

NATO Readiness Initiative

On 7 June 2018, Allies agreed a NATO Readiness Initiative.

Allies have committed, by 2020, to having

30 battalions;

30 air squadrons; and

30 naval combat vessels

Ready to use within **30** days.

The initiative aims to enhance the readiness of existing national forces, and their ability to move within Europe and across the Atlantic – in response to a more unpredictable security environment.

This is not about new forces but about increasing the readiness of forces Allies already have – forces that could be made available for collective defence and crisis response operations.

The initiative builds on a series of steps taken to increase the readiness of Allied forces.

Over the past few years, the Alliance has tripled the size of the NATO Response Force to around 40,000 troops, with a new 5,000-strong Spearhead Force at its core. NATO has also deployed four multinational battlegroups to the Baltic States and Poland, increased its presence in the Black Sea region, and set up a number of small headquarters to link national and NATO forces.



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