



CENTER FOR CIVIL-MILITARY RELATIONS

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Executive-Legislative Relations in Defense (MASL #P309150)

CCMR's one-week Expanded International Military Education and Training (EIMET) approved course entitled "Executive-Legislative Relations in Defense," is conducted by a Mobile Education Team (MET). The key objective of this course of instruction is to examine the methods civilian authorities and military officers in democracies can use to establish effective linkages among a country's executive branch, legislature, and its armed forces. The course specifically examines the following subjects: the constitutional and legal framework of executive-legislative relations in defense and security; the role of the executive branch (president's office; council of ministers; NSCs; MODs) in defense and security policies; the role of the legislature in framing defense legislation; executive control and legislative oversight of defense and military policy; defense and intelligence committee creation with jurisdiction over policy, oversight, and budget issues; civilian expertise of legislators and legislative staff personnel; defining the roles and missions of armed forces; and effective techniques in creating military liaison to the legislature.

CCMR's approach to teaching "Executive-Legislative Relations in Defense" focuses on the host country's unique requirements and governmental structures. The course first examines the fundamentals of executive-legislative relations with regard to defense and security decision making as they are affected by the national constitution, institutions, principles, and practices. Next, participants analyze the role of the legislature in national security policy formulation and implementation. Legislative participation in the officer promotion process and the need for legislative approval of military deployments is evaluated as a mechanism to prevent the politicization of the armed forces and its misuse by the executive for personal or partisan ends. The course examines legislative budgetary authority and the utilization of statutory reporting and formal hearings. Developing professional civilian staff for defense-related committees, and ancillary topics to include their recruitment, training, pay, and promotion are explored, as are constituency relations and voting on defense issues. Employing a case study and simulation exercise approach, participants are equipped with the skills and knowledge needed to understand how to design effective linkages between their legislature and armed forces. The course provides a neutral venue whereby the virtues of consensus-building and interagency cooperation are demonstrated, and applied, with the result that the experience of cooperation and collaboration continues well after the program.

Participants: This course is designed for civilian legislators and officials, military officers in the ranks of lieutenant colonel to general, and representatives from other institutions concerned with developing effective linkages between the executive branch, the legislatures, and the armed forces.

Faculty Teams: CCMR task-organizes each team in order to optimize the specific expertise requested by the ODC/SAO. However, as a general rule, CCMR faculty teams are relatively small (two to three individuals) consisting of proven subject-matter experts, who are drawn from around the world.

Translation: The course will be taught in English. Where necessary, the course will be delivered with simultaneous interpretation into the local language.