Modernizing for a Multi-Domain Army

*The current strategic environment is typified by a state of **continuous competition** by Great Powers – notably **China and Russia***

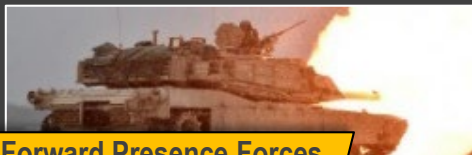**Problem:** **China and Russia** *pose three challenges:*

– **Challenge in all domains** *(tactical)*
– **Employ multiple layers of Stand-off** *(operational)*
– **Leverage competition space** *(strategic)*
to achieve operational and strategic objectives

Solution: **The U.S. Army in Multi-Domain Operations 2028** *concept describes how the Army will reconcile these challenges:*

– **compete** *below threshold of armed conflict*
– **penetrate** *and* **dis-integrate** *enemy stand-off*
– **exploit** *the resultant freedom of maneuver*
– **return to competition** *on favorable terms*

Executing MDO requires changing how the Army: postures the force physically with increased authorities; organizes its formations; and employs its new capabilities and emerging technologies.

Calibrated Force Posture

- **Forward Presence Forces**
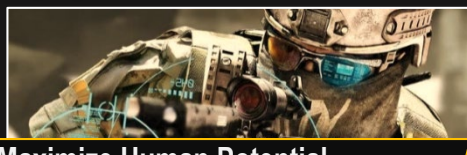- **Expeditionary Capacity**
- **National-Level Capabilities**
- **Authorities**

Multi-Domain Formations

- **Conduct Independent Maneuver**
- **Employ Cross-Domain Fires**
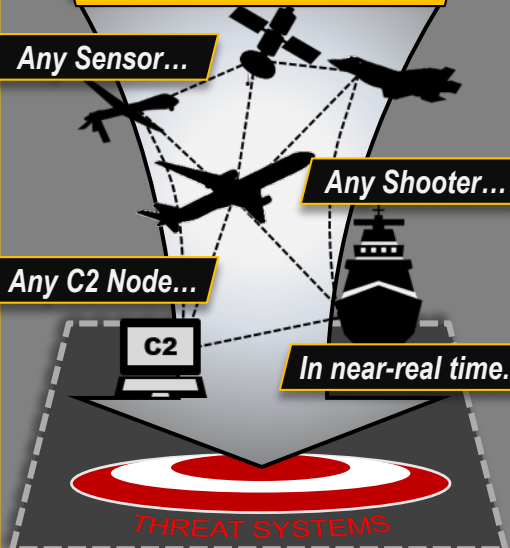- **Maximize Human Potential**
- **Echelons Above Brigade Formations**

Convergence

The rapid and continuous integration of capabilities in all domains through:

- **Cross-Domain Synergy**
- **Redundant Kill Chains**
- **Mission Command**

Any Sensor…

Any Shooter…

Any C2 Node…

C2

In near-real time.

THREAT SYSTEMS

Compete   **Penetrate**   **Dis-Integrate**   **Exploit**   **Re-Compete**

Ver 1.5

Modernizing for a Multi-Domain Army

The Army Modernization Strategy (AMS) is the roadmap to achieve the *U.S. Army in Multi-Domain Operations 2028* concept. The AMS:

- Guides the Future Force Modernization Enterprise
- Integrates holistic Army Modernization
- Prioritizes and synchronizes efforts executed through the Program Objective Memo (POM) and Total Army Analysis (TAA)
- Identifies enduring solutions, recommends new investments, and nominates programs for reduction or divestment

The Army of 2035 (*MDO Ready*) is a resourced, equipped, and modernized force capable of defeating one near-peer enemy in a regional conflict while deterring another.

Current Gaps	MDO Capable	MDO Ready
	1st MDO Theater Force	
2023	2028	2035

The MDO Ready Army defeats an enemy's layered stand-off with accelerated capabilities from the 8 Cross-Functional Teams…

Soldier Lethality	Army Network
Air and Missile Defense	Future Vertical Lift
Assured Position & Navigation	Long-Range Precision Fires
Next-Generation Combat Vehicle	Synthetic Training Environment

…and requires the organizational change and ***echelonment of capabilities*** with the sufficient mix of capability and capacity to execute MDO against a specific threat or in a specific theater.

Theater Armies	*sets the theater, protects key assets, & enables expeditionary maneuver*
Field Armies	*prosecutes campaigns across domains with multiple corps-sized formations*
Corps	*commands multiple divisions to achieve operational and tactical objectives*
Divisions	*commands multiple BDEs to defeat a shaped enemy in the Close Area*
Brigades	*converges capabilities; gains initiative to isolate and defeat enemy formations*

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Timeline

2019 — *Refine MDO in EUCOM AOR & Test MDO in INDOPACOM AOR*

2020 — *Validate & Refine MDO in INDOPACOM AOR*

2021 — *Design MDO Capable Force*

2022 — *Validate MDO Capable Force*

2023 — *Current capability gaps addressed as foundation of MDO Capable Force*

2024 — *Begin transition to MDO Capable Force*

2025 — *Incorporate MDO into Fielded Force*

2026 — *Train the MDO Capable Force*

2027 — *Validate MDO Capable Force*

2028 — *MDO Capable Force Fielded*

Compete   Penetrate   Dis-Integrate   Exploit   Re-Compete

Ver 1.5

Multi-Domain Operations

SITUATION

The current strategic environment – with a revanchist Russia and a revisionist China – is typified by continuous competition among Great Powers that challenges the security environment and operational deterrence.

PROBLEM

China and Russia 1) challenge the U.S. in every domain, 2) have invested heavily in capabilities and strategies that create **multiple layers of stand-off**, and 3) have leveraged the competition space left of conflict to achieve objectives. Stand-off creates separation in three ways:

- *Politically*, to separate the U.S. from its allies
- *Physically*, to separate the Joint Force in time and space
- *Functionally*, to separate the Joint Force by capability with A2/AD systems

SOLUTION

Given the problem of stand-off, the Army must *compete* below the threshold of armed conflict to defeat an adversary's attempts to destabilize a region and to deter their overt aggression. Successful competition also enables the rapid transition of the Joint Force into armed conflict if necessary. In armed conflict, Army forces, as part of the Joint Force, immediately begin to *penetrate* and *dis-integrate* enemy stand-off systems. Army formations *exploit* the resulting freedom of maneuver created by penetration and dis-integration operations to isolate and defeat the enemy and force a *return to competition* on terms favorable to the U.S.

REQUIRED TENETS

Executing MDO requires 3 tenets to change how the Army postures physically, organizes its formations, and employs its new capabilities:

- *Calibrated Force Posture* – the combination of forward presence forces, expeditionary capacity, access to joint, national and partner capabilities, enabled by sufficient authorities
- *Multi-Domain Formations* – possessing the combination of capacity, capability, and endurance, enabled by optimized human potential to maneuver across multiple domains
- *Convergence* – rapid and continuous integration of capabilities in all domains through multiple forms of attack and redundant kill webs enabled by mission command – "any shooter, using any sensor, through any C2 node with necessary authorities"

OUTCOME

This solution expands the option space for policy makers – moving from the limited options of:

- 1) doing nothing or 2) engaging in protracted conflict

 --- to adding options of ---

- 3) **prevailing in competition** and 4) **defeating *fait accompli* attacks**

These added options increase operational deterrence and keep our potential adversaries in check.

Compete   Penetrate   Dis-Integrate   Exploit   Re-Compete