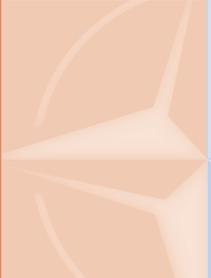


NATO Contact Details

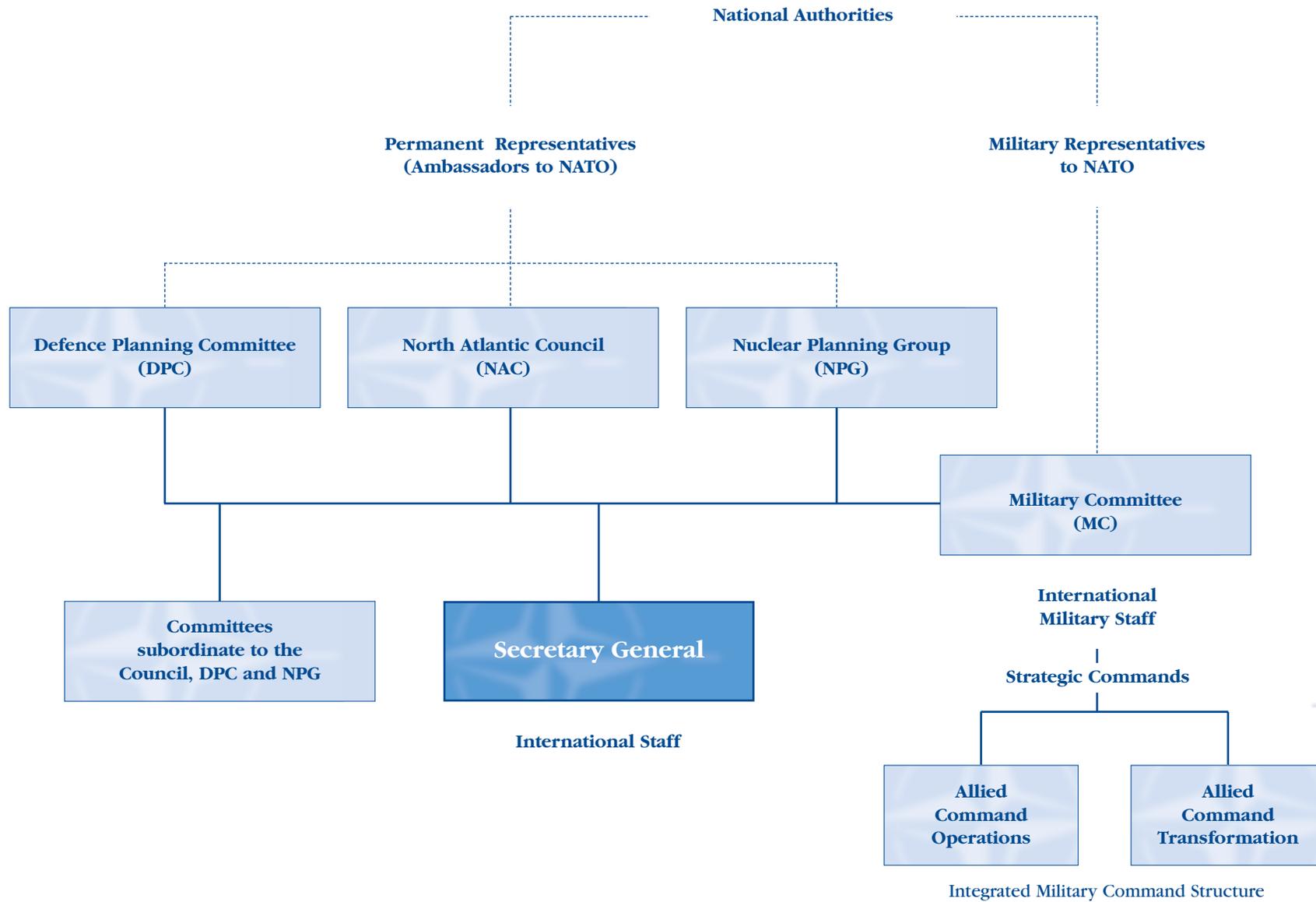
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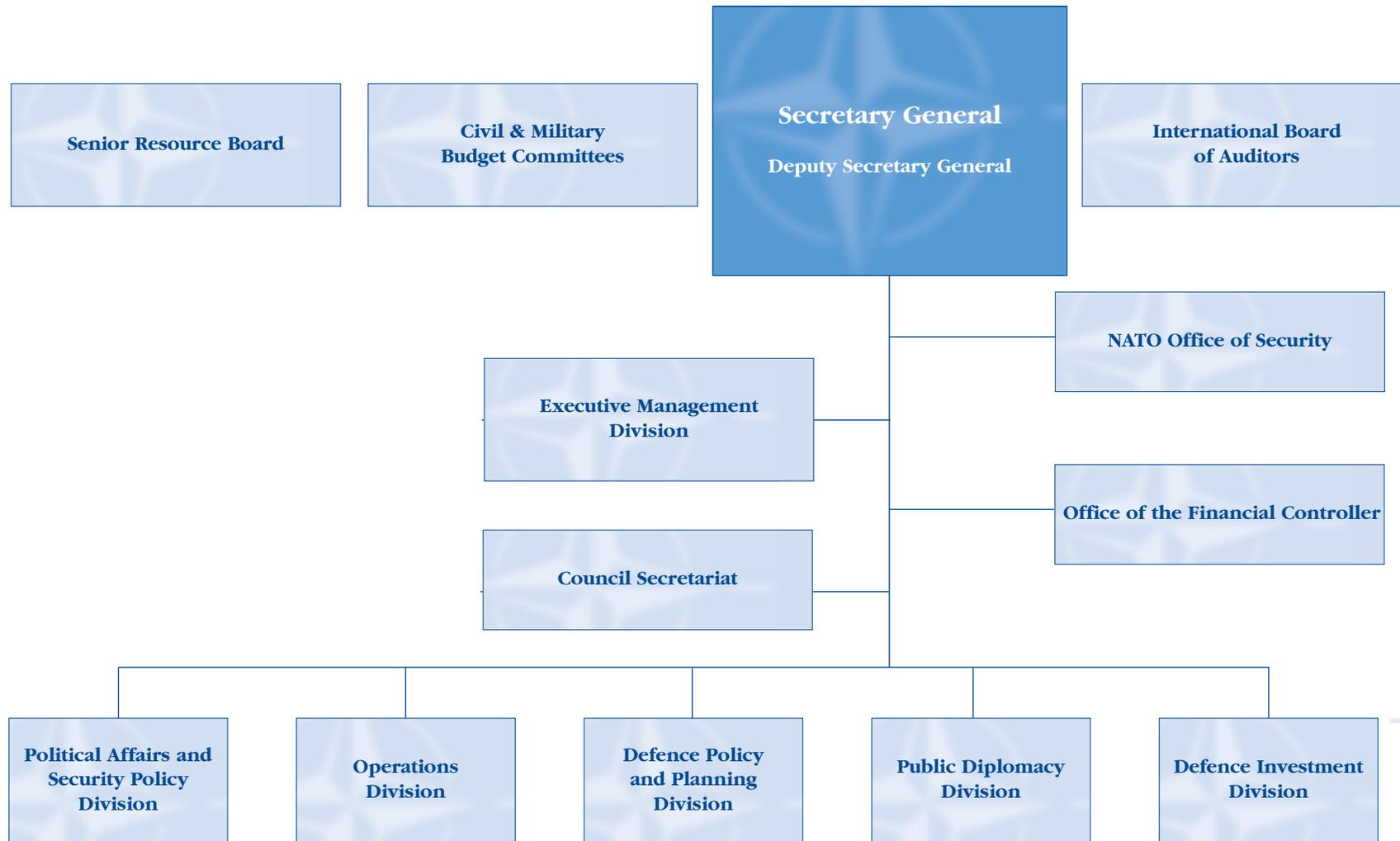
NATO Information Office (Moscow)	
	<p>Ul. Mytnaya 3 119049 Moscow Russian Federation</p> <p>Russian web module: www.nato.int/russia Email: office@nio-moscow.nato.int Tel.: +7 495 937 3640/ 41 Fax: +7 495 937 3809</p>



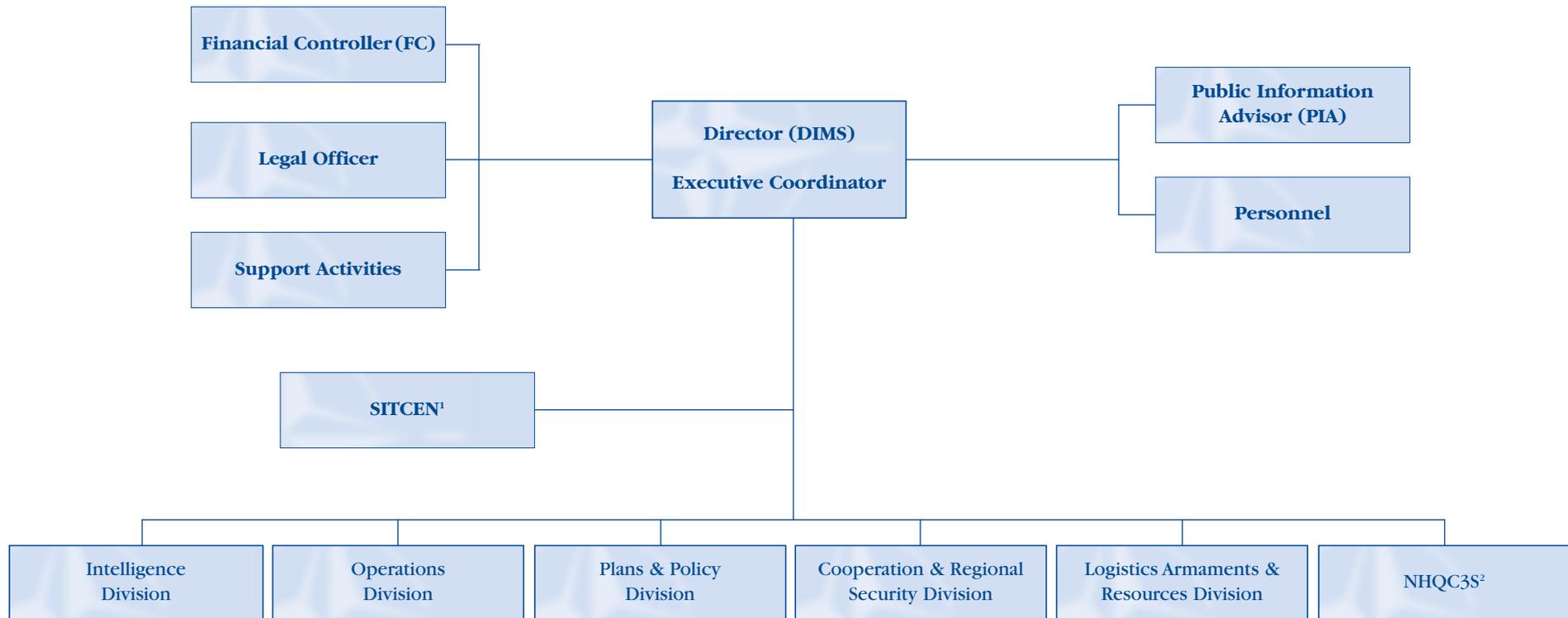
NATO's Civil and Military Structure



International Staff NATO Headquarters, Brussels



International Military Staff NATO Headquarters, Brussels

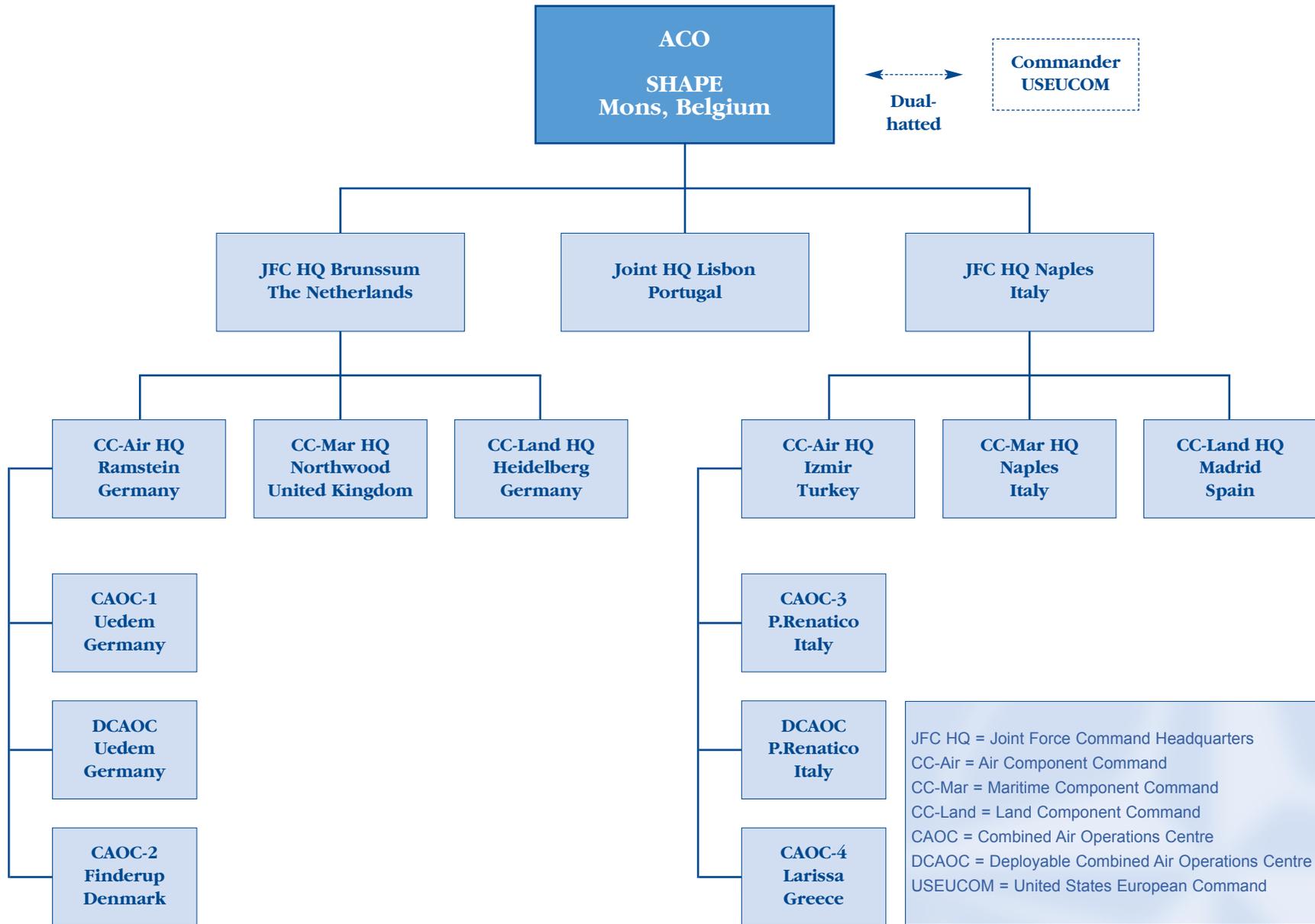


1 The Situation Centre (SITCEN) reports to the Assistant Secretary General for Operations but is directed on a day-to-day basis by the Director of the International Military Staff.

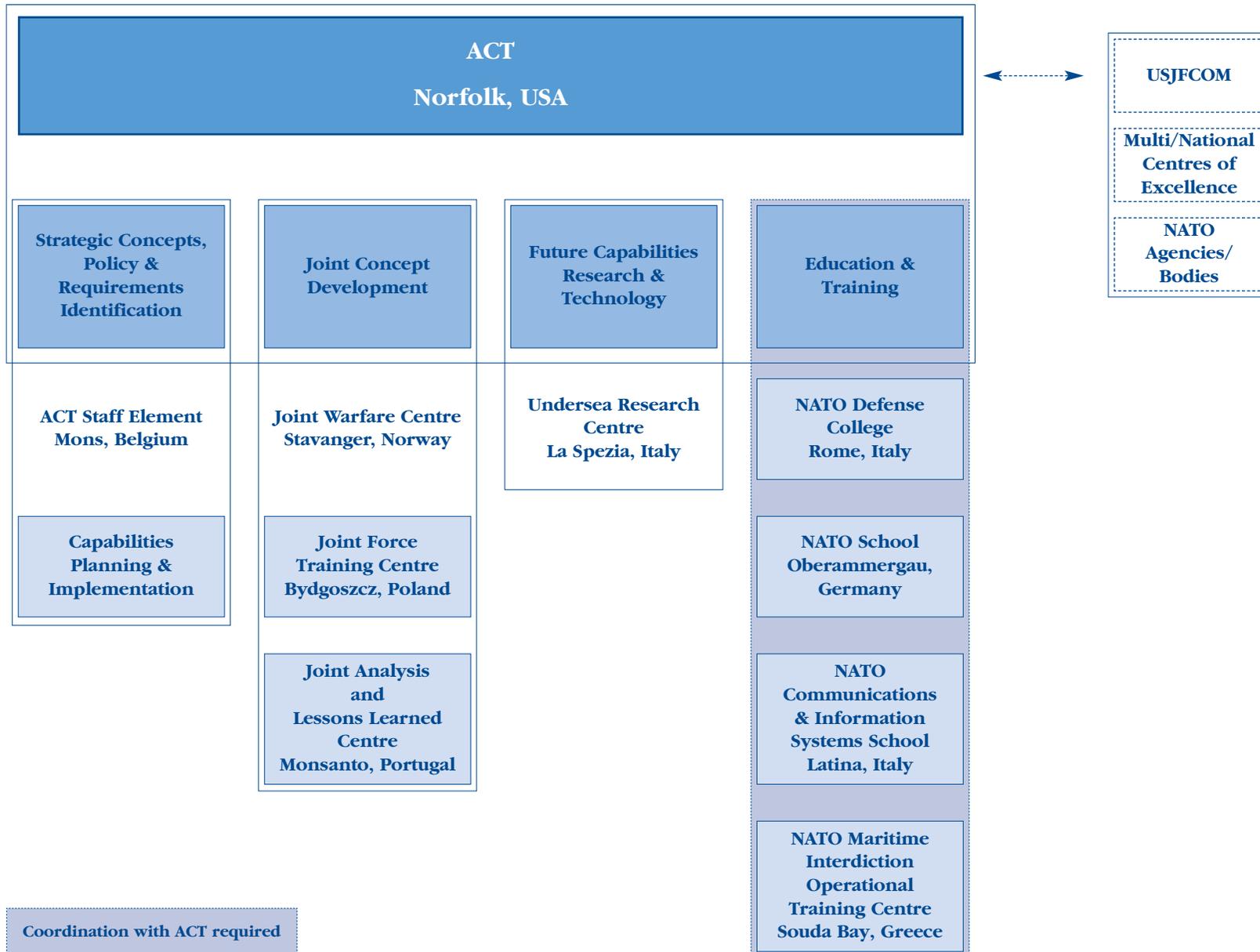
2 The NATO Headquarters Consultation, Command and Control (C3) Staff is managed jointly by the Director (IMS) and the Assistant Secretary General for Defence Investment.



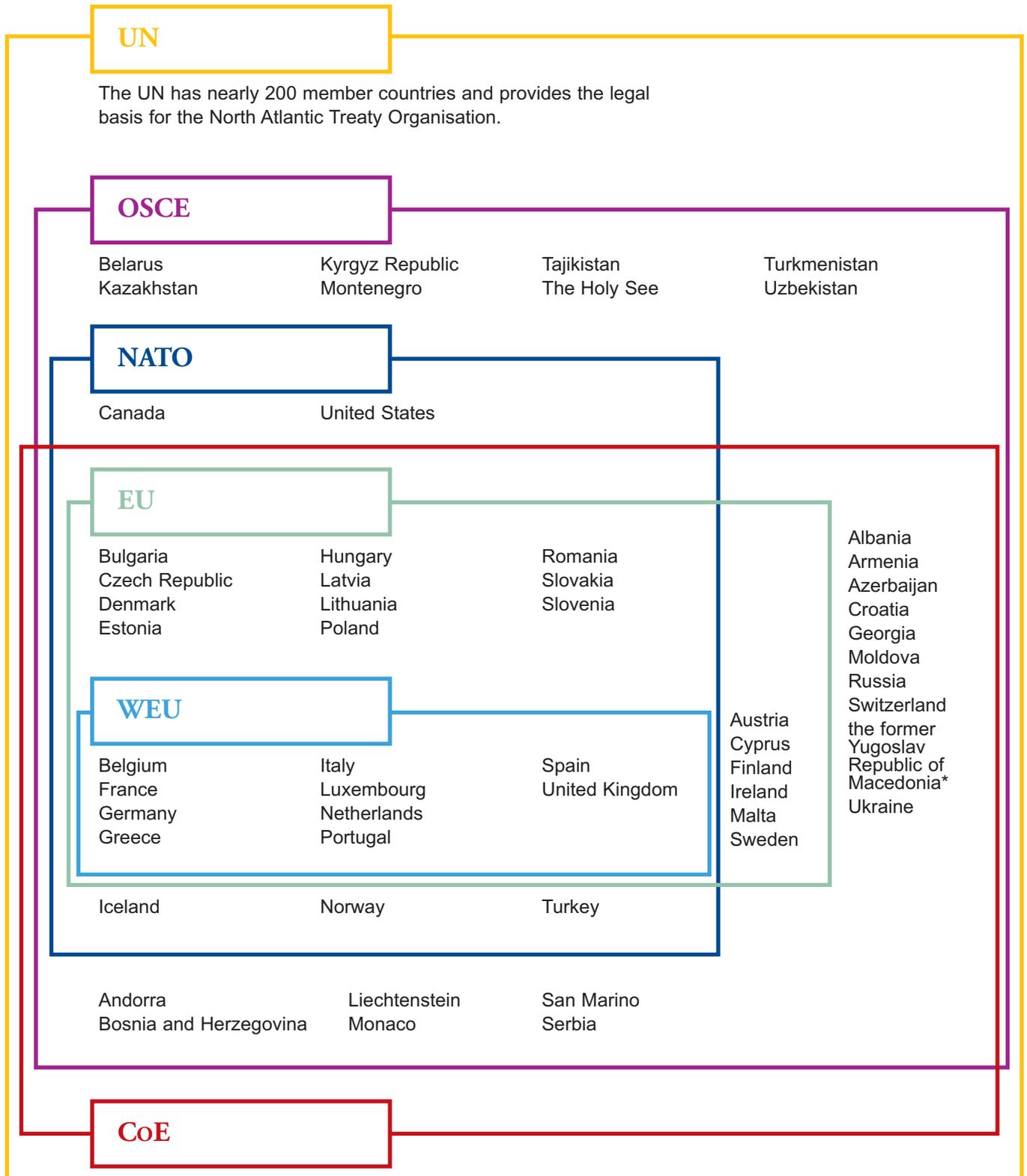
Allied Command Operations



Allied Command Transformation



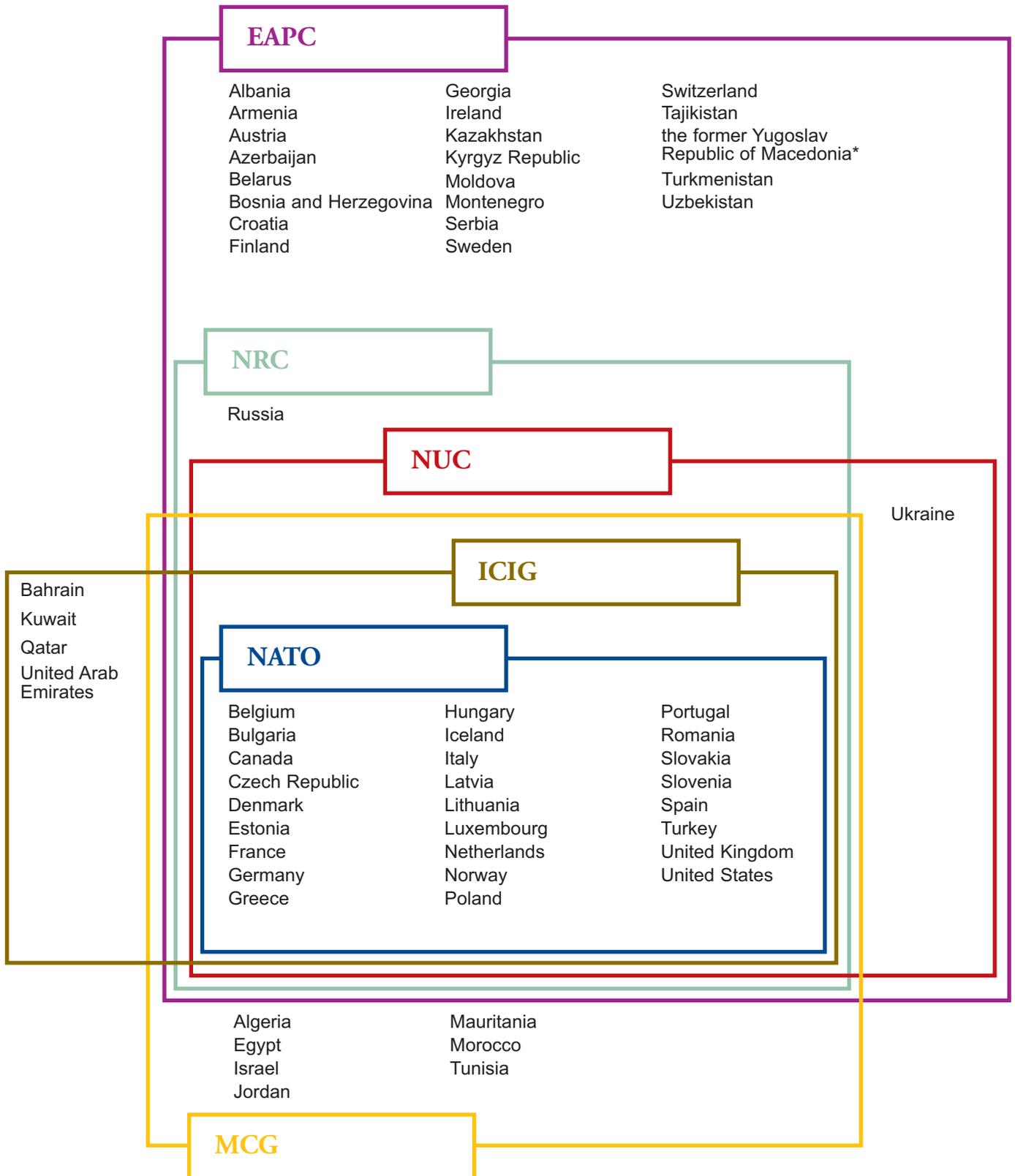
Working with other organisations



* Turkey recognises the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name.



NATO's partnerships



* Turkey recognises the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name.

- EAPC Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council: NATO + Partnership for Peace (PfP) countries
- NRC NATO-Russia Council
- NUC NATO-Ukraine Commission

- NATO North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
- MCG Mediterranean Cooperation Group
- ICIG Istanbul Cooperation Initiative Group



Frequently used acronyms and specialised terms

Active Endeavour

This maritime operation, launched in October 2001, aims to detect and deter terrorist activity in the Mediterranean. NATO ships patrol the area, monitor merchant shipping and, since March 2003, escort civilian shipping through the Straits of Gibraltar and board suspicious vessels. Initially, targeted at the Eastern Mediterranean region, the operation has been extended to the whole of the Mediterranean since March 2004.

Article 5

This article stipulates that if one or more allies are victims of an armed attack, the members of the Alliance will consider this act as an armed attack against them all and will take the actions they deem necessary, individually and jointly, to assist the ally or allies attacked. Article 5 is at the basis of a fundamental principle - that of collective defence.

AWACS Airborne Warning and Control System

The AWACS forms the basis of NATO's air defence system and constitutes a highly mobile surveillance system. The NATO AWACS fleet consists of 17 aircraft which provide an all-altitude warning and detection capability by transmitting data directly from the aircraft to command and control centres on the ground, sea or in the air. There are also three trainer/cargo aircraft used for pilot instruction and cargo and passenger transport.

Berlin Plus

The Berlin Plus arrangements, adopted in March 2003, provide the basis for practical NATO-EU cooperation in crisis management by allowing EU access to NATO's collective assets and capabilities for EU-led operations. The decision to cooperate on security matters goes back to January 2001 when there was an exchange of letters between the NATO Secretary General and the EU Presidency. This was reinforced by the signing of the landmark "NATO-EU Declaration on ESDP" (European Security and Defence Policy) in December 2002.

CFE Treaty Conventional Forces in Europe Treaty

Since the end of the Cold War, NATO Allies and members of the former Warsaw Pact have made major strides in arms control and disarmament. The CFE Treaty, signed in 1990, was a quantum leap forward in efforts to reduce confrontation and increase openness and transparency about military matters in Europe. Adapted to the transformed international environment in 1999, the Treaty has led to the destruction of large quantities of military equipment and involves a regular exchange of information between all participating countries and stringent verification measures.

CJTFs Combined Joint Task Forces

Introduced in 1994, CJTFs equip NATO with multinational and multi-service forces capable of conducting a wide range of military operations at short notice. CJTFs provide the structures needed for the command and control of such forces, facilitate the participation of non-NATO countries in NATO-led operations, and facilitate European-led military operations.

EADRCC Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre

Established in May 1998, this centre is designed to serve as the focal point for the coordination of disaster-relief efforts among EAPC countries in the event of major disasters such as flooding, earthquakes or mass population movements, in close consultation with the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and other international humanitarian organisations.



EAPC Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council

Established in 1997, it is a forum for regular consultation and cooperation between 46 NATO and non-NATO countries on political and security-related issues. It replaces the North Atlantic Cooperation Council (NACC) which was set up in 1991 to encourage dialogue and cooperation between NATO and non-NATO countries in Central and Eastern Europe and in the former Soviet Union.

ICI Istanbul Cooperation Initiative

Launched at the Istanbul Summit in June 2004, this initiative is an offer of cooperation to the broader Middle East region, starting with the countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council.

ISAF International Security Assistance Force

This is a UN-mandated international force created to assist the Afghan Transitional Authority in establishing a secure environment in Kabul and the rest of Afghanistan. NATO has been leading ISAF since August 2003 and is gradually taking over Provincial Reconstruction Teams, which provide security for aid workers and help reconstruction work in the provinces.

KFOR Kosovo Force

NATO-led multinational peacekeeping force established under the auspices of the United Nations, in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution 1244 of 10 June 1999.

MAP Membership Action Plan

The MAP, adopted in 1999, sets out concrete steps to assist aspiring members in their preparations for possible future membership of NATO.

MCG Mediterranean Cooperation Group

Established in 1997, it has overall responsibility for NATO's Mediterranean Dialogue and for conducting political consultations between NATO member countries and individual Mediterranean participants.

Mediterranean Dialogue

In 1994, NATO initiated a security dialogue with Mediterranean countries designed to create good relations and improve mutual understanding. At present, seven countries are involved: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia. They participate in political discussions and activities in fields such as defence reform, the fight against terrorism, science and information.

NAC North Atlantic Council

The representatives of each member country (Permanent Representatives or Ambassadors) meet in what is called the NAC, the organisation's most important political decision-making body. It is chaired by the Secretary General and meets regularly at the level of Ambassadors, at least twice a year at the level of foreign and defence ministers and occasionally at summit level with heads of state and government.

NATO North Atlantic Treaty Organisation

It was created by the Washington Treaty in 1949 to provide collective defence for its members. Since the end of the Cold War, NATO members have significantly reduced and reorganised their military forces and the Alliance's roles and missions have been recast to deal with new security challenges. NATO has also engaged in a series of partnerships with neighbouring countries to reinforce security and stability in the Euro-Atlantic area.



NRC → **NATO-Russia Council**

The NRC is a multilateral forum that was created in May 2002 to develop a qualitatively new political dialogue between NATO Allies and Russia on a wide spectrum of security issues. These include terrorism, crisis management, non-proliferation, arms control and confidence-building measures, theatre missile defence, search and rescue at sea, civil emergencies and new threats and challenges. The NRC replaces the NATO-Russia Permanent Joint Council and operates on the principle of consensus.

NRF → **NATO Response Force**

This is a high-readiness, permanently available, multinational joint force that consists of land, air and sea components, as well as various specialist functions. It has different missions: act as a stand-alone force for crisis response operations and support in a humanitarian crisis situation and counter-terrorism operations; be the initial entry force facilitating the arrival of larger follow-up forces; be used as a show of NATO determination to deter crises. It will be fully operational by October 2006.

NTM-I → **NATO Training Mission-Iraq**

Launched end 2004, the NATO Training Mission-Iraq is involved in training personnel from the Iraqi security forces and coordinating offers of equipment and training from individual NATO and partner countries.

NUC → **NATO-Ukraine Commission**

The NUC meets at least twice a year to review progress in the development of relations between NATO and Ukraine. It was established by the Charter on a Distinctive Partnership between the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation and Ukraine (1997), which commits both parties to consult and cooperate on a wide range of political and security issues.

PCC → **Prague Capabilities Commitment**

In 2002, NATO members made firm, individual commitments to the improvement of their military capabilities through the PCC. The aim of the PCC is to ensure that NATO members are equipped for the full range of the Alliance's modern military missions. It identifies eight areas of improvement which include chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear defence; intelligence, surveillance and target acquisition; air-to-ground surveillance; command, control and communications; combat effectiveness, including precision-guided munitions and suppression of enemy air defences; strategic air and sea lift; air-to-air refuelling; and deployable combat support and combat services support units. This initiative follows on from the Defence Capabilities Initiative (1999), which identified improvements in Alliance capabilities as a whole and focused in particular on interoperability.

PfP → **Partnership for Peace**

Set up in 1994, PfP now consists of 20 Partners which regularly take part in security cooperation programmes, such as military exercises and civil emergency operations. PfP is being developed over time, giving Partners an increased role in planning and directing future NATO programmes.

SACEUR → **Supreme Allied Commander Europe**

SACT → **Supreme Allied Commander Transformation**

The two senior commanders within the Alliance's integrated military structure. SACEUR is at the head of Allied Command Operations whose headquarters (the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe - SHAPE) are located at Mons, Belgium. SACT is at the head of Allied Command Transformation (ACT) whose headquarters are located at Norfolk, Virginia, USA.



Secretary General

The NATO Secretary General is the principal spokesman for the Alliance and the chairman of the North Atlantic Council and other major NATO committees and councils. He is a senior international statesman nominated by member governments. He has the authority to direct consultation and decision-making among members with a view to enabling them to achieve consensus. He is at the head of the International Staff, which supports the work of member countries.

SEEI South East Europe Initiative

The SEEI was launched in 1999 as a mechanism to add further substance, form and direction to ongoing regional cooperation in the Balkans. Various programmes and initiatives contribute to promoting long-term security and stability in the region.

SFOR Stabilisation Force

The NATO-led Stabilisation Force, based on UN Security Council Resolution 1088, was deployed in Bosnia and Herzegovina from December 1996 as part of international efforts to underpin the Dayton Peace Agreement in the former Yugoslavia. It replaced the IFOR (Implementation Force), which was responsible for fulfilling military aspects of the peace agreement under UN Security Council Resolution 1033. It was terminated end 2004 and succeeded by the EU-led operation "Althea".

Strategic Concept

The Strategic Concept, published in 1991 and last revised in 1999, states the Alliance's objectives. It comprises: a broad approach to security, the maintenance of military capabilities, the development of European capabilities within the Alliance, conflict prevention and crisis management, partnerships, enlargement, arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation. As a consequence, there has been a radical restructuring of military command structures and forces, and growing cooperation and dialogue with non-NATO countries.

WEU Western European Union

Established by the 1948 Treaty of Brussels, the WEU has a total of ten members, which are also members of NATO. Under the 1992 Maastricht Treaty, it acted on behalf of the European Union (EU) in defence and security related matters. Since 2000, the operational role of the WEU has been transferred to the EU. Residual WEU responsibilities relating to the Treaty of Brussels are handled by a much-reduced formal political structure and a small secretariat.

WMD Initiative Weapons of Mass Destruction Initiative

Launched in April 1999 to address the risk of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction by intensifying consultations on disarmament and non-proliferation issues. A WMD Centre was set up at NATO HQ in May 2000 to coordinate activities in this field.



Chronology of NATO-related events

- 1949** ■ The North Atlantic Treaty is signed in Washington by Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, the United Kingdom and the United States
- 1950** ■ *The Korean war increases fears of Communist expansionism*
- 1951** ■ Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) opens near Paris
- 1952** ■ Greece and Turkey join NATO
- 1955** ■ The Federal Republic of Germany joins NATO
- *The Warsaw Pact is formed*
- 1956** ■ In the wake of Allied differences over the Suez crisis, the report of the Three Wise Men (foreign ministers of Canada, Italy and Norway) on non-military cooperation sets guidelines for political consultation among Allies and the development of NATO's political role
- *The Soviet Union crushes the Hungarian uprising*
- 1957** ■ *Launching of Sputnik suggests Soviet long-range capability*
- 1961** ■ *Erection of the Berlin wall*
- 1962** ■ *Cuban missile crisis*
- 1966** ■ France withdraws from NATO's integrated military structure
- 1967** ■ NATO HQ and SHAPE relocate to Belgium
- The Harmel Doctrine defines NATO's two main future tasks as defence and détente
- The Allies adopt a strategy of "flexible response", integrating nuclear weapons into the whole of NATO's force structure and adopting high-readiness levels
- 1968** ■ *Warsaw Pact armed forces invade Czechoslovakia*
- 1970** ■ *The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty is signed*
- 1972** ■ *US-Soviet agreements on strategic arms limitations (SALT I) and anti-ballistic missile systems are signed*
- 1973** ■ *The Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) opens in Helsinki*
- In Vienna, NATO and Warsaw Pact countries begin talks on mutual and balanced reductions in conventional forces



- 1974** ■ *Oil price hikes provoke global recession: NATO's concept of security widens to include economic factors*
- 1975** ■ *The Helsinki Final Act of the CSCE recognises Europe's existing frontiers and pledges respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms*
- 1979** ■ *SALT II is signed but not ratified due to the Soviet deployment of SS-20s and the invasion of Afghanistan*
- NATO's double-track decision to deploy Pershing and Cruise missiles, while also pursuing arms control and confidence-building initiatives, paves the way for negotiations on intermediate-range nuclear weapons
- 1981** ■ *Martial law is declared in Poland in the wake of strikes, demonstrations and food shortages*
- *US-Soviet talks on intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) begin*
- 1982** ■ *Spain joins the Alliance (and the integrated military structure in 1998)*
- *US-Soviet strategic arms reduction talks (START) begin but in December the Soviet side walks out of all arms control negotiations*
- 1985** ■ *Mikhail Gorbachev comes to power, initiating a process of reform and openness, and rapprochement with the West*
- 1987** ■ *The INF treaty is signed*
- 1988** ■ *Warsaw Pact countries announce major reductions in conventional forces*
- *Soviet troops start withdrawing from Afghanistan*
- 1989** ■ *The Berlin Wall falls, signalling revolutionary change in the former Eastern bloc and the decline of Communism*
- 1990** ■ *Allied leaders meet in London to adopt a plan to develop cooperation between East and West*
- *Germany is reunified*
- 1991** ■ *The Warsaw Pact is dissolved and the Soviet Union breaks up*
- Allied leaders adopt a new Strategic Concept reflecting Europe's new security environment, reorganise NATO's military command structure, and create the North Atlantic Cooperation Council (NACC) as a forum for consultation and cooperation with new partner countries
- 1992** ■ *NATO offers to support UN peacekeeping activities in the former Yugoslavia*
- 1994** ■ *NATO launches the Partnership for Peace (PfP) programme*
- NATO adopts the Combined Joint Task Forces (CJTF) concept designed to provide more mobile, flexible multinational forces to strengthen the European security and defence role



- 1995**
- NATO launches the Mediterranean Dialogue
 - NATO conducts air operations in Bosnia and Herzegovina against Bosnian Serb forces for 12 days in August and September paving the way for the Dayton Peace Agreement
 - Following the civil war in Bosnia and Herzegovina, a NATO-led Implementation Force (IFOR) deploys to the country with a UN mandate to implement the military aspects of the Dayton peace accords
- 1996**
- Russian forces deploy as part of IFOR along with many other NATO Partner countries
 - IFOR is succeeded by the Stabilisation Force (SFOR)
- 1997**
- The NATO-Russia Founding Act on Mutual Relations, Cooperation and Security is signed, establishing the NATO-Russia Permanent Joint Council
 - The Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council (EAPC) replaces the NACC
 - The Charter on a Distinctive Partnership between NATO and Ukraine is signed, establishing the NATO-Ukraine Commission
- 1999**
- The Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland join the Alliance
 - NATO conducts an air campaign to end ethnic cleansing in Kosovo
 - At NATO's 50th anniversary Summit in Washington, Allied leaders adopt a new Strategic Concept and launch a series of initiatives to prepare NATO for the 21st century
 - A UN-mandated, NATO-led peacekeeping force (KFOR) deploys to Kosovo, where a UN interim administration mission is set up
- 2000**
- *The Russian parliament ratifies the Comprehensive Test Ban treaty and START II*
 - EU-NATO working groups are set up to define new forms of cooperation between the EU and NATO based on the principle of non-duplication and the need to strengthen the European role in the Alliance
- 2001**
- On the request of President Trajkovski, NATO deploys forces to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia¹ to help disarm extremists in the country and to protect civilian monitors
 - NATO helps to defuse the risk of civil conflict in Southern Serbia
 - *On 11 September, large-scale terrorist attacks are perpetrated against the United States*
 - For the first time the North Atlantic Council invokes Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty in response to the terrorist attacks on the United States and provides concrete military support
 - Operation Active Endeavour is launched in October to detect and deter terrorist activity in the Mediterranean

- NATO events
- *International events*

¹ Turkey recognises the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name.



- 2002**
- The NATO-Russia Council is established in Rome, replacing the NATO-Russia Permanent Joint Council
 - NATO states that it will operate when and where necessary to fight terrorism
 - To prepare NATO against new threats the "Summit of Transformation", held in Prague in November, introduces major structural and political reforms, including a NATO Response Force, a Prague Capabilities Commitment, a streamlined military command structure and a Military Concept for Defence against Terrorism; seven partner countries are invited for accession talks
 - NATO and the EU publish a joint declaration on their evolving strategic partnership, facilitating the use of NATO assets and capabilities in EU-led operations
- 2003**
- NATO puts an end to its operations in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia². The mission is taken over by the EU
 - *The United States leads a military campaign against Iraq and overthrows Saddam Hussein's regime*
 - The NATO Response Force (NRF) concept is adopted and NATO's military command structure is streamlined, with the creation of an Allied Command Transformation in the United States and an Operational Command at SHAPE in Europe
 - NATO supports Polish troops in Iraq
 - NATO leads the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan
- 2004**
- *Terrorist attacks in Madrid*
 - Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia join NATO
 - *Transfer of power to Iraqi Interim Government* - NATO commits itself to the training of Iraqi security forces
 - NATO reinforces its Mediterranean Dialogue and, within the Istanbul Cooperation Initiative, offers to cooperate with countries from the broader Middle East region
- 2005**
- NATO agrees to support the expansion of the African Union Mission in Sudan by providing strategic airlift and training
 - *Terrorist attacks in London*
 - NATO provides humanitarian assistance to earth-quake stricken Pakistan

- NATO events
- *International events*

² *Idem*



The Alliance's Strategic Concept

The Strategic Concept is an official document that outlines NATO's enduring purpose and nature and its fundamental security tasks. It also identifies the central features of the new security environment, specifies the elements of the Alliance's broad approach to security and provides guidelines for the further adaptation of its military forces. In sum, the Strategic Concept equips the Alliance for today's security challenges and guides its future political and military development.

The Strategic Concept was first published in 1991 to reflect the security environment of the time and was revised in 1999. The updated Strategic Concept describes:

- the purpose and tasks of the Alliance,
- strategic perspectives,
- the Alliance's approach to security in the 21st century and
- guidelines for the Alliance's forces.

The purpose and tasks of the Alliance

NATO's purpose is primarily to safeguard the freedom and security of all its members by political and military means, to uphold the values of democracy, human rights and the rule of law and contribute to peace and stability of the entire Euro-Atlantic region. To achieve this, NATO performs the following security tasks:

"Security: To provide one of the indispensable foundations for a stable Euro-Atlantic security environment, based on the growth of democratic institutions and commitment to the peaceful resolution of disputes, in which no country would be able to intimidate or coerce any other through the threat or use of force.

Consultation: To serve, as provided for in Article 4 of the Washington Treaty, as an essential transatlantic forum for Allied consultations on any issues that affect their vital interests, including possible developments posing risks for members' security, and for appropriate co-ordination of their efforts in fields of common concern.

Deterrence and Defence: To deter and defend against any threat of aggression against any NATO member state as provided for in Articles 5 and 6 of the Washington Treaty.

And in order to enhance the security and stability of the Euro-Atlantic area:

- *Crisis Management: To stand ready, case-by-case and by consensus, in conformity with Article 7 of the Washington Treaty, to contribute to effective conflict prevention and to engage actively in crisis management, including crisis response operations.*
- *Partnership: To promote wide-ranging partnership, cooperation, and dialogue with other countries in the Euro-Atlantic area, with the aim of increasing transparency, mutual confidence and the capacity for joint action with the Alliance."*



Strategic perspectives

The Strategic Concept describes the evolving strategic environment and assesses foreseeable security challenges and risks. It notes that NATO has played an essential part in strengthening Euro-Atlantic security since the end of the Cold War. In addition, it has successfully adapted itself to enhance its ability to contribute to peace and stability through internal reforms and by developing cooperative relationships with other countries and international organisations.

While the dangers characteristic of the Cold War period have greatly diminished, complex new risks, which threaten Euro-Atlantic peace and stability, have emerged. These include terrorism, ethnic conflict, human rights abuses, political instability, economic fragility, and the spread of nuclear, biological and chemical weapons and their means of delivery.

The approach to security in the 21st century

NATO's approach is based on a broad definition of security which recognises the importance of political, economic, social and environmental factors in addition to the defence dimension. It is based on the following elements:

- The preservation of the transatlantic link
- The maintenance of effective military capabilities for the full range of Alliance missions
- The development of European capabilities within the Alliance
- The continued commitment to conflict prevention and crisis management
- The pursuit of partnership, cooperation and dialogue
- Enlargement and NATO's continued openness to new members
- Support for arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation

Guidelines for the Alliance's forces

The final part of the Strategic Concept establishes guidelines for the Alliance's forces, translating the purposes and tasks of the preceding sections into practical instructions for NATO force and operational planners. The strategy calls for the continued development of the military capabilities needed for the full range of the Alliance's missions, from collective defence to peace support and other crisis-response operations. It also stipulates that the Alliance will maintain for the foreseeable future an appropriate mix of nuclear and conventional forces.



NATO's contribution to the fight against terrorism

Immediately following the terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001, and ever since, NATO Allies have shown a strong determination to play their part in the fight against terrorism. They have demonstrated political solidarity, made concrete military and other practical contributions, and engaged NATO's Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council (EAPC), Partner countries and Mediterranean Dialogue countries. Through surveillance, patrolling and compliant boardings, Operation Active Endeavour, which was launched following the terrorist attacks on the United States, contributes to the enhancement of maritime security in the whole Mediterranean. NATO operations in the Balkans also help to create conditions in which terrorism cannot flourish. Success in the fight against terrorism will be possible only through a sustained, cooperative international effort, in which NATO will continue to play an important role as a platform for political cohesion and unity and multinational military action.

Article 5

On 12 September 2001, less than 24 hours after the terrorist attacks, and for the first time in NATO's history, the Allies invoked Article 5 of the Washington Treaty, declaring the attack against the United States as an attack against them all. Accordingly, each Ally committed itself to assisting the United States by taking such actions as it deemed necessary.

Initial support

On 4 October 2001, in response to requests by the United States, the Allies agreed to take eight measures to expand the options available in the campaign against terrorism. Within this package of measures, Allies agreed to: enhance intelligence sharing; increase protection of key civil and military installations; backfill US military assets; provide the United States with blanket overflight rights and access to ports and airfields; deploy NATO Airborne Early Warning aircraft to patrol US airspace; and deploy NATO naval forces to the eastern Mediterranean.

Operation Active Endeavour

Since October 2001, elements of NATO's Standing Naval Forces have conducted anti-terrorist operations in the Mediterranean. Utilising ships, aircraft and submarine assets, the operation's original mission was to monitor merchant shipping in the Eastern Mediterranean. The mission was expanded in March 2003 to include the escort through the Straits of Gibraltar of ships from Alliance member states requesting it, and further expanded in April 2003 to include compliant boarding of suspicious vessels. In March 2004, the area of operation was extended to the whole of the Mediterranean. EAPC Partners, Mediterranean Dialogue and other countries have been invited to support the operation. At Istanbul, NATO leaders welcomed the offers of support by Russia and Ukraine.

Operation Eagle Assist

From mid-October 2001 to mid-May 2002, NATO Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS) aircraft helped protect the US homeland. 830 crew members from 13 NATO countries flew nearly 4300 hours and over 360 operational sorties. The operation was terminated following a US evaluation of homeland security requirements which assessed that material improvements had been made to the US air defence posture and that cooperation between civil and military authorities had been enhanced.



NATO's Partners

On 12 September 2001, NATO's EAPC Partners condemned the attacks of 11 September, offered their support to the United States and "pledged to undertake all efforts to combat the scourge of terrorism". Allies and Partners actively cooperate in the EAPC in the fight against terrorism, and NATO is also enhancing its consultations with the Mediterranean Dialogue countries.

NATO-Russia

September 11 and the common challenge of terrorism have led to a new quality in NATO-Russia cooperation. The NATO-Russia Council (NRC), launched in May 2002, identifies terrorism as one of several areas for NATO-Russia consultation and practical cooperation. At Istanbul, NRC Foreign Ministers agreed on the development of an Action Plan on Terrorism to coordinate cooperation under the NRC in this field. Other NRC work includes developing joint terrorist threat assessments, analysing proliferation risks and identifying possible counter-measures. Important achievements include: a series of high-level conferences on the role of the military in combating terrorism; consequence-management exercises; and NATO participation in a Russian military exercise, Avaria 2004, in August 2004.

Balkan terrorism

NATO member forces in the Balkans have acted against terrorist groups with links to the *Al-Qaida* network. They continue to contribute to the campaign against terrorism by focusing on the illegal movement of people, arms and drugs, and by working with the authorities throughout the region on border security issues.

ISAF and Operation Enduring Freedom

A considerable number of forces from many NATO member and Partner countries have been involved in two concurrent operations: the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan, a UN-mandated multinational force, and Operation Enduring Freedom, the US-led military operation. ISAF's task is to help stabilise the country and create the conditions for self-sustaining peace. NATO assumed command of ISAF in August 2003.

ISAF

ISAF deployed to the Afghan capital, Kabul, in January 2002. Initially it was under the command of NATO nations acting in a national capacity: the United Kingdom, then Turkey and then the joint command of Germany and the Netherlands. In August 2003, NATO assumed command of the operation and became responsible for ISAF coordination and planning. Under a renewed UN-mandate issued in December 2003, ISAF is progressively expanding beyond Kabul.

Operation Enduring Freedom

Many of the NATO Allies have had forces directly involved in Operation Enduring Freedom. Contributions include special forces and land forces, as well as planes and ships for surveillance, interdiction and interception operations.

NATO's Partners

The efforts made by NATO over the past decade to engage its Partner countries, and the practical experience of Partner participation in operations, especially the NATO-led ISAF, have contributed significantly to the success of operations against terrorism. Several Partners have forces deployed in ISAF; Partners in the Caucasus and Central Asia have provided crucial support for basing and overflight; and Russia has also been lending support.



Adapting NATO to the challenge of terrorism

While NATO's contribution to the fight against terrorism has already been significant, further efforts are underway to better equip the Alliance, and to allow it to play its full part in what will inevitably be a long-term struggle. NATO's 2002 Prague Summit agreed a wide range of measures to enhance NATO's role in this fight. The 2004 Istanbul Summit further enhanced these measures with a special focus on improving intelligence-sharing, expanding operations in Afghanistan, enhancing Operation Active Endeavour, and further deepening cooperation with partners and other international organisations.

Enhanced intelligence-sharing

At Istanbul, Allied leaders agreed to improve intelligence-sharing. The Alliance intelligence structure is under review and a new Terrorist Threat Intelligence Unit has been created.

Assistance to protect selected major events

NATO has provided NATO Airborne Early Warning support and other forms of assistance including in the field of civil emergency planning support to Allied countries hosting major events, such as high-level NATO and EU meetings.

Protection of civilian populations

Allies' and NATO's ability to respond rapidly to national requests for support to help protect against and deal with the consequences of a terrorist incident is being further enhanced. NATO Allies and EAPC Partners have established an inventory of national civil and military capabilities that could be made available to assist stricken nations. They are also implementing the Civil Emergency Action Plan for the Improvement of Civil Preparedness Against Possible Attacks Against the Civilian Population with Chemical, Biological, or Radiological Agents.

Military concept

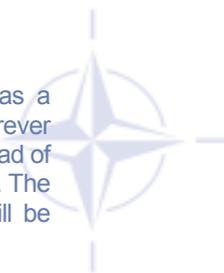
NATO's military concept for defence against terrorism, adopted at the Prague Summit, underlines the Alliance's readiness: to act against terrorist attacks, or the threat of such attacks, directed from abroad against the populations, territory, infrastructure and forces of Alliance countries; to provide assistance to national authorities in dealing with the consequences of terrorist attacks; to support operations by the European Union (EU) or other international organisations or coalitions involving Allies; and to deploy forces as and where required to carry out such missions.

New capabilities

At Prague, Allies committed themselves to improve and develop new military capabilities to deal with contemporary threats. They agreed a package, known as the Prague Capabilities Commitment, which sets out specific capability improvements relevant to all of NATO's missions, including the struggle against terrorism, and contains firm national commitments to acquire them. This effort will also benefit EU efforts to enhance European capabilities. At Istanbul, NATO leaders approved a series of measures for the further enhancement of capabilities to defend against terrorist attacks, including through the development of new advanced technologies in the armaments field which address among other things, the protection of civilian airliners from shoulder-launched missiles, the protection of harbours and vessels, and defence against improvised explosive devices.

NATO Response Force

Bringing together forces from both sides of the Atlantic, the NRF is conceived as a technologically advanced and highly flexible force, ready to move quickly to wherever needed, as decided by the North Atlantic Council. The NRF has already stood up ahead of schedule, and is planned to have full operating capability no later than October 2006. The NRF and the EU's "Headline Goal" of creating an EU rapid-reaction capability will be mutually reinforcing, while respecting the autonomy of both organisations.



NATO's military command arrangements

NATO has already made its military command arrangements leaner, more efficient, effective and deployable, with a view to meeting the operational requirements for the full range of Alliance missions, including the fight against terrorism. With the European-based Supreme Command now focused exclusively on operations, the US-based Supreme Command has been reorganised to lead NATO military transformation.

Defence against weapons of mass destruction

The Alliance's capabilities effort includes a focus on defence against biological and chemical weapons. Specifically, NATO has five concrete initiatives underway: a deployable nuclear, biological and chemical (NBC) analytical laboratory; an NBC event response team; a virtual centre of excellence for NBC weapons defence; a NATO biological and chemical defence stockpile; and a disease surveillance system. In addition, the NATO Multinational CBRN Defence Battalion, designed to respond to and manage the consequences of the use of weapons of mass destruction, became fully operational in June 2004.

Partnership Action Plan on Terrorism

The PAP-T provides a framework for NATO-Partner cooperation against terrorism, defining partnership roles as well as instruments for fighting terrorism and managing its consequences. NATO's Mediterranean Dialogue partners participate in activities under the PAP-T on a case-by-case basis.

Missile defence

Allies are examining options for addressing the increasing missile threat to Alliance territory, forces and population centres in an effective and efficient way through an appropriate mix of political and defence efforts, along with deterrence.

Cyberdefence

Efforts are also underway within the Alliance to better protect against, and otherwise prepare for, a possible disruption by terrorists of NATO and national critical infrastructure assets, including information and communications systems.

Cooperation with other international organisations

NATO has deepened its relations with other international organisations so that information is shared and appropriate action taken more effectively in the common fight against terrorism. The Alliance and the EU consult regularly, share information on their respective actions, and have exchanged Civil Emergency Planning inventories. NATO contributes actively to the work of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee and other UN bodies contributing to the fight against terrorism, such as the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). There are regular consultations between the Alliance and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). And NATO works together with EUROCONTROL, the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) and the International Air Transport Association (IATA) to improve civil-military coordination in air traffic control.

