

# AY 2020-2021 PROSPECTIVE RESEARCH TOPIC NOMINATION

<b>CLASSIFICATION:</b>	<b>UNCLASSIFIED</b>
<b>*RESEARCH TOPIC TITLE:</b>	The Role of US Special Operations Forces (USSOF) in the Arctic
<b>*TOPIC DESCRIPTION:</b>	How can USSOF leverage its unique capabilities, access, placement, relationships, and experiences to support National Security interests focused on the Arctic region as a part of the U.S. homeland, a shared region, and a potential corridor for strategic competition?
<b>*DESIRED OBJECTIVES:</b>	Recommended USSOF Operations, Activities, and Investments (OAIs) and resourcing gaps
<b>EXTENDED TOPIC DESCRIPTION :</b>	The current Arctic security environment consists of increasing competition with Great Powers converging as climate change expands the economic and military viability of operating in the Arctic. Operating in the Arctic presents significant challenges and has been a region where economy of force efforts have limited OAIs. How can USSOF leverage its unique capabilities and global network to support the DOD Arctic strategy? Specifically, what OAIs can USSOF conduct to build Arctic awareness, enhance Arctic operations, and strengthen the rules-based order in the Arctic.
<b>* REQUESTING/SPONSORING ORGANIZATION:</b>	US Special Operations Command North (SOCNORTH) SOJ5
<b>*SUBMISSION DATE:</b>	7 August 2020
<b>DESIRED COMPLETION DATE:</b>	31 May 2021
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<b>AVAILABLE FUNDING, IF ANY:</b>	N/A
<b>COMMENTS:</b>	Reference Link: <a href="https://media.defense.gov/2019/Jun/06/2002141657/-1/-1/1/2019-DOD-ARCTIC-STRATEGY.PDF">https://media.defense.gov/2019/Jun/06/2002141657/-1/-1/1/2019-DOD-ARCTIC-STRATEGY.PDF</a>  Please contact POC for guidance and suggestions in conducting research, to include support arranging interviews with personnel at SOCNORTH, USNORTHCOM, or USSOCOM.

**PLEASE NOTE: \* DENOTES MANDATORY FOR SUBMISSION TO THE DATABASE**