

# **U.S. Army War College, PKSOI conduct 'Challenges Forum Working Group'**

## **U.S. Army War College, PKSOI conduct 'Challenges Forum Working Group'**

On Feb. 11, selected members of Working Group 2 (Comparative Policies, Principles, and Guidelines; led by the USA and Pakistani representatives) arrive in Carlisle to attend a work session at the Army Heritage and Education Center on Feb. 12.

With participants from Australia, Russia, Egypt, Nigeria and Sweden and the online participation of the Pakistani Chairman, PKSOI and the Swedish Secretariat of Challenges Forum presented the current status of a database project. This database will establish an electronic community of practice among the Partners that will consider all relevant concepts, principles, guidelines and associated doctrinal materials in order to increase understanding, cooperation and harmonization, across international, regional, sub-regional and national organizations involved in peace operations. The working group established the next milestones for developing the database.

On Feb. 13 they joined the other working groups' members in New York City, in preparation for reports and briefing sessions with selected UN leadership.

USAWC's PKSOI has represented the USG as a partner in the Challenges Forum since its inception in 1997. The Challenges Forum currently includes 19 partner nations and seeks to promote and broaden the international dialogue between key stakeholders that address peace operations issues in a timely, effective and inclusive manner. In 2011, the Challenges Forum acknowledged the Department of State's Bureau for International Organizations as a co-partner with PKSOI in USG representation.

Of note, the Challenges Forum assists in research and publication of significant United Nations' (UN) initiatives, projects, and documentation that furthers multi-functional and multi-national approaches toward peace operations planning, training, and execution. As examples, the 2009 UN Capstone Doctrine and the 2010 handbook, "Considerations for Mission Leadership in UN Peacekeeping Operations," were both authored primarily by the Challenges Forum, which included PKSOI team members as the lead writers. This handbook is the basic text for training all mission commanders and SRSO's deploying to UN missions. The Army Knowledge on Line has posted this handbook on their web portal for Army Service Component Commands.

There will be several meetings of the Challenges Forum in East Africa, Argentina, Norway and China. All working groups will present and discuss their topics, including “Future Concepts and Models for Peace Operations” and “Impact Assessment and Evaluation.”

PKSOI will continue to represent the United States in the Challenges Forum and support these efforts with its subject matter experts. In particular, during the next six months it will play a leading role in constructing the database.

U.S. Army War College Archives - News Article - 21 February 2013