



OTTAWA CONFERENCE
ON SECURITY AND DEFENCE
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[Helsing](#)

Dr. Benjamin Tallis is Head of Thought Leadership at Helsing, Europe's leading defense AI company. Founded in 2021 to use AI to protect democracies, Helsing now employs more than 1000 people working to deliver AI-enabled systems and autonomous mass across all domains.

A prominent expert on European security and geopolitics, Ben has over two decades of experience as a government advisor, academic, and security practitioner, including service on EU missions in Ukraine and the Balkans.

At Helsing, Ben leads the 'Mastering Military Change' project, working with senior military leaders and defense intellectuals. The project is built on the premise that technology alone does not deliver military advantage; rather, it creates the possibility of advantage if paired with the right Operational Concepts, Doctrine, and Force Structures. By marrying military history with cutting-edge AI and autonomy, the project helps NATO states maximize the effectiveness of their transformative rearmament to ensure deterrence.

Previously a leading think-tanker, Ben has published extensively, including on the war in Ukraine, European security, Germany's Zeitenwende and the strategic centrality of emerging technologies. He is the author of three books, including Turning Point, Identities,





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Borderscape, Orders and To Ukraine With Love, and he pioneered the concept of 'Neo-Idealism' in international relations. Ben is a recipient of the EU's ESDP Medal and, in 2024, was awarded the Medal of Honour by the Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs for his services to European security.