

College of International Security Affairs
National Defense University

Michael L. Rupert, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Department of Regional and Analytical Studies



Education

- Ph.D. School of Conflict Analysis & Resolution, George Mason University
- MALD Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy, Tufts University
- BA American University in Cairo

Research Interests

- Critical Approaches to Terrorism, Insurgency, and Resistance Movements
- Securitization, Critical Security Studies and Applied Narrative Theory
- Application of socio-cultural knowledge to strategic communication and information operations
- Politics, security and religion in Southwest & South Asia

MICHAEL RUPERT, PH.D. is an Associate Professor in the Department of Regional and Analytical Studies (RAS) at the College of International Security Affairs.

Michael deployed to Afghanistan in 2012 in support of NATO, ISAF, and EUPOL as a lead social scientist with the U.S. Army where he developed cultural training for Afghan and ISAF military personnel, conducted research on gender issues for EUPOL, and researched the role of narrative in understanding the information environment. He recently returned from a second deployment to Afghanistan where he led an Afghan social research team based out of Kabul.

Michael has over ten years experience leading, developing, and conducting sociocultural research on the application of inform and influence activities (IIA) within complex sociocultural frameworks in support of counterinsurgency efforts. He has researched and developed an analytical framework for the analysis and application of information operations in a counterinsurgency environment. He also has significant experience in the development and implementation of war-games and simulations for U.S. military and intelligence organizations on emerging threats, insurgency, and arms proliferation.

Michael holds a Ph.D. in Conflict Analysis & Resolution from George Mason University. His dissertation examines the influence of institutional narrative

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within the COIN community and how those narratives can distort the research and analysis of insurgency. He also hold a Master's in Law & Diplomacy from the Fletcher School at Tufts University and a Bachelor's degree in Middle East Studies from the American University in Cairo.

Michael served in the United States Navy from 1986 to 1992.