



Fact Sheet

27 August 2015

NATO-Georgian Joint Training and Evaluation Center (JTEC)

JTEC Objectives

The NATO-Georgian Joint Training and Evaluation Centre (JTEC) is designed to assist Georgia to reform, modernise and strengthen its security and defence sector; enhance the interoperability of Georgian Forces, enabling them to work alongside forces from NATO members and partners and offer multi-national training and exercise opportunities; and contribute to promoting regional stability in the Black Sea and Caucasus region.

It is a key element of the Substantial NATO-Georgia Package (SNGP) endorsed by Heads of State and Government of NATO countries at the NATO Wales Summit in September 2014. The Substantial NATO-Georgia Package includes defence capacity-building, training, exercises, strengthened liaison, and opportunities to develop interoperability with Allied forces.

The JTEC is a symbol of deepening cooperation and partnership between Georgia and NATO: Georgia has been and remains a significant contributor to NATO-led operations and missions, including former and current missions in Afghanistan. Georgia also supports Operation Active Endeavour, NATO's counter-terrorism maritime surveillance operation in the Mediterranean Sea. Georgia is currently contributing to the 2015 rotation of the NATO Response Force (NRF) and will continue this until 2018.

The Centre is a cornerstone of the implementation of NATO's new Defence Capacity Building Initiative, which is part of the Alliance's overall contribution to international security and stability and conflict prevention. Georgia is among the first defence capacity-building recipient countries to receive concrete support, advice and assistance from NATO.

The JTEC, as all elements of the Substantial NATO-Georgia Package, aims to strengthen Georgia's defence capabilities. It will also help Georgia, as an aspirant country, advance in its preparation for membership of the Alliance and encourage closer integration through training, exercises and evaluation in national, bi-lateral and multilateral contexts.

JTEC Structure

The JTEC, as a combined NATO-Georgian project, is currently led in its initial phase by 6 NATO officers from Denmark, Latvia, Lithuania, and Norway, and 8 Georgian military officers.

Its Headquarters is based in Krtsanisi, and co-located with Georgia's own national training facility, the Training and Military Education Command (TMEC). There will be a range of other JTEC training facilities around the country, including a training area in Vaziani.

The Centre will provide support in the following areas:

Combat Training Centre

- The Combat Training Centre (CTC) will enhance the defence capabilities of the Georgian Armed Forces through training based on relevant threat scenarios. Evaluation, feedback and recommendations will be made to Tactical, Operational, Strategic and Training Commands in the Georgian Armed Forces, as well as to the General Staff and Defence Ministry.
- The Combat Training Centre (CTC) will offer tactical training in line with Georgian national security concepts and in co-operation with other national security agencies. It will reinforce inter-departmental cooperation through a civilian-military operations center and support the further development of national crisis management procedures.
- The Combat Training Centre (CTC) will also enhance knowledge of NATO training standards and doctrines to ensure interoperability with NATO. Certification of Georgian Army Units will be awarded once applicable NATO tactical standards have been met.

NATO Interoperability Team

- The JTEC will provide training opportunities to increase the compatibility of Georgian military processes and operations with those of Partner nations, in order to enable them to operate together coherently, effectively and efficiently during exercises and operations.

Regional Focus and wider Security Issues

- The JTEC will become a regional hub for best practice in military training and evaluation, inviting military units from countries in the Black Sea region and Caucasus, to take part in regional exercises.

Military Exercises

- The JTEC will help the planning and execution of practical activities designed to test and assess progress, and to enhance Georgia-NATO interoperability. It will support Georgian participation in and hosting of regional and international exercises and advise on the development of appropriate infrastructure. It will develop Georgian knowledge of NATO exercise procedures, standards and doctrines.

JTEC Future Development

The JTEC was inaugurated on 27th August 2015 by the Georgian President Giorgi Margvelashvili, Prime Minister Irakli Garibashvili, Defence Minister Tinatin Khidasheli and NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg, at the presence of senior Georgian Government officials and military officers and senior representatives from NATO, NATO Member states and Partner nations.

The JTEC will continue to develop its programme in the coming years. Training of Georgian military units is expected to start in 2016, with the first group receiving certification by the middle of the year. In 2016, the JTEC will also help facilitate joint exercises between troops from Georgia, NATO and Partner Nations.