

## **The U.S. Army Operating Concept: Win in a Complex World**

United States (U.S.) Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) Pamphlet (TP) 525-3-1, *The U.S. Army Operating Concept (AOC): Win in a Complex World*, describes how future Army forces operate to accomplish campaign objectives and protect U.S. national interests. It describes the Army's contribution to globally integrated operations, which is the central idea of the *Capstone Concept for Joint Operations: Joint Force 2020*. The AOC recognizes the need for Army forces to provide foundational capabilities required by the Joint Force and to project power onto land and from land across the air, maritime, space, and cyberspace domains. The AOC is grounded in a vision of future armed conflict that considers national defense strategy; missions; emerging operational environments; advances in technology; and anticipated enemy, threat, and adversary capabilities. Ultimately, the AOC guides future force development through the identification of first order capabilities that the Army must possess to accomplish missions in support of policy goals and objectives. The AOC:

- Emphasizes the human, cultural, and political continuities of armed conflict as war will remain a contest of wills.
- Considers the tactical, operational, and strategic levels of war, because conflict cannot be divided into discrete levels.
- Recognizes that American military power is Joint power and emphasizes the Army's unique contributions across the range of military operations.
- Describes the Army's contributions to winning, defined as achieving sustainable political outcomes consistent with United States vital interests.
- Emphasizes the criticality of land forces in shaping security environments, deterring conflict and consolidating gains.
- Recognizes that decentralized operations in complex environments require adaptive leaders, cohesive teams, and resilient Soldiers that are committed to the Army professional ethic and thrive in conditions of uncertainty.
- Emphasizes the integration of advanced technologies with skilled Soldiers and well-trained teams to maintain differential advantages over enemies.
- Describes the Army's role in projecting national power from and into multiple locations and contested spaces as well as the Army's role in projecting power across the air, maritime, space and cyberspace domains.
- Establishes a starting point for future force development under Force 2025 and Beyond.
- Introduces the Army Warfighting Challenges to provide an analytical framework to integrate force modernization efforts while collaborating with key stakeholders.
- Establishes force design and technological first principles to prioritize efforts and assist future force development decisions.
- Recognizes risk to forces as the Army implements the concept and recommends ways to mitigate risk.
- Prioritizes the development of leaders capable of visualizing, describing, directing, leading, and assessing operations in complex environments and against adaptive enemies.

The AOC can be found at: <http://www.tradoc.army.mil>