
COOPER LEADS DISCUSSION OF ROLES AND MISSIONS REPORT AT CSIS

Military, intelligence leaders and experts talk with Cooper about the work of his Armed Services Roles and Mission Panel

WASHINGTON-On Tuesday, March 11 - four days after the House Armed Services Roles and Mission Panel released its landmark report looking at how the U.S. military infrastructure can adapt to the changing nature of global conflicts - the Center for Strategic and International Studies hosted a roundtable discussion on the report, in which Rep. Jim Cooper, the panel's chairman, and Rep. Phil Gingrey, the panel's ranking Republican, discussed the panel's work with dozens of members of the nation's military and intelligence community, as well as experts in those fields.

The report represents the first Congressional review of the proper roles and missions of the armed forces in 15 years.

"It's a forward looking project, to see how we can keep America No. 1," said Cooper.

Cooper and Gingrey, as well as Michèle Flournoy, Senior Associate at CSIC and President Co-Founder of the Center for a New American Security, and James Kitfield the Senior Defense Correspondent at the National Journal, fielded a number of questions on the report, "Initial Perspectives," a series of essays divided into three categories: Inter-agency problems of coordination on nation-building, Africom, and the use of American soft power; Pentagon-wide problems of procurement, management and strategic vision; and Inter-service rivalry over which branch of the military controls drones, airlift, or even the infantry.

"We are genuinely soliciting your input," Cooper told the audience. "All we're doing with this is planting a few seeds. Because the scope of this project is so great, we need all the help we can get. We want your wisdom."

See video and hear audio footage from the roundtable [here](#) .

CSIS , a non-partisan think tank, is one of the world's preeminent international policy institutions focused on defense and security, regional stability and transitional challenges.