



Intelligence Community Foreign Language Capability

A. AUTHORITY: The National Security Act of 1947, as amended; Executive Order 12333, as amended; and other applicable provisions of law.

B. PURPOSE: This Directive establishes an integrated approach to develop, maintain, and improve foreign language capabilities across the Intelligence Community (IC). This Directive designates the Assistant Director of National Intelligence for Human Capital (ADNI/HC) as the Director of National Intelligence's (DNI) designee and principal advisor for IC foreign language capabilities.

C. APPLICABILITY: This Directive applies to the IC, as defined by the National Security Act of 1947, as amended; and to such elements of any other department or agency as may be designated by the President, or designated jointly by the DNI and the head of the department or agency concerned, as an element of the IC.

D. POLICY

1. Foreign language capabilities are essential to the performance of intelligence missions and operations. Foreign language capabilities include a broad range of language proficiency skills and other abilities, such as cultural awareness and understanding, regional expertise, skill in translation and interpretation, and knowledge of the scientific and technical vocabularies of critical foreign languages.

2. The development and implementation of an integrated approach for ensuring the continuous availability of foreign language capabilities is necessary to achieve IC mission objectives. Education, training, and the utilization of human language technologies are essential components of this integrated approach.

3. IC foreign language capabilities shall be treated as a community asset to be addressed and coordinated through a community forum.

4. The IC Foreign Language Executive Committee (FLEXCOM) shall be re-established under DNI authority.

E. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The DNI will:

a. Provide strategic guidance for the development of IC foreign language capabilities;

b. Ensure foreign language capabilities are responsive to the National Intelligence Priorities Framework and National Intelligence Managers' (NIM) Unifying Intelligence Strategies, and are consistent with

the National Intelligence Strategy and with the mission needs of IC elements; and

c. In coordination with the Secretary of Defense, identify actions required to improve the foreign language education of IC personnel consistent with 50 USC 441j(b).

2. ODNI

a. The ADNI/HC shall:

(1) Serve as the designee of and principal advisor to the DNI for IC foreign language capabilities;

(2) Oversee Community activities and initiatives related to IC foreign language capabilities;

(3) In coordination with IC elements, and consistent with 50 USC 441j(b), establish standards, practices, and procedures for a unified and integrated approach to enhance IC foreign language capabilities aligned with each IC element's mission;

(4) Oversee the ADNI/HC Foreign Language Program Office (FLPO);

(5) Designate the IC Senior Language Authority (SLA);

(6) Evaluate the effectiveness of IC foreign language capabilities in meeting IC requirements, and identify areas for improvement;

(7) In consultation with IC elements, identify and recommend to the DNI those IC elements best postured to perform foreign language capability functions as services of common concern;

(8) Provide foreign language program data and analysis to inform strategy development;

(9) In consultation with IC elements provide input to the National Intelligence Program regarding foreign language capabilities requirements through the Intelligence Planning, Programming, Budgeting, and Evaluation System; and

(10) Update and maintain the IC FLEXCOM Charter.

b. The IC SLA shall:

(1) Advise the ADNI/HC and others as appropriate on IC foreign language capabilities required to enhance mission success;

(2) Direct the ADNI/HC FLPO;

(3) Chair the IC FLEXCOM;

(4) Consistent with 50 USC 441j(b), identify opportunities for the integration of education, training, and human language technologies in the development of IC foreign language capabilities; and

(5) Serve as the senior IC representative for foreign language capabilities to US Government fora.

c. The Deputy DNI for Intelligence Integration shall identify and validate IC-wide foreign language requirements to the IC SLA and the IC FLEXCOM based on NIMs' statements of need for human language skills and enabling technology.

3. Heads of IC Elements shall:

a. Manage their IC element's foreign language resources consistent with their respective missions and this Directive;

b. Designate an SLA to oversee their respective IC element's foreign language capabilities matters and serve on the IC FLEXCOM; and

c. Participate in evaluations of IC foreign language capabilities, including enabling technologies, and provide information as requested.

4. The IC FLEXCOM shall serve as the ADNI/HC's senior advisory body on matters related to IC foreign language capabilities and be chaired by the IC SLA.

F. EFFECTIVE DATE: This Directive becomes effective on the date of signature.


Director of National Intelligence

14 MAY 2012
Date