



## Stabilizing the Debate Between Population and Enemy-Centric Counterinsurgency Success Demands a Balanced Approach

By U S Army Command and General Staff Coll, U S Army Command and General Staff Col

Createspace, United States, 2014. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 254 x 178 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.This thesis contends the debate on whether to embrace a population-centric or enemy-centric counterinsurgency strategy in Afghanistan detracts focus from building a balanced approach, customized for the human and political landscape in each area of operation (AO). The debate should be finally resolved since each strategic axis represents a crucial portion of the ideal hybrid approach, which necessarily looks different from one AO to the next. Each extreme, whether focusing all effort on killing and capturing the enemy (enemy-centric) or partnering with and protecting the population from the enemy (population-centric) is unique to local conditions on the ground. Centric means to focus efforts only in one direction or the other. The centric banners must be dropped and the US should maintain a balanced approach, integrating both strategies and freeing commanders to use every available resource across the lines of effort in the concentrations he deems appropriate and conducive to his specific AO. The US is fighting a counterinsurgency that necessitates both the destruction of the enemy and the nurturing of the population. Counterinsurgency, as another form of warfare,...



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