Dr. Nadia Gerspacher
Acting Director, BG Charles Young Research, Analysis, and Lessons Learned Institute
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Dr. Gerspacher joined the Defense Security Cooperation University (DSCU) in 2023 and currently serves as the Acting Director of the BG Charles Young Research, Analysis, and Lessons Learned Institute (Young Institute).

As DSCU's dedicated research institute the Young Institute advances the DSCU mission by fostering analysis, research, scholarship, and critical inquiry that advances the field of security cooperation, enables application of lessons learned, and promotes evidence-based decision-making.

Dr. Nadia Gerspacher has been contributing to security assistance for over 15 years by conducting academic and applied research, publishing practical tools and guidance, developing and delivering training curricula and facilitating working groups. She pioneered an education and training program of instruction on advising foreign counterparts and partnered with various advising programs across the USG to integrate the curriculum into their pre-deployment training, including the Ministry of Defense Advisor (MoDA) program.

She has published widely on how to improve advising missions and mandates and has extensive experience training military and civilian personnel in engaging foreign counterparts for capacity building and has contributed to reflection on strengthening defense and other security institutions by focusing on legitimacy and service orientation.

Dr. Gerspacher has contributed to various doctrine development processes including Building Partner Capacity (BPC), and Institutional Capacity Building (ICB) at both the national and multinational levels (NATO and UN). She created a program of instruction and collection of tools for police from Jordan, Pakistan, Northern Ireland, Iraq, Tunisia, Somalia and others to contribute more effectively to their country's CVE capacity.