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ABOUT DSCU

MISSION

DSCU is the Department of Defense’s primary Security Cooperation educational institution. Its mission is to advance the knowledge and practice of Security Cooperation through education, training, workforce development, advising, research, analysis, and lessons learned.

VISION

DSCU strives to be the center of intellectual life for the Security Cooperation enterprise; we prepare a global network of professionals to achieve outcomes that enhance the security of the United States and its partners and allies.

VALUES

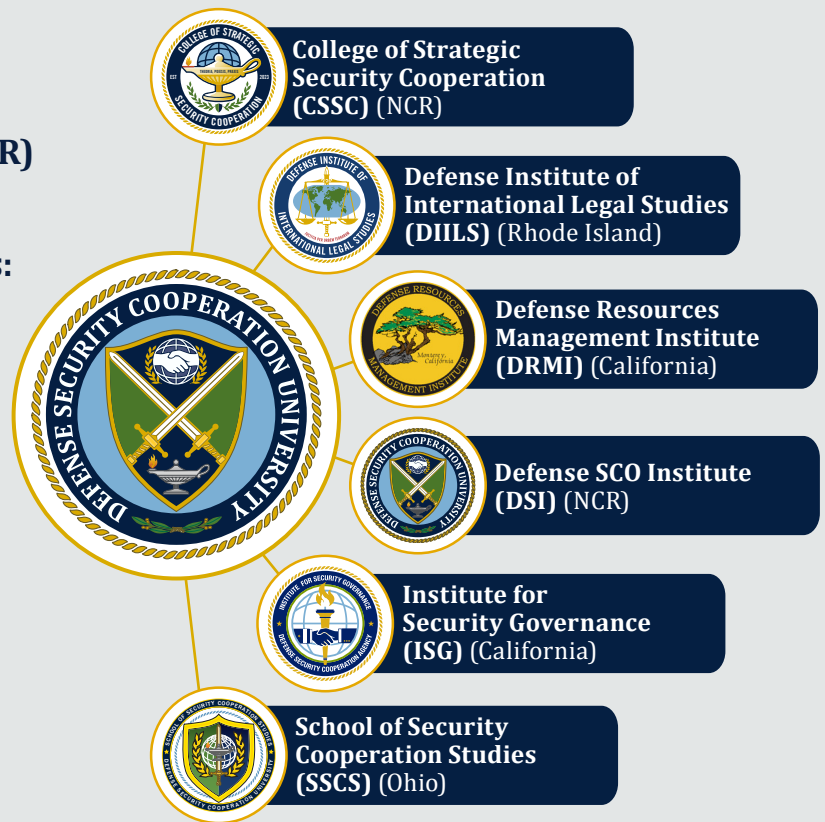
Academic Excellence, Accountability, Agility, Collaboration, Community

WHO WE ARE

The Defense Security Cooperation Agency’s (DSCA) DSCU was founded in 2019. Updates to Title 10 U.S. Code Section 384 in the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) of Fiscal Year 2024 established DSCU in law. Over the past five years, DSCU has been entrusted with an expanded mission set—adding advising to its education and training functions—and the team has grown to more than 475 personnel. DSCU’s geographically dispersed, cross-functional team of scholars, practitioners, and support staff work in concert to plan, develop, and deliver Security Cooperation education, training, and advising in support of U.S. national defense objectives and America’s allies and partners.

DSCU’s National Capital Region (NCR) headquarters consists of the following elements:

- Security Cooperation Workforce Development Program—Human Capital Initiative (SCWDP-HCI)
- Institutional Capacity Building Directorate (ICBD)
- BG Charles Young Research, Analysis, and Lessons Learned Institute
- International Military Training and Education



WHAT WE DO

DSCU supports DSCA’s mission by developing, educating, and managing a Security Cooperation Workforce (SCW) prepared to deliver global Security Cooperation programs and activities on behalf of the Department of Defense (DOD). It advances the profession of Security Cooperation through analysis, research, scholarship and critical inquiry. Further, DSCU manages and implements international military training and education programs and Institutional Capacity Building (ICB) activities in collaboration with partner nations.

WHY IT MATTERS

DSCU’s congressionally mandated mission aims to make U.S. Security Cooperation efforts more effective. DSCU’s objective is to ensure the consistent evolution of workforce training and education programs to address national defense and foreign policy objectives, and to build alliances and partnerships that achieve shared results.

- DSCU manages SCWDP-HCI to ensure the 15,000+ SCW is appropriately trained, educated, and organized to achieve U.S. defense and foreign policy objectives. As part of the SCW Certification 2.0 Program, DSCU’s CSSC, DSI, and SSCS created 63 new, competency-based courses. Also, DSCU officially established DSI in the NCR to serve as the DOD Security Cooperation Organization (SCO) schoolhouse.
- DSCU enables DOD and Department of State programs by supporting Security Cooperation stakeholders who deliver skill-focused training and graduate-level education to 70,000+ international military students annually. These programs foster the development of cooperation and intellectual interoperability with foreign military and civilian partners.
- DSCU’s BG Charles Young Research, Analysis, and Lessons Learned Institute fosters analysis, research, scholarship, and critical inquiry that advances the field of Security Cooperation, enables application of lessons learned, and promotes evidence-based decision-making to advance national security objectives.
- Legislation tasks DSCU with the “management and provision of ICB services executed by the DOD.” ICB encompasses Security Cooperation activities that support partner nation efforts to build robust defense institutions and develop new capabilities in support of shared security objectives. For example, in FY 2024 DSCU’s Ministry of Defense Advisor Program detailed 36 senior DOD civilian experts with 19 foreign counterparts to build institutional capacity.

DSCU ICB IMPACT FY24

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION & ADVISING

DIILS	CONDUCTED 195 ADVISORY, EDUCATION, & TRAINING ENGAGEMENTS	INVOLVING 3470+ MINISTERIAL & MILITARY PERSONNEL	FROM 94 PARTNER NATIONS
DRMI	CONDUCTED 14 RESIDENT & MOBILE COURSES (41,000+ CONTACT HOURS)	INVOLVING 380+ INTERNATIONAL & U.S. MILITARY AND DEFENSE CIVILIANS	FROM 63 PARTNER NATIONS
ISG	CONDUCTED 670 ADVISORY, EDUCATION & TRAINING ENGAGEMENTS	INVOLVING 9100+ MINISTERIAL & MILITARY PERSONNEL	FROM 112 PARTNER NATIONS

ACCREDITATION

DSCU maintains institutional accreditation through the Council on Occupational Education (COE). DSCU’s predecessor was first accredited in 2001. It is currently reaffirmed until 2025.