding the core mechanism that create both anti-proliferation and prohibition regimes. The aim of this thesis is to combine regime theory with machine learning to explore the ramifications of potential deployment of machine learning within those regimes.

The results from the analysis suggest that machine learning could significantly help with monitoring prohibition regimes. Its potential lies especially in the field of open-source intelligence, where it enables to process the cast amounts of data. This could in turn significantly help non-state entities like NGOs and their campaigns

Therefore, in this thesis it is argued that the utilisation of machine learning especially by non-governmental organisation enables them to increasingly influence prohibition regimes by shifting narratives by effectively exposing perpetrator's defection from the regime and instating proportional retaliation in time.