

Ethics Assignment #6: UAVs AKA UASs AKA Drones

Due: Tuesday, 10.18.22, by 1:00 pm

Background

Our second lecture on professional ethics will occur on Tuesday when we'll discuss SECEPP. We'll consider the use of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) (unmanned aircraft systems (UASs), drones) as well as a hypothetical scenario. Keep this in mind as you read about the pros and cons of using UAVs in this assignment.

Learning Goals

By the end of the lecture, you will:

- be able to apply the SECEPP code to several scenarios

Assignment

1. Read the pros and cons of the use of unmanned aerial vehicles: drones.procon.org/
2. Use the seven-step strategy to evaluate the argument below regarding the use of UAVs.
The U.S. should continue unmanned drone strikes. They make the world safer by destroying terrorist networks. They kill fewer civilians, as a percentage of total fatalities, than any other military weapon. They make military personnel safer. They are cheaper than engaging in ground or manned aerial combat. They are completely legal. The U.S. cannot risk falling behind the rest of the world in its development of drone technologies.
3. Read the SECEPP code (you can just skim the preamble to the full version, i.e., E.2., but read everything else), which is available in the Ethics and GCS Information module in Canvas. If you're majoring in EE or CptE, ignore references to software or replace "software" with "technology" as appropriate. For almost all the clauses, this works well.

Submit a pdf of your work via Canvas by 1:00 pm on Tuesday, 10.18.22.
