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## **MEMORANDUM FOR SMA/Office, US Joint Staff, J 3**

**SUBJECT:** Research on 'Integration' within the framework of Integrated Deterrence

1. **Background.** The Swedish Defence University (SEDU) is embarking on a critical research project centered on deterrence, specifically accentuating the concept of 'Integration' within Integrated Deterrence. The current security challenges in Europe and Sweden's pending NATO application, underscore this research endeavor's imperative nature and urgency. In addition, the changes in policy and doctrine in the US National Security Strategy, National Defense Strategy, Joint Concept for Integrated Campaigning and Joint Concept for Competing indicate fundamental changes in the relationship between the US and its allies and partners. SEDU is inspired by the ongoing collaboration with your esteemed office on the 21st Century Strategic Deterrence Frameworks project. Our preliminary assessment indicates noteworthy synergies between the research objectives of SEDU and those of our valued counterparts in the United States.
2. **Proposal.** SEDU suggests incorporating our research outcomes on integration into LoE4 and advocates for additional collaboration to enhance the alignment and relevance of our work with LoE4.
3. **Rationale.** The rationale behind this proposal stems from our initial findings, which highlight the need for an elevated focus on the element of 'Integration' within the deterrence framework. We emphasize the importance of incorporating the perspectives of our allies and partners to enhance the comprehensiveness of our research. A collaborative effort will undoubtedly generate synergies and maximize the impact of the research for mutual benefit.
4. **Research Questions.** Tentatively, the following questions intend to guide the research:
  - What does integration signify in the context of deterrence?
  - What are the objectives of integration in this context?
  - What are the essential means and ways to attain the objectives?
  - What prerequisites are essential for successful integration?
5. **Research context.** Our research contextualizes deterrence in the 21st century as inherently more intricate, expansive, and challenging due to shifts in the strategic landscape. Integration emerges as a pivotal factor in navigating these complexities. SEDU is keen to explore how our research aligns with Line of Effort 4 (LoE 4) in the 21st Century Strategic Deterrence Framework, providing valuable insights that would benefit both the SMA and SEDU.

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6. Timeframe and Deliverables. SEDU research project is planned for most of 2024, while aligning with the LoE 4 targets research results by March 2024. We aim to disseminate preliminary findings from our ongoing research through a 5-10 pages paper highlighting initial results. Furthermore, briefings are anticipated in February 2024 to cater to our findings' timeliness, relevance, and practical applicability.
7. Funding. All SEDU activities are fully funded.
8. Way ahead. Your consideration of this proposal is appreciated. SEDU avails itself of the opportunity to work closely with your office on this crucial research endeavor. A meeting to further elaborate on our collaborative efforts and discuss the research design should be arranged at your convenience.

#### Sources

The White House, *National Security Strategy*, October 2022

US Department of Defense, *National Defense Strategy of the United States*, October 2022

US Joint Staff, *Joint Concept for Competition*, 10 February 2023

US Joint Staff, *Joint Concept for Integrated Campaigning*, 16 March 2018

This material is distributed by Bengt A. Svensson on behalf of Swedish Defence University, Stockholm, Sweden. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, DC.

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