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### The Substantial NATO-Georgia Package

The Substantial NATO-Georgia Package (SNGP) aims to strengthen Georgia's ability to defend itself and advance its preparations for NATO membership. The package is composed of defence and related security capacity building initiatives. It involves support for all military services and branches, advice and liaison at all echelons (strategic, operational, tactical), capacity-building and training activities, multinational exercises. As of early 2022, all NATO members and two partner countries have provided support to the implementation of the package in the form of expertise and resources.

#### **Defence Institution Building School**

The Defence Institution Building School is one of 16 interrelated initiatives under the SNGP and a flagship institution for defence and related security capacity building activities. It offers professional development programmes and instructions to support institutional development of the Georgian defence and security sector, mirroring the Allies' standards of defence transformation in its learning and development procedures. Inaugurated in June 2016, the school has already provided high-level training and education to more than 5,800 Georgian and 430 foreign participants, both civilian and military.

The school fosters the professional and institutional development of the Georgian defence and security sector, promotes a common understanding of security and defence policies across government and civil society, and improves Georgia's security sector cooperation with regional countries, NATO Allies and partners.

Since the beginning, the Clingendael Institute, also known as the Netherlands Institute of International Relations, has partnered with the school to provide capacity-building and mentorship. An embedded NATO advisory team, led by Germany and supported by Slovakia, has also supported the school's mission. The school also benefits from close cooperation with NATO Centres of Excellence, training and education institutions, and NATO capacity-building programmes like Building Integrity (BI) and the Professional Development Programme.



In 2022, the school expects to achieve institutional accreditation through the implementation of NATO's Quality Assurance Concept. It also plans to serve as a platform for sharing knowledge and experience regarding Black Sea security. As a first step towards accreditation, the school's Strategic Communications course was "NATO Selected" in May 2020 and is now listed on NATO's electronic education and training opportunities catalogue (ETOC).

In-kind support for the school has been provided by Estonia, Italy, Norway, Romania, the United Kingdom, the United States and partner countries Finland and Sweden. It also financially benefits from the support of NATO's Defence and Related Security Capacity Building Trust Fund. Contributing countries include Germany, Luxembourg, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Slovakia and Turkey.

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