The International Code of Conduct for Private Security Service Providers' Association (ICoCA) is a multi-stakeholder initiative formed in 2013. ICoCA promotes the provision of responsible private security and strives to promote respect for human rights and humanitarian law by its Member & Affiliate companies. ICoCA serves as the oversight and implementation mechanism of the International Code of Conduct for Private Security Service Providers (the "Code"). ICoCA's mission is to raise private security industry standards and practices and to engage with key stakeholders to achieve widespread adherence to its Code globally. ICoCA's ultimate objective is to positively impact communities affected by private security.



# THE ROLE OF GOVERNMENT PARTICIPATION IN ICOCA

Governments play a leading role promoting the responsible provision of private security services on the global stage as regulators, donors and clients.

- As regulators, governments demonstrate their commitment to human rights, humanitarian law and good governance across the private security sector.
- As donors, governments signal the need for responsible security provision as a requirement in government funding of contracts and grants.
- As clients, governments lead by example, demonstrating responsible procurement by contracting ICoCA Member and Affiliate companies.

### **WHY JOIN ICOCA**

By joining ICoCA, Governments demonstrate their commitment to the provision of responsible private security services in the following ways:

- Supporting the implementation of international human rights and humanitarian law based principles and standards.
- Demonstrating complementarity of ICoCA with national measures by providing an effective, market-based mechanism through which companies can be held accountable.
- Participating in the oversight of the private security sector, in accordance with the standards in the Code as well as the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.
- Promoting best-in-class business practice by security service providers to help promote stability and peace in complex environments, conditions essential for attracting investment and ensuring long-term economic development.



## OTHER BENEFITS OF JOINING

- Governments benefit from mutual learning between all the stakeholder groups, keeping abreast of the latest developments, insights and innovations from civil society, the corporate sector, other governments, academia, and clients of private security providers.
- Governments help shape the debate, provided with a public platform on which to engage with diverse actors from all sectors and regions.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES OF GOVERNMENT MEMBERS**

- As clients, lead by example by contracting only ICoCA Member or Affiliate companies for their diplomatic and other private security needs.
- As donors, require recipients of government funding and contracts to include ICoCA Membership requirements in their tenders for security contracts and ensure adequate budgetary provision for the contracting of responsible private security providers that pay fair salaries and decent benefits to their employees.
- As regulators, work in coordination with ICoCA, the Montreux Document Forum and other relevant initiatives to develop appropriate national regulatory frameworks for ensuring the development of a responsible private security sector.
- Advocate for ICoCA Membership to private security companies and their clients headquartered or operating in their jurisdiction, across all sectors and along the entire security supply chain, promoting and highlighting government support for ICoCA.
- Proactively encourage other governments to join ICoCA.
- Engage with other partners at the international level, such as the Voluntary Principles Initiative, to coordinate efforts, collaborate and strive for complementarity of endeavours.
- Participate regularly in meetings, workshops, and other events convened by ICoCA.

Joining ICoCA involves no financial commitments or assessed dues. Governments are encouraged to support ICoCA's important work through voluntary contributions.





#### **ICoCA**

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