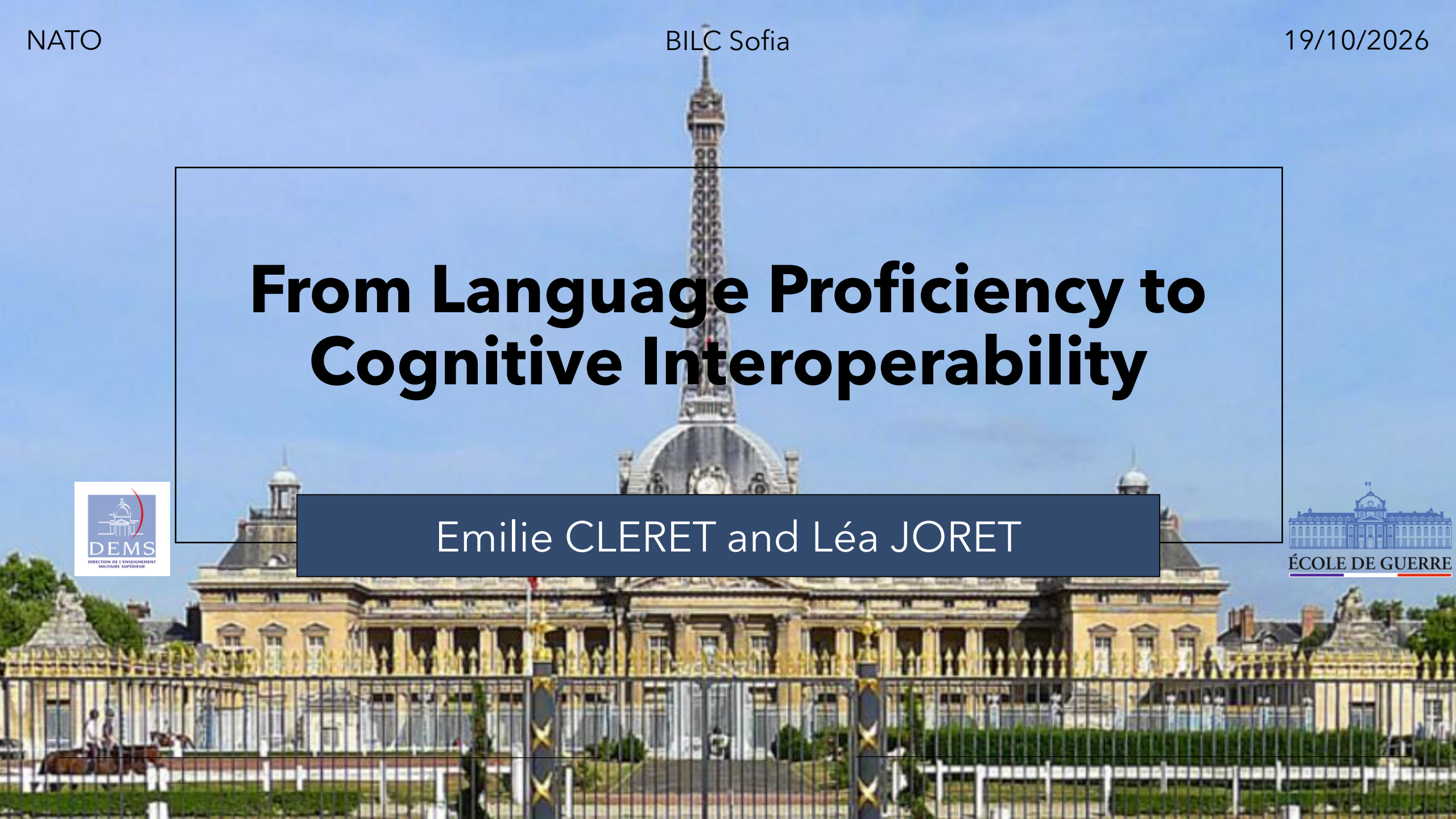


From Language Proficiency to Cognitive Interoperability

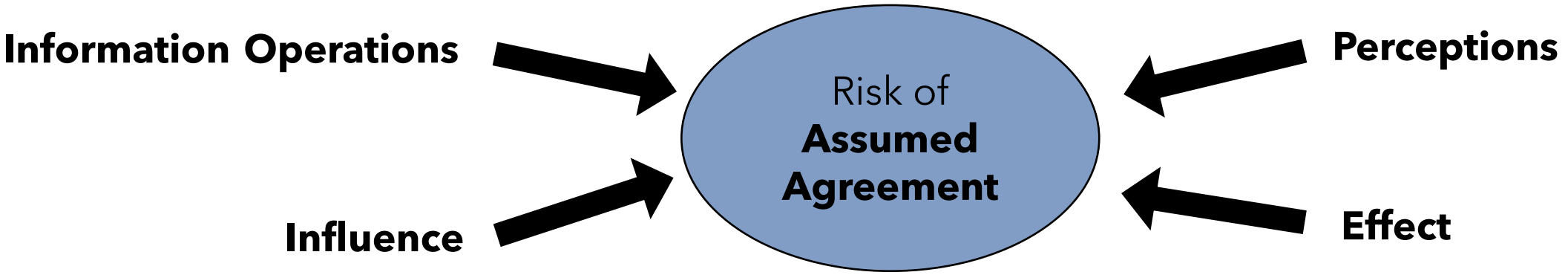
Emilie CLERET and Léa JORET

DEMS
DIRECTION DE L'ENSEIGNEMENT MILITAIRE SUPÉRIEUR

ÉCOLE DE GUERRE

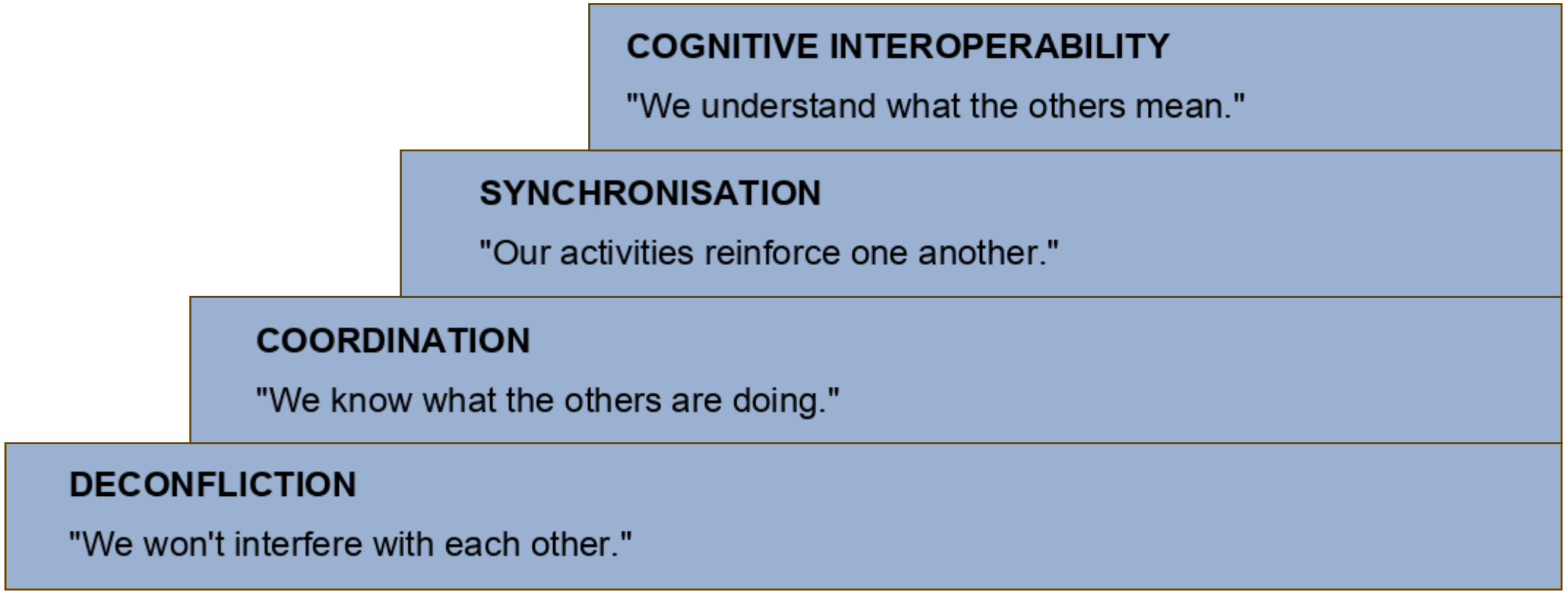
The illusion of a common language

Does speaking the same language mean understanding one another?



Sharing a terminology does not mean sharing an understanding: one word can refer to different concepts and imply different institutional responsibilities, legal frameworks or intended outcomes.

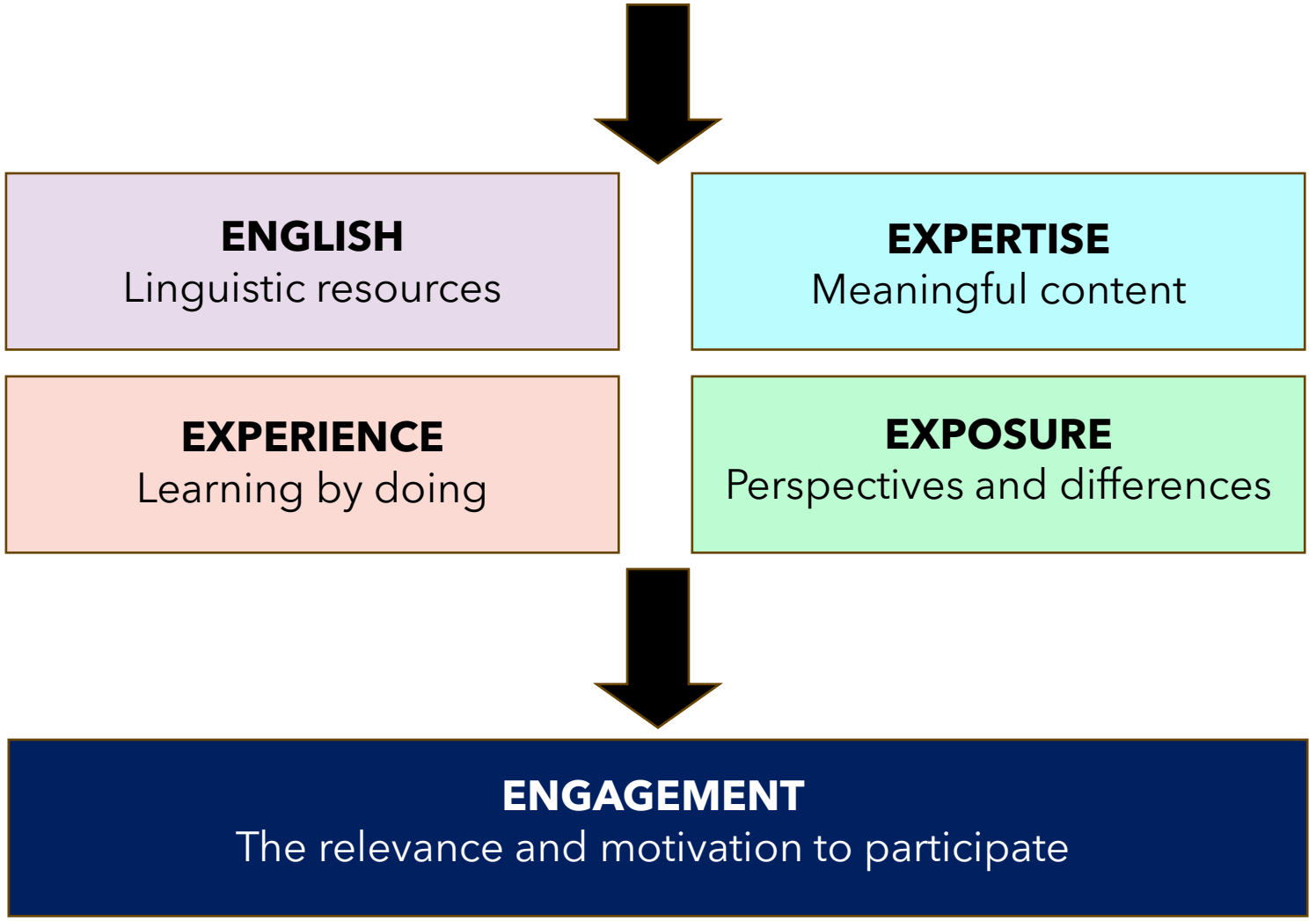
Deconfliction is **necessary** but is **not sufficient**



Cognitive interoperability

The ability to **understand**, **translate** and **reconcile** different national concepts, assumptions and decision frameworks sufficiently to **act together** in the information environment.

OUR GOAL: COGNITIVE INTEROPERABILITY THROUGH THE 5E MODEL



The different programmes to achieve cognitive interoperability

1. **Debating**: making our thinking intelligible
2. **Academic Writing**: making complex thinking accessible
3. **Networking**: building relationships that enable cooperation
4. **Intercultural Leadership** : exploring the assumptions behind decisions
5. **FICINT** : using fiction to think about the future

→ But how do you develop officers' English-language and leadership skills when you know they need them, but you cannot realistically ask them to commit to an extensive programme?

→ And what if blending also means designing professional development around the realities of the learners' working lives?

LEIA: Leadership in English Inter Allia

A COMBINATION OF SIX COMPLEMENTARY MODULES

- U.S. POLITICS
- WRITING
- PUBLIC SPEAKING AND ARGUMENTATION
- NETWORKING
- LEADERSHIP THEORY
- EFFICIENCY IN INTERNATIONAL CONTEXTS

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How does LEIA fit into the 5E model ?

ENGLISH
English is the vehicle

EXPERTISE
Expertise gives English a purpose

EXPERIENCE
Experience turns learning into action

EXPOSURE
Exposure brings different perspectives into the room

ENGAGEMENT
Engagement means giving the officers a reasons to take part and get involved

Conclusion : Blending with purpose

- Across these six programmes, **blending takes different forms**.
- The connector is never a particular method. It's a **shared purpose**.
- The **5E model** means complementary dimensions of learning brought to life through meaningful engagement.

Speaking →
Understanding →
Driving collective action →

Cognitive interoperability