



# FACT SHEET

## U.S. Air Force Fact Sheet

### AIR FORCE CULTURE AND LANGUAGE CENTER EXPEDITIONARY READINESS TRAINING

Airmen must be prepared to respond to any contingency, anywhere, anytime. To ensure they are ready, the Air Force has mandated targeted Cross-Cultural Competence training. 3C is the ability to quickly and accurately comprehend a culturally-complex environment, then appropriately and effectively act to achieve the desired effect. The Air Force Culture and Language Center supports the Air Force by developing and sustaining Expeditionary Readiness Training (ERT) program to ensure Airmen have the cross-cultural competence necessary to provide the nation with global vigilance, reach, and power.

Cultural processes have universal principles, such as categories of behavior and beliefs. These principles are common to all cultures. Cultural processes also have specific manifestations, when they are shaped by particular linguistic or regional aspects. The universal principles are referred to as Basic Deployment Readiness (BDR) – AOR Specific “culture-general” and the particular manifestations of a specific region or country are referred to as BDR Country Specific “culture-specific.”

**BDR Culture-general** and **BDR Culture-specific** training is required for all Airmen in preparation for potential deployment. This training is a recurring requirement every 3 years and is targeted to the specific cultural dimension of their deployment location.

ERT reinforces the culture-general foundational learning emphasized in education and then provides culture-specific instruction. The AFCLC develops and sustains Airmen’s cross-cultural competence by providing ERT via the Advanced Distributed Learning Service, as well as through Expeditionary Culture Field Guides (ECFGs).

**ECFGs:** The AFCLC offers spiral-bound, pocket-size, and laminated booklets that introduce the 3C knowledge necessary to operate in any environment, and then address the unique cultural features of particular societies. These ECFGs prepare U.S. forces for deployment to culturally-complex environments and help them successfully achieve mission objectives. These guides complement other existing training media, such as classroom instruction and cultural awareness computer-based training. The fundamental information contained in the guides will help Airmen, Soldiers, Marines, and Sailors understand the decisive cultural dimension of their assigned location and gain the necessary skills to achieve desired results. Guides on a variety of countries are available for download through the AFCLC’s common access card-enabled website.

ERT delivers culture training for Airmen at the Wing level in alignment with the standard Air Expeditionary Force battle rhythm required to maintain mission ready status. The primary delivery method for this training is through the ADLS. Several hundred thousand Airmen have received ERT which consists of

For more information, see [culture.af.mil](http://culture.af.mil), e-mail [afclc.region@us.af.mil](mailto:afclc.region@us.af.mil), or call 334-953-7156.