



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
NATIONAL DEFENSE UNIVERSITY  
WASHINGTON DC 20319-5066

21 January 2026

Dear CISA Class of 2027,

Congratulations on your selection to attend the College of International Security Affairs (CISA) at National Defense University (NDU). CISA prepares joint warfighters, national security professionals, and international partners for strategic-level leadership through rigorous study of irregular warfare and related security challenges. Whether you are attending the JPME-II program at Fort McNair or the Joint Special Operations Master of Arts (JSOMA) program at Fort Bragg, we look forward to supporting your academic and professional development during the coming year.

Preparation prior to arrival is essential for success. All incoming students are required to review and complete the actions outlined on the NDU Incoming Students Information page (<https://www.ndu.edu/Students/Incoming-Students/>), with particular attention to the “Instructions for Incoming Students.” Timely and full completion of enrollment requirements will ensure your full integration into the academic environment.

For questions prior to the start of the academic year, students should contact the International Study, Mission, and Outreach (ISMO) at Fort McNair, the International Military Student Office (IMSO) at Fort Bragg, their respective Service or Agency Chair, or the Dean of Students Office. Additional CISA-specific information, including the student orientation schedule and Service or Agency Chair contact details, is available on the CISA Incoming Students page (<https://cisa.ndu.edu/Students/Incoming-Students/>).

While academic excellence is the primary focus at CISA, students are strongly encouraged to engage with classmates and participate in activities that enhance the overall educational experience. Opportunities include intramural sports, academic travel, and participation in the CISA Student Council, which plays a key role in shaping student life and organizing events throughout the year. These experiences foster professional relationships and lifelong connections that extend well beyond graduation through the CISA alumni network.

We encourage you to actively engage with your peers, learn from diverse perspectives, and take full advantage of the opportunities available during your time at CISA. If you have questions, please reach out to me at [laurinda.m.reifsteck.mil@ndu.edu](mailto:laurinda.m.reifsteck.mil@ndu.edu).

Welcome to CISA and best wishes for a successful academic year. Go Eagles!

Laurinda M. Reifsteck, Col, USAF  
Dean of Students  
College of International Security Affairs