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Decision Support for Force Protection in a Megacity Environment

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Abstract: Recently the attention of various socio-political and military spheres has begun shifting towards the topic of megacities. Megacities are vast metropolitan areas that have a dense population and a complex, multi-surface infrastructure. The United States Army has been a leader in preparing for the inevitable future engagement in one of these settings around the world. Our study set out to gauge which of the military's protective technologies would be best utilized with an understanding of the mission and megacity classification. We then provided a recommendation based on additional cost considerations. The resulting decision support tool outputs differing protective capabilities based on what city is being engaged with, the classification it falls under, the mission it is being conducted in line with and additional sub-criteria that differentiate what truly matters in differing megacity contexts.

Keywords: Megacity, Force Protection, Tier, Complexity, Analytic Hierarchy Process, Decision Support Tools, Value Model