



# The European Security and Defence Identity

- **The development of the European Security and Defence Identity** within the Alliance is designed to strengthen European participation in security matters while reinforcing transatlantic cooperation. ESDI is being developed in the context of complementary initiatives being undertaken by other mutually reinforcing institutions such as the Western European Union (WEU).
- **NATO and the WEU** are developing close links through joint meetings and exercises and regular consultation. Cooperation between the NATO and WEU Councils facilitates the implementation of the Combined Joint Task Force (CJTF) concept, developed to respond to the need for easily deployable, multinational, multi-service military formations. CJTFs operate within NATO and could also be used for operations led by the WEU.
- **CJTFs provide the command and control arrangements** needed to allow military forces to operate effectively by creating integrated headquarters composed of military elements suited to the task to be undertaken. Their military tasks include humanitarian relief, peacekeeping and peace enforcement as well as collective defence.

