NEW ZEALAND

NATO cooperates with a range of countries on a bilateral basis. Referred to as “partners across the globe,” and they share similar strategic concerns and key Alliance values. Within this framework, NATO and New Zealand have had regular contact since 2001. The SPS Programme is open to all activities with New Zealand in line with the political guidance from Allies in the form of the 2012 SPS Key Priorities and the 2013 Overarching Guidelines. Below are ongoing and completed SPS activities with New Zealand.

Cooperative Activities

NATO GLOBAL PERCEPTIONS – VIEWS FROM THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

The ‘Global Perceptions’ project was launched in 2014 with the aim to systematically trace perceptions of NATO among the five Global Partners in the Asia-Pacific region, namely Australia, Japan, Mongolia, the Republic of Korea, and New Zealand. Prevailing perceptions of the Alliance frame global expectations and affect partners’ reactions to NATO’s initiatives. The multi-year project conducted comprehensive comparative research of elite perceptions and media images of NATO as a global security actor to identify, measure, and raise global awareness, as well as extend knowledge of NATO in the region. This project was led by experts from Estonia, New Zealand, and the United States. [ref. G4902]
SMALL STATES AND THE NEW SECURITY ENVIRONMENT (SSANSE)

This SPS multi-year project will provide a critical examination of the foreign and defence policy choices and challenges of NATO small states and NATO partner states in Eastern Europe, the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, and Oceania, as they face a changing security environment. It aims to analyse how small states are dealing with and respond to salient security issues, such as counter-terrorism, energy security, cyber defence, and environmental security and how NATO might better partner with these states in addressing these challenges.

The project will extend theoretical debates on the role of small states in the changing international system as well as on the issue of how these states manage their defence policy and international relations with important international players, including Russia, China, the United States, and the EU.

This SPS multi-year initiative will deliver a package of theoretically-informed, academically rigorous, evidence-based, policy-relevant research on the foreign and defence policy choices and challenges of small states in NATO, Eastern Europe, the MENA region, and Oceania as they face a new security environment. *This project, launched in 2017, is led by scientists and experts from New Zealand, Iceland, Lithuania and the United States [ref. G5228].*