

**DEFENSE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL LEGAL STUDIES
Resident Course Report**

**Legal Aspects of Combating Corruption (LCC)
17 November – 7 December 2017, Newport, Rhode Island**

Areas of Emphasis:

- Government Integrity Systems
- Investigation
- Prosecution

Key Issues:

- Procurement Fraud
- International Anti-Corruption Standards
- National Self-Assessment

Participants: 52	
Military	36
Civilian	16
Female	10
AFRICOM	18
CENTCOM	06
EUCOM	15
NORTHCOM	0
PACOM	09
SOUTHCOM	04

LCC participants are prepared to:

- 1) **Identify corruption practices prohibited by international law; and**
- 2) **Assist their country in development of national anti-corruption agencies and procedures.**

Background:

The Legal Aspects of Combating Corruption (LCC) course focuses on building transparency and accountability in the defense sector. By contrasting U.S. and international best practices, it highlights ways for participants to improve their national mechanisms to prevent, detect, investigate and prosecute corrupt practices in accordance with international legal standards.

LCC participants gained a range of perspectives by visiting and interacting with experts from government and non-government organizations, such as Transparency International, the U.S. Office of Government Ethics, the Department of Justice, Public Integrity Section and the United Nations Office of Internal Oversight Services. During these visits LCC participants met military and civilian professionals who are leading the fight against corruption. The National Self-Assessment exercise challenged each participant to examine their own country's response to corruption in comparison to international standards and the best practices of other countries, including the United States. Participant presentations to the class regarding their own nation's response to corruption gave additional examples of anti-corruption best practices.

LCC featured practical exercises designed to develop participants' detection and investigative skills. For example, a procurement exercise required participants to review bid documents to find evidence of corruption in a simulated competitive bidding process. Other exercises

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required participants to review documents (such as contracts, bank records and correspondence) that provide evidence of corruption and discuss approaches to investigation and prosecution for procurement fraud and money laundering crimes.

In accordance with IMET objectives, participants also took part in cultural familiarization activities in Newport, RI; Boston, New York City and Washington D.C. as part of the DIILS Field Studies Program (FSP). FSP activities helped participants understand how U.S. government institutions support democracy and human rights.

See the attached course schedule for more information on course content and design.

Course Outcomes:

Participants responded to the following post course survey questions:

	Average Score (10=Excellent)
Q1: How has your view of the importance of legal aspects of combating corruption been affected by this program?	9.3
Q2: Would you recommend this course to your colleagues?	9.6

*Average scores of participant response to this survey are consistent with scores for previous LCC courses.

Participant comments:

“Highlights”

- “The opportunity to learn from some of best experts.”
- “The course presented extensive possibilities of bringing corrupt practices to justice by national institutions drawing on useful, practical examples from the United States. “

“What are the Strengths of the course?”

- “The perception that corruption is not only a problem of one country but that this is a global problem for all countries rich and poor in the world.”
- “The discussion of both theoretical and practical aspects of combating corruption.”
- “The self-assessment exercise helped us to undersand better what our own countries did or did not, in order to implement UN convention against corruption.”
- “The exchange of the experience with the participants during group exercises.”

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- “Instructors who are currently working in the relevant fields gave us firsthand accounts on the best practices and interpretation of laws for tackling the issue of corruption.”
- “The Combating Procurement Corruption exercise was for us like a resume for all information given in this course so we can combine the theories with practice.”
- “In this course, students worked in teams. Each team consisted of students from different fields. This gave the course more vitality.”

“What, specifically did you learn that you anticipate using in your workplace?”

- “The use and the application of the UN Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) as an extensive guideline in combatting corruption”
- “I am now better aware of the assistance which can be provided by the international community in fighting corruption domestically.”
- “I have learned new tricks in the prosecution of corrupt crimes and fraud.”
- “I will be in a better position to advise other military officers about the concepts of enforcing effective internal controls, checks and balances and accountability.”

Future Plans:

- Revise the Procurement and Contracting instruction to emphasize the United Nations Model Law on Public Procurement.
- LCC (MASL P176040) will be offered again 16 November to 6 December 2018.

For more information:

See the attached course schedule

Go to WWW.DIILS.ORG or

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