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NATO in Elaboration: Today and Future.pdf

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NATO in Elaboration: Today and Tomorrow

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The Origins of the Alliance

From 1945 to 1949, faced with the pressing need for economic reconstruction, Western European countries and their North American allies viewed with concern the expansionist policies and methods of the USSR. Having fulfilled their own wartime undertakings to reduce their defence establishments and to demobilise forces, Western governments became increasingly alarmed as it became clear that the Soviet leadership intended to maintain its own military forces at full strength. Moreover, in view of the declared ideological aims of the Soviet Communist Party, it was evident that appeals for respect for the United Nations Charter, and for respect for the international settlements reached at the end of the war, would not guarantee the national sovereignty or independence of democratic states faced with the threat of outside aggression or internal subversion. The imposition of undemocratic forms of government and the repression of effective opposition and of basic human and civic rights and freedoms in many Central and Eastern European countries as well as elsewhere in the world, added to these fears.
Between 1947 and 1949 a series of dramatic political events brought matters to a head. These included direct threats to the sovereignty of Norway, Greece, Turkey and other Western European countries, the June 1948 coup in Czechoslovakia, and the illegal blockade of Berlin which began in April of the same year. The signature of the Brussels Treaty of March 1948 marked the determination of five Western European countries - Belgium, France, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom - to develop a common defence system and to strengthen the ties between them in a manner which would enable them to resist ideological, political and military threats to their security.

Negotiations with the United States and Canada then followed on the creation of a single North Atlantic Alliance based on security guarantees and mutual commitments between Europe and North America. Denmark, Iceland, Italy, Norway and Portugal were invited by the Brussels Treaty powers to become participants in this process. These negotiations culminated in the signature of the Treaty of Washington in April 1949, bringing into being a common security system based on a partnership among these 12 countries. In 1952, Greece and Turkey acceded to the Treaty. The Federal Republic of Germany joined the Alliance in 1955 and, in 1982, Spain also became a member of NATO. The Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland joined NATO in 1999.
The North Atlantic Alliance was founded on the basis of a Treaty between member states entered into freely by each of them after public debate and due parliamentary process. The Treaty upholds their individual rights as well as their international obligations in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations. It commits each member country to sharing the risks and responsibilities as well as the benefits of collective security and requires of each of them the undertaking not to enter into any other international commitment which might conflict with the Treaty.

Between the creation of the Alliance and the present day, half a century of history has taken place. For much of this time the central focus of NATO was providing for the immediate defence and security of its member countries.
NATO has an open door policy on enlargement. Any European country in a position to further the principles of the North Atlantic Treaty and contribute to security in the Euro-Atlantic area can become a member of the Alliance, when invited to do so by the existing member countries.

On 29 March 2004, seven new countries formally joined the Alliance: Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia. This was the fifth, and the largest, round of enlargement in the Alliance’s history.

The fifth round of NATO enlargement may not be the last. At present, three countries - Albania, Croatia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia - are members of NATO’s Membership Action Plan (MAP), designed to assist aspiring partner countries meet NATO standards and prepare for possible future membership.
What does this mean in practice?

- Aspirant countries are expected to participate in the Membership Action Plan to prepare for potential membership and demonstrate their ability to meet the obligations and commitments of possible future membership. They must then be officially invited by NATO to begin accession talks with the Alliance.
How did this policy evolve?

- Since the Alliance was created in 1949, its membership has grown from the 12 founders to today’s 26 members. Enlargement is in fact an on-going and dynamic process, based upon Article 10 of the Washington Treaty, which states that membership is open to any “European State in a position to further the principles of this Treaty and to contribute to the security of the North Atlantic area”.

- Invitations to join the Alliance are issued by the North Atlantic Council, NATO’s principal decision-making body. Relations with partner and aspirant countries are maintained by NATO’s international staff as well as specialized committees, subordinate to the Council.
Partnership for Peace

- Partnership for Peace (PfP) is a major initiative introduced by NATO at the January 1994 Brussels Summit Meeting of the North Atlantic Council. The aim of the Partnership is to enhance stability and security throughout Europe. The Partnership for Peace Invitation was addressed to all states participating in the North Atlantic Cooperation Council (NACC) and other states participating in the Conference for Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) able and willing to contribute to the programme. The invitation has since been accepted by a total of 30 countries. The accession to the Alliance of the three former PfP countries Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland brings the current number of PfP participants to 27. The activities which each Partner undertakes are based on jointly elaborated Individual Partnership Programmes.
The PfP programme focuses on defence-related cooperation but goes beyond dialogue and cooperation to forge a real partnership between each Partner country and NATO. It has become an important and permanent feature of the European security architecture and is helping to expand and intensify political and military cooperation throughout Europe. The programme is helping to increase stability, to diminish threats to peace and to build strengthened security relationships based on the practical cooperation and commitment to democratic principles which underpin the Alliance. In accordance with the PfP Framework Document which was issued by Heads of State and Government at the same time as the PfP Invitation Document, NATO undertakes to consult with any active Partner if that Partner perceives a direct threat to its territorial integrity, political independence, or security.

All members of PfP are also members of the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council (EAPC) which provides the overall framework for cooperation between NATO and its Partner countries. However, the Partnership for Peace retains its own separate identity within the framework provided by the EAPC and maintains its own basic elements and procedures. It is founded on the basis of a bilateral relationship between NATO and each one of the PfP countries.

The NACC was replaced by the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council (EAPC) in May 1997. The EAPC has 46 member Countries.

The Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) became an Organisation (OSCE) at the beginning of 1995. It has 55 member states, comprising all European states together with the United States and Canada.
Objectives

- to facilitate transparency in national defence planning and budgeting processes;
- to ensure democratic control of defence forces;
- to maintain the capability and readiness to contribute to operations under the authority of the United Nations and/or the responsibility of the OSCE;
- to develop cooperative military relations with NATO, for the purpose of joint planning, training and exercises, in order to strengthen the ability of PfP participants to undertake missions in the field of peacekeeping, search and rescue, humanitarian operations, and others as may subsequently be agreed;
- to develop, over the longer term, forces that are better able to operate with those of the members of the North Atlantic Alliance.
AREAS OF COOPERATION

- Enhanced PfP cooperation covers a wide spectrum of possibilities, both in the military field and in the broader defence-related but not strictly military area. The areas of cooperation listed in the current Partnership Work Programme 2001-2002 are as follows:
- air defence related matters;
- airspace management/control;
- consultation, command and control, including communications and information systems, navigation and identification systems, interoperability aspects, procedures and terminology;
- civil emergency planning;
- crisis management;
- democratic control of forces and defence structures;
- defence planning, budgeting and resource management;
- planning, organisation and management of national defence procurement programmes and international cooperation in the armaments field;
- defence policy and strategy;
- planning, organisation and management of national defence research and technology;
- military geography;
- global humanitarian mine action;
- language training;
- consumer logistics;
- medical services;
- meteorological support for NATO/Partner forces;
- military infrastructure;
- NBC defence and protection;
- conceptual, planning and operational aspects of peacekeeping;
- small arms and light weapons;
- operational, material and administrative aspects of standardisation;
- military exercises and related training activities;
- military education, training and doctrine.
Any country wishing to join the Partnership for Peace is first invited to sign the **Framework Document**. In addition to describing the objectives of the Partnership, this describes the basic principles on which PfP is founded. By virtue of their signature, countries reiterate their political commitment to the preservation of democratic societies and to the maintenance of the principles of international law. They reaffirm their commitment to fulfill in good faith the obligations of the **Charter of the United Nations** and the principles of the **Universal Declaration on Human Rights**; to refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state; to respect existing borders; and to settle disputes by peaceful means. They also reaffirm their commitment to the **Helsinki Final Act** and all subsequent CSCE/OSCE documents and to the fulfillment of the commitments and obligations they have undertaken in the field of disarmament and arms control.

After signing the Framework Document, the next step in the procedure is for each Partner to submit a Presentation Document to NATO. This document indicates the steps which will be taken to achieve the political goals of the Partnership, the military and other assets the Partner intends to make available for Partnership purposes, and the specific areas of cooperation which the Partner wishes to pursue jointly with NATO.

Based on the statements made in the Presentation Document, and on additional proposals made by NATO and each Partner country, an Individual Partnership Programme (IPP) is jointly developed and agreed. This covers a two-year period. The IPP contains statements of the political aims of the Partner in PfP, the military and other assets to be made available for PfP purposes, the broad objectives of cooperation between the Partner and the Alliance in various areas of cooperation, and specific activities to be implemented in each one of the cooperation areas in the IPP.
The selection of activities is made by each Partner separately, on the basis of its individual requirements and priorities, from a list of activities contained in a Partnership Work Programme (PWP). This principle of self-differentiation is an important aspect of PfP which recognises that the needs and situations of each Partner country vary and that it is for each one of them to identify the forms of activity and cooperation most suited to their needs. The Work Programme contains a broad description of the various possible areas of cooperation and a list of available activities for each area. The PWP, like each IPP, also covers a two year period and is reviewed every year. It is prepared with the full involvement of Partners.
The European Security and Defence Identity (ESDI)

- The principles which have formed the basis for future work on ESDI, set out at the Washington Summit and at subsequent meetings, are as follows:
- The Alliance acknowledges the resolve of the European Union to have the capacity for autonomous action so that it can take decisions and approve military action where the Alliance as a whole is not engaged.
- In taking this process forward, NATO and the EU must ensure the development of effective mutual consultation, cooperation and transparency, building on the mechanisms developed for cooperation between NATO and the WEU.
- Alliance leaders applaud the determination of both EU members and other European Allies to take the necessary steps to strengthen their defence capabilities, especially for new missions, avoiding unnecessary duplication.
- They attach the utmost importance to ensuring the fullest possible involvement of non-EU European Allies in EU-led crisis response operations, building on consultation arrangements developed within the WEU. Canada's interest in participating in such operations under appropriate modalities is also recognised.
- They are determined that the decisions taken in Berlin in 1996, including the concept of using separable but not separate NATO assets and capabilities for EU-led operations, should be further developed.
Based on these principles, these arrangements (referred to as "Berlin plus"), which will respect the requirements of NATO operations and the coherence of its command structure, include issues such as:

- the provision of assured EU access to NATO planning capabilities able to contribute to military planning for EU-led operations;
- the presumption of availability to the EU of pre-identified NATO capabilities and common assets for use in EU-led operations;
- the identification of a range of European command options for EU-led operations and further developing the role of the Deputy Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, in order for him to assume fully and effectively his European responsibilities;
- the further adaptation of NATO’s defence planning system to incorporate more comprehensively the availability of forces for EU-led operations.
Arms Control, Disarmament and Non-proliferation

- NATO’s policy of support for arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation plays a major role in the achievement of the Alliance’s security objectives. NATO has a longstanding commitment in this area and continues to ensure that its overall objectives of defence, arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation remain in harmony.

- In order to respond to the risks to Alliance security posed by the spread of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery means, the Alliance launched an Initiative in 1999 that builds upon work to improve overall Alliance political and military efforts in this area. This WMD Initiative is ensuring a more vigorous, structured debate at NATO leading to strengthened common understanding among Allies on WMD issues and how to respond to them; improving the quality and quantity of intelligence and information-sharing; supporting the development of a public information strategy; enhancing Allied military readiness to operate in a WMD environment and to counter WMD threats; strengthening the process of information exchange about Allies’ national programmes of bilateral WMD destruction and assistance; and enhancing the possibilities for Allies to assist one another in the protection of their civil populations. In May 2000 a WMD Centre was established at NATO Headquarters to support these efforts. As of May 2000, the WMD Centre has been established, and has produced a robust work programme for the future.
As stated in the Strategic Concept of 1999, the Alliance is committed to contribute actively to the development of arms control, disarmament, and non-proliferation agreements as well as to Confidence and Security Building Measures (CSBMs). Member countries consider confidence building, arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation as important components of conflict prevention and recognise that the Alliance can play a vital role in this field by promoting a broader, more comprehensive and more verifiable international arms control and disarmament process. NATO’s partnership, cooperation and dialogue programmes offer a unique opportunity to promote these objectives and contribute to the overall goal of increasing confidence and security and developing a cooperative approach to international security. At the Washington Summit NATO Allies agreed, in the light of overall strategic developments and the reduced salience of nuclear weapons, to consider options for confidence and security building measures, verification, non-proliferation and arms control and disarmament. Since the Summit, the responsible NATO bodies have undertaken an extensive and comprehensive evaluation of overall developments and have examined a number of options for the future.
POLICY & DECISION MAKING

• **The North Atlantic Council**

  The Council is the only body within the Alliance which derives its authority explicitly from the North Atlantic Treaty. The Council itself was given responsibility under the Treaty for setting up subsidiary bodies. Many committees and planning groups have since been created to support the work of the Council or to assume responsibility in specific fields such as defence planning, nuclear planning and military matters.

• The Council thus provides a unique forum for wide-ranging consultation between member governments on all issues affecting their security and is the most important decision-making body in NATO. All member countries of NATO have an equal right to express their views round the Council table. Decisions are the expression of the collective will of member governments arrived at by common consent. All member governments are party to the policies formulated in the Council or under its authority and share in the consensus on which decisions are based.

• Each government is represented on the Council by a Permanent Representative with ambassadorial rank. Each Permanent Representative is supported by a political and military staff or delegation to NATO, varying in size.
The Defence Planning Committee

The Defence Planning Committee (DPC) is normally composed of Permanent Representatives but meets at the level of Defence Ministers at least twice a year, and deals with most defence matters and subjects related to collective defence planning. With the exception of France, all member countries are represented in this forum. The Defence Planning Committee provides guidance to NATO's military authorities and, within the area of its responsibilities, has the same functions and attributes and the same authority as the Council on matters within its competence.

The work of the Defence Planning Committee is prepared by a number of subordinate committees with specific responsibilities and in particular by the Defence Review Committee, which oversees the Force Planning Process within NATO and examines other issues relating to the Integrated Military Structure. Like the Council, the Defence Planning Committee looks to the senior committee with the relevant specific responsibility for the preparatory and follow-up work arising from its decisions.
• **The Nuclear Planning Group**

• The **Defence Ministers** of member countries which take part in NATO's Defence Planning Committee meet at regular intervals in the Nuclear Planning Group (NPG), where they discuss specific policy issues associated with nuclear forces. These discussions cover a broad range of nuclear policy matters, including the safety, security and survivability of nuclear weapons, communications and information systems, deployment issues and wider questions of common concern such as nuclear arms control and nuclear proliferation. The Alliance’s nuclear policy is kept under review and decisions are taken jointly to modify or adapt it in the light of new developments and to update and adjust planning and consultation procedures.

• The work of the Nuclear Planning Group is prepared by an NPG Staff Group composed of members of the national delegations of countries participating in the NPG. The Staff Group carries out detailed work on behalf of the NPG Permanent Representatives. It meets regularly once a week and at other times as necessary.

• The NPG High Level Group (HLG) was established as a senior advisory body to the NPG on nuclear policy and planning issues. In 1998/1999, in addition to its original portfolio, the HLG took over the functions and responsibilities of the then Senior Level Weapons Protection Group (SLWPG) which was charged with overseeing nuclear weapons safety, security, and survivability matters. The HLG is chaired by the United States and is composed of national policy makers and experts from capitals. It meets several times a year to discuss aspects of NATO's nuclear policy, planning and force posture, and matters concerning the safety, security, and survivability of nuclear weapons.
Armaments Cooperation

Cooperation between NATO countries in the armaments field is the responsibility of the Conference of National Armaments Directors (CNAD), which meets on a regular basis to consider political, economic and technical aspects of the development and procurement of equipment for NATO forces. Army, Air Force and Naval Armaments Groups support the work of the Conference and are responsible to it in their respective fields. A Research and Technology Board, which is an integrated NATO body responsible for defence research and technological development, provides advice and assistance to the CNAD and to the Military Committee. It conducts a programme of collaborative activities across a broad range of defence research and technology issues. Assistance on industrial matters is provided by a NATO Industrial Advisory Group (NIAG), which enables the CNAD to benefit from industry's advice on how to foster government-to-industry and industry-to-industry cooperation and assists the Conference in exploring opportunities for international collaboration. Other groups under the Conference, formerly known as Cadre Groups and renamed "CNAD Partnership Groups", are active in fields such as defence procurement policy and acquisition practices, codification, quality assurance, test and safety criteria for ammunition, and materiel standardisation.

Within the above structure, working groups and ad hoc groups are established to promote cooperation in specific fields. The overall structure enables member countries to select the equipment and research projects in which they wish to participate. At the same time, it facilitates exchange of information on national equipment programmes and on technical and logistics matters where cooperation can be of benefit to individual nations and to NATO as a whole.
In 1993, the North Atlantic Council approved revised policies, structures and procedures for NATO armaments cooperation. These were designed to strengthen cooperative activities in the defence equipment field; to streamline the overall CNAD committee structure in order to make it more effective and efficient; and to direct the work of the CNAD towards the following key areas:

I. harmonisation of military requirements on an Alliance-wide basis;
II. promotion of essential battlefield interoperability;
III. pursuit of cooperative opportunities identified by the CNAD and the promotion of improved transatlantic cooperation;
IV. the development of critical defence technologies, including expanded technology sharing.

In 1994, the CNAD agreed on a series of practical cooperation measures with the Western European Armaments Group (WEAG), providing a means of expanding the dialogue on transatlantic armaments issues between European and North American allies.
Civilian Organisation and Structures

- NATO Headquarters
  - Permanent Representatives and National Delegations
  - The Secretary General
  - The International Staff
  - The Private Office
  - The Office of the Secretary General
  - The Executive Secretariat
  - The Office of Information and Press
  - The NATO Office of Security
  - The Division of Political Affairs
  - The Division of Defence Planning and Operations
  - The Division of Defence Support
  - NATO Headquarters, Consultation, Command and Control Staff (NHQC3S)

- The Division of Security Investment, Logistics and Civil Emergency Planning
  - The Division of Scientific and Environmental Affairs
  - Office of Management
  - Office of the Financial Controller
  - Office of the Chairman of the Senior Resource Board
  - Office of the Chairman of the Budget Committees
  - International Board of Auditors
  - NATO Production and Logistics Organisations
Principal NATO Committees

- North Atlantic Council (NAC)
- Defence Planning Committee (DPC)
- Nuclear Planning Group (NPG)
- Military Committee (MC)
- Executive Working Group (EWG)
- High Level Task Force on Conventional Arms Control (HLTF)
- Joint Committee on Proliferation (JCP)
- Political-Military Steering Committee on Partnership for Peace (PMSC/PfP)
- NATO Air Defence Committee (NADC)
- NATO Consultation Command and Control Board (NC3B)
- NATO Air Command and Control System (ACCS) Management Organisation (NACMO) Board of Directors
- Political Committee at Senior Level (SPC)
- Atlantic Policy Advisory Group (APAG)
- Political Committee (PC)
- Mediterranean Cooperation Group (MCG)
- Senior Politico-Military Group on Proliferation (SGP)
- Verification Coordinating Committee (VCC)
- Policy Coordination Group (PCG)
- Defence Review Committee (DRC)
- Conference of National Armaments Directors (CNAD)
NATO Committee for Standardisation (NCS)
Infrastructure Committee
Senior Civil Emergency Planning Committee (SCEPC)
Senior NATO Logisticians' Conference (SNLC)
Science Committee (SCOM)
Committee on the Challenges of Modern Society (CCMS)
Civil and Military Budget Committees (CBC/MBC)
Senior Resource Board (SRB)
Senior Defence Group on Proliferation (DGP)
High Level Group (NPG/HLG)
Economic Committee (EC)
Committee on Information and Cultural Relations (CICR)
Council Operations and Exercises Committee (COEC)
NATO Air Traffic Management Committee (NATMC)
Central Europe Pipeline Management Organisation Board of Directors (CEPMO/BOD)
NATO Pipeline Committee (NPC)
NATO Security Committee (NSC)
Special Committee
Archives Committee
**NATO-RUSSİA RELATIONS**

- **Building a lasting and inclusive peace in the Euro-Atlantic area**

- NATO member states and Russia regularly consult on current security issues and are developing practical cooperation in a wide range of areas of common interest.

- The NATO-Russia Council (NRC) was established in May 2002 as the main forum for advancing NATO-Russia relations, in which the 26 Allies and Russia work together as equal partners to identify and pursue opportunities for joint action.

- The decision to establish the NRC was taken in the wake of the September 2001 terrorist attacks, which reinforced the need for coordinated action to respond to common threats. It signalled the determination to give the NATO-Russia partnership new impetus and substance, and demonstrated the shared resolve of NATO member states and Russia to work more closely together towards the common goal of building a lasting and inclusive peace in the Euro-Atlantic Area.

- This goal was first expressed in the 1997 NATO-Russia Founding Act on Mutual Relations, Cooperation and Security, which provides the formal basis for NATO-Russia relations.
• **What does this mean in practice?**

• The Allies and Russia will not always agree on everything and differences remain on some issues, which may take time to resolve. However, the driving force between the new spirit of cooperation is the realisation that they share strategic priorities and face common challenges.

• In the framework of the NRC, Russia and NATO member states are developing a continuous political dialogue on current security issues. Constructive political consultations have been held on issues, such as the situation in Afghanistan, Serbia and Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia and the “Greater Middle East” concept. Practical cooperation, directed by the NRC and developed through various subordinate working groups and committees, is already generating concrete benefits in many key areas.
NATO-Russia Council

- Key areas of NRC cooperation

Cooperation between Russia and NATO member states is directed by the NRC and developed through various subordinate working groups and committees. Key areas include the fight against terrorism, crisis management, theatre missile defence, non-proliferation, military-to-military cooperation and defence reform. Collaboration is also being taken forward in the areas of airspace management, logistics, civil emergency planning, scientific cooperation and environmental security.

Hardly a day goes by without an NRC meeting at one level or another, leading to an unprecedented intensity of contacts and informal consultation in many different fields, conducted in a friendly and workmanlike atmosphere.
• **Combating terrorism**

• The struggle against terrorism and new security threats are key areas of cooperation that are generating some of the first tangible results of the reinforced NATO-Russia relationship. Joint assessments of specific terrorist threats in the Euro-Atlantic area are being developed and kept under review.

• Three high-level conferences – in Rome and Moscow in 2002 and in Norfolk in April 2004 – have explored the role of the military in combating terrorism, generating recommendations for ways to develop practical military cooperation in this area.

• Specific aspects of combating terrorism are a key focus of activities in many areas of cooperation under the NRC, such as civil emergency planning, non-proliferation, airspace management, theatre missile defence, defence reform and scientific cooperation.
• **Non-proliferation**
  Cooperation against proliferation of nuclear, biological and chemical weapons and the spread of ballistic missile technology has intensified. A joint assessment of global trends in the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction is being prepared.
  Opportunities for practical cooperation in the protection against chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear agents are also being explored.

• **Theatre missile defence**
  Cooperation in theatre missile defence (TMD) is addressing the unprecedented threat posed by the increasing availability of ever more accurate ballistic missiles. A study was launched in 2003 to assess possible levels of interoperability among the theatre missile defence systems of Russia and NATO member states.
  A TMD Command Post Exercise was held from 8 to 12 March 2004 in Colorado Springs, United States, where a computer-simulated situation allowed NATO and Russian staffs to exercise, examine and test their jointly developed, experimental TMD Concept of Operations.
• **Airspace management**

• The Cooperative Airspace Initiative is one of the first major cooperation programmes to have been launched in the NRC framework. The fundamental objective of the initiative is to foster cooperation on air-traffic management and air surveillance. Underlying goals are to enhance air safety and transparency, while seeking to counter the threat of the potential use of civilian aircraft for terrorist purposes.

• Methods and procedures are being developed for the reciprocal exchange of situation data on civil and military air-traffic pictures between Russia and NATO member countries. The aim is for this to lead to the implementation of an appropriate capability in Russia to allow a seamless flow of relevant air-situation data to and from NATO systems in compliance with international standards.
Military-to-military cooperation

A key objective of military cooperation is to improve interoperability, since modern militaries must be able to operate within multinational command and force structures, when called upon to work together in peace-support or other crisis-management operations. A substantial exercise and training programme is being implemented.

Intensified cooperation in search and rescue at sea was initiated after the August 2000 sinking of the Russian nuclear submarine, Kursk, and the loss of its 118 crewmen. A framework agreement between NATO and Russia on submarine crew escape and rescue was signed in February 2003.

A framework for reciprocal naval exchanges and port visits is being developed, and possible activities to enhance exercises between NATO and Russian naval formations are being explored.
Crisis management

Building on the experience of cooperation in peacekeeping in the Balkans, a generic concept for joint peacekeeping operations is being developed, which would serve as a basis for joint NATO-Russia peacekeeping operations and should provide a detailed scheme of joint work aimed at ensuring smooth, constructive and predictable cooperation between NATO Allies and Russia in case of such an operation.

The planning and conduct of joint peacekeeping operations would be a complex enterprise and requires careful preparation. To that end, a procedural exercise is planned for September 2004 to examine, test and, where necessary, further refine the procedures for consultation, planning and decision-making during an emerging crisis.
Defence reform

Russia and NATO countries need armed forces that are appropriately sized, trained and equipped to deal with the full spectrum of 21st century threats, so defence reform is a key area of shared interest. Cooperation has been launched on different aspects of defence reform, such as the management of human and financial resources; macro-economic, financial and social issues; and force-planning. Exploratory work on how to improve the interoperability of Russian and Allied forces is also underway.

A NATO-Russia Information, Consultation and Training Centre for the retraining of retired Russian military personnel was set up in Moscow in July 2002; its activities have since been expanded into the regions.

Two fellowships for Russian scholars have been set up at the NATO Defense College in Rome to promote research on defence reform.
Logistics

Logistics form the backbone of any military operation and in today's security environment, the need for more mobile forces and multinational operations calls for improved coordination and the pooling of resources, wherever possible. Various initiatives are pursuing logistic cooperation on both the civilian and the military side.

Meetings and seminars have focused on establishing a sound foundation of mutual understanding in the field of logistics by promoting information sharing in areas such as logistic policies, doctrine, structures and lessons learned.

Opportunities for practical cooperation are being explored in areas such as air transport and air-to-air refuelling. Discussions are underway on Russia’s eventual accession to the PfP Status of Forces Agreement, which would significantly facilitate practical cooperation between NATO and Russia.
• **Civil emergencies**

• Work in the area of civil emergency planning is concentrating initially on improving interoperability, procedures and the exchange of information and experience. Various seminars and disaster-relief exercises – such as Exercise “Bogorodsk 2002” and Exercise “Kaliningrad 2004” – often including participants from other Partner countries, help develop civil-military cooperation.

• A Russian-Hungarian initiative to develop a rapid response capability to assist in the case of an emergency involving chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear agents was launched in November 2002.

• Cooperation with Russia in this area dates back to 1996, when a Memorandum of Understanding on Civil Emergency Planning and Disaster Preparedness was signed. It was a Russian proposal that led to the establishment of the Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre in 1998.
Science

A key focus of current scientific cooperative activities is the application of civil science to defence against terrorism and new threats, such as in explosives detection, examining the social and psychological impact of terrorism, protection against chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear agents, cyber security and transport security. Another area of collaboration is the forecasting and prevention of catastrophes.

Scientific cooperation with Russia dates back to 1998, when a Memorandum of Understanding on Scientific and Technological Cooperation was signed. Moreover, more scientists from Russia than from any other Partner country have benefited from fellowships and grants under NATO’s science programmes.

Challenges of Modern Society

Environmental protection problems arising from civilian and military activities are another important area of cooperation. Current activities focus on two main areas: the prevention and elimination of the consequences of nature ecosystem pollution with oil products, and the provision of advanced retraining courses for military and civil environmentalists on environmental protection and safety.
Evolution of NATO-Russia Relations

- NATO-Russia relations formally began in 1991 at the inaugural session of the North Atlantic Cooperation Council (later renamed the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council), which was created following the end of the Cold War as a forum for consultation to foster a new cooperative relationship with the countries of Central and Eastern Europe. It was actually while this meeting was taking place that the Soviet Union dissolved. A few years later, in 1994, Russia joined the Partnership for Peace programme—a major programme of practical security and defence cooperation between NATO and individual Partner countries.

- In 1996, Russian peacekeepers deployed to Bosnia and Herzegovina to serve alongside Allied counterparts in the NATO-led peacekeeping force. The Russian contribution was the largest non-NATO contingent in the force.

- On 27 May 1997, in Paris, the NATO-Russia Founding Act on Mutual Relations, Cooperation and Security was signed, providing the formal basis for NATO-Russia relations. It expressed the common goal of building a lasting and inclusive peace in the Euro-Atlantic area and set up the Permanent Joint Council (PJC) as a forum for regular consultation on security issues of common concern, aimed at helping build mutual confidence through dialogue.

- Much progress was made over the next five years in building mutual confidence and starting to develop a programme of consultation and cooperation. In particular, practical military cooperation in Bosnia and Herzegovina helped foster mutual trust and confidence between the Russian and Allied militaries, essentially predating the political rapprochement that was to follow.

- However, lingering Cold War prejudices prevented the PJC from achieving its potential. In early 1999, differences over NATO's air campaign to end political and ethnic repression in the Yugoslav province of Kosovo led Russia to suspend its participation in the PJC. Nevertheless, several activities continued without interruption, including peacekeeping in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Moreover, Russia played a key diplomatic role in resolving the Kosovo crisis and, in June, when the Kosovo Force was eventually deployed, Russian peacekeepers were a part of it.
From 1999 onwards, NATO-Russia relations started to improve significantly. When Lord Robertson became NATO Secretary General in October of that year, he committed himself to breaking the stalemate in NATO-Russia relations. Similarly, in 2000, upon his election as President of Russia, Vladimir Putin announced that he would work to rebuild relations with NATO in a spirit of pragmatism.

Several key events also accelerated this process. On 12 August 2000, the nuclear submarine Kursk sunk killing all 118 crewmen aboard, highlighting the urgent need for cooperation between NATO and Russia in responding to such tragic accidents. The terrorist attacks on the United States of 11 September 2001 also served as a stark reminder that concerted international action was needed to effectively tackle terrorism and other new security threats. In the immediate aftermath of the terrorist attacks, Russia opened its airspace for the international coalition’s campaign in Afghanistan and shared intelligence to support the anti-terrorist coalition.

High-level contacts between NATO and Russia in the following months, including two meetings of Lord Robertson with President Putin and a meeting of Allied and Russian foreign ministers in December 2001, explored possibilities to give new impetus and substance to the NATO-Russia relationship.

Intensive negotiations led to agreement on a joint declaration on "NATO-Russia Relations: A New Quality", signed by Russian and Allied heads of state and government in Rome on 28 May 2002, which established the NATO-Russia Council.
• Which bodies have a central role?

• The NATO-Russia Council (NRC) is a mechanism for consultation, consensus-building, cooperation, joint decision and joint action, in which the individual NATO member states and Russia work as equal partners on a wide spectrum of security issues of common interest.

• The NRC, established at the NATO-Russia Summit in Rome on 28 May 2002, replaced the Permanent Joint Council (PJC), a forum for consultation and cooperation created by the 1997 NATO-Russia Founding Act on Mutual Relations, Cooperation and Security, which remains the formal basis for NATO-Russia relations.

• The spirit of meetings has dramatically changed under the NRC, in which Russia and NATO member states meet as equals “at 27” – instead of in the bilateral “NATO+1” format under the PJC.
• What are its authority, tasks and responsibilities?

The NRC was established by the 2002 Rome Declaration on “NATO-Russia Relations: a New Quality”, which builds on the goals and principles of the 1997 Founding Act. Its purpose is to serve as the principal structure and venue for advancing the relationship between NATO and Russia. Operating on the principle of consensus, it works on the basis of continuous political dialogue on security issues with a view to the early identification of emerging problems, the determination of common approaches and the conduct of joint operations, as appropriate.

• Who participates?

The 26 NATO member states and Russia participate in the NRC. Meetings of the NRC are chaired by NATO's Secretary General and are held at least monthly at the level of ambassadors and military representatives; twice yearly at the level of foreign and defence ministers and chiefs of staff; and occasionally at summit level.
• **How does it work in practice?**

• Since its establishment, the NRC has evolved into a productive mechanism for consultation, consensus-building, cooperation, joint decision and joint action. It has created several working groups and committees to develop cooperation on terrorism, proliferation, peacekeeping, theatre missile defence, airspace management, civil emergencies, defence reform, logistics, scientific cooperation and on challenges of modern society.

• Experts have been tasked to take work forward on individual projects in other key areas. An important innovation under the NRC is the Preparatory Committee, which meets at least twice a month to prepare ambassadorial discussions and to oversee all experts’ activities under the auspices of the NRC.
NATO’s assistance to Iraq

- NATO is helping Iraq provide for its own security by training Iraqi personnel and supporting the development of the country’s security institutions.
- In response to a request by the Iraqi Government, NATO has established a Training Mission in Iraq and is running a training centre for senior security and defence officials on the outskirts of Baghdad.
- All NATO member countries are contributing to the assistance, either in Iraq, outside of Iraq, through financial contributions or donations of equipment.

**What is the aim of the operation?**

- NATO is involved in training, equipping, and technical assistance - not combat. The aim of the Training Mission and the Joint Staff College at Ar-Rustamiyah is to help Iraq build the capability of its Government to address the security needs of the Iraqi people.
What does this mean in practice?

NATO is training and mentoring middle and senior level personnel from the Iraqi security forces in Iraq and outside of Iraq, at NATO schools and training centres. The Alliance also plays a role in co-ordinating offers of equipment and training from individual NATO and partner countries.

The NATO training effort focuses currently on mid-and-senior level Iraqi officers.

It aims to help the Iraqi security forces develop an officer corps trained in modern military leadership skills, as well as to inculcate the values appropriate to democratically-controlled armed forces.

The NATO Training Mission will, this year, train around 700 officers in country, as well as several hundred in NATO facilities in Europe. That figure will rise next year to some 900 officers trained in country.

In addition, the Alliance is also helping to coordinate training, equipment and technical assistance provided by NATO nations on a bilateral basis, both inside and outside of Iraq, to ensure that the Allies complement each other.

This work is carried out by a NATO Training and Equipment Coordination Group, which was established at NATO Headquarters on 8 October 2004.

To date NATO has delivered some 26,000 light weapons, 200 rockets, 10,000 helmets and more than 9.3 million rounds of ammunition.

A delivery of 77 Hungarian T-72 battle tanks is impending.
How did the policy evolve?

At their Summit meeting in Istanbul on 28 June 2004, NATO Heads of State and Government agreed to assist Iraq with the training of its security forces. A Training Implementation Mission was established on 30 July.

In a letter sent to the NATO Secretary General on 22 June 2004, the interim Iraqi Prime Minister Ilyad Allawi requested NATO support to his government through training and other forms of technical assistance.

Meeting in Istanbul, Alliance Presidents and Prime Ministers responded positively, offering NATO’s assistance to the government of Iraq with the training of its security forces. They also encouraged member countries to contribute to the training of the Iraqi armed forces.

The North Atlantic Council, NATO's senior decision-making body, was tasked to develop, on an urgent basis, the modalities to implement this decision with the Iraqi Interim Government.
The Training Implementation Mission

These modalities were agreed on 30 July and established a NATO Training Implementation Mission in Iraq. Its goal was to identify the best methods for conducting training both inside and outside the country. In addition, the Mission immediately began training selected Iraqi headquarters personnel in Iraq.

The first elements of the Mission deployed on 7 August, followed by a team of about 50 officers led by Major General Carel Hilderink of the Netherlands.
• **Expanding NATO's assistance**

• On 22 September 2004, based on the Mission's recommendations, the North Atlantic Council agreed to expand NATO's assistance, including establishing a NATO-supported Iraqi Training, Education and Doctrine Centre in Iraq.

• In November 2004, NATO's military authorities prepared a detailed concept of operations for the expanded assistance, including the rules of engagement for force protection.

• On 9 December 2004, NATO Foreign Ministers, meeting Brussels, authorised the Supreme Allied Commander Europe (SACEUR), to start the next stage of the mission.

• The activation order for this next stage was given by SACEUR on 16 December 2004, paving the way for an expansion of the mission to up to 300 personnel deployed in Iraq, including trainers and support staff, and a significant increase in the existing training and mentoring given to mid- and senior-level personnel from the Iraqi security forces.
• It also changed the mission’s name from NATO Training Implementation Mission to NATO Training Mission-Iraq.

• By the time of the NATO Summit meeting of Heads of State and Government at Alliance Headquarters in February 2005, the new mission was fully staffed and funded.

• A second significant step involved the establishment of a Joint Staff College at Ar-Rustamiyah, on the outskirts of Baghdad, in September 2005.

• The college was formally opened by NATO Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer and Iraqi Prime Minister Al-Jafaari on 27 September.

• This is where officer training will primarily take place. NATO will have trained around 700 officers in Iraq in 2005. That figure will rise next year to some 900 officers trained in country, as well as several hundred in NATO facilities in Europe.
• **Who is in charge?**

• The NATO mission is a distinct mission, under the political control of NATO’s North Atlantic Council. It is co-ordinated with the US-led Multinational Force (MNF).

• Lt. General David Petraeus, Commander of the MNF training effort, will be “dual-hatted” as the commander of the NATO effort as well. On NATO issues, he will report up the NATO chain of command to NATO's Supreme Allied Commander Europe (SACEUR) and, ultimately, the North Atlantic Council.

• The MNF should provide a secure environment for the protection of NATO forces in Iraq. The NATO chain of command will have responsibility for close area force protection for all NATO personnel deployed to Iraq or the region.
NATO in Afghanistan

Through its leadership of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), NATO is helping establish the conditions in which Afghanistan can enjoy a representative government and self-sustaining peace and security.

NATO took over command and coordination of ISAF in August 2003. This is the first mission outside the Euro-Atlantic area in NATO’s history. Initially restricted to providing security in and around Kabul, the Alliance is now in the process of expanding the mission to cover other parts of the country.

What is the aim of the operation?

ISAF’s role is to assist the Government in Afghanistan and the international community in maintaining security within the force’s area of operations. ISAF supports the Afghan Transitional Authority in expanding its authority to the rest of the country, and in providing a safe and secure environment conducive to free and fair elections, the spread of the rule of law, and the reconstruction of the country.
What does this mean in practice?

ISAF has been helping, through its presence, in creating a secure environment, developing Afghan security structures, identifying reconstruction needs, as well as training and building up future Afghan security forces.

How did this operation evolve?

ISAF was created in accordance with the Bonn Conference, in December 2001, after the ousting of the Taliban regime. Afghan opposition leaders attending the conference began the process of reconstructing their country, by setting up a new government structure, namely the Afghan Transitional Authority.

Which countries are contributing?

ISAF currently numbers about 9,200 troops from 35 NATO and non-NATO troop contributing countries. Individual contributions by each country change on a regular basis due to the rotation of troops. At present, the four top contributing countries are: Germany (over 2,100), Italy (more than 1,900), Canada (over 800), and France, the United Kingdom and Spain (each over 500). For more information on troop contributing countries, please contact ISAF directly.
Who is in charge?

The political direction and co-ordination for the mission is provided by NATO's principal decision-making body, the North Atlantic Council.

Based on the political guidance from the Council, strategic command and control is exercised by NATO's top operational headquarters, Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers in Europe (SHAPE) in Mons, Belgium.

Underneath SHAPE, another headquarters, AFNORTH (Allied Forces North Europe) in Brunssum, the Netherlands, is responsible, at the operational level, for staffing, deploying and sustaining the mission.

ISAF itself is structured into four main components:

- ISAF Headquarters: commands the Kabul Multinational Brigade and conducts operational tasks in its area of responsibility. It liaises with and assists in the work of UN, the Afghan Transitional Authority, and governmental and non-governmental organisations;
- The Kabul Multinational Brigade: ISAF's tactical headquarters, responsible for the planning and conduct of patrolling and civil-military cooperation operations on a day-to-day basis;
- Kabul Afghan International Airport: ISAF assists the Afghan Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism in the overall operation of the airport;
- Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRTs): teams of military personnel working in Afghanistan’s northern provinces to extend the authority of the Afghan central government and to facilitate development and reconstruction.
NATO and the fight against terrorism

• The 11 September 2001 terrorist attacks on New York and Washington thrust not only United States but also the entire NATO Alliance into the fight against terrorism.
• Less than 24 hours after the attacks, NATO invoked for the first time Article 5 of the Washington Treaty - its collective defence clause - declaring the attacks to be an attack against all NATO members. The Alliance subsequently deployed aircraft and ships in support of the United States.
• Since then, and following other tragic attacks, NATO has been engaged actively in the campaign against terrorism on both the political and military fronts.
• What does this mean in practice?
• NATO is contributing to the fight against terrorism through military operations in Afghanistan, the Balkans and the Mediterranean and by taking steps to protect its populations and territory against terrorist attack.
How did it evolve?

The Alliance’s 1999 Strategic Concept already identified terrorism as one of the risks affecting NATO’s security. The Alliance’s response to September 11, however, saw NATO engage actively in the fight against terrorism, launch its first operations outside Europe and begin a far-reaching transformation of its capabilities.

Which NATO bodies play a central role?

The North Atlantic Council, the Alliance’s principal decision-making body, decides on NATO’s overall role in the fight against terrorism. Specific aspects of NATO’s involvement (e.g. co-operation with partners) are developed through specialized bodies and committees.
References


