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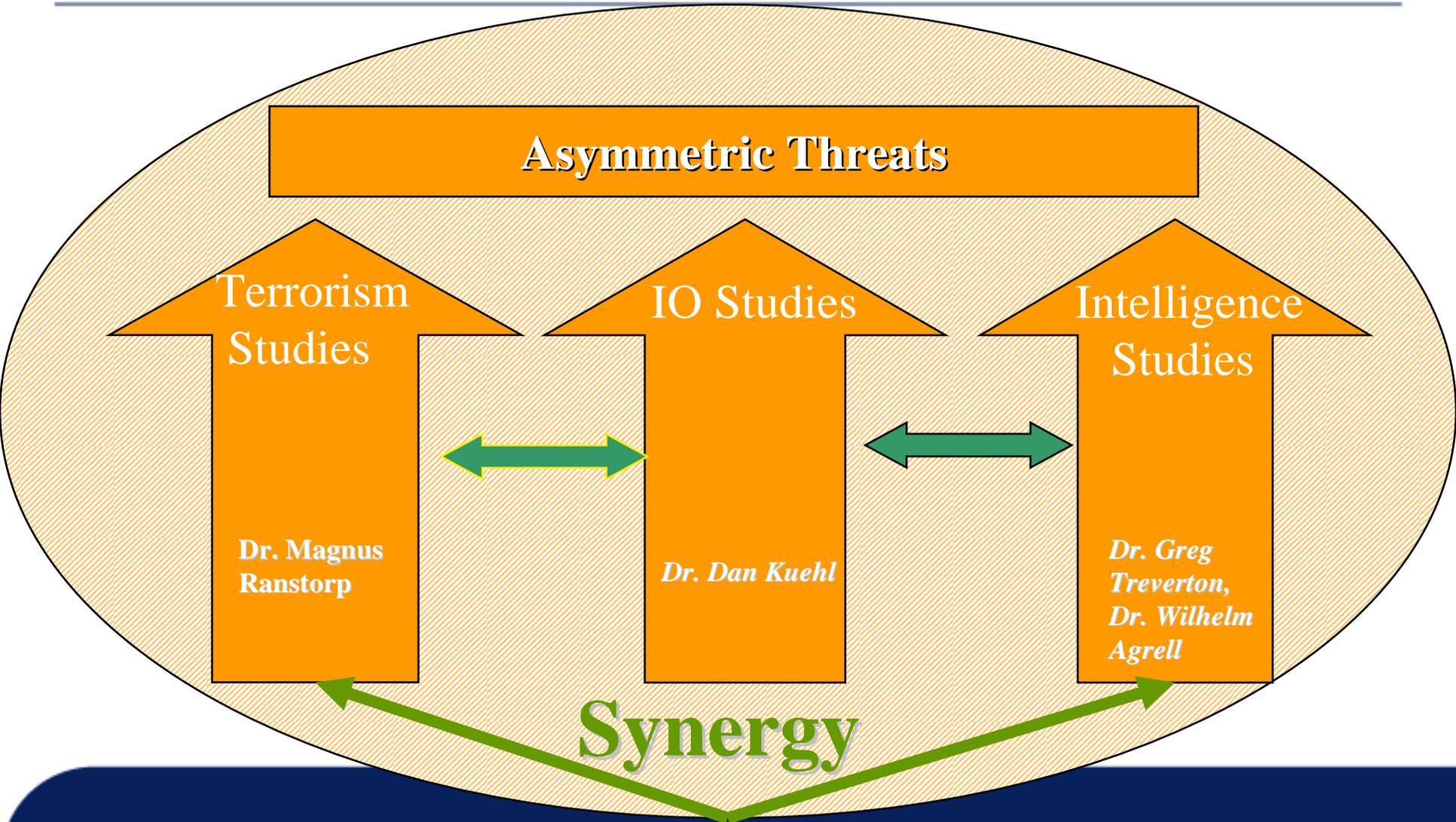
DHS University Network
Summit

2008-03-20



CATS

Center for Asymmetric Threat Studies



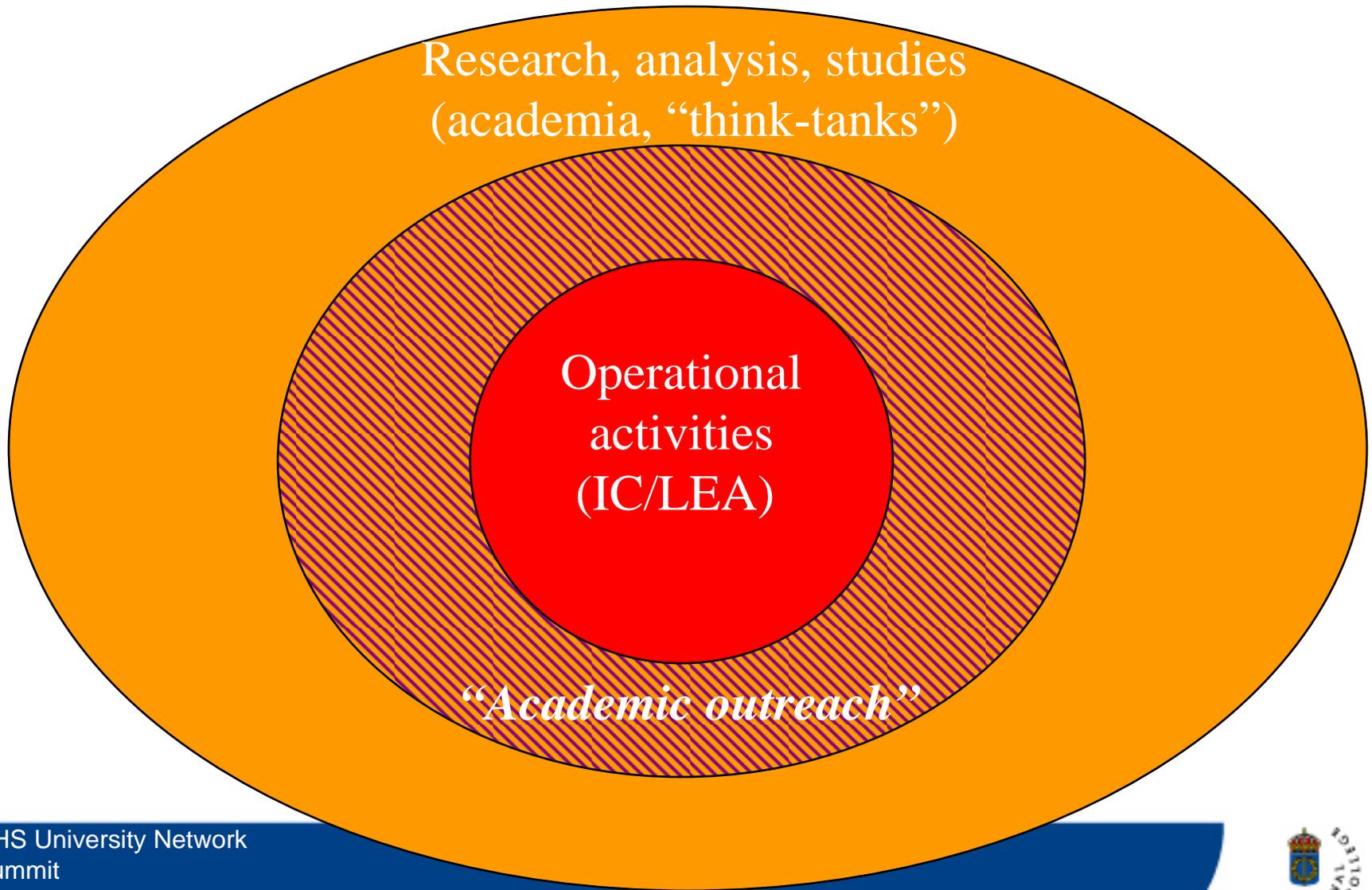
Three Asymmetric Pillars

- Terrorism Studies – Dr. Magnus Ranstorp
 - SEMA-project on CT Policy
 - EU-project Poseidon
 - Cabinet Assignment on Counter-Radicalization
 - SIDA-case-study within Terrorism and Development
- IO Studies – Dr. Dan Kuehl, NDU (Visiting Professor)
 - Elective on the Military Intermediate Programme (Mj -> LtCol)
 - Project on Estonia attacks and International Law (SEMA)
- Intelligence Studies – Dr. Greg Treverton, RAND, Visiting Professor
 - Higher National Intel Courses
 - Studies on Methodology (“Horizontal integration”, Analysis & Requirements, Collection Management)

A CT-policy approach

- SEMA (with support of SwSS) sponsors CATS for a R&D-program 2005-2008 on a CT-policy approach
- Dr. Magnus Ranstorp – Research Director at CATS and former Director of CSTPV at St Andrews University – is the Principal Investigator
- Budget \$1,3 M
- Three phases
 - Phase 1: Focus on Radicalisation and Recruitment
 - Phase 2: CBRN+Info-terrorism
 - Phase 3: "Best practises" (c.f. Europe)

CATS role in CT-Policy support



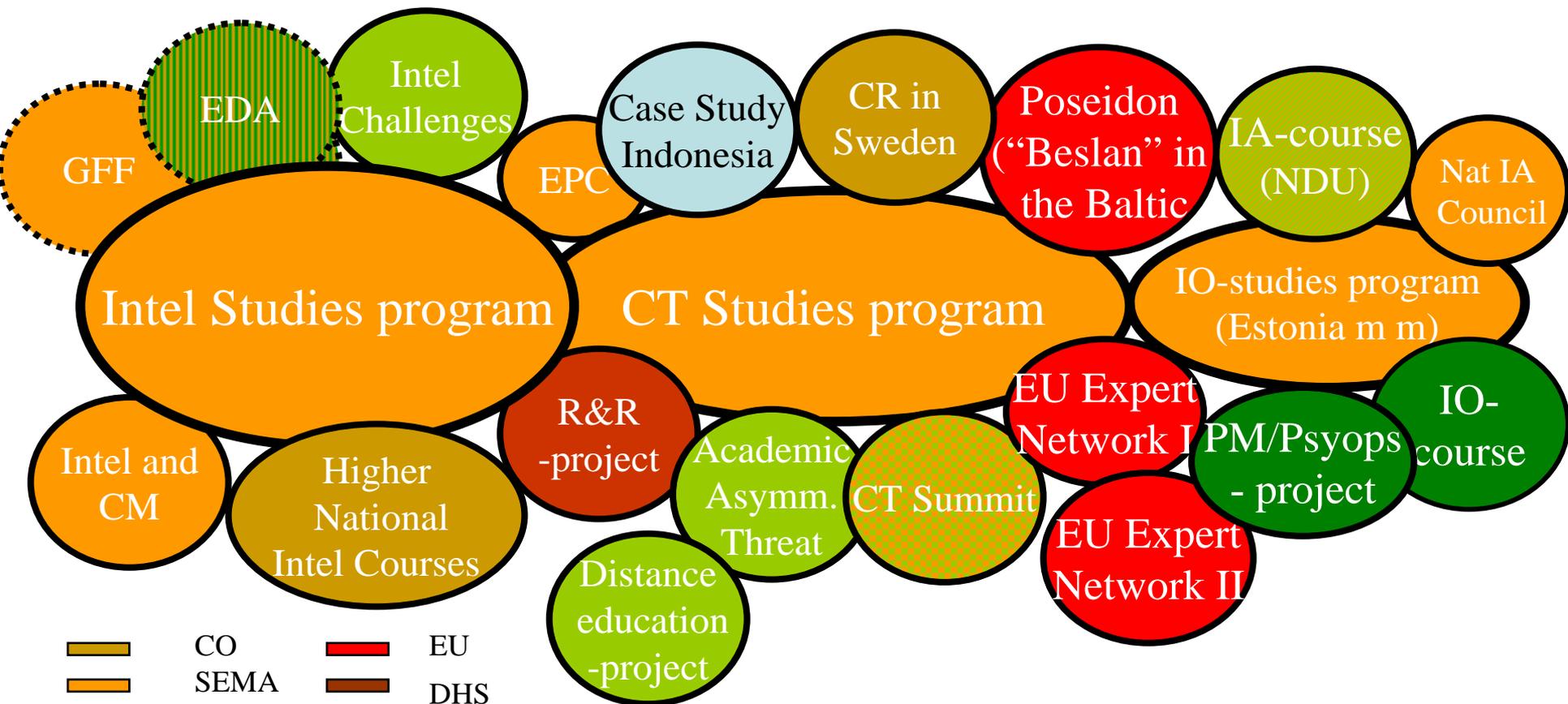
External partners

- National Defense University (US)
 - *NCTC (US)* *
 - Global Futures Forum
 - Advanced Research and Assessment Group (UK)
 - *JTAC (UK)* *
 - Homeland Security Policy Institute/GWU (US)
 - RAND corp. (US)
 - St. Andrews University (UK)
 - University of Maryland + Pennsylvania (US)
 - University of Helsinki (FI)
 - Kings ' College (UK)
 - FFI (NO)
 - *PET (DK)* *
- * *Academic Outreach*

Cabinet Assignment on “Counter-Radicalization”

- ***Description and definitions*** of what characterize violent extremism and radicalization by conducting an inventory of existing knowledge levels both in Sweden and internationally.
- Through ***case studies*** describing the factual occurrences in Sweden and other countries as well as a ***current threat assessment***.
- Describe ***which tools*** that have been used to counter violent extremism, how effective these have been and an ***analysis*** of which of these tools or ‘best practices’ could be appropriately developed further to prevent groups with extremist views, who question the core values of society, from taking violent turns.

CATS tasks 2008



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|--|------|---|-----|
|  | CO |  | EU |
|  | SEMA |  | DHS |
|  | SNDC | | |
|  | SwAF | | |
|  | SIDA | | |

Preliminary Findings

- Dynamic interplay between opposite poles of extremism
- Radicalization processes - not just a linear progression, a complex combination of push-pull factors or that people move in and out of functions
 - Emerging patterns that recruitment precedes radicalization
 - Focus on "R&R brokers"
- Understanding group dynamics as the engine of radicalization processes
- Focus needs to move beyond individual socio-psychological factors towards social network analysis based on social movement theories
- Focus needs to be on the counter-cultural aspects of radical belief-systems.

Don't just chase radicalization 'football'



Future research

- Recognise diversity of Muslim communities
 - Not enough data on dynamics within communities
 - Evaluate community impact assessment
 - Poorly calibrated policies can create problems rather than solve them
 - Too much disconnect between understanding radicalization as a process and the impact of measures on these same forces
- Problem of radicalization has simultaneously political, social, cultural and religious dimensions
 - How do we deconstruct the "Single Narrative" and create effective counter-narrative?
- New innovative delivery mechanisms (humour, soap-operas & PR-industries)
- Dynamics of gangs as vehicle for understanding this problem
- Focus on disengagement and rehabilitation after prison
- How do we benchmark effectiveness of measures?
- Sharing 'best practice' between countries and regions is critical