

Message to the DoD Team



On January 19, the Secretary released our new National Defense Strategy. The NDS builds upon the President's National Security Strategy, and is the living framework that will drive DoD plans, organization, and activities. It includes a rigorous prioritization of threats, missions, and timeframes that DoD must meet to stay ahead of those threats. Simply put, it is about competing and winning.

Each of us must have a competitive mindset, regardless of our job title. We must outthink our competitors to maintain our advantage and outmaneuver them. We must be agile and willing to constantly learn, by abandoning losing propositions and adopting new practices. And we must hold each other accountable, rewarding success and recognizing creativity and innovation that makes us more lethal.

Secretary Mattis spoke at Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies, where he outlined the strategy and answered questions about it. I encourage you to watch it in its entirety if you haven't already:

<https://www.defense.gov/Videos/videoId/580418/>

After the Secretary's speech, I sat down with Jim Garamone of DoD News to talk and what it means to our DoD workforce, and how we will go about implementing it. I encourage you to watch this as well:

<https://www.dvidshub.net/video/580473/deputy-defense-secretary-discusses-national-defense-strategy>

But most importantly, you should read the strategy itself. While the full strategy is classified and available only on SIPRNET to those that are cleared for it, an unclassified summary is available here:

<https://www.defense.gov/Portals/1/Documents/pubs/2018-National-Defense-Strategy-Summary.pdf>

Thank you for all that you do, and for all that you will do in the future, to make our military the best in the world.

Sincerely,

Pat