



DoD DIRECTIVE 5111.11

DIRECTOR OF NET ASSESSMENT

Originating Component: Office of the Chief Management Officer of the Department of Defense

Effective: April 14, 2020

Releasability: Cleared for public release. Available on the Directives Division Website at <https://www.esd.whs.mil/DD/>.

Reissues and Cancels: DoD Directive 5111.11, "Director of Net Assessment," December 23, 2009

Approved by: David L. Norquist, Deputy Secretary of Defense

Purpose: This issuance updates the responsibilities and functions, relationships, and authorities of the Director, Net Assessment, pursuant to the authority vested in the Secretary of Defense by Section 113 of Title 10, United States Code, and consistent with Section 904 of Public Law 113-291.

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SECTION 1: GENERAL ISSUANCE INFORMATION

1.1. APPLICABILITY.

This issuance applies to OSD, the Military Departments, the Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (CJCS) and the Joint Staff, the Combatant Commands, the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Defense, the Defense Agencies, the DoD Field Activities, and all other organizational entities within the DoD (referred to collectively in this issuance as the “DoD Components”).

SECTION 2: RESPONSIBILITIES AND FUNCTIONS

The Director, Net Assessment, is the Principal Staff Assistant (PSA) and advisor to the Secretary of Defense for net assessment matters. In the exercise of assigned responsibilities, the Director, Net Assessment:

a. Develops and coordinates independent net assessments of the standing trends, and future prospects of U.S. military capabilities and national potential in comparison with those of other countries or groups of countries so as to identify emerging or future threats or opportunities for the United States, consistent with the April 14, 2017 and October 1, 2019 Secretary of Defense Memorandums. Pursuant to Section 904(b) of Public Law 113-291, these net assessments may be communicated to the Secretary of Defense, without obtaining the approval or concurrence of any other DoD official. This will include, as required, net assessments of:

(1) Current and projected U.S. and foreign military capabilities by theater, region, domain, function, or mission.

(2) Specific current and projected U.S. and foreign capabilities, operational concepts, doctrine, and weapon systems.

b. Develops, advises, and consults on any net assessment portion of the Annual Report of the Secretary of Defense to the President and Congress, congressional testimony, and foreign government discussions; and provides advice for the preparation of net assessments by the CJCS.

c. Manages an independent research program that harnesses the latest thinking and relevant historical lessons, from diverse sources, and cultivates a network of experts for DoD to draw from.

d. Conducts future-oriented war games that examine the evolution of the character of war and assesses the expected performance of our current and emerging capabilities relative to those of our adversaries.

e. Provides guidance and staff assistance, and represents the Secretary of Defense in the development of national net assessments and resultant competitive strategies by the National Security Council; and serves as the primary OSD focal point for joint efforts with the Intelligence Community to produce net assessments.

f. Provides support for the improvement of and coordinates on the development of technical and joint military net assessments within the DoD.

g. Provides objective and independent analyses of national policy, doctrine, strategy, goals, objectives, and capabilities, as requested, or determined necessary.

h. Provides analysis of key trends and dynamics impacting the international system, its future trajectory, the nature of competition in the system, and their implications for our military advantage.

- i. Coordinates with DoD officials, as necessary, to ensure that DoD documents, deliberations, and discussions reflect appropriate, up-to-date assessment information.
- j. Ensures that assigned policies and programs are designed and managed to improve standards of performance, ethics, economy, and efficiency.
- k. Uses existing systems, facilities, and services of DoD and of other federal departments and agencies, when possible, to avoid duplication and achieve maximum efficiency and economy.
- l. Performs such other duties as the Secretary of Defense may prescribe.

SECTION 3: RELATIONSHIPS

3.1. DIRECTOR, NET ASSESMENT.

In performing his or her assigned responsibilities and functions, the Director, Net Assessment:

- a. Reports directly to the Secretary of Defense.
- b. Coordinates and exchanges information with other OSD officials, the DoD Component heads, other federal officials, and, as appropriate, State or local officials having collateral or related functions.

3.2. OSD PSAS AND DOD COMPONENT HEADS.

The OSD PSAs and DoD Component heads coordinate with the Director, Net Assessment on matters under their purview related to the responsibilities, functions, and authorities assigned to the Director, Net Assessment, in this issuance.

SECTION 4: AUTHORITIES

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Secretary of Defense, and subject to his or her authority, direction, and control, and in accordance with DoD policies and issuances, the Director, Net Assessment, is hereby delegated authority to exercise, within assigned responsibilities and functions, all authority of the Secretary of Defense derived from statute, Executive order, or interagency agreement, except where specifically limited by statute or Executive order to the Secretary of Defense. The Director, Net Assessment is specifically delegated authority to:

a. Establish DoD policy through DoD instructions (DoDIs), directive-type memorandums (DTMs), and rules published in the Federal Register, within the authorities and responsibilities assigned in this issuance and in accordance with DoDI 5025.01 or Administrative Instruction (AI) 102.

(1) In those documents, assign responsibilities related to the authorities and responsibilities in this issuance to other OSD PSAs and DoD Component heads. Assignment of responsibilities in DoD issuances or rules published in the Federal Register to Military Department officials must be made through the Secretaries of those Departments. DoD issuances or rules published in the Federal Register assigning responsibilities to the Combatant Commands must be coordinated with the CJCS.

(2) DoDIs and DTMs must be fully coordinated, in accordance with DoDI 5025.01. Rules published in the Federal Register must be fully coordinated with impacted OSD and DoD Component heads and be consistent with AI 102.

(3) This authority may not be redelegated.

b. Approve other DoDIs, DoD manuals, and DTMs in areas of assigned responsibilities and functions that implement policy already established by a DoD Directive, DoDI, DTM, or policy memorandum issued by the Secretary or Deputy Secretary of Defense.

(1) In these documents, assign responsibilities related to the authorities and responsibilities in this issuance to other OSD PSAs and DoD Component heads. Assignment of responsibilities in these DoD issuances to Military Department officials must be made through the Secretaries of those Departments. DoD issuances assigning responsibilities to the Combatant Commands must be coordinated with the CJCS.

(2) Such documents must be fully coordinated, in accordance with DoDI 5025.01.

(3) This authority may only be further delegated to DoD officials, as specified in DoDI 5025.01.

c. Approve the Federal Register publication of documents other than rules and significant guidance documents (e.g., notices, orders, and non-significant guidance documents as defined in Executive Order 13891 and determined by the Office of Management and Budget), in accordance with AI 102. Unless otherwise restricted by law, this authority may be further

delegated only in writing to DoD officials at or above the level of a general or flag officer, Senior Executive member, or equivalent.

d. Communicate directly with the DoD Component heads, as necessary, to carry out assigned responsibilities and functions, including transmitting requests for advice and assistance. Communications to Military Department officials must be transmitted through the Secretaries of the Military Departments or as otherwise provided in law or directed by the Secretary of Defense in other DoD issuances. Communications to the Combatant Commanders must be in accordance with DoD Directive 5100.01.

e. Communicate with other government officials, members of the public, and representatives of foreign governments, as appropriate, in carrying out assigned responsibilities and functions. Communications with representatives and members of the legislative branch must be conducted through the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs, except for communications with the Defense Appropriations Committees, which must be coordinated with the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)/Chief Financial Officer, Department of Defense.

f. Obtain reports and information, in accordance with DoDI 8910.01, as necessary, to carry out assigned responsibilities and functions.

g. Establish appropriate arrangements for DoD participation in non-DoD governmental programs for which the Director, Net Assessment, is assigned primary DoD cognizance.

h. Enter into support and service agreements with the Military Departments, other DoD Components, or other federal departments and agencies, as required, for the effective performance of responsibilities and functions assigned to the Director, Net Assessment, in accordance with DoDI 4000.19.

GLOSSARY

G.1. ACRONYMS.

ACRONYM	MEANING
AI	administrative instruction
CJCS	Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
DoDI	DoD instruction
DTM	directive-type memorandum
PSA	Principal Staff Assistant

G.2. DEFINITIONS.

TERM	DEFINITION
net assessment.	For the purposes of this issuance, the comparative analysis of military, technological, political, economic, and other factors governing the relative military capability of nations. Its purpose is to identify problems and opportunities that deserve the attention of senior defense officials.

REFERENCES

- Administrative Instruction 102, “Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) Federal Register (FR) System,” November 6, 2006, as amended
- DoD Directive 5100.01, “Functions of the Department of Defense and Its Major Components,” December 21, 2010
- DoD Instruction 4000.19, “Support Agreements,” April 25, 2013, as amended
- DoD Instruction 5025.01, “DoD Issuances Program,” August 1, 2016, as amended
- DoD Instruction 8910.01, “Information Collection and Reporting,” May 19, 2014
- Executive Order 13891, “Promoting the Rule of Law Through Improved Agency Guidance Documents,” October 9, 2019
- Public Law 113-291, Section 904(b), “Carl Levin and Howard P. ‘Buck’ McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015,” December 19, 2015
- Secretary of Defense Memorandum, “Guidance,” April 17, 2017
- Secretary of Defense Memorandum, “Guidance,” October 1, 2019
- United States Code, Title 10, Section 113