

# CSA introduces the updated Key Strategic Issues List to guide strategic research, as of Oct. 31, 201

*GEN Raymond T. Odierno, Chief Of Staff, United States Army*

## CSA introduces the updated **Key Strategic Issues List**

"Today we continue to face an uncertain, complicated and rapidly changing international security environment, as stated in the 2014 Quadrennial Defense Review. At the same time, the Army has been asked to contribute to the restoration of our Nation's economic strength by rapidly drawing down Army forces in light of domestic fiscal challenges. In the face of continuing international tensions and budget stringency, the Army's greatest challenge is to provide steadfast support to worldwide operational commitments, to include Afghanistan, while simultaneously drawing down, reorganizing and preparing the force for a wider array of security missions and threats in the future. We are committed to ensure the U.S. Army remains the most highly trained and professional land force in the world.

"Research on the topics contained in this document will assist us in shaping the Army of the future. We organize the topics to support the five strategic priorities identified in the 2014 *Army Strategic Planning Guidance* (ASPG).

"We must decide how to organize, train, and equip our Army efficiently and effectively so as to be prepared for the uncertain global environment ahead of us. To assist in doing so, we publish the *Army Priorities for Strategic Analysis* (APSA)

"I have a keen interest in each of the topics listed; however, I highlight at the front of the document a subset of these topics, the analyses of which are truly critical to our future success. I strongly encourage those conducting research through our Senior Service Colleges and Fellows experiences to consider those priority issues, as well as others listed in the APSA. The Army needs your study and analysis today more than ever.

"Given today's fiscal environment and the dynamic strategic environment, our vision, direction, and objectives must continue to evolve so that we can adapt to global challenges.

"The Army is the strength of the Nation."

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