

Key NATO and Allied exercises in 2019

NATO Allies and partners conduct exercises to test procedures and tactics, develop best practices and identify areas for improvement. Exercises are designed to ensure that NATO forces are trained, able to operate together and ready to respond to any threat from any direction.

NATO exercises vary in scope, duration and form. Live exercises can involve thousands of troops; they aim to demonstrate and develop the extensive military capabilities that NATO Allies need to keep our nations safe.

Computer-assisted exercises take place in a classroom and focus on procedures.

In addition to military exercises, the Alliance organises civilian and political training events as well. Allies also train together in national and multi-national exercises.



NATO and Allied exercises in numbers

In 2018, NATO conducted 103 exercises with 51 NATO exercises open to partners. In addition, Allies separately held 183 national and multinational exercises.

For 2019, a total of 102 NATO exercises are planned; 39 of them are open to partner participation. Allies reported that they will conduct 208 national and multinational exercises. The exercises led by NATO and Allies this year include around 25 exercises primarily focused on the land domain, 27 exercises focused on the air domain, and 12 exercises focused mainly on maritime operations. Many other exercises train specific functions or skills such as cyber defence, crisis response decision-making, Chemical, Biological, Radiological Nuclear defense, logistics, communications and medical.



Transparency

The Alliance respects all its international obligations with regard to military exercises. Under the OSCE Vienna Document, exercises must be notified by their host nations to OSCE member states 42 days in advance if exceeding 9,000 troops. Observation is required starting at 13,000 troops. In line with these requirements, NATO military exercises are open to international observers.

Many NATO exercises are open to partners beyond the Alliance. International organisations, including the European Union, are also invited to observe or participate in NATO exercises. As part of this commitment to transparency, NATO exercises are announced months in advance and published at: <http://www.shape.nato.int/exercises>.

All of this highlights the defensive and transparent nature of our training activities.



Public Diplomacy Division (PDD) – Press & Media Section

Tel.: +32(0)2 707 9867

E-mail: moc@hq.nato.int

Follow us @NATOPress

www.nato.int

Key NATO and Allied Multinational exercises in 2019

INFORMATION	DATE	LOCATION
<p>RAMSTEIN GUARD</p> <p>This series of 12 NATO exercises train NATO Air Command in Ramstein to deal with electronic warfare.</p>	Every Month	Different locations
<p>DYNAMIC MANTA</p> <p>Annual NATO aero-naval exercise aimed at testing submarine warfare and anti-submarine warfare capabilities. It provides a framework for naval forces to maintain high readiness and ability to operate together. The exercise involves naval and air units from different NATO countries.</p>	25 February – 9 March	Italy Mediterranean Sea
<p>POSEIDON</p> <p>A Romanian-led mine research exercise in Black Sea, aimed at increasing interoperability between NATO navies and enhance their ability to neutralise underwater threats. The Standing NATO Mine Countermeasures Group Two (SNMCMG2) will take part.</p>	1 – 8 March	Black Sea
<p>NATO-GEORGIA EXERCISE</p> <p>This is the second multinational NATO-Georgia exercise, hosted by Georgia. More than 20 NATO Allies and partners, as well as international humanitarian organisations, will take part. The aim of the exercise is to improve interoperability between NATO and Georgia and educate the Georgian Armed Forces about NATO standards for collective training and exercise. This will be a computer-assisted exercise with a non-Article 5 scenario.</p>	18 – 29 March	Georgia
<p>LOCKED SHIELDS</p> <p>One of the world's largest and most complex live-fire cyber defence exercises, hosted annually by the NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence. NATO cyber defenders participate alongside their colleagues from many Allies and partners. The exercise simulates responding to a massive cyber incident, including strategic decision-making, legal and communication aspects.</p>	9 – 11 April	Estonia
<p>RAMSTEIN ALLOY 1, 2 and 3</p> <p>These live Exercises have Article 5 scenarios, with focus on the Air domain. They will promote interoperability, coordination and work with partners Finland and Sweden.</p>	15 – 17 April 24 – 26 June 17 – 19 September	Baltic States
<p>JOINT WARRIOR</p> <p>A UK-led multinational naval exercise that takes place every two years.</p>	22 April – 5 May	United Kingdom
<p>SPRING STORM</p> <p>A large-scale live exercise of the Estonian Defence Forces, with participation from NATO's enhanced Forward Presence and other Allied forces. Some 10,000 military personnel are expected to participate.</p>	29 April – 10 May	Estonia

INFORMATION	DATE	LOCATION
<p>NOBLE JUMP 19</p> <p>The first, table-top phase of this exercise will test the activation, deployment planning and readiness of the Very High Readiness Joint Task Force 19. This exercise will activate the overall NRF and forces moving from their home stations to their points of embarkation.</p> <p>The second, live portion, starting on 1 June, will test the deployment of elements of the VJTF and the role of NATO Force Integration Units. An exercise in the land, maritime and air domains, Noble Jump will test interoperability and command and control.</p>	24 May – 14 June	NATO HQs Poland
<p>SUMMER SHIELD</p> <p>This annual multinational training exercise led by Latvia tests a broad range of combat support elements, including artillery, air defence and reconnaissance. The exercise involves around 2500 troops.</p>	2 – 15 June	Latvia
<p>BALTOPS</p> <p>Annual US-led maritime exercise. Participating Allies include Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands and Poland. Baltic partners Finland and Sweden are also likely to take part.</p>	3 – 22 June	Poland and Baltic Sea
<p>SABER GUARDIAN</p> <p>A bi-annual US Army Europe-led, multinational exercise. Around 27,000 people are expected to take part this year.</p>	3 – 24 June	Bulgaria Romania Hungary
<p>TOBRUQ LEGACY 19</p> <p>This exercise will set up, train and exercise multinational Surface-Based Air and Missile Defence. It will involve roughly 3500 personnel from 19 Allies.</p>	3 – 19 June	Poland
<p>DYNAMIC MONGOOSE</p> <p>Annual NATO exercise to train submarine warfare and antisubmarine warfare for submarines, anti-submarine surface units and maritime patrol aircraft. This exercise will involve up to 500 participants.</p>	22 June – 11 July	Norway
<p>TRIDENT JACKAL 19</p> <p>A table-top exercise that will train, evaluate and support the certification of the NATO Rapid Deployable Corps Spain as a Joint Task Force Headquarters to plan and conduct small, non-Article 5 operations against insurgents, mainly on land and in the cyber domain.</p>	23 September – 10 October	Norway Spain
<p>STEADFAST FLOW 19</p> <p>This exercise will train movement (logistics) planning staff throughout NATO and from potential Partnership for Peace troop contributing nations.</p>	23 – 27 September	Turkey
<p>CYBER COALITION</p> <p>One of the biggest cyber defence exercises in the world, this NATO exercise trains and tests cyber defenders from across the Alliance.</p>	18 – 23 November	Estonia