

UNCLASSIFIED
AY 2017-2018 PROSPECTIVE RESEARCH TOPIC NOMINATION

*CLASSIFICATION:	Unclassified
*RESEARCH TOPIC TITLE:	Interagency Common Operating Picture / Common Intelligence Picture
*TOPIC DESCRIPTION	Using the southwest border region as a case study, how can the U.S. government create an effective interagency common operating picture (COP) and common intelligence picture (CIP) to gain common understanding and unity of effort to counter transnational criminal organizations (CTOC), and what role can DOD play in creating this COP/CIP?
*DATE SUBMITTED (YYYY-MM-DD)	2017-06-19
*EXTENDED TOPIC DESCRIPTION	Various federal, state, and local government agencies operate numerous operational and intelligence centers along the southwest border, but no single mechanism exists to shape a shared understanding across all federal, state, local, and tribal agencies and between the range of interdiction, intelligence, and military agencies/organizations. As a few examples, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has created geographic and functional Joint Task Forces (Joint Task Force West, Joint Task Force East, Joint Task Force Investigations) to synchronize DHS components. The High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) Program provides organizations through which federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies can coordinate for support, but within localized geographic areas. USNORTHCOM and Joint Task Force North coordinate Title 10 DoD support to counter-drug and CTOC law enforcement agencies. State National Guards and the National Guard Bureau coordinate Title 32 counter-drug activities and programs. The Departments of Justice also conducts activities to counter transnational criminal organizations including the Drug Enforcement Administration's interagency El Paso Intelligence Center. However, no single mechanism exists to establish all of these various agencies and organizations a common operating and intelligence picture across the southwest border. Greater operational and intelligence information sharing would enhance whole of government CTOC efforts, prevent duplication of efforts, and enhance homeland security.
*DESIRED OBJECTIVES OF THE RESEARCH	Enhance CTOC efforts through better interagency information sharing and coordination.
*REQUESTING/SPONSORING ORGANIZATION:	Joint Task Force North (JTF-N)
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DESIRED RESEARCH COMPLETION DATE (YYYY-MM-DD):	Standing topic – not time sensitive.
AVAILABLE FUNDING, If any	JTF-N may be able to support funding for TDY travel on a case-by-case basis.
COMMENTS	JTF-N can mentor students/researchers through refinement of this research topic and can assist with contacts with other interagency partners.

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