



LeMay Center for Doctrine Development & Education

AIR FORCE DOCTRINE 2035



The Intersection of Technology and Doctrine

Air Force Doctrine 2035 will scout emerging technologies and assess their impact on airpower doctrine. AFD35 will equip Airmen with forward-looking doctrine that harnesses the technological advances of the coming decade. Our goal is to prevent doctrinal surprise, avoid doctrinal stagnation, and catalyze doctrinal evolution to match the accelerated pace of technological change.

"Victory smiles upon those who anticipate the changes in the character of war, not upon those who wait to adapt themselves after the changes occur." - Giulio Douhet



Artificial Intelligence & Autonomy

- How will new technologies enhance or negate airpower's inherent advantages?
- What combination or integration of technologies will create strategic advantage?
- Will the introduction of agentic AI drive changes to the planning and execution of air operations?
- How will proliferated autonomous drones alter doctrine for air superiority and airspace control?
- Will machine-speed kill webs require centralization or decentralization of C2?
- How will advances in neuroscience and human-machine teaming transform decision-making and reset command relationships?
- Will advanced materials, bioengineering, and miniaturization upend air defense doctrine?
- How will new production processes revolutionize supply chains and rewrite logistics, sustainment and air maneuver doctrine?



Advanced Materials & Production



Biotechnology & Neuroscience



Quantum Sciences



Robotics & Miniaturization

DISCOVER

Scout emerging and disruptive technologies that will likely be fielded within the decade.

Survey industry, academia, policymakers, sister services, and international partners.

WARGAME

Convene experts for capstone wargame that explores operational employment of these technologies.

Facilitate participant symposium to distill insights.

INFORM

Publish findings in academic LeMay Papers and an Air Force Doctrine Note.

Host Air Force Doctrine Summit for Air Force senior leaders.



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<https://www.dctrine.af.mil/AFD35>
usafdoctrine@us.af.mil



"At the very heart of warfare lies doctrine." -Gen Curtis E. LeMay