

**WikiLeaks: Implications for State Control in the Cyber Age**  
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Abstract

An old definition of state sovereignty is “The sovereign is obeyed and does not obey.” We are a long way from that definition in today’s globalized world, but the state still retains significant powers of control, not least in the control of information. The brief history of WikiLeaks illustrates both the challenges that the Internet poses to state power and the legal and extra-legal means at the state’s disposal to exert control over the Internet. It raises questions of the trade-offs between the need for secrecy in matters touching on national security and the democratic values of transparency in government and broad rights to freedom of information. In my talk I will discuss these issues, as well as the related implications of WikiLeaks for journalism and for the protection of whistleblowers.