

From the Editor

Welcome to *PRISM*, a national security journal tailored to serve policymakers, scholars, and practitioners working to enhance U.S. Government competency in complex operations. *PRISM* explores the analysis, planning, and implementation of community-wide approaches to the three Ds—Defense, Diplomacy, and Development—and provides a forum for U.S. Government agencies, academic institutions, foreign governments, allied militaries, nongovernmental organizations, and other participants in the complex operations arena. *PRISM* is chartered to study, promote, and reinforce emerging thought and best practices as civilian capacity increases in stability, reconstruction, security, counterinsurgency, and irregular warfare operations. *PRISM* complements *Joint Force Quarterly*, chartered by General Colin Powell in 1993 to similarly catalyze cooperation and progress in joint, interagency solutions to national security challenges across the spectrum of conflict.

PRISM is chartered by the Center for Complex Operations (CCO) and welcomes manuscripts on a broad range of complex operations issues, especially those that focus on the nexus of civil-military integration. *PRISM* will appear online 30 days ahead of hardcopy distribution, and its interactive Web site will allow readers to search past issues, submit manuscripts, provide subject matter feedback, and submit letters to the editor.

CCO was established to: (1) provide for effective coordination in the preparation of Department of Defense personnel and other U.S. Government personnel for complex operations; (2) foster unity of effort during complex operations among the departments and agencies of the U.S. Government, foreign governments and militaries, international organizations and international nongovernmental organizations, and domestic nongovernmental organizations; (3) conduct research; collect, analyze, and distribute lessons learned; and compile best practices in matters relating to complex operations; (4) identify gaps in the education and training of Department of Defense personnel, and other relevant U.S. Government personnel, relating to complex operations, and to facilitate efforts to fill such gaps. CCO is established within the Center for Technology and National Security Policy at the National Defense University.

PRISM evaluates submitted manuscripts against the following criteria: topical relevance, continuing education for national security professionals, scholarly standards of argumentation, and readability. Even if an article is factually accurate and criticism is delivered with precision, authors must recommend clear solutions or arm the reader with actionable knowledge. *PRISM* solicits authors who aggressively seek out and identify problems that should be fixed irrespective of agency perspective, conventional wisdom, or published doctrine. Manuscripts submitted should be between 2,500 and 8,000 words in length and sent via email to prism@ndu.edu. Visit our Web site at <http://www.ndu.edu/press/prism.html>.

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