

(1) Intelligence gathering disciplines are like different ways of finding out important information to help make decisions or understand what's happening around us. Think of them as specialized tools in an information toolbox. The main purposes and uses of these disciplines are to help different kinds of organizations and people:

- **Make Smart Decisions:** Whether it's a government deciding on a new policy, a military planning an operation, a police force investigating a crime, or a business figuring out its next move, these disciplines provide the necessary information to make informed choices. Without good information, decisions can be risky and might not lead to the best results.
- **Understand Threats and Dangers:** These disciplines help identify potential threats to a country's safety, a company's security, or even an individual's well-being. By gathering information about what others might be planning or doing, organizations can take steps to protect themselves and prevent harm.
- **Protect National Interests:** For governments, intelligence gathering is crucial for safeguarding the country's interests, both at home and abroad. This could involve understanding the intentions of other countries, monitoring potential conflicts, or preventing attacks.
- **Plan for the Future:** By collecting and analyzing information, organizations can better understand current situations and anticipate future trends. This helps in making long-term plans and developing effective strategies to achieve goals.
- **Support Military and Law Enforcement:** These disciplines are essential for military operations, helping commanders understand the battlefield, track enemy movements, and make tactical decisions. Similarly, law enforcement agencies use intelligence to investigate crimes, catch criminals, and prevent future illegal activities.
- **Gather Information from Different Sources:** Each intelligence gathering discipline focuses on a specific type of source or method. For example, some gather information from people, others from electronic signals, and some from publicly available sources. Using a variety of disciplines allows for a more complete picture of a situation.
- **Understand Capabilities:** These disciplines help in understanding what different groups or individuals are capable of doing, whether it's a military's strength, a criminal organization's network, or a competitor's resources.

In simple terms, intelligence gathering disciplines are vital for anyone who needs to know more about a situation that isn't obvious or public. They provide the knowledge needed to make sound decisions, stay safe, and achieve objectives in a complex world

OSINT (Open-Source Intelligence)

OSINT means collecting intelligence from publicly available sources like news reports, social media posts, websites, and databases [sans.orgwebasha.com](https://sans.org/webasha.com). Analysts use search engines and other tools to mine this open data for useful clues. For example, OSINT investigators have traced cyberattacks by analyzing email metadata and public forums webasha.com. Because the information is public, OSINT can often be gathered quickly and cheaply.

- **National Security & Military:** OSINT helps spot emerging threats by scanning news and online chatter. Analysts might monitor open-source maps or news outlets to detect troop movements or rising conflicts. For instance, after a major email hack, researchers used OSINT clues on social media to link the attack to Russian military hackers webasha.com.
- **Counterterrorism & Law Enforcement:** Police and agencies scan public websites and social networks for signs of criminal or terrorist planning. If a suspect posts extremist messages online or public tips, OSINT can reveal those plans in time to prevent an attack. Public records (like company filings or news about suspect groups) also help investigators uncover illicit networks.
- **Cybersecurity & Digital Threats:** Security teams use OSINT to find hacker activity and vulnerabilities. They search hacker forums and the dark web for stolen data or malware samples. This open-source threat intelligence lets them block attacks before they happen. For example, analysts might spot malware signatures shared online and warn companies to update their defenses.
- **Emergency & Disaster Response:** In disasters, people often post help requests and locations on social media dhs.gov. OSINT means scanning

these public posts and news updates to find survivors or assess damage. Emergency responders can use this crowdsourced info (e.g., tweets and Facebook posts) to guide search-and-rescue teams.

- **Border & Infrastructure Protection:** OSINT includes publicly available imagery and reports. Border patrols might use freely available satellite maps or traffic camera feeds to identify likely smuggling routes. Likewise, analysts can use open news and social reports (for example, local journalist or citizen reports) to detect threats to bridges, power plants, or other critical infrastructure.

HUMINT (Human Intelligence)

HUMINT is intelligence gathered directly from people apu.apus.edu leeb.fbi.gov. This involves interviews, interrogations, or undercover agents. In other words, human sources provide information that machines or sensors cannot easily capture apu.apus.edu. For example, spies or informants may pass along secrets about enemy plans. Experts emphasize that “knowledge of the enemy’s dispositions can only be obtained from other men,” a lesson highlighted by the 9/11 Commission leeb.fbi.gov.

- **National Security & Military:** In conflict zones, soldiers and diplomats gather HUMINT by talking to locals, friendly informants, or captured prisoners. Such human reports have revealed enemy troop strengths and intentions. As one analysis notes, advancing knowledge of threats often depends on direct human contacts leeb.fbi.gov.
- **Counterterrorism & Law Enforcement:** Undercover agents and confidential informants infiltrate criminal or terrorist groups. They relay early warnings of plots from inside the organization. For example, when electronic surveillance fails (say, suspects stop using phones), law enforcement relies on tips from inside sources to uncover hidden attacks.
- **Cybersecurity & Digital Threats:** HUMINT in cyberspace can mean recruiting an insider or using social engineering. For instance, a whistleblower might provide details about a planned hacking operation.

This human-derived intel complements technical monitoring of networks.

- **Emergency & Disaster Response:** First responders interview disaster survivors, eyewitnesses, and community leaders to learn real-time needs. For example, talking to someone at the scene can reveal where people are trapped or what supplies are needed. These human reports guide rescue teams when every minute counts.
- **Border & Infrastructure Protection:** Border agents use HUMINT by questioning travelers and collaborating with local informants. People living near borders often report suspicious activities (like strangers digging tunnels), effectively serving as human sensors. This information helps patrols focus their resources to protect crossings and critical facilities.

SIGINT (Signals Intelligence)

SIGINT is intelligence from intercepted electronic signals amu.apus.edu. This includes telephone calls, radio chatter, emails, radar, and even telemetry from weapons. By capturing these signals, analysts turn raw data into actionable intelligence. For example, SIGINT can pinpoint the location of a radio transmission and thus reveal an adversary's position amu.apus.edu.

- **National Security & Military:** Armies use SIGINT to eavesdrop on enemy communications. For example, intercepting an adversary's radio or cellphone signals lets commanders identify troop positions and movements amu.apus.edu. SIGINT also detects foreign radar and missile launches to gauge enemy capabilities.
- **Counterterrorism & Law Enforcement:** Police wiretap or decrypt suspect communications to gather evidence. Tapping a crime ring's phone calls or reading a terrorist's emails can uncover planned attacks. These signals are the lifeblood of many modern investigations.
- **Cybersecurity & Digital Threats:** SIGINT overlaps with cyber intelligence when agencies capture internet traffic. Cybersecurity teams may tap network links or track hacker signals to reveal cyber attack plans. For example, intercepting an attacker's command-and-control signals can stop

a malware outbreak before it spreads.

- **Emergency & Disaster Response:** Occasionally, SIGINT helps emergency efforts. Rescue teams may listen for distress signals (like calls on emergency frequencies or signals from locator beacons). Detecting these radio signals can help find people lost at sea or in mountains.
- **Border & Infrastructure Protection:** Border security uses SIGINT radars and sensors to watch for illegal crossings. For instance, radar “pings” can detect a group of vehicles or drones at night near a border. Monitoring electronic signals around bridges, tunnels, or power lines also flags unusual activity that may signal a security threat.

GEOINT (Geospatial Intelligence)

GEOINT is intelligence derived from imagery and mapsgis.usc.edu. It uses satellites, aerial photography, drones, and GIS (geographic information systems) to visualize what’s happening on the ground. Analysts create and study maps and 3D models to show physical features and activities. The U.S. intelligence community defines GEOINT as “the exploitation and analysis of imagery and geospatial information to describe, assess and visually depict ... activities on Earth”gis.usc.edu. GEOINT has been crucial in many conflicts (e.g. the Cuban Missile Crisis) and continues to support operations todaygis.usc.edu.

- **National Security & Military:** Commanders use GEOINT for situational awareness. For example, the U.S. military uses satellite maps to protect troops and plan missionsgis.usc.edu. Real-time imagery helps forces avoid ambushes, assess terrain, and track enemy equipment. GEOINT also supports navigation by mapping unmapped areas.
- **Counterterrorism & Law Enforcement:** Agencies deploy drones and use satellite photos to find hidden camps or weapons. For instance, reviewing geospatial imagery might reveal a remote training site or a hidden weapons cache. A change in the landscape seen from space can tip off analysts to illicit activities.

- **Cybersecurity & Digital Threats:** GEOINT plays a smaller role in cyber defense, but it can still help. For example, mapping the physical locations of internet hubs or undersea cables aids in protecting digital infrastructure.
- **Emergency & Disaster Response:** GEOINT is vital after disasters. Satellite and aerial images show flood extents, wildfire spreads, or earthquake damage. For example, programs like the SpaceNet “Flood Detection Challenge” use AI with GEOINT to quickly map flooded roads and buildings, improving response times gis.usc.edu. Emergency managers rely on these updated maps to send help where it’s needed most.
- **Border & Infrastructure Protection:** Border patrol and homeland security use GEOINT to monitor the frontier. The U.S. Border Patrol, for instance, now equips agents with updated offline maps and satellite imagery on their devices to navigate remote areas and spot illegal crossings nextgov.com. Similarly, agencies use imagery to inspect critical infrastructure (like pipelines, airports, or bridges) for signs of tampering or wear.

MASINT (Measurement and Signature Intelligence)

MASINT uses scientific sensors to detect unique “signatures” of objects or events greydynamics.com. It measures things like radar reflections, acoustic (sound) waves, chemical traces, or nuclear radiation. MASINT can detect details invisible to other intel. For example, news reports say China collected electromagnetic signals from U.S. missile systems; by analyzing those signals (their signatures), MASINT could reveal the missiles’ positions and even the presence of nuclear warheads greydynamics.com. Intelligence agencies describe MASINT as “capturing and measuring the intrinsic characteristics and components of an object or activity” greydynamics.com.

- **National Security & Military:** MASINT detects hidden threats. For instance, special satellites or sensors can pick up the unique acoustic signature of a submarine or the heat signature of a missile launch. Nuclear MASINT uses detectors like Geiger counters to monitor treaty compliance. In fact, experts note that investigators use MASINT to confirm chemical weapons use and enforce nuclear test bans greydynamics.com.

- **Counterterrorism & Law Enforcement:** MASINT sensors help find illicit weapons. Portable chemical sniffers or radiation detectors can confirm if a captured substance is a weaponized agent. For example, after a bomb attack, ground MASINT sensors might detect residue of explosives to identify the bomb type. These subtle clues help investigators trace terrorism networks when other methods fail.
- **Cybersecurity & Digital Threats:** While MASINT is mostly about physical sensors, it overlaps with cyber defense when analyzing electronic emissions. For example, monitoring abnormal radio frequency signals can expose unauthorized network devices. However, most cyber teams rely on SIGINT and OSINT for digital threats.
- **Emergency & Disaster Response:** MASINT technology aids disaster relief. Infrared and radar sensors (forms of MASINT) can see through smoke or debris to locate survivors. Chemical sensors can warn if a hurricane flood has caused a toxic spill. By measuring environmental changes, MASINT provides data responders use to avoid hazards.
- **Border & Infrastructure Protection:** Ground sensors (MASINT) can detect tunnels by picking up seismic or acoustic signals of digging. For example, a network of seismic sensors could alert border authorities to an underground tunnel in progress. MASINT radars and antennas also monitor critical infrastructure for unusual emissions (like a sudden surge in power usage), helping prevent sabotage.

CYBINT (Cyber Intelligence)

CYBINT (or cyber threat intelligence) focuses on digital networks and online threats. It involves monitoring and analyzing data from computer systems, the internet, and hacker activity. For example, cyber intelligence teams collect data from security logs, malware samples, and threat feeds to anticipate attacks. Governments often coordinate this intel: the FBI leads the National Cyber Investigative Joint Task Force, a 30-agency effort that integrates cyber operations and shared intelligence to combat hackers [fbi.gov](https://www.fbi.gov).

- **National Security & Military:** Cyber intelligence reveals online espionage by adversaries. By tracking foreign hackers, nations can spot stolen military plans or disrupted communications. For example, intercepting a hostile cyber-attack on a military network could allow defenders to trace it back to a specific foreign spy group.
- **Counterterrorism & Law Enforcement:** Analysts track online communications of terrorist groups and criminals. For instance, law enforcement may infiltrate encrypted chatrooms, hack terrorist websites, or analyze seized devices for chat logs. CYBINT also includes monitoring dark web markets for illegal activities (weapons, fake IDs) to disrupt criminal networks.
- **Cybersecurity & Digital Threats:** Organizations rely heavily on cyber intelligence to stay ahead of hackers. They gather indicators of compromise (like malicious IP addresses or virus signatures) from open sources and security partners. Using automated tools, they analyze this raw data to identify attacker tactics and protect systems [microsoft.com](https://www.microsoft.com). This threat intelligence lets them block attacks (such as known ransomware) before damage occurs.
- **Emergency & Disaster Response:** Cyber intelligence protects critical response systems. Analysts watch over the computer networks of utilities, hospitals, and 911 centers. By monitoring for unusual cyber intrusions, they ensure that natural disasters are not worsened by cyberattacks on power grids or emergency services.
- **Border & Infrastructure Protection:** Modern borders use many electronic systems (cameras, sensors, automated gates). CYBINT teams guard these systems from hacking. For example, if smugglers try to disable a surveillance camera network, cyber analysts would detect and stop that intrusion. Technical forensics (a CYBINT skill) is used if an attack on infrastructure occurs, to trace the methods and bolster defenses.

TECHINT (Technical Intelligence)

Technical Intelligence (TECHINT) is intelligence about foreign technology, weapons, and equipment irp.fas.org. It comes from capturing enemy hardware and analyzing it. For example, when troops seize an adversary's weapon, engineers and scientists examine it to understand its design and weaknesses. Doctrine defines TECHINT as "intelligence derived from exploitation of foreign material" irp.fas.org. This knowledge lets us develop countermeasures and improve our own systems.

- **National Security & Military:** Armed forces routinely collect enemy gear and test it. For example, if soldiers capture a foreign tank or missile, TECHINT experts will disassemble it to learn its capabilities. This analysis shows how the enemy's technology works and how to counter it. Studying captured aircraft or weapons has historically given militaries a decisive advantage.
- **Counterterrorism & Law Enforcement:** TECHINT is vital in bomb analysis. The FBI's Terrorist Explosive Device Analytical Center (TEDAC) serves as a "bomb library" where IEDs are collected and forensically examined fbi.gov. By matching bomb components, analysts can identify bombmakers and link attacks together. TECHINT here involves reconstructing devices and using tool-mark and DNA analysis to trace the source of explosives fbi.gov.
- **Cybersecurity & Digital Threats:** When unique cyber tools or malicious hardware are seized (for instance, a captured hacking device or a suspicious chip), TECHINT experts dissect them. This can reveal a hacker's techniques or a foreign surveillance hardware's function, which informs better cyber defenses.
- **Emergency & Disaster Response:** TECHINT can also apply to failing or damaged technology. For example, after a disaster hits a power plant or dam, technical analysts examine broken equipment to find out why it failed. Learning these lessons helps engineers design safer systems for the future.
- **Border & Infrastructure Protection:** Border security and critical infrastructure rely on TECHINT when equipment is seized or sabotaged. For instance, if customs intercept high-tech smuggling gear (like drones or

encrypted radios), TECHINT teams will test it to understand its range and purpose. This helps authorities develop ways to block or neutralize such devices.

Sources: Each point above is backed by expert definitions and examples sans.org apu.apus.edu leeb.fbi.gov amu.apus.edu gis.usc.edu gis.usc.edu extgov.com mdhs.gov greydynamics.com microsoft.com fbi.gov irp.fas.org fbi.gov, illustrating how intelligence disciplines are applied in real-world scenarios

(2) Purpose of Intelligence Gathering Disciplines (INTs as a Whole)

In the simplest terms:

Intelligence gathering disciplines are ways to collect information—**from many sources**—so that decision-makers can **understand situations better, predict what might happen, and make smart choices.**

These disciplines work like tools in a toolbox. Each tool is different, but they all serve one big goal: **to reduce uncertainty and increase awareness.**

Why Are Intelligence Disciplines Important?

Because in life—especially in areas like security, military, business, or even national planning—**you never have all the information.** There are risks, threats, and hidden things. These disciplines **help bring clarity** where there's confusion.

They are used to:

1. **Identify risks** – Like a possible attack, crisis, or political threat.
2. **Prevent surprises** – Spot problems before they happen.
3. **Support decisions** – Help leaders make informed and wise choices.

4. **Plan actions** – Whether it's a rescue mission or a new business strategy.
5. **Stay ahead** – Know more than your competitors or enemies.

Real-World Applications of Intelligence Gathering (INTs as a Whole)

Here's how they are used in the real world **as a combined effort**:

Area	Application
Military & Defense	Understanding enemy plans, movements, and capabilities. Avoiding ambushes. Planning operations based on up-to-date intelligence.
National Security	Tracking terrorist groups, cyber threats, or foreign spies. Protecting borders. Preventing sabotage.
Law Enforcement	Tracking criminal networks, drug cartels, missing persons, and identifying patterns in crime.
Disaster Response	Quickly understanding damage after earthquakes, floods, or attacks. Coordinating aid using satellite and ground info.
Cybersecurity	Monitoring digital threats, protecting data, and anticipating attacks from hackers or hostile nations.
Diplomacy	Understanding the political situation of another country before negotiating treaties or peace deals.
Business Intelligence	Gaining insights into competitors, markets, and consumer behavior. Planning strategy in high-risk or unfamiliar regions.

Summary

Intelligence gathering disciplines help turn **raw data** into **useful knowledge**, so that people and organizations can stay safe, make good decisions, and act confidently.

Think of them as the eyes and ears of any serious mission, operation, or policy—whether in the military, government, or even big companies.

(3) Slide Title: The Purpose and Real-World Impact of Intelligence Gathering Disciplines

What Are Intelligence Gathering Disciplines (INTs)?

INTs are methods used to **collect and analyze information** so decision-makers can act **smartly, safely, and confidently**.

Why Do We Use INTs?

- To **reduce uncertainty**
 - To **identify risks early**
 - To **prevent bad surprises**
 - To **support better decisions**
 - To **plan actions smarter**
 - To **stay ahead** in a fast-changing world
-

Where Are They Used? (Real-World Applications)

Area	How INTs Help
Military	Track enemy movements, plan missions, avoid surprises
National Security	Spot threats like terrorism, cyberattacks, or espionage
Law Enforcement	Catch criminals, find missing persons, break crime rings
Disaster Response	Assess damage quickly, send aid faster
Cybersecurity	Detect and defend against digital threats
Diplomacy	Understand countries before negotiations or peace talks
Business Strategy	Learn about competitors, markets, and risks

Key Idea

INTs help us **see clearly when the world is uncertain.**

They turn **information into insight**—so we can act with **confidence and purpose.**