**Mission:** Conduct military operations in the assigned area of operations to assist the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GIRoA) in the establishment and maintenance of a safe and secure environment with full engagement of Afghan National Security Forces, in order to extend government authority and influence, thereby facilitating Afghanistan’s reconstruction and enabling the GIRoA to exercise its sovereignty throughout the country.

**Key Facts:**
- Commander: General (USA) David D. McKiernan
- 41 Troop Contributing Nations
- ISAF Total Strength: approx 51,100
- ISAF AOR (Afghanistan land mass) 650,000 km²
- 26 Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRTs)

**Note on numbers:** Totals are approximations and actual numbers change daily. Number of troops will never be exact and should be taken as summaries.

**Regional Command Capital:** (apprx strength 5,850)
- HQ ISAF in Kabul (Composite)
- HQ RC(C) in Kabul (FRA)
- KAIA (HUN)

**Regional Command North:** (apprx strength 4,690)
- HQ RC(N) in MAZAR-E-SHARIF (DEU)
- Forward Support Base MAZAR-E-SHARIF (DEU)
- PRT MAZAR-E-SHARIF (SWE)
- PRT FEYZABAD (DEU)
- PRT KONDUZ (DEU)
- PRT POL-E KHOMRI (HUN)
- PRT MEYMANA (NOR)

**Regional Command South:** (apprx strength 17,900)
- HQ RC(S) in KANDAHAR (NLD) (rotates CAN, NLD, GBR)
- Forward Support Base Kandahar (multinational)
- PRT KANDAHAR (CAN)
- PRT LASHKAR-GAH (GBR, DNK, EST)
- PRT TARIN KOWT (NLD,AUS)
- PRT QALAT (USA,ROU)

**Regional Command West:** (apprx strength 3,000)
- HQ RC(W) in HERAT (ITA)
- Forward Support Base HERAT (ESP)
- PRT HERAT (ITA)
- PRT FARAH (USA)
- PRT QALA-E-NOW (ESP)
- PRT CHAGHCHARAN (LTU)

**Regional Command East:** (apprx strength 19,660)
- HQ RC(E) in BAGRAM
- Forward Support Base BAGRAM (USA)
- PRT LOGAR (CZE)
- PRT SHARANA (USA)
- PRT KHOST (USA)
- PRT METHER LAM (USA)
- PRT BAMYAN (NZL)
- PRT PANJSHIR (USA)
- PRT JALALABAD (USA)
- PRT GHAZNI (USA)
- PRT ASADABAD (USA)
- PRT BAGRAM (USA)
- PRT NURISTAN (USA)
- PRT WARDAK (TUR)
- PRT GARDEZ (USA)

Current as of 25 November 2008
**NATO Mission In Afghanistan**: On 9th August 2003, NATO assumed authority for the ISAF mission. The NATO mission consists of 5 phases:

- Phase 1  Assessment and Preparation, including operations in Kabul (completed)
- Phase 2  Geographic expansion (completed)
- Phase 3  Stabilization
- Phase 4  Transition
- Phase 5  Reposition

**Expansion**: In October 2003, the UN Security Council authorized the expansion of the NATO mission beyond Kabul. In October 2004, Stage 1 of the expansion to the North was completed with Stage 2 in the West following in September 2005. Stage 3 of the expansion to include the South was completed on 31 July 2006 and Stage 4 to include the East occurred on 5th October 2006, at which stage the geographic expansion phase was completed.

**Troop Contributing Nations (TCN)**: The ISAF mission consists of the following 41 nations (the troop numbers are based on broad contribution and do not reflect the exact numbers on the ground at any one time).

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* Turkey recognises the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name  
Current as of 25 November 2008