



Dr. Alexander Kott
Chief Scientist, Office of the Director
U.S. Army Research Laboratory

Future of Unmanned Ground Systems Webinar,
18 August 2020

Dr. Alexander Kott serves as the U.S. Combat Capabilities Development Command Army Research Laboratory's Chief Scientist, reporting to the Director of ARL. In this role he provides leadership in development of ARL technical strategy, maintaining technical quality of ARL research, and representing ARL to the external technical community. Dr. Kott is also the Army Senior Research Scientist (ST) for Cyber Resilience, in which capacity he formulates the vision of future technologies critical to the Army cyber resilience, and advocates and shapes plans and programs leading to such technologies.

Prior to becoming the Chief Scientist of ARL, Dr. Kott was the Chief of the Network Science Division at ARL, leading a division of over 140 scientists, engineers, technologists and analysts, both Government employees and on-site contractors; focusing on innovative basic and applied research, threat analysis, technology transition and security operations in computer, communications, information, and social networks; formulating and executing a broad range of internal and extramural research programs.

Earlier, Dr. Kott served as a Program Manager at Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), where he was responsible for strategic research and technology planning, formulation, budgetary estimates, structuring, source selection, staffing, technical and operational management, and financial management of multiple, large-scale R&D projects. He planned, supervised and controlled the annual budget of up to \$30M, and activities and contracts of over 100 scientists and engineers from over 20 organizations, Government, industry and academia. Kott's earlier positions included Director of Research and Development at Carnegie Group, Pittsburgh, PA. There, his work focused on novel information technology approaches, such as Artificial Intelligence, to complex problems in engineering design, and planning and control in manufacturing, telecommunications and aviation industries.

Dr. Kott earned his PhD in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, in 1989, where he researched AI approaches to invention of complex systems. He received the Secretary of Defense Exceptional Public Service Award, in October 2008. He published over 100 technical papers and served as the co-author and editor of twelve books.



Mel Roverly

**Editor, Unmanned Ground Vehicles
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Melanie Roverly is Jane's expert on Unmanned Ground Vehicles and is based in Surrey. She is responsible for editing the Jane's Land Warfare Platforms, Logistics, Support & Unmanned annual reference publication, as well as regularly contributing news, special reports, interviews and features to Jane's Defence Weekly and Jane's International Defence Review on matters of robotics, AI and unmanned systems. In addition, she is responsible for the 10 year global UGV markets forecast. She has been employed with Jane's for 23 years and took ownership of the unmanned ground vehicles content in 2016. She previously edited the equipment and services sections of Jane's Mines and Mine Clearance and Jane's Explosive Ordnance Disposal.



Sam Bendett

Advisor, Russia Studies Program, CNA Adversary Analysis Group

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Samuel Bendett is an Adviser with CNA's Adversary Analysis Group, where he is a member of the Russia Studies Program. He is also an Adjunct Senior Fellow at the Center for a New American Security. His work involves research on the Russian defense and technology developments, such as unmanned military systems and Artificial Intelligence, as well as Russian military capabilities and decision-making during crises. He is also a Member of CNA's Center for Autonomy and Artificial Intelligence.

Prior to joining CNA, Mr. Bendett worked at the National Defense University on emerging and disruptive technologies for government response in crisis situation, where he conducted research on behalf of the Office of the Secretary of Defense for Policy (OSD-P) and Acquisition, Technology and Logistics (OSD-AT&L). His previous experience includes working for US Congress, private sector and non-profit organizations on foreign policy, international conflict resolution, defense and security issues.

Mr. Bendett's analyses, views and commentary on Russian military robotics, unmanned systems and Artificial Intelligence capabilities appear in the C4ISRnet, DefenseOne, War on the Rocks, Forbes, Breaking Defense, The National Interest, War Is Boring, and The Strategy Bridge. He frequently presents on the Russian unmanned systems and AI to the US government, private industry and academia, as well as think tanks and policy centers. Between 2008 and 2016, he was a foreign policy and international affairs contributor to the RealClearWorld.com blog.

Samuel Bendett received his M.A. in Law and Diplomacy from the Fletcher School, Tufts University and B.A. in Politics and English from Brandeis University. He has native fluency in Russian.