

NATO Mission Iraq (NMI)

At the NATO Summit in Brussels in July 2018, Allied leaders launched NATO Mission Iraq following a request from the Iraqi government. The new, non-combat training and advisory mission was established in Baghdad in October 2018. The mission's current Commander is Major General Jennie Carignan of Canada.

NATO Mission Iraq assists Iraq to strengthen, train and educate sustainable, transparent, inclusive and effective security institutions and armed forces, so they can protect Iraqi sovereignty and ensure that ISIS/Daesh does not return. A key focus for the mission is to train the trainers in Iraq's professional military training and education institutions. As a non-combat mission, NATO personnel does not deploy alongside Iraqi forces during their operations. Working in close collaboration with the Iraqi Ministry of Defence, the mission also only trains members of the Iraqi security institutions and forces who are under the direct control of the Government of Iraq. In addition, NATO advises relevant Iraqi defence and security officials in the Ministry of Defence, the Office of the National Security Advisor, and the Prime Minister's National Operations Centre. In all of its activities, NATO Mission Iraq promotes inclusiveness, gender awareness and respect for international humanitarian law and human rights.

NATO Mission Iraq is in Iraq upon an invitation by the Government of Iraq. The mission's activities are agreed by the Iraqi government and conducted with full respect for Iraq's sovereignty, territorial integrity and all relevant decisions of the parliament and government of Iraq. Our mission focuses its efforts on several Iraqi professional military education institutions and training schools in Baghdad, Besmayah and Taji.

Baghdad:

- Ministry of Defence
- Office of the National Security Advisor
- Prime Minister's National Operation Centre
- Defence University for Military Studies
- Computer Science School
- Military Medical School



NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg meets leaders, instructors and students at the Iraqi School of Military Communications in Taji.



Major General Jennie Carignan



NATO Mission Iraq medical advisors are supporting the Iraqi Department of Military Medical Affairs in further developing military medical instruction.

Besmayah:

- Iraqi Army Bomb Disposal School
- Iraqi Armour School

Taji:

- School of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering
- School of Military Engineering
- School of Transportation and Supply
- School of Administration and Logistics
- School of Military Communications
- Military Intelligence and Security School
- Non Commissioned Officers Academy



NATO Mission Iraq Gender Advisor presents during a Code of Conduct and Harassment Course in Baghdad area.

NATO also complements the broader international effort to help Iraq eradicate terrorism and promote stability. NATO Mission Iraq coordinates closely with other stakeholders, such as Operation Inherent Resolve, the United Nations, and the European Union. NATO is also a member of the Global Coalition to Defeat ISIS/Daesh, which the alliance supports through AWACS intelligence flights.

In March 2020, NATO Mission Iraq temporarily suspended its training and relocated some personnel outside Iraq. This decision was due to the COVID-19 crisis and the security situation in Iraq. However, the mission maintains a presence in Iraq. NATO's personnel in Iraq, together with their Iraqi counterparts, keep on planning future activities aimed at making the Iraqi forces stronger, more sustainable and more inclusive.

At their meeting in February 2020, NATO Defense Ministers reaffirmed their support to Iraq, and agreed in principle to enhance NATO's training mission. The alliance will implement this decision in close consultation and coordination with the Iraqi government and in light of the evolving situation on the ground.

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