

Hungary

In 2008 - according to our operational level of ambition - Hungary deployed an average of 1,000 personnel in Crisis Response Operations of which 75% were in NATO and 25% in non-NATO operations. The Hungarian Defence Forces (HDF) are participating in Kosovo Force (KFOR), International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), NATO Training Mission in Iraq (NTM-I) and several EU, UN, OSCE missions and in Multinational Force and Observers (MFO). More than 500 troops served in the Balkans and about 370 in Afghanistan at any given time.

The land forces strength of the HDF was 10,505 in 2008, of which 1,964 personnel were deployable and 1,250 sustainable, constituting 18.7% and 11.9% respectively. The land forces' overall strength in 2017 will be 11,080 personnel, of which 6,526 will be deployable and 1,250 sustainable, amounting to 58.9% and 11.2%.

Hungary has been leading the Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) in Pol-e Khumri, Baghlan province of Afghanistan for three years. The mandate of the PRT will expire in October 2009. Currently we are preparing the decision on the extension of our PRT lead nation role. Besides managing the PRT, Hungary took over the lead nation role of Kabul International Airport (KAIA) in October 2008 (for a six month period), and deployed an Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team (OMLT) and a Special Operational Forces (SOF) team. Deploying a second OMLT and contributing to the Election Support Forces in Afghanistan in 2009 is under planning.

In 2008 Hungary made a successful effort to rearrange and concentrate its troop contribution in the Balkans. After the withdrawal of KFOR Guard and Security Battalion from Pristina in August 2008, the HDF took over the lead nation role of the multinational battalion within the Multinational Task Force – West (MNTF-W) in Peč creating a manoeuvre battalion on the basis of the former KFOR Coy until March 2009.

Hungary supports the NATO Response Force (NRF) and European Union Battlegroups (EUBG). Its NRF participation consisted of 105 personnel for the first half (NRF10) and 60 for the second half of 2008 (NRF11).

According to the Mid-term Operational Concept (2009-2015), Hungary will maintain its operational level of ambition. Based on the continuous mission assessment there could be changes in tasks and types of contribution.

Further information about the Hungarian Defence Forces can be found on

<http://www.hm.gov.hu/news>

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