Foreword

Several times per year, the CIMIC Messenger will inform the CIMIC family and our civilian partners, as well as the interested public, about both relevant and current issues pertaining to the world of CIMIC, Civil-Military Interaction (CMI) and the CCOE.

In the last Messenger we informed you on the conducted CMI-survey for the CIMIC Military Committee Policy 411/2 operationalization. In these Messenger we report about the next step, the CMI Workshop, organized in Nov 2015, at the CCOE. The final Workshop report has been handed over to SHAPE J9 for implementation and further action. The CIMIC Field Handbook provides tactical reference and an operational command insight for CIMIC operators. The CCOE published a new version, as small hard copy pocket as well as eBook version, recently. Finally the next step forward towards a Master degree of Civil-Military Interaction (M-CMI) is done.

Read a Workshop report and learn more about the updated CIMIC Field Handbook as well as the progress of the M-CMI in that issue.

Roel Been
Director CCOE
CIVIL-MILITARY INTERACTION WORKSHOP 2015

Article is written by Lieutenant Roy Scheibenflug, CCOE/Concepts, Interoperability and Capabilities Branch

In the last CIMIC Messenger, CCOE provided an article on “CMI Survey – CIMIC on Tour” where we gave an insight into the CCOE’s work towards the operationalization of NATO policy MC 411/2. As a follow up to the CMI Survey, the CCOE conducted together with Allied Command Operations J9 a large scale event in November 2015 – the CMI Workshop.

The workshop, which took place from 23 to 25 November 2015 brought together more than 120 participants from 17 different nations. Besides representatives from the NATO Command- and Force Structure and national CIMIC units, a notable number of representatives from International Organizations (IO’s), Government Organizations (GO’s), Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO’s) as well as Think-Tanks were part of the workshop.

Thus, subject matter experts from UNOCHA, Transparency International, United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Kinderberg, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and Clingendael only to name a few, traveled to The Hague following our invitation. Amongst the military participants, a wide range of non-CIMIC and CMI stakeholders such as from Strategic Communications/Information Operations, Targeting, Training and Public Affairs contributed significantly to the workshop.

Basis for the CMI workshop was the outcome of the CMI Survey. The CMI survey contains an overview of NATO’s current internal state of affairs of CIMIC and CMI procedural affairs together with structured recommendations that specify areas or aspects in need for further improvement within NATO. The CMI Workshop acted as a starting point for those enhancements to be developed in six different syndicates, namely Leadership, Training, Organization, Information, Doctrine and Interoperability.

During his opening speech, CCOE Director Colonel Roel Been, stressed the importance of shaping NATO policies together with their implementation before, and not after the deployment of our forces.

“This way, CIMIC will be able to influence the operational landscape from the beginning, enabling a much more fruitful and successful outcome of the overall operation in the interest of our soldiers and the affected civilian population”.

In this respect, he further referred to the CCOE Vision 2020 which stands for connecting with each other and to share all new, creative and relevant information in order to contribute to a common understanding of CIMIC and CMI before, during and after future missions.

*NATO Military Policy on Civil-Military Cooperation (CIMIC) and Civil-Military Interaction (CMI)
High Profile/Senior Mentors

Besides the highly dedicated and experienced syndicate leaders, the high profile workshop director, Mr. Michael C. Ryan, together with NATO’s Senior Advisor on Comprehensive Approach, General (ret.) Ton van Loon, ensured that the course of the workshop went into the right direction at any time.

Mr. Michael Ryan is the Director of the Interagency Partnering Branch at Headquarters U.S. European Command (EUCOM) in Stuttgart, Germany where he is in charge of building and strengthening sustainable partnerships with nongovernmental, International Organizations and private sector partners.

Lieutenant General (ret.) Ton van Loon who within NATO is well known as ‘Mr. Comprehensive Approach’, is one of the most prominent veterans of Dutch/German military cooperation and interoperability.

On the fringes of the CMI Workshop, the academic program “Master of CMI”, which has been developed by the University of the German Federal Armed Forces in Hamburg together with the CCOE, had been presented by Prof. Dr. Klaus Beckmann stressing the aim at aligning military education & training with the civilian Bologna* educational standards. You find an article regarding the progress of the M-CMI also in this Messenger.

Conclusion

Based on the feedback of the workshop participants, the CMI Workshop has been a great success bringing together military and non-military experts to discuss on the future of CIMIC and CMI in a friendly, respectful and well organized environment.

In order to further operationalize NATO CMI Policy MC 0411/2 and streamline the main 3 CMI-activities (communication, coordination and planning), it was acknowledged throughout all syndicates that CIMIC acts as the main facilitator of CMI and with this, many recommendations on detailed developments and their implementation have been made.

The outcome of the CMI Workshop including in depth findings and recommendations of the six different syndicates have been summarized by the Concepts, Interoperability and Capabilities (CIC) branch in a CMI Workshop Report. The CMI Workshop Report with its recommendations on how to proceed was handed over to the Assistant Chief of Staff (ACOS) J9 of SHAPE on 22 February 2016.

*The main objective of the Bologna Process since its inception in 1999, has been to make the European Higher Education Area (EHEA) more comparable, compatible and coherent. **as defined in MC 411/2
The formal procedure towards Bologna accreditation of the M-CMI included discussions with the University and CCOE leadership, the programme developers and future students to assess feasibility, demand and academic accuracy. The commission was inspired by the innovative idea of a Master of Arts degree consisting of civilian and military modules and recognized that this approach will contribute to close an existing educational gap in academic education in the field of CMI and CIMIC.

Special positive recognition was given to the open environment of the CCOE that allows civilian students to participate in military modules thereby enhancing interdisciplinary and interagency perspectives. The complexity of current crisis constantly demands new solutions for Education & Training in the military. The innovation of the Master of Civil Military Interaction M-CMI supports the idea of interoperability throughout present NATO operations with international organizations on the highest level of education.

Integration of academic modules and cooperation with universities enhances the current military perspective by additional ideas and provides the possibility to issue certifications and credits that lead to civilian degrees. The alignment between Education & Training in NATO with the civilian criteria of the Bologna standard consequently serves the paradigm of interoperability.

Since 4th of March 2016 the “CMI-Workshop Report” is available for download within the Documents section of the CMI-Workshop-Project within the CCOE Network Area (if you would like to access the documents please register to the “CCOE Network Area” and request to join the “CMI workshop” project at the CCOE Webpage).

The 4 most important recommendations of the Workshop Report suggestions are:

1. Develop a NATO CMI-Directive addressing all activities and all levels of command and being instructive for all military branches and functions.
2. Establish a planning-related sub-working group to the ACO CIMIC & CMI WG.
3. Clarify and improve NATO internal CMI-related information-relations and -responsibilities.
4. Install a throughout CMI-mindset within NATO.

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ACREDITATION HEARING - MASTER OF CMI

Article is written by Captain Marian Corbe, CCOE/Academia

Introduction

In October 2015 we have informed on the recent development towards establishing a Master of Arts degree of Civil-Military Interaction (M-CMI). With this article we keep you updated on the progress.

The CCOE is building up an academic network between academic institutions and military organizations. The goal is to provide students with the opportunity to enhance their personal competencies and development by a degree, which might also hold prospects for promotions and job opportunities.

An important step towards accreditation of the M-CMI was the accreditation hearing that took place from 08-09 February 2016 at the Helmut-Schmidt-University in Hamburg. A high level delegation from the CCOE consisting of the Director, Colonel Roel Been, Branch Head Training & Education, Lieutenant Colonel Rudolph Keijzer, Branch Head Lessons Learned, Lieutenant Colonel Lars Cramer-Larsen and Staff Officer Academia, Captain Marian Corbe, participated in the two day event.

We are awaiting the statements of the commission in a formal report in due time and keep you informed.
NEW VERSION OF CIMIC FIELD HANDBOOK!

Article is written by Lisa Ziekenoppasser/ former intern at CCOE/ LL/DV Branch

End of February, the 4th edition of the CIMIC Field Handbook was ready to be distributed and used by all personnel involved in Civil-Military Cooperation (CIMIC) and Civil-Military Interaction (CMI). The Handbook is available in hard copy as well as e-book. The hard copy is a small pocket version to easily take with you. In addition, the Handbook can also be downloaded as ePub on the CCOE website.

The development of the 4th edition is led by CCOE’s Lessons Learned/Development (LL/DEV) branch, in close cooperation with Concepts, Interoperability and Capabilities (CIC) as well the Training & Education (T&E) branch.

Since the first Handbook – 3.0 – was published in 2012, small changes occurred in CIMIC procedures, structures and processes. Consequently there was a need to provide an up-to-date version emerged in order to incorporate changes and information on CIMIC. Changes for example are new chapters about CMI, Cross Cultural Competence, Children and Armed Conflict, Cultural Property Protection as well as small revisions in planning procedures and changes in CIMIC resources. The 4th edition of the Handbook is developed to provide an interim solution. Currently, the Allied Joint Doctrine (AJP) on CIMIC – AJP-3.4.9 – is under review. This may result in changes in regards to CIMIC and CMI doctrine and procedures. Until then, the 4th edition provides the most up-to-date information on CIMIC and CMI.

The CIMIC Field Handbook provides tactical reference and an operational command level insight across the full spectrum of missions. As a CIMIC operator in the military, whether as a staff member, or as a CIMIC team member in the field, you may be required to undertake missions to areas of the world affected by armed conflicts or humanitarian emergencies. In such circumstances, you may need to execute specific CIMIC tasks and to interact with national security forces or other armed elements and the local population as well as with International Organizations in order to contribute to the success of the mission. Secondly, besides providing tactical reference for CIMIC operators, the aim of this Handbook is also to create awareness and inform those organizations and individuals who have a vested interest in CIMIC and CMI activities.

The Handbook is divided in four parts: General Information, Civil-Military Liaison, Support to the Force and Support to Civil Actors and their environment. The first part provides basic knowledge on NATO CIMIC, CMI and the Comprehensive Approach. In addition, it highlights CIMIC in the framework of governance, development and diplomacy and points out CIMIC associated concepts as Counter Insurgency, NATO Strategic Communications and CIMIC resources. The second part focusses upon the core function of CIMIC, civil-military liaison, and provides practical advice and guidance on the tasks and behaviour of CIMIC Liaison Officers.

For instance, how to properly conduct a meeting while simultaneously working with interpreters? Thirdly, Support of the Force describes the role of CIMIC in the contribution of operational planning and participation in operations. It will also discuss sensitives of CIMIC related work in chapters as Gender Awareness and Cross Cultural Competence. Lastly, the Handbook provides an overview of different Civil Actors and their relationship with the military, with a special focus on the United Nations. This division will end with an overview of how to properly develop and conduct a CIMIC Project.

The ePub version is available on the website of the CCOE, www.cimic-coe.org. The CCOE encourages to forward any suggestions for improvement of the Handbook to CIC@cimic-coe.org, as the CIC branch will be the owner of the CIMIC Field Handbook in future.

Finally, the LL/DEV branch would like to thank T&E – especially OF3 Steffie Groothedde, now working for Dutch 1 CMI Command – and CIC for their support in the development of the 4th edition of the CIMIC Field Handbook.
CCOE Announcements

CCOE Community of Interest Seminar

11 - 13 April 2016
The Hague, NLD

Given the rapidly deteriorating situation in Syria and beyond, there could not be a more fitting time and topic for this annual edition of the 2016 Community of Interest (COI) Seminar at the CCOE in The Hague.

With the far-reaching effects on civilian populations, as well as the rather fluid separation of civilian stakeholders from local actors, it is evident that Civil-Military Cooperation and Interaction must play a pivotal role in any sustainable post-conflict scenario.

Please register on our website: www.cimic-coe.org.

“See you in The Hague!”
Any comments or suggestions to this information Leaflet?
Would you like to contribute an article?
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