



INSTITUTE FOR SECURITY GOVERNANCE

DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION UNIVERSITY

COUNTERING ORGANIZED CRIME

RESIDENT: NA

MOBILE: P309368

CERTIFICATION:

This course equips mid to senior-level military officers, government civilians, law enforcement, and intelligence professionals with a strategic and operational understanding of organized crime and its impact on national security. Participants will examine how criminal networks exploit state vulnerabilities, corrupt institutions, and destabilize societies. Drawing from real-world cases, the course emphasizes the complex relationships between organized crime, governance, and security. Through applied analysis and practical exercises, attendees will develop expertise and skills to identify, assess, and counter organized crime threats, foster interagency collaboration, and strengthen national resilience. The course balances theoretical frameworks with actionable strategies for real-world application.

OBJECTIVES

Upon conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

- ◆ Analyze the structures and operations of organized criminal groups and street gangs.
- ◆ Assess the impact of organized crime and gangs on state security and governance.
- ◆ Identify key vulnerabilities that criminal groups exploit within nation-states.
- ◆ Apply strategic and operational approaches to disrupt organized crime networks.
- ◆ Increase collaboration between the military, law enforcement, and intelligence services to counter organized crime.

TOPICS

This course blends expert-led lectures, interactive case studies, and collaborative exercises to provide participants with a comprehensive, applied understanding of organized crime and gangs. Emphasis is placed on the operational realities of criminal networks and gangs and the importance of effective collaboration among the military, law enforcement, and intelligence services. Participants will engage with current research, practical tools, and scenario-based learning to translate theory into actionable strategies. Course topics may include:

- ◆ Typologies and structures of organized crime groups and gangs
- ◆ Corruption, state capture, and institutional vulnerabilities
- ◆ Illicit markets: trafficking, smuggling, and financial crime
- ◆ Operational tools for disruption and the role of the armed forces
- ◆ Collaboration among military, law enforcement, and intelligence services
- ◆ Case studies: successes, failures, and lessons learned

PARTICIPANTS

The course can be taught to 30–40 participants. Participants should be mid- to senior-level officers and equivalent civilian officials. The course is an excellent opportunity to stimulate improved collaboration between the armed forces, law enforcement, and intelligence services. Mixed participation is strongly encouraged. Alternatively, an iteration focused on defining and developing the military capabilities needed to support disruption of organized crime can be tailored.

INSTITUTE FOR SECURITY GOVERNANCE (ISG) EDUCATION PORTFOLIOS

ISG's tailored education and professional development courses help build a comprehensive knowledge base and strengthen partner capacities to confront complex security and defense challenges. Courses are designed to cultivate individual understanding of complex issues; foster peer-to-peer learning; and build international communities of practice.



FACULTY

ISG's faculty team is grounded in professional experience from academic, military, government, and civil sectors. The core faculty are augmented by experts drawn from other parts of government, and U.S. and international subject matter experts drawn from universities, industry, think tanks, international organizations, and non-governmental organizations.

ENROLLMENT

Courses are conducted as part of the U.S. Government's Security Cooperation efforts. Interested partner nation personnel should contact their government's international cooperation section, or the relevant U.S. Embassy's Security Cooperation organization for selection processes and enrollment. Interested U.S. citizens may contact ISG to discuss availability.

FUNDING

Educational programs are primarily implemented through Title 22 authorized programs, including International Military Education and Training (IMET), Foreign Military Sales (FMS), Peacekeeping Operations (PKO), and various Title 10 authorized programs, including the Maritime Security Initiative (MSI) and Regional Defense Fellowship Program (RDFP).

ABOUT ISG



The Defense Security Cooperation University's (DSCU) Institute for Security Governance (ISG) is the Department of Defense's leading implementer for Institutional Capacity Building (ICB) and one of its primary international schoolhouses. As a component of the Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA), ISG is charged with building partner institutional capacity and capability through tailored advising, education, and professional development programs grounded in American values and approaches.