

USAG Ansbach RSO Ethical Partnership



Over 60 people participated in the training addressing the ethics of just war. Over 45 of the participants were students from the University of Hanover.



Chaplain (MAJ) Eric Dean facilitates workgroup discussion on ethical questions of religious terrorism as they relate to the principles of just war.

Summary: Chaplain (MAJ) Eric Dean supported a request for training from a group of German Christian university students in Hanover, Germany to provide ethical training in the area of the theory and practice of Just War on 13 February 2015. In particular, those present at this event wanted to know how to develop a biblically congruent, ethical response to the threat of religious extremism, as well as to recent events in the Ukraine. Using the Just War Theory, Chaplain Dean provided the participants with an ethical framework for critically assessing the threats in Europe and the Middle East. Chaplain Dean later divided the participants into working groups and provided them with vignettes based on actual scenarios which occurred in either the Ukraine or the Middle East. The working groups then were then provided the opportunity to assess the vignette ethically and to develop a recommended course of action that was based upon the Just War Theory and also was biblically congruent. Of unique challenge to each group was the task not to develop a course of action that only heads of state or governing authorities could implement, but rather to develop a course of action that the Church, both global and local, could implement to address the challenges of terrorism and the suffering it brings. The training was so well-received that the students invited Chaplain Dean to conduct a second iteration of training in April of 2015. This special ethics training partnership is another example of how the USAG Ansbach RSO supports IMCOM-Europe Line of Effort 1.2, *Strengthen Unit and Host Nation Alliances*.