STUDY NOTES · BASIC CONCEPT

What are the risks to privacy that the drones bring?

Defence & Security

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What are the risks to privacy that the drones bring?

Drones create serious privacy risks because they can observe, record, and track people in ways that were earlier impossible or illegal. Key risks include:

1. Intrusion into Private Spaces

Drones can enter visual range of homes, balconies, bedrooms, terraces, and backyards, breaking the boundary between public and private life.

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2. Surveillance Without Consent

People are often unaware they are being filmed, violating consent and personal autonomy—especially troubling for women, children, and elderly persons.

3. Recording & Misuse of Footage

Captured videos or images can be:

- Edited out of context
- Leaked online
- Used for sensational media coverage
- Stored without safeguards
- This creates long-term digital harm.

4. Psychological Impact

Constant drone presence causes:

- Fear and anxiety
- Feeling of being watched
- Stress among children
- Trauma for families already under pressure

- Privacy violations are not just legal issues—they affect mental health.

5. Profiling & Tracking

Advanced drones can:

- Track movement patterns
- Zoom in on individuals
- Identify routines
- This risks stalking, harassment, or targeting.

6. Security & Safety Risks

- Drones can crash into people
- Can be hacked or misused
- May collect data useful for criminal activity

7. Media Overreach

When used by media:

- Blurs line between journalism and intrusion
- Turns private suffering into spectacle
- Undermines ethical reporting standards

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