

Johns Hopkins Institute for Assured Autonomy  
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Present

# The Cyber Weapons Arms Race



**Nicole Perlroth**

*The New York Times*  
Cybersecurity Reporter

March 4, 2021 | 4:00–5:00 pm  
Click [here](#) to access this virtual event  
<<http://bit.ly/Nicole-Perlroth>>  
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## ABSTRACT

Nicole Perlroth is *The New York Times* cybersecurity reporter and the author of *This Is How They Tell Me the World Ends*, the untold history of the global cyber arms trade and cyberweapons arms race spanning three decades. Perlroth reveals for the first time the classified market's origins (a Russian attack on American embassy), its Godfather, brokers, mercenaries, hackers and its spread to the furthest corners of the globe, from the United States to Israel, the Middle East, South America, China and beyond. She documents attacks across nations and how each new attack builds on the last, as nation states learn and improve upon one another's playbooks, extending into high-profile attacks on multi-national companies and private organizations. Perlroth's reporting spans the period from the 1990s to the 2020 election and its aftermath, when Russia has been engaged in a months-long hack of the United States federal government itself, an attack that Perlroth continues to report for the *Times*, building on her book's extraordinary revelations.

## BIO

Nicole Perlroth is an award-winning cybersecurity journalist for *The New York Times*, where her work has been optioned for both film and television. She is a regular lecturer at the Stanford Graduate School of Business and a graduate of Princeton University and Stanford University. She lives with her family in the Bay Area, but increasingly prefers life off the grid in their cabin in the woods.

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