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## CRITICAL SEQUENCING

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Although the most desirable [foreign internal defense](#) (FID) course of action is often through [indirect support](#), minimizing US presence and participation, analysis may show that [host nation](#) (HN) aviation forces alone cannot prevail under the timelines and conditions required to bring their units up to operational status. The operational design and resulting plan may require that Air Force airpower be introduced in combination with enabling FID initiatives aimed at helping the HN counter, survive, and prevail against a threat to internal stability. When FID actions involve the direct use of Air Force forces, there is a critical sequence of initiatives to incorporate into the planning process:

- ✦ Air Force [direct support operations](#) are carried out in accordance with the joint force commander's guidance and performed in concert with other joint and multinational military forces and civilian agencies.
  - ✦ HN airpower is supported through training, advising, assisting, and material support. HN airpower should become functional as soon as practical and, where possible, be applied simultaneously with the Air Force direct support effort.
  - ✦ Air Force advisors facilitate multinational operations with HN forces followed by a transition to a HN-only, joint battlefield.
  - ✦ Air Force direct-support forces and operations are phased out of the campaign or contingency.
  - ✦ The Air Force supports HN air operations with ongoing sustainment initiatives, including specific [combat support capabilities](#) and advisory assistance, until the HN attains a successful conclusion to the conflict.
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