

10 NATO'S PARTNERSHIPS



■ KEY INFORMATION

NATO has engaged in partnerships with non-NATO countries since 1991 to help often newly independent states build a solid democratic environment, maintain political stability and modernise armed forces. These partnerships help to extend security across the European continent and enable participating countries to satisfy their own security requirements by drawing on the expertise of NATO countries.

The Alliance's new Strategic Concept, issued at Washington in 1999, recognises partnerships as one of NATO's fundamental security tasks. The Alliance engages in relations with non-NATO countries through two main bodies: the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council and the Partnership for Peace.

THE EURO-ATLANTIC PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL (EAPC)

The **Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council** is a multilateral forum where NATO and partner countries meet on a regular basis to discuss a multitude of political and security-related issues including arms control, terrorism, peacekeeping, defence economic issues and nuclear safety. They also consult in areas such as science and the environment, as well as civil emergency planning. For instance in 1998, on the initiative of Russia, the **Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre (EADRCC)** was created to serve as the focal point for the coordination of disaster relief efforts among EAPC countries.

In addition to short term consultations in the EAPC on current political and security-related issues, a two-year **EAPC Action Plan** provides for longer-term consultation and cooperation in a wide range of areas.

The EAPC can convene at different levels (Heads of State and Government, ministerial, ambassadorial and at the expert and working levels) and can play a key role in times of crisis. For instance during the Kosovo crisis, a series of extraordinary meetings was held to keep partners informed of the status of NATO planning and preparations for possible military options in Kosovo and to exchange views during and after the conflict.

THE PARTNERSHIP FOR PEACE (PfP)

The EAPC provides the overarching political framework for the **Partnership for Peace**, which is a programme for practical cooperation between NATO and individual partner countries (all PfP members are also EAPC members - see 'A few facts and figures').

The emphasis within PfP is on tailor-made programmes that respond to the specific needs of the country in question. These are called **Individual Partnership Programmes (IPPs)**, which are two-year programmes drawn up from an extensive menu of activities selected from the Partnership Work Programme. The **Partnership Work Programme** offers activities in over 20 areas ranging from defence policy and planning, civil-military relations, education and training, to air defence, communications and information systems, crisis management, and civil emergency planning. In 1999, the IPP was complemented by the **Individual Partnership Action Plan (IPAP)**, which seeks to encompass activities under the EAPC and the PfP, and bring partners even closer to NATO.

The formal basis of the PfP - the **PfP Framework Document** - lists the specific undertakings to be made by each participant (transparency in defence planning, democratic control of armed forces and interoperability). NATO in turn commits itself to consult with any partner country that perceives a direct threat to its territorial integrity, political independence or security.

The Framework Document also commits NATO to developing with partner countries a **Planning and Review Process** (PARP) designed to provide a basis for identifying and evaluating forces and capabilities, which might be made available for multinational training, exercises and operations with NATO forces. PARP is modelled on NATO's own force planning system and offered to partners on an optional basis. It has contributed to the cooperation of partner countries in NATO-led operations such as those in the former Yugoslavia and in Afghanistan, and has helped lay the basis for greater partner involvement in PfP decision-making and planning.

PfP Staff Elements, manned by officers from allied and partner countries, have been established at several NATO headquarters to work on planning for exercises and conducting other cooperative functions. Moreover, at the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) in Mons, Belgium, a **Partnership Coordination Cell** helps coordinate PfP training and exercises. There is also an International Coordination Centre that provides briefing and planning facilities for all non-NATO countries contributing troops to NATO-led peacekeeping operations.

The Partnership for Peace is reviewed on a regular basis to adjust it to changes in the international environment and to the needs of partners. Below are the key stages in the evolution of the programme:

- 1997: Enhancements were designed to strengthen the political consultation element, provide greater involvement of partners in PfP decision-making and planning, and develop a more operational role for PfP;
- 1999: The development of this operational role was taken further with the approval of a **Political-Military Framework for NATO-led PfP Operations** (PMF) and the launching of an **Operational Capabilities Concept** (OCC), conceived to improve the ability of Alliance and partner forces to operate together in NATO-led operations. It establishes a link between normal cooperation in the context of the PfP and the NATO force generation process which is activated in times of crisis. Other initiatives launched in Washington included the **Training and Education Enhancement Programme** (TEEP), conceived to help reinforce PfP's operational capability through training and education of the military from partner countries. In addition, the Alliance's new Strategic Concept, revised in the same year, recognises partnerships as one of NATO's fundamental security tasks;
- 2002: At the Prague Summit, Heads of State and Government agreed upon concrete proposals for intensifying cooperation within the PfP and the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council in a key document entitled: "Report on the Comprehensive Review of the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council and Partnership for Peace". The new mechanisms created – such as the **Individual Partnership Action Plan** or IPAP – were designed to ensure a more comprehensive, tailored and differentiated approach to the Partnership, and also to better support the reform efforts of partners, for instance by providing them with more feedback and technical sup-

port. They also adopted a Partnership Action Plan against Terrorism, which provides a framework for NATO-Partner cooperation on terrorism, defining partnership roles as well as instruments to fight terrorism and manage its consequences. Mediterranean Dialogue countries can also participate on a case-by-case basis;

- 2004: At the Istanbul Summit, it is expected that PfP will be further tailored so that it can support partners' reform efforts and continue to promote dialogue and cooperation in general. This will help partners tackle key issues and, based on their individual needs, continue to assist them in their efforts aimed at increasing their participation in NATO-led operations.

In addition to these periodical enhancements of PfP, the programme has been complemented by an important initiative: the establishment of **PfP Trust Funds** in September 2000 to assist partners in the safe destruction of stock-piled anti-personnel mines and other munitions. Several projects have been initiated, for instance in Albania, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. They are led by a NATO member and partner country and funded by countries that wish to join the projects.

OTHER PARTNERSHIPS

NATO's partnerships encompass countries stretching from the Atlantic to Central Asia and the Caucasus. NATO maintains a special relationship with Russia and Ukraine and has also developed relations with Mediterranean countries through the Mediterranean Dialogue (see relevant chapters on these subjects).

In addition, NATO has developed relations with countries in South East Europe - **NATO's South East Europe Initiative** or SEEI - to support regional cooperation, as outlined in the chapter on "NATO in the Balkans".

Furthermore, the Alliance cooperates with countries that have been called the "**triple-nons**". These countries are neither members of the Alliance, its partnerships, nor the Mediterranean Dialogue. They comprise countries such as Argentina, Australia, China, Japan and New Zealand, with which NATO works in different areas.

RECENT SUMMIT AND MINISTERIAL DECISIONS

- Prague, 21-22 November 2002: Heads of State and Government put forward concrete proposals for intensifying cooperation within the PfP and EAPC in the "Report on the Comprehensive Review of the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council and Partnership for Peace"; Adoption of the Partnership Action Plan against Terrorism
- Washington, 25 April 1999: Heads of States and Government endorsed the report "Towards a partnership for the 21st Century – The Enhanced and more Operational Partnership"; Launch of the South East Europe Initiative
- Sintra, 30 May 1997: The EAPC succeeds the North Atlantic Cooperation Council; Enhancement of the PfP
- Brussels, 10 January 1994: Launch of the PfP
- Brussels, 20 December 1991: First meeting of the North Atlantic Cooperation Council.

■ CHRONOLOGY

- 2004 14 January:** NATO celebrates ten years of the PfP.
- 2003 20 May:** During a visit to NATO HQ, Serbian Prime Minister, Zivkovic, expresses Serbia and Montenegro's wish to join PfP.
- 2002 21-22 November:** Prague enhancement package for EAPC and the PfP; Adoption of the Partnership Action Plan against Terrorism.
- 2001 26 October:** NATO celebrates ten years of partnership and cooperation.
12 September: The EAPC condemns the terrorist attacks on the US and expresses solidarity with the American people.
- 2000 September:** Establishment of the Partnership for Peace Trust Fund to assist NATO partner countries in the safe destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines and other munitions.
- 1999 25 April:** At the Washington Summit, approval of the Political-Military Framework for NATO-led PfP Operations (PMF) and launch of an Operation Capabilities Concept (OCC), Individual Partnership Action Plans (IPAPs) and the PfP Training and Education Enhancement Programme (TEEP). The South East Europe Initiative (SEEI) is also established to help integrate countries in the region.

- 1997 30 May:** Concluding meeting of the North Atlantic Cooperation Council and inaugural meeting of the EAPC; The PfP is enhanced to strengthen political consultation, provide greater involvement of partners in PfP decision-making and planning and to develop a more operational role for PfP.
- 1995 19 June:** Agreement among the States Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty and the other States participating in the Partnership for Peace regarding the Status of their Forces.
- 1994 10 January:** Launch of the Partnership for Peace and publishing of the PfP Invitation and Framework Documents.
- 1991 20 December:** Inaugural meeting of the North Atlantic Cooperation Council with the participation of NATO countries and nine Central and Eastern European countries.





■ OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS AND BACKGROUND READING

*Go to the electronic version of the press kit for clickable links
(www.nato.int/istanbul2004/presskit.htm)*

Report on the Comprehensive Review of the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council and Partnership for Peace, Prague, 22 November 2002. Key document giving explanations on the evolution of NATO partnerships, future perspectives and partnership mechanisms

<http://www.nato.int/docu/basicxt/b021121a.htm>

Partnership Action Plan on Terrorism, Prague, 22 November 2002

<http://www.nato.int/docu/basicxt/b021122e.htm>

Chairman's summary of the meeting of the EAPC at summit level, Prague, 22 November 2002

<http://www.nato.int/docu/pr/2002/p02-128e.htm>

Partnership Work Programme for 2002-2003: The PWP lists all activities offered by NATO bodies (HQ, staffs, agencies or schools) and NATO and Partner countries in the framework of PfP

<http://www.nato.int/pfp/docu/pwp0203/pwp0203.htm>

Chairman's summary of the meeting of the EAPC at summit level, Washington D.C, 25 April 1999

<http://www.nato.int/docu/pr/1999/p99-067e.htm>

Key document entitled: "Towards a Partnership for the 21st century - The enhanced and more operational partnership",
15 June 1999, covering PMF, PARP, OCC, IPAP and TEEP
<http://www.nato.int/pfp/docu/d990615g.htm>

Madrid Declaration on Euro-Atlantic Security and Cooperation,
8 July 1997, covering the EAPC in paragraph 9 and the PfP in
paragraph 10
<http://www.nato.int/docu/pr/1997/p97-081e.htm>

Final Communiqué, Ministerial Meeting of the North Atlantic
Council in Sintra, Portugal, 29 May 1997, announcing the
creation of the EAPC and the enhancement of PfP (paragraph 2)
<http://www.nato.int/docu/pr/1997/p97-065e.htm>

North Atlantic Cooperation Council Statement on Dialogue,
Partnership and Cooperation, Brussels, 20 December 1991
<http://www.nato.int/docu/comm/49-95/c911220a.htm>

Module including legal and political texts, and official statements
on the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council and Partnership for
Peace, including the PfP Invitation Document, the PfP
Framework Document, the Basic Document of the EAPC, Action
Plans and Work Plans
<http://www.nato.int/issues/eapc/eapc-off-text.htm>

Official texts related to PfP, including ministerial communiqués
and Partnership Work Programmes
<http://www.nato.int/issues/pfp/pfp.htm>

EAPC member countries, with national links
<http://www.nato.int/pfp/eapc-cnt.htm>



PfP members listed in chronological order of the signing of the Framework Document

<http://www.nato.int/pfp/sig-date.htm>

Celebrating ten years of Partnership for Peace, 10 January 2004

<http://www.nato.int/docu/update/2004/01-january/e0110b.htm>

Celebrating ten years of partnership and cooperation,
26 October 2001

<http://www.nato.int/docu/update/2001/1022/e1026a.htm>

Background information on Partnership for Peace
(pp 67-80 of the NATO Handbook 2001)

<http://www.nato.int/docu/handbook/2001/pdf/handbook.pdf>

Partnership for Peace Trust Fund

<http://www.nato.int/pfp/trust-fund.htm>

EADRCC web site

<http://www.nato.int/eadrcc/home.htm>

Fifth anniversary of the EADRCC

<http://www.nato.int/docu/update/2003/06-june/e0603b.htm>



■ A FEW FACTS AND FIGURES

MEMBERS OF THE EURO-ATLANTIC PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL (46)

This multinational forum is composed of 26 member countries and 20 partner countries, which are all members of PfP.

NATO member countries: Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States

Partner countries: see members of the Partnership for Peace below

MEMBERS OF THE PARTNERSHIP FOR PEACE (20)

Albania, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Croatia, Finland, Georgia, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Moldova, Russia, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan.

