

1994 JAN

Launch Partnership for Peace (PfP) Programme

1999 APR

Washington Summit

Launch Training and Education Enhancement Programme

2004 JUN

Istanbul Summit
Partnership Action Plan on Defence Institution Building

2006 JAN

Education and Training for Defence Reform Initiative (Efr)

2007 DEC

Launch DEEP by NATO and PfP Consortium

2011 APR

NATO Foreign Ministerial

Defence Education marked as priority area

2014 SEP

Wales Summit
Launch Defence Capacity Building Initiative

2016 FEB

Warsaw Summit

Projecting Stability through DEEP

2017 JAN

10 Years of DEEP



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DEFENCE EDUCATION ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMME (DEEP)

An Introduction to the Defence Education Enhancement Programme

At the NATO Summit in Istanbul in 2004, Allies launched the Partnership Action Plan on Defence Institution Building (PAP-DIB). To support the implementation of the defence education component of PAP-DIB, Allies launched the Education and Training for Defence Reform Initiative in 2006 which led to the development of DEEP by NATO together with the Partnership for Peace (PfP) Consortium.

The Importance of Defence Education

Education matters. Defence education plays a crucial role in developing stable defence and military institutions. Defence education contributes to NATO's efforts to project stability and build defence. It is key to develop professional military leaders who make responsible decisions based on a profound understanding of the complexity of modern defence and security issues, professional excellence, interoperability, and a set of fundamental values and norms.

“The Defence Education Enhancement Programme helps partners to build, develop and reform military educational institutions. It is a concrete example of the value of NATO partnerships.”

Jens Stoltenberg

Secretary General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization

May 2018

The DEEP A-B-C

DEEP is a vehicle for reform that provides tailored, practical support to countries in developing and reforming their professional and military education institutions. DEEP works with partner nations to help identify the needs and gaps. The three main components – *curriculum development, faculty development and institutional reform* – are bolstered by dialogue between institutions in partner and NATO countries, as well as peer-to-peer consultations among subject matter experts (SMEs).

Curriculum development – What to teach?

To develop specific curricula on virtually any subject requested by the partner nation through cooperation between DEEP and military education institutions.

Faculty development – How to teach?

DEEP features specialized engagement on pedagogy to provide institutions and instructors with access to the latest teaching methods to support the critical thinking.

Institutional Reforms – How to do it in Practice?

DEEP helps individual partner countries to modernise and professionalise the organisational structure of their educational institutions. It also helps to review or establish national concepts of military education to guide those institutions through the education process at all levels.

DEEP Responsibilities

DEEP works on the basis of a wide transatlantic network of national educational institutions who provide expertise and individual experts to conduct projects and activities under each of the three DEEP objectives. NATO International Staff acts as the hub for the DEEP network. The DEEP Team is placed in the Political Affairs and Security Policy Division (PASP). Every individual country programme is co-led by a member of the DEEP Team and an academic expert.

DEEP Supporting NATO's Political Priorities

The overarching aim of DEEP is to improve the interoperability of mind-sets in Allied and partner nations by means of excellent military education. The DEEP objectives are met when the partner's professional military education institution is self-sufficient and no longer requires external assistance, its curriculum satisfies all course needs and a process exists to ensure a continuous curriculum review. In the Euro-Atlantic community, defence education has always been an enduring and comprehensive approach to prepare military and civilian personnel to take over leading positions in the defence sector that require besides the necessary functional skills a high degree of understanding of and commitment to democratic values and standards.

At successive NATO Summits – most recently, at the Brussels Summit in July 2018 – Allies have declared their commitment to strengthening cooperation with partners, upon request, to build stronger defence institutions, improve good governance, enhance their resilience, provide for their own security and more effectively contribute to the fight against terrorism. This investment in partners' security contributes to the security of the Alliance.