



Wilton Park

**Balancing open science with**  
**responsible security:**  
**A report from Wilton Park**

5<sup>th</sup> Annual International Symposium “Biosecurity  
and Biosafety: future trends and solutions”

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# About Wilton Park

- We are an executive agency of the FCO.
- Function: to convene international policy conferences
- In partnership, usually with governments





# About Wilton Park

- Participation: govt officials, NGOs, scientists, analysts, IGOs.
- Always under the WP protocol
- Aim is always to help the formulation of better international policy.





# Wilton Park and biosecurity issues

**Recent work:** Dual-use biological research, September 2013.

1. Case study-based conference, with governments of UK, US, Netherlands and Germany.
2. How to reconcile the free pursuit of science with prudent security?



# Structure of the conference

- The nature of the issue
- Three case studies:
  1. Risk assessment at outset: 1918 influenza
  2. Managing risks during research: mousepox
  3. Security issues in publication: H5N1
- Working groups and then hypothetical case study



# Outcomes

1. The multiple complexities of the problem
  - a) Technical complexity
  - b) Constituency complexity
  - c) International complexity
2. Stages of intervention:
  1. Risk assessment at outset
  2. During research
  3. At publication
3. Report available on our website



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