



NSEC Summer Round-Up (August 2026)

As we reach the end of the academic year, we'd like to share a quick update on some of NSEC's achievements over the last year and a look ahead at what's coming up in the new academic year.

Highlights So Far:

- Agreed our network objectives and priorities, providing a clear focus for the current NSEC funding term until January 2029.
- Attended the Security & Policing Conference where Early Career Researcher (ECR), Damith Senadeera (Digital Environment Research Institute - Queen Mary University of London), represented NSEC through a presentation and poster showcase.
- Continued to expand our community, with network membership growing by 8% since the start of 2026.
- Worked with the team at SPRITE+ to secure funding for the UKRI-funded Mission Accelerator Programme Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls, fostering cross-sector engagement and knowledge exchange.
- Final reports published on our website from completed NSEC roundtable discussions:
 - What Pull Factors Draw Migrants to Use Illegal Routes to the UK (at significant risk to their lives) and What Can Be Done to Stop It?
 - How can we manage the risk from AI to spread Information Disorder?
 - Building Resilience in the UK's Electromagnetic Environment
- NSEC Communications Updates:
 - Refreshed NSEC website
 - New NSEC Sign-Up Form
 - New NSEC LinkedIn profile
 - Introduction of bi-annual NSEC round-up update

Operational Updates:

- Welcomed a new Project Manager to support the continued growth and delivery of NSEC activities.
- NSEC co-chairs stepped down; we would like to extend a sincere thank you to Professor Fiona Strens and Professor Tim Watson for their leadership and commitment as co-chairs from 2023 to 2026.

Looking Ahead:

- We're currently organising our first National ECR Forum, taking place in December 2026. The event will be fully funded and provide valuable opportunities for ECR networking, collaboration and engagement with government and industry stakeholders in the national security and resilience sector. Please do circulate this within your own networks and encourage ECR's to [apply here](#).
- Planning is underway for another NSEC roundtable discussion in November 2026, bringing together experts from across the network alongside colleagues from UK Space Agency & Cabinet Office.

Get Involved:

- We'd love to showcase the fantastic work taking place across the network. If you'd like to feature your research, project, event, publication, or achievements on our website or LinkedIn page please get in touch.
- We can also convene an online audience to enable a knowledge exchange where appropriate, and NSEC members are welcome to host a session as part of the SALIENT Lunch & Learn Webinars.



- The network can also help you connect with potential collaborators, gather feedback on developing ideas, and identify expertise across academia, industry, and government. If you're looking for partners for a funding bid, seeking collaborators for a new project, or would value input on research, policy, or engagement activities, we can share your call with the wider network through our communication channels.

Tell Us What You'd Like to See:

As we look forward to the 2026/27 academic year, we welcome your feedback. What activities, opportunities or topics would you like NSEC to support over the coming year?

Thank you for being part of the NSEC community, and we look forward to working with you in the months ahead.