High-Consequence Decision Making in Defense, Intelligence and Government:
An Info-Gap Approach

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Abstract
There is a moral imperative to do one’s best when making high-consequence decisions for defense and security. However, our understanding is often wrong and we are frequently surprised by innovations and events. Using our faulty models in trying to optimize policy outcomes is infeasible, even irresponsible. The practical implication of severe uncertainty is that we must ask: What outcomes are required? What performance is essential? How can we be robust against surprise? We describe the methodology of info-gap decision theory, and consider several examples: the US decision to invade Iraq in 2003, force development planning, and the paradox of optimal monitoring and surveillance for intelligence.

Selected references in military affairs

General introduction to info-gap theory

Books on info-gap theory and application

More sources: info-gap.com

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