

Radically Rethinking Counterinsurgency Strategy in Afghanistan

Posted on 08/11/2008 by Bruno Vanasse

You can download the PDF (29 MB) of my presentation [Radically Rethinking Counterinsurgency in Afghanistan](#) at the [2008 Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society Canada \(IUS Canada\)](#), held on 8 Nov 2008 at the Royal Military College of Canada in Kingston, Ontario. In the presentation, I discuss the basic tenets of counterinsurgency (COIN), analyse the nature of the Afghan problem and explore three competing strategies for Afghanistan:

1. **Conventional (or classic) Counterinsurgency** foreigners trying to shape the environment through state building.
2. **Unconventional Counterinsurgency** foreigners trying to leverage the environment to achieve an indigenous solution.
3. **Political Accommodation** foreigners trying to pursue a negotiated political settlement between powers in the conflict (which is the one I argue we should pursue).

I finally conclude on how we can radically rethink the conflict and COIN in Afghanistan. Enjoy!

p.s. You can use the following link to download the presentation:

https://brunovanasse.github.io/2008-11-08_Lt-Col_Bruno_Vanasse_IUS_Canada.pdf

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