

## Faculti Summary

<https://faculti.net/confidence-calibration-in-a-multi-year-geopolitical-forecasting-competition/>

This video discusses a collaboration involving the study of confidence and overconfidence within the context of geopolitical forecasting, primarily through the Good Judgment Project, which was funded by the Intelligence Advanced Research Projects Activity (IARPA). The initiative was led by principal investigators Philip Tetlock and Barbara Mellers, who invited the author to contribute to the project.

The project aimed to improve forecasting accuracy in various geopolitical contexts, with a focus on whether forecasters' confidence levels corresponded to actual outcomes. It tested whether the statements made by forecasters about probabilities reflected true events, such as whether there was an 80% chance of an event occurring and if that event happened accordingly.

This video outlines the structure of the research, which spanned from 2011 to 2016, focusing on significant geopolitical questions, such as the stability of foreign leaders or economic crises, including situations like Greece's potential exit from the Euro.

A key aspect of the project involved training forecasters to think probabilistically rather than seeking absolute certainty about outcomes. The researchers employed various experimental manipulations to assess whether collaboration among forecasters led to better predictions and found that teams typically outperformed individuals.

The author highlights the importance of hard work, information gathering, and a willingness to confront one's biases in forecasting accuracy. They note the success of their specific team, which outperformed others in a forecasting tournament, partly due to effective management and a culture of collaboration. Despite not being able to disclose comparative accuracy with CIA analysts, there is an implication that their results were favorable.

Overall, several lessons emerged from the research, emphasizing the value of impartiality, the pursuit of evidence—both supportive and contradictory—and the importance of critical thinking in making informed forecasts.