

2018 Trafficking in Persons report released

On June 28, the Department of State released the 2018 Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report. Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo spoke at the launch ceremony for the TIP Report, speaking about the reach of human trafficking and recognizing the 2018 TIP Report Heroes.

Each TIP Report focuses on a specific theme, with previous reports highlighting the responsibility of governments to criminalize human trafficking in all its forms and strategies to prevent human trafficking around the globe. The 2018 TIP Report focuses on the critical work of local communities to stop traffickers and provide support to victims. In his remarks, Pompeo stated that trafficking is not only a global problem, but a local one. “Human trafficking can be found in a favorite restaurant, a hotel, downtown, a farm, or in their neighbor’s home,” said Pompeo.

Pompeo also recognized the efforts of the State Department’s many partners, saying “We are grateful for the many federal agencies, individuals, nongovernmental organizations, and international organizations who continue to help us better understand the many manifestations of human trafficking and the most effective ways to combat it.”

- U.S. Department of State

‘Hands, Head, and Heart’ vital to effective leadership

Dr. Ted Thomas, the director of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College’s (CGSC) Department of Command and Leadership, led the tenth and final presentation for academic year 2018 of the InterAgency Brown-Bag Lecture Series on June 6.

Dr. Thomas, discussed how leading in an interagency-dominated contemporary environment requires a more nuanced approach than “because I said so.” Using leadership examples from his own experience and clips from a popular D-Day movie, Dr. Thomas explained how we might traverse various leadership obstacles by aligning our approach with the situation at hand (...head or heart). He amplified his hands, head, and heart model of leadership by applying other leadership concepts such as the Army’s old “Be, Know, Do” and an understanding that leaders must consider whether “the led” perceive their role to be a calling, a career, or just a job.

Dr. Thomas graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1978 and served 20 years in various command and staff positions before retiring as a lieutenant colonel with his last assignment as battalion commander of the 554th Engineer Battalion. He received a master’s in Civil Engineering (1986) from the University of Illinois, and a doctorate in Engineering Management (1998) from Missouri University of Science and Technology. He joined the CGSC faculty in 2005 and has served as the director of the department since 2007.

The InterAgency Brown-Bag Lecture Series is co-hosted by the CGSC Foundation’s Simons Center with the U.S. Army Command and General Staff School (CGSS). The lecture series is an extracurricular, interagency topic-focused series that is intended to help enrich the CGSS curriculum. The CGSC Foundation and the Simons Center have received support for all brown-bag lectures in academic year 2018 from First Command Financial Services in Leavenworth, Kansas. The presentations are scheduled each month, and a schedule for InterAgency Brown-Bag Lectures for academic year 2019 will be available in the near future.

- Simons Center