



Director's Message



Jean-Baptiste JEANGÈNE VILMER

IRSEM is a French Ministry of Defence research institute, a unique entity situated at the crossroads between the defence and the academic environments. As such, the institute plays a central role in developing the breeding ground of researchers on defence and security matters, in order to contribute to the emergence of a war studies discipline in France.

My two objectives are those that the hybrid nature of the institute imposes: to be of practical utility to the Ministry of Defence while maintaining a position of credibility in the world of academia.

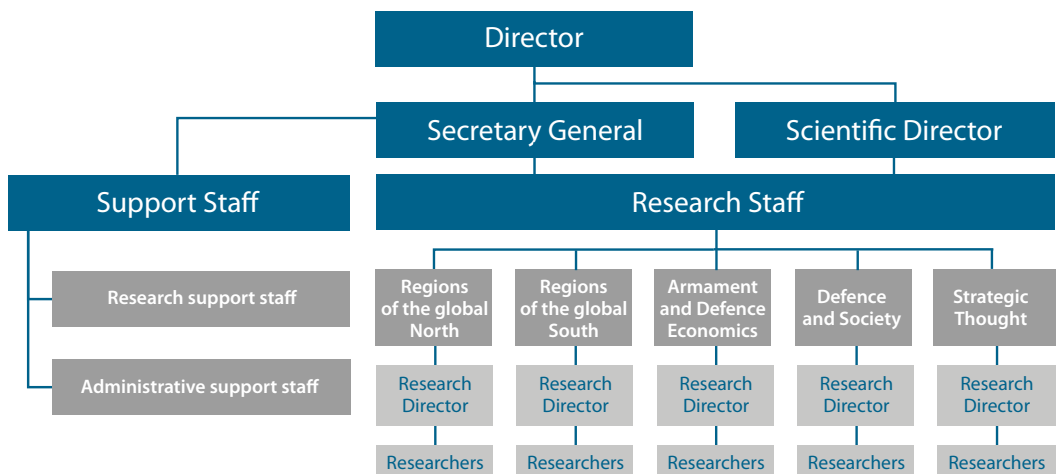
IRSEM is a unique institute that brings together academic and military personnel, drawing its strength from the diversity of its team. As a tool for understanding the present and enlightening the future, the institute aims to enable the three key elements of decision-making to work together: practitioners, analysts and researchers.

Organization

The Institute for Strategic Research (IRSEM, Paris) was established in 2010. It is a research institute attached to the Ministry of Defence's General Directorate for International Relations and Strategy (DGRIS). IRSEM is made up of a team of 40 civilian and military personnel who strive to strengthen French research on defence and security issues.

The research team is divided into five departments:

- **Regions of the global North:** matters concerning Europe, the United States, Russia, the post-Soviet area, China, Japan and the Korean peninsula.
- **Regions of the global South:** matters concerning Africa, the Middle East, the Gulf, the Indian Subcontinent, South East Asia and the Pacific.
- **Armament and defence economics**, which focuses on economic issues concerning defence and questions of strategy arising from technological development.
- **Defence and society**, which looks at the relationship between the state and the armed forces, public opinion on defence matters, and the sociology of violence, war and the armed forces.
- **Strategic thought**, which focuses on the conduct of armed conflict at every level (strategic, operational, tactical).



Missions

IRSEM's researchers travel all around the world to carry out field research. IRSEM produces research for two purposes:

- Research for internal use at the request of the various departments of the Ministry of Defence.
- Research for external use destined for the academic community, published within IRSEM's collections or in peer-reviewed books and journals, both in French and English.

RESEARCH

IRSEM fosters the emergence of the next generation of researchers in the field of defence and security by providing mobility grants to doctoral students, post-doctoral fellowships and supervising a monthly seminar at the Ecole Militaire. Since its foundation, IRSEM has provided support to over one hundred young researchers.

NEXT GENERATION

TEACHING

IRSEM researchers contribute to Advanced military education:

- By giving classes at the French War College and the Centre for advanced Military Studies (Centre des Hautes Etudes Militaires).
- By supervising the research papers of these institutions' students.

PUBLIC DEBATE

IRSEM organizes conferences in France and abroad, publishes different research studies in French and English, and its researchers often feature in the media.

The institute contributes in this way to public debate on defence and security matters.



Publications



The institute publishes four types of document:

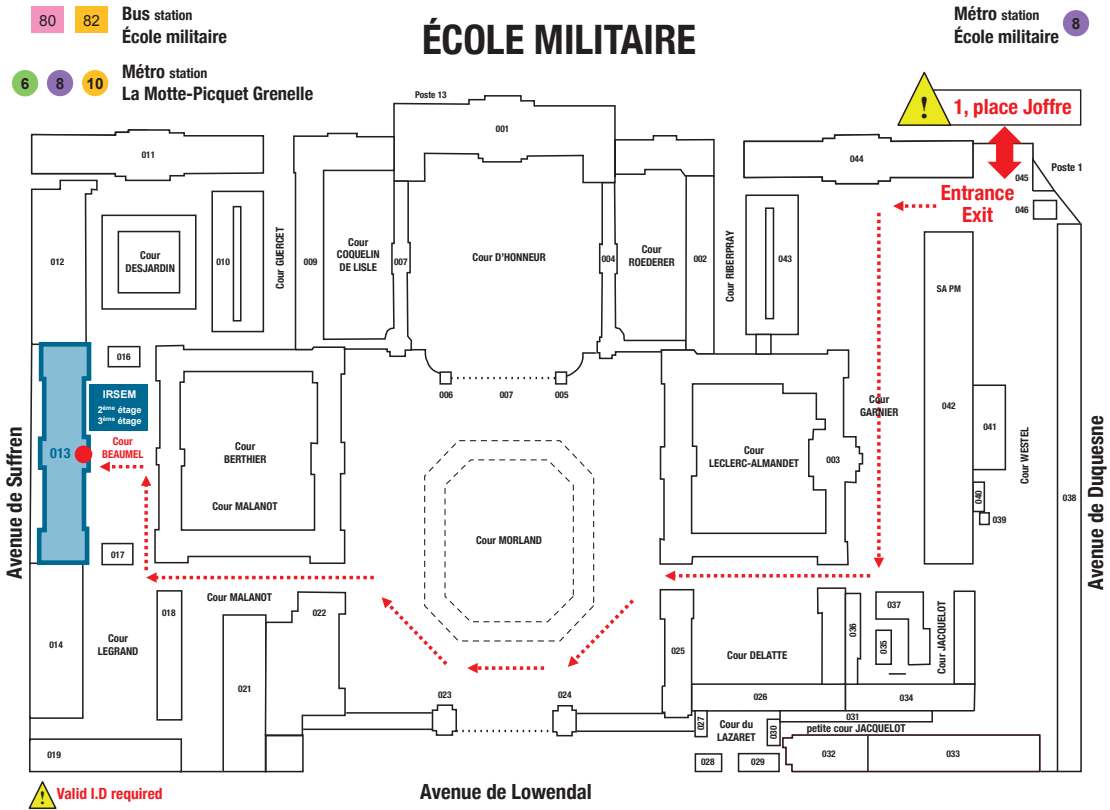
- *La Lettre*, its monthly newsletter.
- *Notes de recherche (Research Paper)*: a short format between 5 and 15 pages dealing with a specific topic.
- *Etudes (Studies)*: extensive research work compiled in a paper of at least forty pages.
- *Les Champs de Mars* is the institute's scientific blind peer-reviewed journal on war studies.

These publications are available on IRSEM's website





IRSEM is housed in building 13 (dating to 1855), Ecole militaire, Paris.



IRSEM is located at the Ecole militaire, a military complex built under Louis XV, at the end of the Champ-de-Mars opposite the Eiffel Tower.

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