

# Supreme Allied Commander Transformation



Future Security Environment 2025 (FSE)

PDD(TC) Forum – Environmental Security

LTC Tohmas Brevick, NOA

Branch Head Strategic Analysis / Intelligence Sub-Division

# Future Security Environment 2025 (FSE)

## WHY

- To inform NATO Transformation and support the Defence Planners.
- NATO Agreed Intelligence (NAI) currently covers a 10-year timeframe and is updated annually.
- The Defence Requirement Review (DRR) works on a 13-year timeframe and the Long Term Requirement Study (LTRS) on a 20-year timeframe.
- The paper's horizon is 2025.
- The paper is entirely based on *open sources*.

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## USE

- The FSE paper intended to be used openly.
- Input to ACT capability development work.
- Foundation document for NATO Defence Planning.
- Paper only illustrates *trends*.
- Necessary assumptions and assessments for the future of NATO must still be identified by the Defence Planners.

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## STRATEGIC OVERVIEW – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Key Findings

- *Terrorism and the spread of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) are likely to be the principal threats to the Alliance over the period*
- *A growing range of actors may acquire or seek to develop capabilities to conduct both physical attacks and Computer Network Attacks (CNA)*
- *Criminal organisations and networks will expand the scale and scope of their activities; piracy will also grow as a challenge to NATO.*
- *China, India and Russia will become major players in the future security environment*
- *North Korea, Iran and Syria will continue to be countries of major concern for NATO*
- *Energy security will continue to be concern for NATO.*

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## GEOPOLITICAL CHALLENGES

### Key Findings

- *Rising Powers: China and India.*
- *China's emergence as a new superpower will define global economy and security in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.*
- *Growing population, robust military establishment and country's increasing high technology are shaping India as one of the rising political, economic and military powers.*
- *Russia's re-emergence will be highlighted by its control of energy resources.*
- *Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), Iran and Syria will continue to be countries of WMD proliferation concern.*
- *Globalisation will continue speeding-up, increasingly affecting socio-cultural, economic and political life.*

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## GLOBAL SECURITY RISKS

### Key Findings

- *The main weapon for enemies will be asymmetric warfare including terrorism.*
- *The most immediate threats to security in 21<sup>st</sup> century will come from weak, failing and rogue states, safe heaven for terrorist and criminal organisations.*
- *Terrorism will continue to be a major risk to global security.*
- *The impact of technological advances will provide to terrorists with new capabilities; more decentralized organization and more lethal acts.*
- *Continuing diffusion of existing technology and knowledge will allow proliferation of WMD and their means of delivery.*
- *Trans-national criminal organisations will become increasingly adept at exploiting disorder expanding the scope of its activities from drugs trafficking to services to terrorists.*
- *Growing range of actors, including terrorist, will be able to achieve offensive INFO OPS and computer network capabilities.*

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## GLOBAL SECURITY CONCERNS

### Key Findings

- *Climate change will have profound effects on the future global environment. Global warming threatens water and food production on vast areas of the world.*
- *New epidemics are likely to spread faster since linked to greater connectivity through global air travel.*
- *Energy will be a key driver of future global economy and energy security will become an essential issue and the driver in transformation from oil to new sustainable forms of energy.*
- *Immigration pressures could increase the risk of social disturbances.*

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## FUTURE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

### Key Findings

- *The Future Security Environment will be revolutionised by the growing effect of multidisciplinary technology*
- *The revolution of information availability and utility will continue to affect the world*
- *Advances in Information Technology (IT) are affecting most segments of the world today, they will continue in the future and might lead to new threats*
- *State military forces are likely to have an increased role in engaging terrorism*
- *The will and capability for armed Non-State Actors to seek strategic effect and to act internationally will continue to increase, particularly through international terrorism*
- *Terrorism is likely to become more widespread, extreme, international and autonomous.*
- *Advances in military technology are likely to lead to wider development and employment of electromagnetic and blast effect weapons*
- *An important driver of change in military operations is likely to be the increasing dominance of unmanned capabilities*
- *Globalisation has enhanced the need for strengthening and increasing the effectiveness of the role of nation states, governments and the public sector.*

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## REGIONAL TRENDS

### Key Findings

- *Sub-Saharan Africa will continue to be particularly at risk for major new or worsening humanitarian emergencies stemming from conflict*
- *China and India are likely to emerge as significant economic powers, increasing their military potential, if they choose to develop it*
- *South Caucasus will remain in flux because of unresolved local conflicts, weak economic fundamentals, and continued negative Russian influence.*
- *The role played by the United States in global affairs remains the most important geopolitical factor shaping the international security environment.*
- *Over the next 2 decades, the Middle East is likely to become less, not more, stable.*
- *The states of North Africa face a troubled economic future.*