The Destabilization of Internet Governance

Lunch and Lecture with Dr. Laura DeNardis
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Wednesday, October 28
Hester Hall, Room 145
11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

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The Internet will soon turn 50 years old. The network has been a great success, in part, because of enduring principles like permissionless innovation, openness and interoperability, and a stable system of Internet governance that keeps the network operational. There is a growing loss of trust in this system because of concerns about government surveillance, massive cybersecurity breaches and rising public awareness of the Dark Web. Some governments have responded with attempts to overlay national borders on the global Internet. There is also contention over the planned transition of US oversight of some Internet functions. This talk addresses these destabilizing conditions in Internet governance, raises possible implications for Internet freedom and architecture in the coming years, and makes suggestions for how to restore trust in the systems and institutions that keep the Internet operational.