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# Preface

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The nature of risks and vulnerabilities in modern societies is becoming more and more transnational today. An open, non-hierarchical dialog on newly recognized vulnerabilities at the physical, virtual, and psychological levels is needed to create new knowledge and a better understanding of new risks and of their causes, interactions, probabilities, and costs.

It was on the basis of these premises that the “Comprehensive Risk Analysis and Management Network” (CRN, [www.isn.ethz.ch/crn](http://www.isn.ethz.ch/crn)) was launched in the year 2000 as a joint Swiss-Swedish initiative. The CRN is an Internet and workshop initiative for international dialog on national-level security risks and vulnerabilities. As a complementary service to the International Relations and Security Network (ISN, [www.isn.ethz.ch](http://www.isn.ethz.ch)), the CRN is coordinated and developed by the Center for Security Studies at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH Zurich), Switzerland in cooperation with the current CRN partner institutions:

- The Swedish Emergency Management Agency (SEMA), Sweden,
- The General Directorate for Security Policy, Federal Ministry of Defense, Austria,
- The Directorate for Civil Protection and Emergency Planning (DSB), Norway,
- The Swiss Federal Department of Defense, Civil Protection, and Sports (DDPS), Switzerland,
- The Federal Office for National Economic Supply (NES), Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Switzerland.

The International Critical Information Infrastructure Protection (CIIP) Handbook is the product of a joint effort within the CRN partner network. The first edition of the CIIP Handbook, published in 2002, provided an inventory of national protection policies in eight countries: Australia, Canada, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, and the US.

The 2002 Handbook proved to be such a success that it had to be reprinted soon after first publication. However, the need for an update had been generally recognized even earlier, a need that became even more pressing due to the dynamics in the field in the aftermath of 11 September 2001. This edition offers updates on the existing country surveys, additional country surveys, overview chapters on international protection efforts, legal issues, and current trends in research and development, as well as a more profound methodological section and more in-depth analysis in general. The expert base and the number of staff working on the Handbook were both expanded.

It is planned to include additional country surveys, models, and international initiatives in future updates of the CIIP Handbook. We therefore ask the reader to inform us of any inaccuracies or to submit any comments regarding the content. Those countries not yet included are especially encouraged to submit information. Please see the front inside cover for contact information. The entire publication, with additional features, is also available on the Internet (<http://www.isn.ethz.ch/crn>).

The editors would like to thank the authors, Myriam Dunn and Isabelle Wigert, both researchers at the Center for Security Studies at the ETH Zurich (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology), for their efforts and their high-quality contribution to this important topic. Additionally, the editors would like to thank all the partners involved, in particular the national experts who generously shared their experience and knowledge with us.<sup>1</sup> We are looking forward to continuing the development and coordination of the CRN partnership.

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Countries**

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