



NATO's Counter-Terrorism Cooperation with Partners

Report on the Information Day held on 7 October 2014

Luns Theatre, NATO HQ, Brussels, Belgium

Organised by the Counter-Terrorism Section, Emerging Security Challenges Division

Executive Summary

1. On 7 October 2014, the NATO Counter-Terrorism Section held a partnership event to present and reinforce the collaborative opportunities available to partner countries and international organisations in the area of counter-terrorism cooperation with NATO. A principal aim was to identify new collaborative opportunities with partners for the future.
2. The event was attended by over 90 representatives from Allied countries, partner countries, and international organisations. A total of 30 partner countries were represented at the event, together with representatives from international organisations, including the United Nations, European Union, the Council of Europe, and the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe.
3. Ambassador Ducaru opened the event stating that counter-terrorism remains a pressing issue not only on the NATO agenda but on the global agenda. He underscored that terrorism today is a global challenge that requires a holistic approach by the international community. The Ambassador noted that the event represented an important step forward in strengthening NATO's cooperative network in the fight against terrorism. He reiterated that NATO's counter-terrorism cooperation with partners is demand-driven. It was his aim that participants take stock of the cooperative tools on offer and report back to capitals with clear and tangible proposals on how NATO can help partners fulfil their specific counter-terrorism aims.
4. The keynote speaker, Mr. Andrew Liepman of the RAND Corporation, set the context for the day by presenting the scope of the global terrorist threat, both now and in the future. The main focus of the presentation was on Islamic State (ISIL) – how it evolved and how it poses a challenge to a range of countries. The presentation concluded by identifying the main challenges the international community will face from this threat in the coming years.
5. During Session I, participants learned more about the Netherlands approach to counter-terrorism, specifically noting that the power to address terrorism is spread across a variety of government bodies. Through a comprehensive approach, including a full 360 degree assessment, the Netherlands can depend upon the work of a range of actors – the General Intelligence and Security Service, the police, local government, national agencies (child protection, housing support, social security etc.) – to contribute to counter-terrorism related efforts.
6. Dr Jamie Shea then looked at terrorism from the NATO perspective, in particular how the issue has evolved over time. It was noted that the issue of terrorism is not a new phenomenon for the Alliance although the NATO Counter-Terrorism Policy Guidelines date from 2012. He concluded by reiterating that as terrorism remains a global problem, many of NATO's counter-terrorism tools are open to partners.

It was hoped that partner country representatives would take the opportunity offered by the event to learn more about counter-terrorism relevant activities at NATO and find the niches where they could work with the Alliance to address the challenge.

7. Session II was opened by Dr Juliette Bird who covered the practical aspects of cooperation with NATO, with a focus on how partners can increase their involvement in the organisation's work and activities. The highest profile aspect of cooperation with NATO comes through political consultations at various levels. These are important, especially in 28+1 format, because they allow partners to set out their security concerns and priorities in front of Allies, ensuring a common understanding of issues and needs. Her presentation also addressed the issue of intelligence sharing with NATO.
8. Colonel Nema then presented the counter-terrorism approach of Mauritania; a strong example of how a partner country can engage in counter-terrorism cooperation with NATO through a balanced combination of political dialogue and practical cooperation. Mauritania has been able to take advantage of a range of NATO tools in support of its own efforts to respond to the threat of terrorism. NATO support has included education & training, crisis preparedness & response, and non-proliferation.
9. Session II concluded by looking at the complementary work of international organisations, beyond NATO, in support of the global counter-terrorism approach. Participants learned firsthand of the complementary work of the United Nations, European Union, and Organization for Security Cooperation in Europe in the global fight against terrorism.
10. Partners were provided with a comprehensive overview of the range of options available to them in training, education, and exercises which, based on different threat scenarios, can improve interoperability by assimilating lessons learned and best practices. Presentations were given by the NATO School in Oberammergau and the Centre of Excellence for Defence Against Terrorism.
11. The final presentation was given by Mr Khan Jahier, Operations Division, and focused on the civilian and military support NATO can offer to Allies and partners in the field of Crisis Management and civil emergency planning.
12. Dr Shea led a wrap-up session, noting the conclusions and key areas of the day. Dr Shea provided a short description of NATO's tools for cooperation on counter-terrorism and invited partners to a final interactive session to learn more about these tools.

Welcome Address

'Cooperative Security & the Fight Against Terrorism' by Ambassador Sorin Ducaru, Assistant Secretary General, Emerging Security Challenges Division, NATO

Ambassador Ducaru opened the event stating that counter-terrorism remains a pressing issue not only on the NATO agenda but on the global agenda. He noted that terrorism today is a global challenge that requires a holistic approach by the international community. Terrorism is a global threat that knows no border, nationality or religion – a challenge that the international community must tackle together. It is crucial that NATO focus on efforts to enhance cooperation with partners and international organisations in the fight against terrorism.

Participants learned that NATO strives to remain **aware** of the evolving threat from terrorism, to ensure that it has adequate **capabilities** to address the threat, and to **engage** with partners and other international organisations – promoting common understanding and practical cooperation in support of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. As a multilateral Alliance with both military and political aspects, NATO seeks to coordinate and leverage its expertise and resources where it can contribute to and reinforce the actions of Allied nations and other international actors in the fight against terrorism.

The Ambassador also touched upon the recent Wales Summit where leaders reaffirmed NATO's commitment to fulfil all three core tasks set out in the 2010 Strategic Concept: collective defence, crisis management, and cooperative security. He noted that the core task of 'cooperative security' was especially relevant to the event as NATO's leaders recognise that to meet the challenges of today and tomorrow, the Alliance must strengthen and maintain its partnerships with countries and organisations around the globe.

At the Wales Summit, NATO leaders restated their firm commitment to fight terrorism. The Ambassador commented that he had personally followed the Wales Summit discussions very closely and the issue of terrorism had pervaded almost every session. From events in Syria and Iraq to the threat posed by foreign fighters; from international cooperation on non-proliferation, to ensuring that modern technologies do not fall into the hands of terrorist groups; from improving capabilities and technologies, to intensifying efforts to engage with partners in addressing shared security concerns – the challenges posed by terrorism resonate across many areas of NATO's core work. NATO's leaders concluded that the Alliance will keep terrorism and related threats high on NATO's security agenda.

The Ambassador concluded that the event represented another step forward in strengthening NATO's cooperative network in the fight against terrorism. He reiterated that NATO's counter-terrorism cooperation with partners is demand-driven. It was his aim that participants take stock of the cooperative tools on offer and report back to capitals with clear and tangible proposals on how NATO can help partners fulfil their specific counter-terrorism aims. He hoped that the event would play an important role in filling future partnership documents and agreements with life and with clear, practical areas for cooperation against terrorism. Participants were encouraged to establish contacts with NATO Staff and with each other. The Ambassador concluded that when it comes to terrorism the international community must unite to address the threat together.

SESSION I

State of Play & and an Introduction to Counter-Terrorism at NATO

This session provided an overview of the current terrorism landscape – recent threats, key areas of concern, emerging trends and developments. The session included a presentation from one Ally, the Netherlands, on the internal and external aspects of a strong counter-terrorism policy. The session concluded with a comprehensive overview of counter-terrorism at NATO, with a focus on cooperation with partners. It addressed the current counter-terrorism policy and explained the Alliance's overall approach to the fight against terrorism within the framework of cooperative security.

Keynote Address: **'The Current Terrorism Landscape: Evolution, Trends & Challenges for the Future'** by Mr. Andrew Liepman, Senior Policy Analyst, RAND Corporation and Former Deputy Director of the United States National Counter Terrorism Centre

As the keynote speaker, Mr. Liepman's address set the context for the day by setting out the scope of the global terrorist threat both now and into the future. The main focus of the presentation was on Islamic State (ISIL) – how it evolved and how it poses a challenge to a range of countries. The presentation concluded by identifying the main challenges the international community will face from this threat in the coming years.

According to Liepman, ISIL should not be viewed exclusively as a terrorist organisation. This group has carved out territory and claimed statehood in an effort to seek legitimacy. ISIL is unlike other organisations like Al Qaeda, al-Shabaab, Boko Haram etc. because it is composed of many elements: a militia, an army, a government etc. While terrorist elements are certainly embedded in the organisation, it will take a lot more than a conventional counter-terrorism operation to defeat them. The response will probably require counter-terrorism, counter-insurgency and military components.

These elements mean that ISIL can be viewed as both strong and vulnerable at the same time. Estimates of the group's size range from 30,000 members (according to the US) to over 60,000 members (according to Iraq). While on the surface these numbers convey strength, Liepman also notes the clear vulnerability they represent. At these levels, ISIL's leaders cannot control membership, they cannot control the organisation

centrally, and they cannot negotiate effective relationships with other groups on behalf of the organisation. This means that the veneer of governance is thin and will make it more difficult for them as an organisation to win over the support of the population they ultimately hope to govern (whose support is also key to ISIL's long-term survival).

ISIL has also acquired impressive capabilities and weapons which have proven advantageous in the short-term. However, as the international response to ISIL intensifies, these arms – tanks, armoured vehicles, large equipment etc. – will be vulnerable to attacks from the air. Additionally, these weapons will not be a match for a modern military force. As to resources – which ISIL gains from oil smuggling, extortion, kidnapping etc. – ISIL can certainly be viewed as one of the world's wealthiest terrorist organisations. However, if it were to become a 'state', the so-called Islamic State would become the world's poorest country.

The presentation also focused on two of the most discussed topics relating to ISIL: the use of foreign fighters and the group's modern media campaign. On the issue of foreign fighters, he noted that the group has a significant number of foreign volunteers ranging from 10,000 to 20,000 in total, and including recruits from Europe and North America. While these figures were certainly troubling, most western recruits were not militarily hardened and most military gains were based on local military strengths (especially from Iraqi and Syrian recruits). As for ISIL's use of social media and propaganda; the same violent material used in recruitment has also resulted in a widespread global backlash against the group.

He concluded that the elements for defeating ISIL are clear, and include: dealing with a new, inclusive Iraqi government and stemming sectarianism; rolling back territory from ISIL; containing the group and preventing new fighters from arriving through effective border controls; cutting-off funding; and removing the leadership. He noted that the international community should not lose focus on Al Qaeda which has evolved significantly in recent years. While it remains inconceivable that Al Qaeda could organise a 9/11-style attack today, the group has proven resilient despite the loss of its leader Osama Bin Laden. While many Al Qaeda affiliated groups operate independently with a largely local focus (Al Shabaab, Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb, Al-Nusra etc.), the group's message still resonates globally.

The presentation ended with Liepman's view of five key challenges for the West in the future:

- 1) The return of foreign fighters will pose a long-term challenge, for both the West and a range of countries in the region. Nations will have to determine how they want to deal with their returning citizens.

- 2) ISIL has demonstrated the growing power of social media. While the use of social media by terrorist groups is not new, ISIL has raised its use of the internet to a new level.
- 3) The international community cannot allow itself to focus exclusively on ISIL and must maintain clear peripheral vision.
- 4) More efforts must be made to address the threats emanating from too many un-governed areas – Libya, Sinai etc.
- 5) Governments must ensure realistic public expectations and encourage patience in the fight against ISIL.

The group cannot be defeated immediately, however by identifying the five vulnerabilities it is possible to outlast them and slowly contain and dismantle the organisation.

'A NATO Ally's View: Counter-Terrorism & A Whole-of-Government Approach' by Mr. Denis Hardenbol, General Intelligence and Security Service of The Netherlands (AIVD)

This presentation looked specifically at the Netherlands approach to counter-terrorism, noting that there is a lot of power to address terrorism spread across a variety of government bodies. Through a comprehensive approach, the Netherlands can depend upon the work of a range of actors – the General Intelligence and Security Service, the police, local government, national agencies (child protection, housing support, social security etc.) – to contribute to counter-terrorism related efforts. The Netherlands conducts a full 360 degree assessment with input from a range of agencies as part of their comprehensive approach.

At present, the Netherlands is most concerned about the Jihadist threat, in particular that linked to ongoing events in Syria and Iraq. In a short overview of this threat, Hardenbol noted that so far 148 nationals from the Netherlands have travelled to Syria, 29 have returned and 18 have been killed. It is estimated that 100 fighters from the Netherlands are now active in Syria and Iraq. The focus is now on returnees and suspected operatives with links to ISIL, Al-Nusra, and Al-Qaeda.

At home, the Government is concerned that ongoing action against ISIL and other groups will trigger jihadists in Syria to appeal to sympathisers in the West to take action. Another issue of concern is the short time it can take for a citizen to become radicalised; this can occur in a matter of weeks. Beyond Syria and Iraq, it was also noted that the Government must maintain its capacity to look at other emerging areas

of concern, such as the group Ansar al-Sharia which has a presence across North Africa. The use of the internet and social media to propagate extremist ideologies and attract recruits was also noted as an area of concern.

The importance of international cooperation in the fight against terrorism was discussed. It was noted that while counter-terrorism is largely understood to be a national domain, there is an ongoing shift toward international cooperation on the issue. Several examples of international collaboration were looked at; including the Counter Terrorist Group (CTG) that fosters cooperation between 28 security services, sharing intelligence data and analysis, best practices and expert opinion. The CTG has sub-groups, such as the Netherlands-initiated Joint Intel Team Levant, that shares information, threat assessments, early warnings etc. between nine services on Syria-related counter-terrorism issues.

Hardenbol concluded by outlining some critical factors for success against the present threat. First is the importance of encouraging counter-terrorism actors to think beyond their own organisations; if the threat is without boundaries then it will require a response without boundaries. This means that actors will have to move away from the 'need to know' concept and towards the 'need to share' concept. While there is a shift toward cooperation, there is still a tendency to see a common goal rather than a common effort. Countering terrorism requires action across government; efforts and interventions must be multi-dimensional going beyond intelligence, police and the military. A strong whole-of-government approach will require hard and soft interventions to take place side by side. Success depends upon building trust and enhancing relationships with partners.

'Counter-Terrorism at NATO: Aware, Capable and Engaged' by Dr. Jamie Shea, Deputy Assistant Secretary General, Emerging Security Challenges Division, NATO

This speech looked at terrorism from the NATO perspective, in particular how the issue has evolved over time. It was noted that the issue of terrorism is not a new phenomenon for the Alliance and its member states; indeed from the Cold War until today, this issue has always been on the agenda. However, the changing nature of the phenomenon must be taken into account. For example, several Allies have dealt with terrorist movements within their countries: the United Kingdom with the Irish Republican Army (IRA); Spain with Basque Homeland and Freedom (ETA); and Turkey with the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK). However, this threat typically existed in a national and localized context.

What makes today's discussions on terrorism different is the changing nature of this threat. It was noted that these 'older' movements typically had local concerns and

importantly had a political agenda that could, at least, be discussed, as through the UKs talks with the political wing of the IRA. However, it is unthinkable today to consider talks with groups like ISIL and Al-Qaeda, who have absolutist visions of the world and agendas that lack a real future perspective. Of more concern is that these groups have a global agenda that is not limited to specific local demands, this is what we might consider 'irrational terrorism'.

Dr Shea then turned to the most pressing concern of today: ISIL. It was noted that this is a globally organised and globally financed organisation with recruits from 80 countries within its ranks. To counter an organisation of this nature will require international cooperation because so many of its components extend well beyond Syria and Iraq. A group like this cannot be left for one or two states to deal with alone – ISIL is an 'integrated mess' for the international community. Moreover, the international community should address the issues of ungoverned territory and failed states because ultimately terrorists both benefit from and create failed states.

The presentation then shifted to how NATO responds to terrorism. Following the terrorist attacks of 9/11 on the United States, NATO invoked Article 5 for the first time in its history. This article, the core of NATO's principle of collective defence, provides that if one Allied country is attacked it will be considered an attack against all members. The invocation of this article led to the sudden promotion of terrorism to the forefront of the NATO agenda and the issue was more systematically integrated into NATO's work. It has been over a decade since Article 5 was invoked and much has changed with regards to the issue and the challenges faced. Nonetheless, Allies continue to express their political will to fight terrorism with unwavering resolve, as was stated following the recent Wales Summit.

NATO has a range of responses to terrorism. In 2001, Operation Active Endeavour was launched to deter and detect the threat of terrorism in the Mediterranean Sea. While NATO's mandate in Afghanistan was not to address terrorism, ISAF's presence has helped to prevent the country from being used as a safe haven for international terrorism. NATO's work on counter-terrorism is not always on the front lines of operations. The Defence Against Terrorism Programme of Work (DAT POW), which this year celebrates its 10th anniversary, remains an important tool for developing capabilities that mitigate the effects of terrorist attacks. NATO works in countless other areas like CBRN detection, science and technology development, countering explosives, intelligence etc.

Dr Shea concluded by reiterating that terrorism remains a global problem, so many of NATO's counter-terrorism tools are open to partners. Dr Shea hoped that partner country representatives would take the opportunity offered by this event to learn more about counter-terrorism relevant activities and find the niches where they could work with NATO to address the challenge.

SESSION II

Counter-Terrorism Cooperation: Political Consultations, Information Sharing & Cooperation with International Organizations

This session provided an overview of the opportunities available to partner countries and international organisations to engage with NATO, primarily through consultations and information sharing. NATO aims to ensure shared awareness of the terrorist threat and vulnerabilities among Allies and partners. NATO promotes common understanding of its counter-terrorism role as part of a broader international effort. The session presented NATO's counter-terrorism cooperation with one partner, Mauritania, as an example of how one country has made use of a range of NATO tools in its approach to terrorism. The session concluded by looking at the complementary work of international organisations, beyond NATO, in support of the global counter-terrorism approach.

'Shared Awareness of the Terrorist Threat: Political and Practical Opportunities for Cooperation with Partners' by Dr. Juliette Bird, NATO

This presentation covered the practical aspects of cooperation with NATO, with a focus on how partners can increase their involvement in the organisation's work and activities. The highest profile aspect of cooperation with NATO comes through political consultations: from senior level consultations at the North Atlantic Council, to discussions held at Ministerial meetings, to consultations at 28+1 format in various committees at HQ. Political consultations are important, especially in 28+1 format, because they allow partners to set out their security concerns and priorities in front of Allies, ensuring a common understanding of issues and needs. These consultations also provide for sharing of information in both military and civilian domains. NATO liaises mainly with ministries of foreign affairs and defence.

The presentation showed that most of NATO's work relevant to counter-terrorism takes place outside the Counter-Terrorism Section itself. The Section's main role is to coordinate the Alliance's policies and activities on the topic and maintain an awareness of all NATO's actions and initiatives relevant to counter-terrorism. Information sharing is an important aspect. For example, many seminars are organised for the sharing of best practices on many aspects of counter-terrorism work; this work covers both civilian and military aspects and includes areas such as planning

for emergencies, civil protection, and crisis response & management. The NATO Centres of Excellence are a particularly useful tool in this regard.

Dr Bird then touched upon other aspects of NATO's work relevant to counter-terrorism. Partners are able to participate in operations and exercises, allowing them to learn NATO doctrines, tactics, techniques and procedures. Partners can be involved in NATO's Planning and Review Process (PARP) which allows partner countries to seek Allied advice and assistance on security sector reform, which can be very relevant to a national counter-terrorism approach. NATO also offers a diverse range of education and training activities; some are tailored to an individual nation's request and others can be created specifically for the partner, such as through the Defence Education Enhancement Programme (DEEP). Partners can also get involved in NATO's counter-terrorism work in the area of science and technology, which can include aspects of social science work related to terrorism.

Noting that many partners express a desire to learn more about intelligence exchange, the presentation also discussed this specific area of NATO's work. Since 2001, NATO has sought to increase consultations on terrorism and terrorism-related issues among its members, as well as with non-member countries. Information-sharing and, more specifically, intelligence-sharing are noted as key aspects of this exchange. NATO and partners can share classified information once a security agreement is in place and ratified. However, since NATO has no intelligence service or collection capacity of its own, the only intelligence available to NATO is information that Allied countries choose to share with the other 27 Allies through NATO. Even then, NATO cannot share any information it receives since this remains the property of the originating country. The presentation therefore strongly recommended that partners pursue bilateral relationships with individual Allied countries. The presentation reiterated that intelligence sharing remains one of the more difficult areas for cooperation.

The presentation then turned to the importance of a multilateral approach. The Berlin Partnership Policy, approved in 2011, allows for a flexible way for NATO to build a community of interest to discuss and share best practices. But NATO is just one organisation in the international counter-terrorism community and other actors may be more suitable partners for different aspects of counter-terrorism. International organisations work to ensure that they do not duplicate each other's work. Partner countries should identify which organisation is best suited to address their specific counter-terrorism need. The presentation concluded by emphasising that partners could usefully share updates and information with Allies, especially at 28+1. If partners can be specific about their counter-terrorism needs and provide clear points of contact, either in capitals or in Brussels, NATO staff can more easily follow-up. All NATO's cooperation is partner-driven and NATO's work on counter-terrorism extends beyond the Counter-Terrorism Section itself.

'A NATO Partner's Perspective: From Consultations to Practicalities' by Colonel Nema, Acting Commander of the Mauritanian National Staff College, Mauritania

This presentation provided a strong example to participants of how a partner country can engage in counter-terrorism cooperation with NATO through a balanced combination of political dialogue and practical cooperation. Mauritania represents a good example because it has been able to take advantage of a range of NATO tools in support of its own efforts to respond to the threat of terrorism. NATO has been able to support Mauritania in a broad range of relevant areas, including education & training, crisis preparedness & response, and non-proliferation.

The presentation began with an overview of the challenges Mauritania faces. According to Colonel Nema, Mauritania faces a growing threat from groups such as Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), who take advantage of large swathes of the country where there is limited government presence. Additionally, the broader problem of regional instability and porous borders across the Sahel is of concern to Mauritania. Mauritania has a history of Sufi Islam that is in sharp contrast to the interpretation adopted by contemporary Islamist groups. He also noted that securing borders and increasing government presence is an important component of countering terrorist elements in the country.

The Mauritanian government wants to approach the issue of counter-terrorism in an integrated way, through economic, social, political, regional etc. components. This approach includes cooperation with NATO and other international organisations. One example was the creation of the G5 Sahel (Mauritania, Mali, Niger, Chad and Burkina Faso), a regional group fostering development in the Sahel through effective cooperation on common challenges and threats, including security cooperation. In working with NATO, Mauritania was looking for cooperation that could be integrated into ongoing national, regional and international efforts.

Mauritania has been a member of the Mediterranean Dialogue since 1995 and has been successful in fostering both political dialogue and practical cooperation with NATO. Mauritania has been very clear about its priorities and has made sure that they are clearly defined and communicated to NATO. Mauritania aims to work with NATO in several areas, including capacity building and increasing interoperability. Colonel Nema noted that it is important not to wait until there is a problem because it can take years for forces to become interoperable and sufficiently trained. Mauritania engages in information sharing with NATO, such as reports on the security situation in the Sahel or proliferation issues related to Libya.

Colonel Nema gave a brief overview of specific areas of ongoing practical cooperation. The country has benefitted from a NATO Trust Fund on stockpile destruction, ammunition storage and related training. This project prevents stockpiles from falling into the hands of terrorist groups. Through the Defence Education Enhancement Program (DEEP), Mauritania is being assisted to build capacity through defence education reform, focusing on the educational side of counter-terrorism. Mauritania is also enhancing its ability to respond to both natural and man-made disasters through a Science for Peace and Security (SPS) Programme Project on crisis management coordination. Colonel Nema concluded that counter-terrorism must be considered across many fields and at many levels: national, regional and international.

'The Global Terrorism Challenge & the Complementary Roles of International Organisations'

Remarks from the United Nations by Mr. Zeeshan Amin, Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF), United Nations, New York

This presentation set out the United Nation's efforts in counter-terrorism, with particular reference to the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (GCTS). The Strategy forms a comprehensive framework for all members to follow and was adopted by consensus, underscoring the political unity of all 194 states on this topic. The UN's efforts on counter-terrorism are also guided by a variety of other documents and resolutions. The presentation noted NATO's support to the strategy and touched upon several areas to enhance and expand upon.

The UN's GCTS provides a concrete plan of action to counter terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. The strategy calls for international cooperation and focuses on four core pillars. 1) The first is to address the **conditions conducive** to the spread of terrorism, noting that member states are aware of the fact that terrorists exploit grievances for their own goals. States should work to deprive terrorist actors of their narrative and the strategy calls on members to follow measures such as resolving protracted conflicts, addressing socio-economic marginalization and unemployment, strengthening education, enhancing good governance, supporting victims etc. 2) The second pillar calls for measures to **prevent and combat** terrorism by denying terrorist actors the means to carry out attacks. It calls for states to take measures, such as enhancing border controls, reinforcing judicial aspects, preventing terrorist finance, and strengthening law enforcement based actions. 3) The third pillar calls for measures that **build states' capacity** to prevent and respond to terrorism. This was mentioned as a critical pillar of the strategy and in particular the presentation

mentioned the reciprocal responsibility of states to help others in need. It calls on states to share best practices, share information, and to engage in education and training etc. 4) The final pillar calls for all states to respect **human rights** while countering terrorism, placing them front and centre of counter-terrorism efforts. This pillar in particular calls for efforts to develop and maintain **rule of law**-based national criminal justice systems.

The presentation then focused on the work of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF), whose role is to enhance coordination of counter-terrorism efforts within the United Nations system to ensure the UN approach is coherent and consistent. The Task Force brings together 34 entities to contribute to the counter-terrorism efforts of the UN according to their specific mandates. NATO is not a member of this task force, but other organisations, such as the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and the World Customs Organization (WCO), are represented. However, while NATO is not a member, the task force is able to develop joint projects beyond its members and is looking to expand collaboration. Most CTITF activities take place through working groups that cover a range of relevant issues, such as combating the financing of terrorism or strengthening the protection of human rights in the context of counter-terrorism.

Looking forward, the UN also hopes to use the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT), made possible through a contribution from Saudi Arabia, in support of counter-terrorism activities. A specific focus of the Centre is on capacity building. Other areas that the UN looks to focus on include kidnap for ransom, aviation security, maritime security, customs and border protection, and community dialogue. The presentation concluded by stating that the UN sees itself as a platform for dialogue and cooperation. The UN wants a strong partnership with other international actors, including NATO. Specifically it was noted that the UN has benefited from NATO's education & training activities, especially through the Defence against Terrorism Centre of Excellence. The UN has an interest to learn from NATO's expertise and is actively looking for more operational partners to work with.

Remarks by Mr. Stephan Auer, Director for Global Issues, European External Action Service (EEAS)

This presentation focused on counter-terrorism from the perspective of the European Union. It was noted that cooperation with other regional and international actors is important, especially when the threat is diverse and geographically diffuse. Today, the leading concern is ISIL despite the fact that a few years ago its precursor, the Islamic State in Iraq (ISI), was weakened and on the decline. Ten years ago around three-quarters of the group's leaders had been killed or captured. This emphasises the importance of looking at the adequacy and sustainability of counter-terrorism responses. The EU's activities on counter-terrorism are guided by the 2005 EU Counter-Terrorism Strategy, which consists of four strands – prevent, protect, pursue and respond. It is understood that Member States have the primary responsibility to address terrorism, but the EU's activities can complement and add value. Indeed, it was noted that the EU has responsibility for only approximately 5% of counter-terrorism relevant activities within the EU membership.

The EU adds value to the activities of Member States in several ways. First, it works to strengthen national capabilities using best practice and sharing knowledge and experiences. It also serves to facilitate European cooperation by establishing, evaluating, and facilitating mechanisms for cooperation, including between police and judicial authorities. The EU also adds value through developing collective capacity to understand and make collective policy responses. Last of all, it promotes partnership beyond the EU, including with other international organisations and relevant third countries. For example, the presentation noted how the EU has amplified Member States' own political outreach to actors like the United Nations and also with third countries like the United States, Saudi Arabia, and Pakistan. Overall, the EU works to ensure coherence between internal and external actions to counter terrorism, in conjunction with the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

Mr Auer then looked at some areas where the EU has particular strength today. It has particular value as a multilateral forum that can bring its 28 Members together with a broad range of regional and international organisations and third countries. Additionally, it can provide holistic insights into various aspects of counter-terrorism – judicial, policing, development etc. – because it deals with all the ministries of its 28 Members. Moreover, the EU is well placed to look at the nexus between development and security, especially as it is the world's biggest development aid donor. In this regard, it especially supports the UNGCTS pillar I, to address conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism, especially relative to grievances linked to poverty and inequality.

Mr Auer touched on the phenomenon of foreign fighters, noting that the flow of foreign fighters into Syria and Iraq is now greater than was seen into Afghanistan. An estimated 3,000 of these foreign fighters originate from within the EU. Sharing the concerns of other international organisations and third countries, the EU calls for cooperation within the EU and with its partners on this issue. Radicalisation was noted as a key global challenge. Of particular concern is the rate at which radicalisation can occur; sometimes taking only a matter of days or weeks for an EU citizen to decide to leave for Iraq or Syria. The EU supports UNSCR 2178(2014), which calls on UN members to make it a criminal offense to travel abroad for terrorist purposes. The EU recognises that the rise of ISIL is a major threat to European security and that international cooperation and action to stem the flow of foreign fighters is needed. Beyond ISIL, other key areas remain of concern, including threats from Yemen, Pakistan, the Horn of Africa, the Sahel and the Maghreb region.

In conclusion, Mr Auer noted that counter-terrorism is intrinsically civilian in nature and largely the responsibility of individual member states. The EU's actions on counter-terrorism should ensure coordination so that work is beneficial and complementary. However, there are areas where there is a clear civilian-military overlap; for example, the EU has no special forces to engage in hostage rescue. There are aspects of counter-terrorism and crisis response that require military capabilities, and in that sense NATO can complement counter-terrorism efforts. The global terrorist threat requires a comprehensive and complementary response from a range of actors who share values and interests; and the EU and NATO each have their own particular strengths and advantages against this common threat.

Remarks by Mr. Laszlo Szücs, Transnational Threats Department – Action against Terrorism Unit, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)

This presentation focused on practical areas for cooperation between the OSCE and other international organisations, noting that there is potential to enhance cooperation in several areas. The OSCE's work on counter-terrorism is guided by the OSCE Consolidated Framework for the Fight against Terrorism, which was adopted in 2012. It provides a strategic framework for the OSCE's contribution to global efforts against terrorism and highlights a number of strategic focus areas such as international law, criminal justice based responses and countering violent extremism and radicalization. It also reiterates the OSCE's commitment to support and implement the UN GCTS and provides guidance on practical work.

The OSCE's framework stresses the need for cooperation with external stakeholders, such as the United Nations and NATO. In particular, the OSCE aims to support

existing international instruments to counter terrorism while paying attention to national ownership and responsibilities. Mr Szücs referred to the recent Counter-Terrorism Conference, held in April 2014 in Interlaken, Switzerland, which provided a strong practical example of information sharing, co-operation and expert participation. The conference focused on the three main areas: Financing of Terrorism, including “Kidnapping for Ransom”; Ensuring Legality, Transparency and Accountability in Counter-Terrorism; and Responding to the Phenomenon of Individuals Taking Part in Violent Hostilities within or outside the OSCE Area (“Foreign Fighters”).

Mr Szücs then turned to some of the more specific areas where the OSCE focuses its efforts, which include: strengthening a rule-of-law based criminal justice response to terrorism; strengthening travel document security; countering violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism (VERLT); countering the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes; protecting non-nuclear critical energy infrastructure; and suppressing terrorist financing. The presentation also touched upon some of the types of activities developed by the OSCE to address these issues, including a range of seminars, training opportunities, best practice sharing and other events. The OSCE strives to initiate a range of activities that are based on a comprehensive, preventive and inclusive approach to counter-terrorism.

The presentation concluded by noting the areas where the OSCE can add value to counter-terrorism efforts. In particular, the OSCE can offer its unique network of field offices, each with staff and contacts offering “ears to the ground”. The OSCE also offers its strategic framework to maximize and add value to international counter-terrorism efforts. The OSCE provides a multidimensional platform (security, economic, environmental, human dimension etc) for building holistic networks and engaging in information exchange. He noted that both NATO and OSCE share the same views on countering terrorism and the need to support each other’s efforts, especially with regards to Central Asia and Afghanistan. The presentation ended with some concrete areas where NATO and the OSCE could cooperate together, including through: joint efforts to address terrorism in Central Asia; strengthened cooperation against CBRN threats; and enhanced interaction between the OSCE and NATO as well as its related structures, such as the NATO School and the NATO Centres of Excellence. NATO and the OSCE have many areas where they can reinforce and strengthen each other’s efforts to implement the UN global approach to terrorism.

SESSION III

Counter-Terrorism Cooperation through Training, Education, and Exercises

This session looked to provide partners with a comprehensive overview of the range of options available to them in training, education, and exercises. NATO has acquired much valuable expertise in countering asymmetric threats and in responding to terrorism. Training, education and exercises, based on different threat scenarios, can improve interoperability by assimilating lessons learned and best practices. Likewise, cooperation in the field of civil-emergency planning and crisis management responds to specific needs of partner countries and Allied interests. Improved preparedness, protection and identification of vulnerabilities and gaps can help partner countries to fight terrorism more effectively themselves. Some concrete options for cooperation between NATO and partners in these areas were explored in this session.

'Education and the Fight Against Terrorism' by Colonel Stephen Rose, USA-AF, Senior National Representative, NATO School Oberammergau

This presentation focused on the role and function of the NATO School in Oberammergau (NSO), with a particular focus on what counter-terrorism relevant courses the school can provide. The NATO School provides a range of courses some of which can be tailored to individual requirements and delivered in a partner country. The NSO's mission is to conduct education and training to support both current and developing NATO operations, strategy, policy, doctrine and procedures. The School has three main objectives: 1) to provide education that removes personal and cultural biases; 2) to provide a foundation of knowledge; 3) to enable individuals to perform in complex and ambiguous environments.

The NSO offers a Defence Against Terrorism curriculum, which includes a mix of briefings, case studies and panels. In the future, the NSO aims to include syndicate studies, assessments and online work within its curriculum. The NSO also engages in cooperation with the NATO Centre of Excellence for Defence Against Terrorism (COE-DAT), which allows the School to share a curriculum, while focusing on different audiences and maximizing reach. The NSO also offers Defence Against Terrorism courses at the School's Irregular Warfare Department, which also includes special operations forces combating terrorism and asymmetric warfare.

Colonel Rose concluded by reiterating that the NSO is committed to educating both Allies and partners on a range of security threats, including terrorism. NSO courses utilize a comprehensive approach that blends military, civilian, NGO, COE and academic approaches. The School provides flexible delivery through an organisational structure that provides optimal education while maximizing resources.

‘Transforming NATO in the field of Defence Against Terrorism: Options for Partners through the NATO Centre of Excellence for Defence Against Terrorism’ by Colonel Christopher Stricklin, USA-AF, Deputy Director/US SNR, NATO COE-DAT, Ankara, Turkey

This presentation focused on the role of the NATO Centre of Excellence for Defence Against Terrorism (COE-DAT), especially its work with partners. The presentation began with an overview of the NATO Centres of Excellence (COEs), which are nationally or multi-nationally funded entities that offer recognized expertise and experience to the benefit of the Alliance. The COEs train and educate leaders and specialists from NATO member and partner countries, assist in doctrine development, identify lessons learned, improve interoperability and capabilities, and test and validate concepts through experimentation. They offer recognised expertise and experience that is of benefit to the Alliance and support the transformation of NATO, while avoiding the duplication of assets, resources and capabilities already present within the NATO command structure. At present, there are 21 COEs, with several more in accreditation process or in negotiations towards a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). NATO’s COEs are not part of the NATO command structure. Both partners and international organisations are able to participate in COE activities.

On terrorism, COE-DAT works to provide subject matter expertise on defence against terrorism and, like NSO, runs NATO’s Defence Against Terrorism course. It has relationships with NATO training units, EU & OSCE training units, and several universities, academies and institutes. The centre offers a range of courses in areas such as: legal aspects of combating terrorism; crisis management for mitigating the effects of terrorism; terrorist use of cyberspace; defence against suicide bombing; and fighting the financial dimensions of terrorism. The centre provides courses, workshops, seminars etc. Courses can also be provided via advanced distributed learning (ADL) and via mobile training. The centre also releases publications over the course of the year, including the Defence Against Terrorism Review (DATR). Colonel Stricklin concluded by noting the range of courses already on offer for 2015, including in areas such as terrorism & the media and critical infrastructure protection.

‘Crisis Preparedness & Responses on Counter-Terrorism’ by Mr. Khan Jahier,
Civil Military Planning & Support Section, Operations Division, NATO

This presentation focused on the civilian and military support NATO can offer to Allies and partners in the field of Crisis Management and civil emergency planning. This area is highly relevant to the area of counter-terrorism, especially with regard to national responses to a terrorist attack using non-conventional weapons. The presentation began with an overview of NATO’s five main roles in civil emergency planning: 1) to support NATO military authorities in operations under Article 5; 2) to support non-Article 5 crisis response operations; 3) to support national authorities dealing with the consequences of natural and technological disasters; 4) to support national authorities dealing with the consequences of CBRN incidents and attack; 5) to support cooperation with partners. These activities are guided by the Civil Emergency Planning Committee (CEPC); political guidance is provided for a period of four years and was last approved on 31 January 2014 (to cover the period 2014-2017). Activities support NATO’s three core tasks of collective defence, crisis management and cooperative security.

On partnerships, Mr Jahier noted that NATO’s work on civil emergency planning is open to cooperation with all NATO partnership frameworks. He ran through how NATO addresses civil emergency planning, noting the four emergency management phases: 1) **prevention** and mitigation to prevent hazards from developing into disasters, with a focus on long-term measures; 2) **preparedness** through plans of action for when a disaster strikes; 3) **response** and provision of necessary assistance to emergency services in the disaster area; 4) **recovery** and restoration of services after needs have been met. Consequence management is first and foremost a national responsibility, however, large scale disasters or terrorist acts can affect more than one country and/or create a situation that is beyond the capability of a single nation to address. In these cases, NATO is well placed to provide collective help through both civilian and military support means.

With regards to terrorism, the presentation identified some of the areas where crisis preparedness and response could add value, such as: attacks against critical infrastructure; attacks against industrial facilities; attacks against transportation and its infrastructure; attacks against soft targets; and CBRN attacks and incidents. NATO’s civil emergency planning tools and methods can enable nations to enhance their preparedness against these types of threats. These tools and mechanisms include response teams and pools of experts, guidelines and methodologies with regard to emergency management, exchange of best practices, training and exercises, cooperation with the Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre (EADRCC), and cooperation on CBRN defence and critical infrastructure protection. Specific areas where civil emergency planning could support efforts to counter

terrorism include training and exercises, such as: NATO's Crisis Management Exercise (CMX); the EADRCC annual exercise; the NSO civil-military planning and support course; military training events etc.

Policy Wrap-Up and Introduction to Practical Cooperation by Dr. Jamie Shea, Deputy Assistant Secretary General, Emerging Security Challenges Division, NATO

This final session looked at the conclusions and key areas of the day, noting five key long-term challenges:

- The threat associated with the return of foreign fighters;
- The need to address ungoverned/under-governed areas and territories;
- The need to address violent extremism and ideology.
- Terrorist use of the Internet and social media;
- The need for patience and resolve in addressing terrorism today.

The closing session reiterated that many of the counter-terrorism relevant areas of work at NATO are spread across the organisation. The Counter-Terrorism Section coordinates the NATO approach and maintains overall awareness of activities. The NATO approach is guided by the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. All international organisations strive to make sure that their activities complement broader international efforts, while avoiding unnecessary duplication. It is, therefore, very important that partner countries looking to cooperate with an international organisation, such as NATO, identify which one can best address their specific counter-terrorism related needs.

Dr Shea's closing remarks provided some final guidance to partners on the importance of using the committee structure (28+1) to address Allies and share their own views and needs on a range of issues, including counter-terrorism. Partners should also make and maintain the necessary staff contacts to propose and develop ideas for cooperation. NATO staff can help partners to ensure that proposals are within the scope of Allied guidance and mandates. Touching on the example of Mauritania, it was noted that a broad variety of NATO tools can be put to good use to address counter-terrorism issues. Mauritania has done this through strong use of consultations, trust funds, the NATO Science for Peace and Security (SPS) Programme, the Defence Education Enhancement Programme (DEEP), and support within the context of crisis management. NATO has specific tools at its disposal for partners to use in support of their own counter-terrorism work. Dr Shea's final remarks reiterated the three pillars of NATO's counter-terrorism policy guidelines: Awareness, Capabilities, Engagement. Partners' engagement with NATO is essential and

ultimately all cooperation with NATO is demand-driven by partners. It is thus extremely important for partners to voice their interests and needs on counter-terrorism. Dr Shea provided a short description of NATO's tools for cooperation on counter-terrorism and then invited partners to the final interactive session to learn more about these tools.

Tools for Cooperation:

Defence Against Terrorism – Programme of Work (DAT-POW) NATO is developing new, cutting-edge technologies and capabilities to protect troops and civilians against terrorist attacks. The aim of DAT POW is to prevent non-conventional attacks, such as suicide attacks with improvised explosive devices (IEDs), and mitigate other challenges, such as attacks on critical infrastructure. Most projects focus on finding solutions that can be fielded in the short term. The programme meets critical military requirements and addresses Alliance shortfalls. Some activities are open to cooperation with partners.

Point of Contact: ESC Division, NATO

Science for Peace & Security (SPS) Programme The NATO SPS Programme promotes security-related practical cooperation to address emerging security challenges, including terrorism. It connects scientists, experts, and officials from Allied and partner countries to work together to address these challenges. In partnership with institutions from Allied and partner countries, the SPS Programme provides funding, expert advice and support by engaging in collaborative, security-relevant activities in the form of workshops, training courses, or multi-year research and development projects.

Point of Contact: ESC Division, NATO

**Defence
Education
Enhancement
Programme
(DEEP)**

The Defence Education Enhancement Programme (DEEP) is an innovative multi-national education initiative that is designed to assist partner and other nations to build capacity through defence education reform. DEEP connects senior educators from NATO nations with their counterparts from partner countries with the objective of enhancing educational curricula and learning methods. The programme has relevance to combating terrorism through work on education and training.

Point of Contact: PASP Division, NATO

**Crisis
Preparedness &
Response**

NATO offers civil emergency planning and crisis management cooperation opportunities to partners. These opportunities ensure that NATO, including its civil-military planning and civil emergency planning tools and procedures, is prepared for terrorist events, as well as any move to CBRN/WMD terrorism. The Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre (EADRCC) is NATO's principal civil emergency response mechanism in the Euro-Atlantic area. The Centre functions as a clearing-house system for coordinating both requests and offers of assistance mainly in case of natural and man-made disasters.

Point of Contact: OPS Division, NATO

**Planning and
Review Process
(PARP)**

The Planning and Review Process (PARP) aims to promote the development of forces and capabilities by partners who are best able to cooperate alongside NATO Allies in crisis response operations and other activities to promote security and stability. It provides a structured approach for enhancing interoperability and capabilities of partner forces that could be made available to the Alliance for multinational training, exercises and operations. The PARP also serves as a planning tool to guide and measure progress in defence and military transformation and modernisation efforts. Work through PARP can help partners capture and realise their counter-terrorism aspirations.

Point of Contact: DPP Division, NATO

**NATO Science
and Technology
Organization
(STO)**

The STO acts as NATO's principal organisation for science and technology research. The mission of the STO is to help position both national and NATO science and technology investments as a strategic enabler of the knowledge and technology advantage for the defence and security posture of NATO Allies and partners. The Organisation aims to leverage and augment the science and technology capabilities and programmes to contribute to NATO's ability to influence security and defence related development. Counter-terrorism is a recognised topic area.

**Point of Contact: Science and Technology Organization,
NATO:
www.cso.nato.int**

**The Weapons of
Mass
Destruction
(WMD) Non-
Proliferation
Centre**

The Weapons of Mass Destruction Non-Proliferation Centre is structurally embedded in the Emerging Security Challenges (ESC) Division at NATO and combines in its work the knowledge of national CBRN defence experts as well as of personnel from NATO's International Staff. Core parts of the Centre's work are to improve coordination of WMD-related activities, strengthen dialogue and common understanding of WMD issues among Allies, and to enhance consultations on non-proliferation. The centre also assesses WMD risks and threats and supports defence efforts to improve the Alliance's preparedness to respond to the risks of WMD and their delivery systems.

Point of Contact: ESC Division, NATO

**Women, Peace
and Security
(WPS)**

NATO and its partners are taking action to support the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 and related resolutions. This Resolution recognises the disproportionate impact that war and conflicts have on women and children, and highlights the fact that women have been historically left out of peace processes and stabilisation efforts. The implementation of UNSCR 1325 and related Resolutions cuts across various divisions and governing bodies within NATO Headquarters, as well as in the Strategic

Commands. The current Action Plan for the implementation of the NATO Policy calls for Allies and partners to integrate a gender perspective into policies, activities, and efforts, including counter-terrorism work.

Point of Contact: Office of the NATO SG Representative for Women -Peace and Security, NATO

Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) and Mine Action (MA)

The proliferation of small arms and light weapons (SALW) affects security while anti-personnel mines and explosive remnants of war kill and maim long after the end of hostilities. Both can have destabilising effects on social, societal and economic development and can represent major challenges to regional and national security. NATO and the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council (EAPC) address these issues through partnerships and Trust Fund mechanisms. NATO/EAPC activities focus on reducing access to SALW and ammunition storage facilities, destruction and demilitarisation of surplus equipment, improving international cooperation and information sharing. NATO works with partners and international organisations to implement the United Nation's Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in SALW and the Arms Trade Treaty.

Point of Contact: PASP Division, NATO

The NATO SCHOOL Oberammergau (NSO)

The NATO School conducts education and training to support current and developing NATO operations, strategy, policy, doctrine and procedures. Primarily focused on individual training, the NSO also supports many aspects of collective training, exercises, experimentation and operations. Education and training is centred on operational art while offering Mobile Education and Training Teams, web-based Advanced Distributed Learning and resident courses and seminars. NSO offers the 'NATO Defence Against Terrorism Course' and a series of courses dealing with emerging security challenges such as , Asymmetric Warfare', 'Counter Insurgency Intelligence Preparation of the Battlefield', and the future 'Introduction to NATO Special Operations Forces'. The purpose of these course are to provide the individual the capabilities to understand the dynamically-linked security threats that face the Alliance, be

prepared to provide policy inputs and to comfortably perform in complex and ambiguous security environments.

**Point of Contact: NATO School Oberammergau:
www.natoschoolnato.int**

**NATO Centres
of Excellence
(COEs)**

NATO COEs are nationally or multi-nationally funded institutions that train and educate leaders and specialists from NATO member and partner countries, assist in doctrine development, identify lessons learned, improve interoperability and capabilities, and test and validate concepts through experimentation. They offer recognized expertise and experience that is of benefit to the Alliance and support the transformation of NATO. Coordinated by Allied Command Transformation (ACT) in Norfolk, Virginia in the United States, COEs are considered to be international military organisations. Currently, there are 21 COEs and the following are useful for partners looking to enhance practical cooperation on counter-terrorism:

Defence Against Terrorism (DAT) COE

Based in Ankara, Turkey, the Defence Against Terrorism (DAT) COE provides subject matter expertise on how best to defend against terrorism. It also provides training on counter terrorism, assists in the development of doctrine and helps improve NATO's capabilities and interoperability.

**Point of Contact: NATO COE-DAT, Ankara, Turkey:
www.coedat.nato.int**

Counter Improvised Explosive Devices (C-IED) COE

Based in Madrid, Spain, the principal aim of this COE is to provide integrated subject matter expertise, to support NATO, its partners and the international community in the fight against Improvised Explosive Devices (IED). In particular, the centre works to increase the security of deployed Allied National forces and to reduce the threats from IEDs used by terrorists. The Long Term Vision of the CIED-COE is to provide

an enduring platform to enhance cooperation between military, civilian, international organisations and industry to reduce the threat of IED attacks and to combat the IED as a weapon of strategic influence. The COE does this by serving as an interagency coordination hub, provision of Attack the Network (AtN) / C-IED courses, serving as the CIED Lessons Learned manager, partnering with appropriate technology firms and contributing to doctrine, concepts and contingency planning for future full spectrum NATO operations.

Point of Contact: NATO C-IED COE, Madrid, Spain:

www.coec-ied.es

Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) COE

Based in Trenčín, Slovakia, the Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) COE provides expertise in the field of explosive ordnance disposal for NATO and partner countries. It supports NATO operations in the field of explosive ordnance disposal by improving interoperability and cooperation between NATO member countries, partner countries, international organisations and the NATO command structure.

Point of contact: Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) COE:

www.eodcoe.org

Joint Chemical, Biological, Radiation and Nuclear Defence (JCBRN Defence) COE

Based in Vyškov, Czech Republic, the Joint Chemical, Biological, Radiation and Nuclear (JCBRN) Defence COE develops defence doctrines, standards and knowledge with the goal of improving interoperability and capabilities. It also provides education and training opportunities, assists and advises NATO, Sponsoring Nations and other international organisations and institutions in the area of CBRN defence. In addition to developing and circulating lessons learned, JCBRN also trains and certifies the CBRN Defence Task Force of the NATO Response Force.

JCBRN Defence COE:

www.jcbrncoe.cz

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