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# THE STRATEGIC CONCEPT

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At the Washington Summit, the NATO Allies will endorse a strategy - the Strategic Concept - to equip the Alliance for the security challenges and opportunities of the 21st century and to guide its future political and military development.

The Strategic Concept was first published in 1991. A new version is being prepared for approval in Washington. Like its predecessor, it will be the authoritative statement of the Alliance's objectives and provide the highest level guidance on the political and military means to be used in achieving them.

The updated Strategic Concept will provide overall guidance to assist the development of detailed policies and military plans. It will address a range of issues including :

- the current and foreseeable strategic environment in the Euro-Atlantic area ;
- security challenges and risks, including weapons of mass destruction ;
- the Alliance's commitment to collective defence and the transatlantic link ;
- the European Security and Defence Identity (ESDI) ;
- crisis management, peacekeeping and conflict prevention ;
- dialogue, cooperation and partnership in the Euro-Atlantic area including in particular NATO's relations with Russia and Ukraine ;
- further enlargement of the Alliance ;
- arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation ;
- the principles of Alliance strategy ;
- the Alliance's force posture.