INAF 6382 TechNatlSec | Wichowski

Assignment #1

**POLICY PAPER 🡪 TALKING POINTS CONVERSION**

The goal of this assignment is to convert policy language into plain English. The reason to do this is to help busy important people quickly understand what they’re supposed to be talking about WITHOUT having to read off a sheet of paper. Therefore, talking points should be written in the simplest and clearest possible language, with key points, facts or statistics highlighted.

This is hard! But it’s also excellent training for many kinds of writing. For this assignment, use the following two-step process (examples pg 2):

1. Convert 4 headings and one example per heading into the simplest words possible, using the “The Up-Goer Five Text Editor” (<http://splasho.com/upgoer5/>). This tool only permits the most commonly used 1000 English words
2. Find the middle ground from policy-language to simple-language to write your talking points

Choose **one (1)** document from the following categories, and four (4) headings and examples from that document. Use the template provided.

* Internet & terrorism
* Surveillance / protection of citizen data
* Tools for civilian engagement
* Tools for infrastructure control / defense
* Democratic or autocratic use of tools
* Blockchain technology & cryptocurrency
* Machine learning / AI
* Predictive policing / algorithm-based policy making
* Citizen and social movements use of tools
* Political, technological, ideological or financial entity use of tools
* Evidence of shifting power balance among players
* Evidence of civil rights erosion / gains in light of new technology or regimes