



## Department of Defense



# Ted Stevens Center for Arctic Security Studies DoD's Newest Regional Center

\*Fact Sheet as of November 17, 2021

**Establishment.** On June 9, 2021, pursuant to Section 1089 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021, the Secretary of Defense established the **Ted Stevens Center for Arctic Security Studies** (Stevens Center), the Department of Defense's sixth Regional Center for Security Studies.

**DoD's Existing Regional Centers.** The Stevens Center joins five existing DoD Regional Centers for Security Studies:

- The George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies (Marshall Center), established in 1993 and located in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany.
- The Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies (DKI APCSS), established in 1995 and located in Honolulu, Hawaii.
- The William J. Perry Center for Hemispheric Defense Studies (Perry Center), established in 1997 and located in Washington, D.C.
- The Africa Center for Strategic Studies (ACSS), established in 1999 and located in Washington, D.C.
- The Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies (NESAS), established in 2000 and located in Washington, D.C.



DoD Regional Centers, Credit, DSCA

**DoD's Regional Center Mission.** Through executive-level education programs and in-region workshops, focused research in support of Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy priorities, and the cultivation of communities of practice, the DoD Regional Centers for Security Studies promote integrated, collaborative understanding of and responses to transnational threats, foster common perspectives on regional security challenges, and strengthen binational and multinational institutional relationships. In so doing, each promotes the intellectual interoperability



Pentagon, Credit DoD

*DoD's Ted Stevens Center for Arctic Security Studies...  
meeting the challenge through networks and solutions*



underpinning full-spectrum security cooperation and build our Nation's and our partners' capacity to collaborate against shared threats. Prioritized areas of focus include territorial security, transnational and asymmetric threats, and defense sector governance.



**Ted Stevens Center of Arctic Studies Mission:** The Stevens Center will build strong and sustainable domestic and international networks of security leaders and promote and conduct focused research on Arctic security to advance DoD security priorities in the Arctic region.

\*Note, the logo at left is a draft.

**In DoD's establishment plan to Congress, the Department defined four mission areas:**

- Advance Arctic awareness, both among partners and within the increasingly professionalized field of U.S. Arctic military service.
- Advance DoD Arctic priorities.
- Reinforce the rules-based order in the Arctic.
- In keeping with Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin's priorities and the Interim National Security Strategic Guidance, address the impacts of climate change in the region.



LC-130, Credit DoD

**Value Proposition:** Unique in the security cooperation toolkit, the DoD Regional Centers employ executive education to engage senior-level civilian and military policymakers and practitioners beyond traditional defense stakeholders, including officials from ministries of foreign affairs and interior and parliamentarians, and key security stakeholders from non-governmental organizations and international organizations.



DoD Arctic Service Tab, Credit Pacific Air Forces

DoD objectives in the Arctic require multilateral approaches to which the DoD Regional Center model is well-suited. Through delivering relevant education, analysis, and symposia, the Stevens Center will prepare civilian and military security practitioners, propose useful solutions, and enhance people networks to ensure a

stable, rules-based order in the Arctic that will benefit the United States' security interests in the region.

**Senior Advisor for Arctic Security Affairs.** On September 22, 2021, DoD announced the appointment of Maj Gen (Ret.) Randy “Church” Kee as Senior Advisor for Arctic Security Affairs. In this capacity, Mr. Kee will support the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy in the establishment and early operations of the Stevens Center.



*Maj Gen (Ret) Church Kee, Former U.S. Arctic Research Commissioner. Credit, George C. Marshall Center*

**DoD Regional Center Governance.**

- Regional Center directors report to the Office of the Secretary of Defense for Policy (OUSD(P)), working to advance regional priorities identified by OUSD(P) and combatant commands in support of the National Defense Strategy. Unique among the Centers, and reflecting the unique nature of the Arctic, the Stevens Center will support three Combatant Commands – U.S. Northern Command (USNORTHCOM), U.S. European Command (USEUCOM), and U.S. Indo-Pacific Command (USINDOPACOM ),
- In support of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, the Defense Security Cooperation Agency serves as DoD’s Executive Agent for Regional Centers, with support and oversight responsibilities in areas like financial management, personnel management, and program management.



**The Stevens Center Location.** The Department is in the process of identifying a permanent location for the Stevens Center, but has identified Anchorage, Alaska, as the sole candidate city to host the Center.

**Legacy: A DoD Regional Center in honor of an American Statesman and Arctic Leader.** In the same spirit of the George C. Marshall, William J. Perry, and Daniel K. Inouye Regional Centers of Security Studies, the Stevens Center honors the legacy of a highly distinguished statesman, Senator Ted Stevens (Alaska).

For nearly his entire adult life, Senator Stevens was a devoted public servant, starting as a World War II airlift pilot in the China-Burma-India theater, continuing in his dedicated efforts in support of Alaska Statehood and inclusive of a historic career in the U.S. Senate.

The legacy of Senator Stevens includes a remarkable number of legislative achievements which advanced U.S. interests, while leveraging the unique role that Alaska provides in supporting national security in the Arctic, North American, and Pacific regions.

Accordingly, the Ted Stevens Center for Arctic Security Studies will respect and honor the legacy of Senator Stevens in establishing a DoD Regional Center to the benefit of US National Security, while advancing such efforts with America's Allies and partners via research, education and engagement across the multidiscipline intersections of the Arctic.



Senator Ted Stevens & Senator Daniel Inouye, Courtesy of Ted Stevens Foundation



### **Prior DoD media remarks:**

As announced on June 9, 2021: "The Ted Stevens Center will bring increased cooperation on the unique challenges and security concerns related to the Arctic region. Defense Department Regional Centers are international academic venues for bilateral and multilateral research, communication, and training with the goal of building strong, sustainable international networks of security leaders. The Ted Stevens Center for Arctic Security Studies will develop collaborative insights with allies and partners."



USN Submarine in the Arctic, Credit DoD

"The center will support the U.S. Interim National Security Strategic Guidance direction to work with like-minded partners and across the interagency to pool our collective strength and advance shared interests," according to Secretary Austin. "It will address the need for U.S. engagement and international cooperation to strengthen the rules-based order in the region and tackle shared challenges such as climate change."

The Ted Stevens Center will provide a new venue to collaborate with our allies and partners to advance shared interests for a peaceful and prosperous Arctic. Please see: <https://www.defense.gov/News/Releases/Release/Article/2651852/the-department-of-defense-announces-establishment-of-arctic-regional-center>.

As announced on September 22, 2021, the Center's Senior Advisor for Arctic Security Affairs (Maj Gen (Ret) Church Kee, USAF, is responsible for supporting the establishment and early operations of the new DoD institution, with the mission to engage in regional and global security issues through research, communication, and education. The goal of the center is to build strong, sustainable, international networks of security leaders to advance U.S. national security priorities in the Arctic region.

The Stevens Center Senior Advisor for Arctic Security Affairs will also work with partner nations to ensure a stable, rules-based order in the Arctic that will benefit the United States and all Arctic nations. Please see:

<https://www.defense.gov/News/Releases/Release/Article/2784993/dod-announces-new-senior-advisor-for-arctic-security-affairs/>

**Introductory article on the Stevens Center.** On Monday, October 25, 2021, USAF's Air University's Journal of Indo-Pacific Affairs released its special "Arctic Edition" featuring an article concerning the Stevens Center. Please see the following links for more detail:

<https://www.airuniversity.af.edu/JIPA/>

<https://media.defense.gov/2021/Oct/24/2002878830/-1/-1/1/ARCTIC%20STRATEGY.PDF/ARCTIC%20STRATEGY.PDF>



*Air University Journal of Indo-Pacific Affairs (Courtesy of Air University)*



*Soldier training in Arctic conditions, Credit U.S. Army Alaska*