

The Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre (EADRCC)

The Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre (EADRCC) is NATO's principal mechanism to respond to civil emergencies, such as natural and man-made disasters. It can also be activated in conflict and crisis, including collective defence situations.

To deliver fast and coherent help on behalf of the Alliance, the EADRCC works closely with NATO experts, the NATO military authorities and first responders, including the NATO Allies and partners, United Nations organisations, the European Union and the Red Cross / Red Crescent. Finally, the EADRCC organises consequence management exercises to enhance disaster management capacities among Allies and partners and improve coordination of assistance.

The Centre has been a key part of NATO's response to emergencies, for instance, during the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2023 earthquake in Türkiye, or Russia's war against Ukraine.

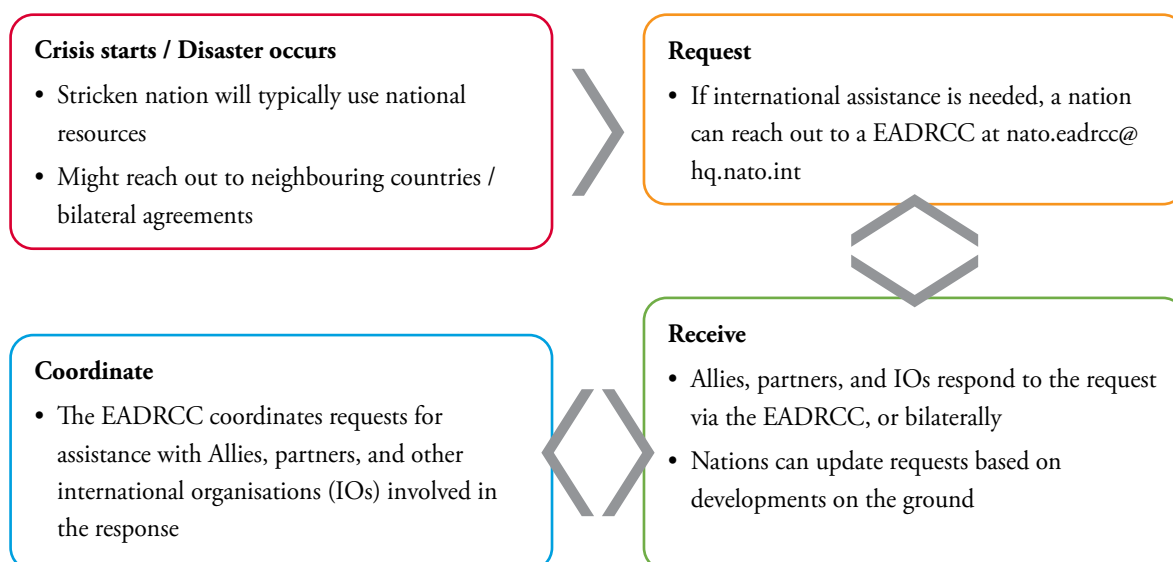


NATO's solidarity tool in emergencies

In case of an emergency, the EADRCC can be activated to coordinate international assistance to NATO Allies and partners. Acting as a clearing house mechanism, the Centre receives requests for help from the affected country, distributes them to NATO Allies and partners, and coordinates the response where necessary. The Centre monitors the situation in the affected area, the assistance accepted by the national authorities, delivery dates and details, and assistance still required. Regular situation reports are shared with Allies and partners. The Centre also tracks the assistance offered bilaterally or through other international mechanisms. By doing so, the EADRCC ensures its work supports the broader international response in a timely and well-coordinated way.

Through the Clearing House Mechanism, EADRCC has successfully contributed to the international response in more than 100 emergencies around the globe.

Throughout the process, the EADRCC shares regular situation reports and updates with the relevant stakeholders to ensure the response and assistance provided are well coordinated and reflect the needs on the ground.



Coordination and cooperation

Another core task for the EADRCC is cooperation and dialogue with other authorities and organisations involved in disaster response and preparedness. Such exchanges ensure NATO's efforts in an emergency complement those of other first responders, avoiding overlaps and duplication of work.

The list of interlocutors includes the NATO military authorities, the United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA), the European Union's Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC), the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), and others.

Training and exercises

The EADRCC organises regular training and exercises to help Allies and partners improve their emergency preparedness and response capabilities, effectively strengthening their resilience. Exercises enable stakeholders to test and validate their procedures and plans, identifying gaps and stimulating improvements. They are also essential to improve interoperability among international responders. The most recent EADRCC exercise took place in North Macedonia and saw participation from 30 countries and more than 15 international organisations.

The EADRCC is currently preparing its next emergency management exercise, which will take place in Bulgaria in September 2025.

The EADRCC in action

The **COVID-19 pandemic** was the EADRCC's largest ever logistical operation. With EADRCC coordination, NATO Allies and partners provided commercial and military airlift, set up field hospitals, shared medical expertise, and donated life-saving assistance to cope with the pandemic. A special Pandemic Response Trust Fund managed by the EADRCC enabled this work. More than 20 Allies and partners have benefitted from NATO's support to pandemic response.

The EADRCC has also helped deliver essential **assistance to Ukraine**, to help cope with Russia's aggression. The Centre has facilitated the delivery of humanitarian aid to Ukraine, including ambulances, mobile X-ray machines and ventilators. Additional NATO support through the EADRCC included contributions to Ukraine's crisis management capacity-building through – for instance – paramedic training.

Following the **earthquake that hit Türkiye** in early 2023, the EADRCC

helped deliver blankets, pieces of medical equipment, and more than 1000 temporary housing containers and tents to the worst-affected zones. The Centre also facilitated the creation of an air bridge to afflicted areas, which ensured timely assistance.

In August 2023, **Slovenia** asked for assistance from the EADRCC to cope with devastating floods. Allies stepped up with immediate offers of support, including helicopters, modular bridges, excavators, and engineering expertise. Through the EADRCC, Spain provided one CH-47a heavy-lift helicopter, with crew and supporting staff.



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