



CENTER FOR CIVIL-MILITARY RELATIONS

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Civil-Military Approaches to Elections Security (MASL #P309139)

The CCMR custom-designed Expanded International Military Education and Training (EIMET) approved workshop entitled "Civil-Military Approaches to Elections Security," is conducted by a Mobile Education Team (MET). The purpose of this course is to discuss what, if any, role security forces can play—along with their traditional roles—in the electoral process of the host country. It begins with a discussion of civil-military relations in general and in the host country in particular. We discuss how a well-considered national security policy, inclusively and transparently formulated, can define the roles and missions assigned to the security forces of the country, including support to civil authorities in the conduct of elections. Different types and level of elections are discussed together with the roles various actors, including politicians, the legislature, the media and the security forces, as well as the international arena, can play in those elections. Emphasis is placed on the need for training, resources and political will to ensure the success of this support.

At the end of the seminar, participants will have a greater level of mutual understanding, knowledge and respect for the roles, missions and responsibilities that their organizations can play in supporting security during the electoral process in their country. The capstone exercise in the seminar requires the participants to prepare a code of conduct for how their organization will support elections security.

Participants: Participants are selected by the host government and the American Embassy. Numbers can range from 40 to 80, with 60 being ideal. Half the total should be military with the other half composed of civilian (to include police) and civil society. Rank and position depend on the specific country involved, but participation is more dependent on responsibility rather than rank. Representatives of the National Electoral Commission should be specifically included in the program.