



Resolute Support Mission



Resolute Support Mission (RSM): Key Facts and Figures

DISCLAIMER

The following document is intended to provide basic information, releasable to the public, about the nature, mandate, and scope of the NATO-led Resolute Support mission (RSM). The troop numbers reported in the second page reflect the overall presence in Afghanistan of each contributing nation. They are based on information provided directly from contributing nations and may include forces deployed in a support role for RSM. They should be taken as indicative as they change regularly, in accordance with the deployment procedures of the troop contributing nations.

Mission: The Resolute Support mission (RSM) is a new NATO-led mission to train, advise and assist the Afghan security forces and institutions. The mission was launched on 1 January 2015, immediately following the stand-down of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF).

The legal framework for the Resolute Support mission is provided by a Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA), signed in Kabul on 30 September 2014 and ratified by the Afghan Parliament on 27 November 2014. The SOFA defines the terms and conditions under which NATO forces are deployed, as well as the activities they are authorised to carry out. The mission is also supported by the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2189, unanimously adopted on 12 December 2014.

The Resolute Support Mission currently consists of around 16,000 troops from 39 NATO Allies and partners. Qatar and the United Arab Emirates have been invited to attend the meeting on Afghanistan at the level of Heads of State and Government on 12 July 2018. Both are finalizing the details of their respective offers to the Resolute Support Mission. Their contributions will be reflected in the next iteration of this placemat.

The mission operates with one 'hub' (Kabul/Bagram) and four 'spokes' (Mazar-e-Sharif in the north, Herat in the west, Kandahar in the south, and Laghman in the east). It carries out training, advice and assistance activities in support of the Afghan government's four-year security roadmap (launched in 2017), which aims to increase the effectiveness and accountability of the Afghan national security forces and institutions. The roadmap focuses on leadership development, fighting capabilities (with an emphasis on the Afghan special operations forces and the air force), unity of command and fighting corruption. The mission also performs supporting functions in several areas. These include: operational planning; budgetary development; force generation process; management and development of personnel; logistical sustainment; and civilian oversight in order to ensure the Afghan security forces and institutions act in accordance with the rule of law and good governance.

Those countries not contributing troops to the Resolute Support Mission are supporting this mission in different ways, as well as the broad effort to strengthen the sustainment of the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces (ANDSF) in the long term.

Beyond this training, advice and assistance mission, Allies and partner countries will also contribute to the financing of the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces, and will enhance the Enduring Partnership with Afghanistan, by strengthening political consultations with the country and by strengthening practical cooperation in areas of specific interest for Afghanistan.

These efforts are part of the broader engagement of the international community in Afghanistan to ensure that Afghanistan is never again a safe haven for terrorism.

Commander: [General John W. Nicholson \(USA\)](#)

NATO Senior Civilian Representative: [Ambassador Cornelius Zimmermann \(DEU\)](#)

39 Contributing Nations
RSM Total Strength: 16,229

RSM Command in KABUL

RSM Headquarters

Commander: [General John W. Nicholson \(USA\)](#)

RSM Command in KABUL

Deputy Commander: [Lieutenant General Richard Cripwell \(UK\)](#)

Train, Advise and Assist Command (TAAC) Capital:

Headquarter TAAC(C) in Kabul (TUR)

Commander: [Brigadier General Tayyar Aydin \(TUR\)](#)

Train, Advise and Assist Command (TAAC) North:

Headquarter TAAC(N) in Mazar-e Sharif (DEU)

Commander: [Brigadier General Wolf-Jürgen Stahl \(DEU\)](#)

Train, Advise and Assist Command (TAAC) East:

Headquarter TAAC(E) in Laghman (USA)

Commander: [Brigadier General John W. Brennan Jr. \(USA\)](#)

Train, Advise and Assist Command (TAAC) South:

Headquarter TAAC(S) in Kandahar (USA)

Commander: [Brig. Gen. Jeffrey D. Smiley \(USA\)](#)

Train, Advise and Assist Command (TAAC) West:

Headquarter TAAC(W) in Herat (ITA)

Commander: [Brig. Gen. Francesco Bruno \(ITA\)](#)






























Train, Advise and Assist Command (TAAC) Air:

Commander: [Brig. Gen. Joel L. Carey \(USA\)](#)

Resolute Support Mission

Troop Contributing Nations



	Albania	136		Germany	1.300		Portugal	193
	Armenia	121		Greece	6		Romania	693
	Australia	300		Hungary	93		Slovakia	36
	Austria	17		Iceland	2		Slovenia	8
	Azerbaijan	120		Italy	895		Spain	40
	Belgium	78		Latvia	37		Sweden	29
	Bosnia-Herzegovina	63		Lithuania	50		the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia ¹	47
	Bulgaria	158		Luxembourg	2		Turkey	506
	Croatia	105		Mongolia	120		Ukraine	11
	Czech Republic	281		Montenegro	20		United Kingdom	650
	Denmark	155		Netherlands	160		United States	8.475
	Estonia	40		New Zealand	13			
	Finland	29		Norway	55			
	Georgia	870		Poland	315		Total	16.229

1 Turkey recognises the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name.

2 See links to media backgrounder on "[NATO-Afghanistan relations \(July 2018\)](#)" and to media backgrounder on the [ANA Trust Fund](#).