



Analysis and furthering understanding of UxS law and policy is an important tactical step toward enabling new UxS capabilities and enhancing existing ones.

Impact

- Results support the academic field by delving into unanswered yet critical legal questions about this emerging technology and addressing environmental law issues regarding expendable UxS.
- Findings will assist the warfighter to make better decisions within the operational, liability, and environmental contexts and aid the design of Navy and DoD policies to positively impact warfighter effectiveness.
- Success will be in delivering confident and thorough results to legal questions that can guide DoD/Navy in operating UxS and designing relevant policies which will positively impact Fleet effectiveness.

Problem Statement

- As technological advancements improve UxS capabilities, questions remain within the legal and policy contexts.
- This project will:
 - delve into legal questions and policy concerns from Navy attorneys that arise often in UxS work;
 - propose policy options to address environmental issues as a result of expendable UxS; and
 - address UxS legal questions arising in the classified environment.
- Researchers will work collaboratively with practitioners and research caselaw, statutes, treaties and official policies to provide clarity to specific legal and policy challenges regarding UxS.

Transition

- Law and policy concerns are consistently identified as priorities in UxS strategies and plans.
- Research is in direct response to interest from Navy attorneys working with unsettled legal questions that affect the current and future use of UxS and those working in the classified setting regarding UxS.
- Researchers will submit findings to support the UxS Campaign Framework and work of the U.S. and allied nations in the TTCP. The team will seek support through ONR, OUSD(R&E), and CNMOC OGC.