

DEFENSE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL LEGAL STUDIES

**Resident Course Report
Legal Aspects of Combating Terrorism (LCT)
18 March - 4 April 2019
Newport, Rhode Island**

Areas of Emphasis:

- 1) International Human Rights Law
- 2) International Law of Armed Conflict
- 3) Interagency Process and Structures

Key Issues:

- Protecting Human Rights
- Interoperability and legal cooperation
- International Cooperation
- Interagency Structures and Cooperation

Participants: 30	
Military:	24
Civilian:	6
Female	5
AFRICA	11
CENT	5
EUROPE	6
NORTH	1
PACIFIC	6
SOUTH	1

Mission Goal: LCT participants are prepared to:

- 1) **Assist their countries to respond within the rule of law to terrorist threats using police and military power; and**
- 2) **Cooperate with the United States and other countries to counter multinational terrorism**

Background: Legal Aspects of Combating Terrorism (LCT) (MASL P176028) focused on developing a cadre of international alumni who carry out operations to combat terrorism consistent with the rule of law, using all instruments of national power, including military, with an emphasis on interagency cooperation. Participants gained a greater understanding of the U.S. approach to combating terrorism, including best practices and lessons learned from subject matter experts. For example, a brief about the Rhode Island Emergency Management Center and a visit to the Coast Guard Station for Sector New York City helped participants learn about U.S. models of interoperability that will help them build a basis for understanding, compatibility and cooperation with U.S. agencies combating terrorism. Small group discussions and participant presentations reinforced the topics presented and allowed the participants to learn about different national perspectives for combating terrorism. Small group discussions addressed the application of human rights, international law of armed conflict, rules of engagement and status of forces agreements to operations combating terrorism.

Participants took part in cultural familiarization activities in Newport, RI, Boston, MA, and New York City as part of the DIILS Field Studies Program (FSP). Highlights of the New York City

DEFENSE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL LEGAL STUDIES

**Resident Course Report
Legal Aspects of Combating Terrorism (LCT)
18 March - 4 April 2019
Newport, Rhode Island**

trip included a visit to the 9/11 site and a tour of the United Nations. These activities enhanced participants' understanding and appreciation of U.S. history, culture and values, as well as the scale and impact of terrorism in the U.S.

Mission Goal and Objectives:

- Explore means to combat terrorism that are effective and within the rule of law. Participants determine how they and their countries can contribute to military and law enforcement operations in response to terrorism.
- Familiarize participants with the international law that applies to combating terrorism as a crime, as a tactic of insurgents, and within armed conflict against international terrorist groups. They also explore U.S. domestic law to combat terrorism as crime in order to better assess their own national laws in this area.
- Familiarize participants with U.S. and international organizations and structures involved in the conduct of military and law enforcement operations in response to terrorism, and the processes used by these organizations and structures to reach decisions and take action.

Outcomes:

Participants responded to the following post-course survey questions:

Post-Course survey questions	Average Score (10 = Excellent)
To what extent did the course provide skills and knowledge that can be applied in the workplace?	9.1
Would you recommend this course to your colleagues?	9.8

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

DEFENSE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL LEGAL STUDIES

**Resident Course Report
Legal Aspects of Combating Terrorism (LCT)
18 March - 4 April 2019
Newport, Rhode Island**

Participant Comments:

“What is the highlight of the course?”

- This course was perfect, well organized, well prepared. as a legal officer I have learned a lot from this course especially the content related to terrorism.
- High professionalism of lecture presenters.
- It was so engaging and interactive. I really learned a lot. Thanks.

“What are the strengths of the course?”

- The two way communication between course participants and lecturers in sharing knowledge and experiences.
- Comprehensiveness, and at the same time simplicity that enabled us to quickly master the topics that are the subject of this course.
- It provides capability to advise in the correct legal manner on how the decision maker can fairly decide on the correct measures to be taken against terrorist suspects whether in the battle field or under detention.
- The course improved my knowledge of international law on different types of conflicts, and the application of international laws in each.

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

- I will have an opportunity to familiarize members of my organization with different aspects during international operations in high-risk areas, how to define terrorism, armed groups or armed criminals and which law should cover these different armed groups.
- The legal bases for use of force against terrorist groups, the right of self-defense, human rights conventions and the terrorist financing aspects.
- I will disseminate what I have learned from this course to my coworkers. Specially in the area of international humanitarian law.

DEFENSE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL LEGAL STUDIES

**Resident Course Report
Legal Aspects of Combating Terrorism (LCT)
18 March - 4 April 2019
Newport, Rhode Island**

Future Plans:

- The next Legal Aspects of Combating Terrorism (LCT) course (MASL P176028) will be offered 16 March to 2 April 2020.

For more information:

See the attached course schedule.

Go to WWW.DIILS.ORG or

Email: DSCA.DIILS.ResidentPgm@mail.mil