



The Project on Advanced Systems and Concepts for Countering WMD (PASCC) is run at the Center on Contemporary Studies (CCC) and sponsored by the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA). PASCC awards and supports strategic studies and dialogues that anticipate and try to reduce the threat of WMD capabilities.



The CCC has a respected track record for providing research and timely analysis on a variety of topics to leading decision makers in the U.S. national security community. Located in the Naval Postgraduate School, the CCC is the research wing of the Department of National Security Affairs.

Research in Progress describes ongoing PASCC research. For more information, please contact pascc@nps.edu.

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Preparing for the Next WMD Elimination Mission: Lessons Learned from Past Experiences

Performer: Middlebury Institute of International Studies

Project Lead: Chen Kane

Project Cost: \$148,000

FY15-16

Objective:

In recent decades, there have been a number of opportunities for the United States to participate in WMD elimination. Yet the United States and its partners constantly reinvent the wheel instead of integrating lessons from past efforts. This project's research will provide a comprehensive analysis of key strategic, diplomatic, legal, interagency, and intra-governmental lessons from WMD elimination efforts. Furthermore, it will help the United States and others prepare for and improve future elimination missions as well as aiding those trying to dissuade countries from developing WMD. Finally, this research will provide elimination practitioners with a better understanding of their role in future disarmament efforts.

Approach:

In order to garner information on past WMD elimination efforts, this project will examine a number of case studies including the Cooperative Threat Reduction program in the former Soviet Union; post-war Iraq (1991–1998 and 2003-2005); South Africa; Libya; and Syria. Nine papers will be commissioned to cover each of the WMD elimination thematic issues (strategic, diplomatic, legal, technical, interagency, and intra-governmental) as well as the case studies. A workshop will also be organized to serve as an opportunity for presenting the draft study and gathering feedback on its findings.