



**Australian Government**  
**Australian Civil-Military Centre**

## CHARTER

The Australian Civil-Military Centre (ACMC) is a forum that supports Australian government agencies develop more effective integrated civilian and military capabilities to prevent, prepare for and respond to conflicts and disasters overseas.

The ACMC was founded in November 2008 as a whole-of-government initiative to promote dialogue and interaction between civilian, police and military participants to facilitate effective coordination and consistent approaches, avoid duplication, and, when appropriate, pursue common goals.

The ACMC supports Australian government agencies to develop national civil-military capabilities by:

- promoting civil-military understanding and engagement, including through skills development with Australian government agencies
- cooperating with relevant agencies to assist them to strengthen mechanisms for civil-military coordination
- generating and sharing knowledge on civil-military approaches and interaction
- conducting whole-of-government lessons learned studies from Australian responses to overseas humanitarian and stabilisation crisis
- improving networks across government, non-government and international counterparts, and
- enhancing the national capacity for developing effective civil-military strategies for specific circumstances.

The ACMC achieves its objectives through education, training, support for joint exercises, research and publication. It facilitates networks, and supports strategic processes and the development of Australian government agencies' policy. The ACMC is an interagency cooperative effort that collaborates with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Department of Defence, the Attorney-General's Department, the Australian Federal Police, the Australian Council for International Development, the New Zealand Government and such other parties that agree to contribute resources, personnel and expertise.

The ACMC promotes the development of national and international cooperative capability within Australian government agencies by fostering an open and mutually supportive learning environment for all participants in its programs. It does this by promoting and facilitating internationally agreed policies, guidelines and effective approaches, and by supporting and encouraging associated agencies to achieve best practice in civil-military coordination.

The ACMC draws on domain knowledge to provide Australian government agencies with opportunities to develop their:

- concepts and policy guidance
- best practice training, education and guidance in civil-military coordination
- research projects with stakeholders across government and non-government sectors
- proposals for civil-military best practice for conflict prevention, harm minimisation, peace and stabilisation operations
- shared understanding of civil-military best practice coordination in humanitarian assistance, disaster recovery and management
- knowledge and decision-making skills for leaders and managers, officers and staff, and
- skills and knowledge to liaise effectively across government, with non-government organisations and international counterparts.

To provide these development opportunities, the ACMC partners with its international civil-military network to:

- support the delivery of high-quality exercises
- support the development of high-quality learning and development curricula
- identify and share information about international best practice in conflict and disaster management
- maintain close relationships with national and international peace, aid and security organisations
- foster research on civil-military coordination, and
- develop and encourage close relationships across networks that align with the ACMC's mandate.

The success of Australia's efforts to support peace, stability and humanitarian assistance overseas relies on effective coexistence and cooperation by Australian government agencies with humanitarian relief and development organisations and international partners. Future activities and operations must seek to optimise the efforts of all contributing agencies and systems. The ACMC is established to assist Australian government agencies achieve that common effort.

*Signed at Canberra in 2014*

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