



Countering terrorism

Since the terrorist attacks in New York and Washington in September 2001, the fight against terrorism has been high on the agendas of NATO and the wider international community. Subsequent attacks in Allied countries and around the world have underlined the global nature of the threat of terrorism, which knows no border, nationality or religion. As reflected in the 2010 Strategic Concept for the Alliance, tackling this threat remains one of NATO's key priorities today. Only multilateral action, coordination and consultation among Allies and with partners can effectively address this challenge.

Steps taken by the Alliance in the wake of the 9/11 attacks laid the foundation for the wide range of initiatives – political, operational, conceptual, military, tech-

nological, scientific and economic – that NATO is pursuing today to address the multifaceted threat of terrorism and related security challenges.

The Alliance contributes to the international fight against terrorism in several ways.

First, NATO has at its disposal military and civilian capabilities that can contribute to countering and defending against terrorism, and managing the consequences of an attack. Allies are also working together to develop capabilities and technologies to detect and defend against terrorism, including through enhanced threat analysis.

Second, NATO's unique strength remains its role as a transatlantic forum for consultations on security-related matters. Since terrorism was identified as a core element of the Alliance's work, NATO has sought



- p4 Taking action and developing capabilities
- p10 Consultation, intelligence sharing and training
- p12 A network of partnerships



Terrorism poses a direct threat to the security of the citizens of NATO countries... Extremist groups continue to spread to, and in, areas of strategic importance to the Alliance, and modern technology increases the threat and potential impact of terrorist attacks.

Strategic Concept,
Lisbon Summit, November 2010

to intensify consultation and intelligence sharing on terrorism and related issues, as well as developing training and expertise.

Third, NATO has developed a network of structured partnerships with non-member countries from the Euro-Atlantic area, the Mediterranean and the Gulf region, as well as relationships with other partners across the globe. Countering and defending against terrorist threats has become a key focus of dialogue and practical cooperation with all partners.

Terrorism continues to morph as it adapts to new technologies and evolutions in the security environment. The unpredictable, cross-cutting nature of emerging 21st century security challenges, which include cyber defence, energy security and proliferation, need to be addressed in a dynamic way, taking into account the terrorists' capacity to learn and change their tactics.

Impact of the 9/11 attacks

In the immediate aftermath of the attacks in the United States and for the first time in its history, the Alliance invoked Article 5 of the Washington Treaty. This is the collective defence clause, which states that an armed attack against one or more of the

Allies shall be considered an attack against them all.

This led to the launch of a naval counter-terrorist surveillance operation in the Mediterranean, Operation Active Endeavour. The Allies also agreed a package of measures in support of the United States, including the deployment of NATO Airborne Early Warning and Control Aircraft (AWACS) to the US from mid-October 2001 to mid-May 2002 to protect the US homeland and free up US assets to be deployed for its campaign in Afghanistan.

Some Allies also contributed to the US-led Operation Enduring Freedom, a counter-terrorist operation in Afghanistan aimed at ousting from power the repressive Taliban regime that had harboured Al Qaida, the terrorist group responsible for the 9/11 attacks.

After the Taliban regime had fallen, concern arose that Afghan security forces would not be able to stabilize the country on their own. Following an international conference in Bonn, in December 2001, the United Nations Security Council approved the deployment of an International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) that would assist the new Afghan government in the establishment and training of security forces and in creating a secure

environment across the country. Initially, ISAF was neither a NATO nor a UN force but a coalition of the willing, led by individual Allies on a rotational basis.

In May 2002, a landmark decision was taken at meeting in Reykjavik of NATO foreign ministers, who declared that the Alliance would operate when and where necessary to fight terrorism. This effectively ended the debate on what constituted NATO's area of operations and paved the way for NATO to assume strategic command, control and coordination of the ISAF mission in August 2003.

But the impact of 9/11 on NATO went beyond operations. At the 2002 Prague Summit, Allied leaders expressed their determination to deter, defend and protect their populations, territory and forces from any external armed attack, including by terrorists. They adopted a package of measures aimed at adapting NATO to the challenge of terrorism. These included the development of a military concept for defence against terrorism; a Partnership Action Plan against Terrorism; nuclear, biological and chemical defence initiatives: the protection of civilian populations; missile defence; cyber defence; cooperation with other international organizations; and improved intelligence sharing. In addition, Allies decided to create a rapidly

deployable force (the NATO Response Force), streamline the military command structure, and better prepare NATO's military forces to face new challenges, including terrorism.

Over the years, at successive summits since Prague, Allied leaders have underlined the importance of efforts to fight terrorism. Most recently, at the Lisbon Summit in November 2010, they adopted a new Strategic Concept for the Alliance, which identifies terrorism as a direct threat to the security of the citizens of NATO countries, and to international stability and prosperity more broadly, and commits Allies to enhance the capacity to detect and defend against international terrorism.

As the technologies, expertise and security threats continue to evolve, NATO is adapting to deter, defend, disrupt and protect against them. The creation of the Emerging Security Challenges Division within NATO Headquarters in August 2010 reflects this progression and the fact that terrorism and other emerging security challenges are often inter-related. For the first time, the Alliance has systematically brought together work in non-traditional areas, that in the years ahead will increasingly affect the security of the Allies on both sides of the Atlantic.



The NATO nations unanimously condemn these barbaric acts committed against a NATO member state. [...] It underscores the urgency of intensifying the battle against terrorism, a battle that the NATO countries – indeed all civilised nations – must win.

Statement by the North Atlantic Council,
11 September 2001

Taking action developing capabilities



**The challenge
before us is clear:
we must take collective
and concerted action
to prevent terrorism
from posing an
existential threat
to human kind.**

Ban Ki Moon,
United Nations Secretary-General

From military operations, through improving civilian preparedness, to developing technologies and capabilities, NATO is taking action to detect and defend against international terrorism.

Patrolling the Mediterranean

The maritime surveillance operation led by NATO naval forces in the Mediterranean that was launched in the wake of 9/11 is still ongoing. The purpose of Operation Active Endeavour is to detect, deter and protect against terrorist activity in the Mediterranean through monitoring, patrolling, escorting and compliant boarding.

As the Alliance has refined its counter-terrorism role over the last decade, the operation's mandate has been regularly reviewed and its remit extended. NATO forces have hailed over 100 000 merchant vessels and boarded some 155 suspect ships. NATO's presence in these waters has improved security and benefited all shipping travelling through the area.

Stabilizing Afghanistan

The NATO-led, UN-mandated International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan remains the Alliance's biggest ever operation and is its top operational priority. While not in itself a counter-terrorism opera-

tion, the Alliance and its partners in Afghanistan aim to prevent the country from once again becoming a haven for terrorists.

ISAF represents NATO's determination to help the people of Afghanistan build a stable, secure and democratic state free from the threat of terrorism. In addition, many NATO Allies have forces involved in Operation Enduring Freedom, the ongoing US-led military counter-terrorism operation whose major activities are in Afghanistan. To carry out its mission, ISAF conducts population-centric counter-insurgency operations in partnership with the Afghan National Security Forces. It also provides support to the government in security sector reform, including mentoring, training and operational support to the Afghan National Army and the Afghan National Police.

Spring 2011 saw the beginning of a process of transition in which primary security responsibility is gradually being handed over to the Afghan government. It is expected that, by the end of 2014, Afghan authorities will have taken the lead throughout the country and that ISAF's presence

and abilities



will evolve towards more of an enabling and sustaining role. Special training programmes for police and army personnel are already well underway to help ensure that transition is successful. Building the capacity of Afghan forces to deal with insurgents' terrorist tactics, such as the use of improvised explosive devices, is an important part of training (*see box*).

Provincial Reconstruction Teams of civilian and military personnel also work together to provide security and support reconstruction work conducted by other national and international actors. It is widely recognized that there can be no security without development.

Securing major public events

NATO also provides assistance in improving the security of major public events in Allied countries that might attract the interest of ter-

Training Afghans in bomb disposal

Technical Sergeant Ryan Otero, 31, did so well on his military tests that he had the pick of jobs in the United States Air Force. Yet he chose to become a bomb disposal expert and is now on his third deployment to Afghanistan – part of the team training the Afghan National Army (ANA) in explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) techniques.



Working with the ANA has been a rewarding experience says Otero, “*The ANA are a motivated bunch,*” he says. “*I’ve done most of what there is to do in the combat realm. This was something new and different which is why I volunteered to do it.*” Otero, along with his number two, brings the experience of having diffused almost 500 bombs to the table, along with a lot of logistical and practical knowledge that comes from being part of a small unit attached to a bigger one in combat.

“*There isn’t a book with all the answers in it,*” he explains, describing how he overcomes the logistical issues involved in ensuring the smooth running of the intense training process. “*It’s where your personality gets to shine through a little,*” he adds. “*I personally believe that preparing organic Afghan forces is the way ahead, it’s the future of this country and something I’m proud to be given the opportunity to be part of.*”



Civil expert advice

Civil emergency planning is an increasingly important aspect of efforts to counter terrorism. NATO works with a range of national civil experts who have brought their experience to the Alliance and helped develop responses to chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) attacks. It is in this way that Mark Wolf of the London Fire Brigade has been working with, and advising NATO's civil emergency planning team on training and development.

"Following a multi-agency CBRN exercise in the United Kingdom, which involved responding to a terrorist event, I was asked to deliver a number of presentations on managing large scale CBRN events to NATO," he says. "This request was mainly in recognition of the fact that the London Fire Brigade has a great deal of experience and a high level of capability to respond to major incidents, including acts of terrorism, which was seen to be of benefit to NATO."

Since giving his advice, Wolf has focused on building the capabilities across NATO/EAPC nations to respond to CBRN events. He has led the NATO CBRN training exercises, helped develop CBRN training courses, supported the development of regional CBRN centres and provided input to NATO's Comprehensive CBRN policy. "All of this has in turn increased the London Fire Brigade's own understanding of the issues associated with managing large-scale international incidents," he explains

rorists. It does this at the request of any member country by deploying capabilities such as NATO Airborne Early Warning and Control Aircraft (AWACS) or elements of NATO's multinational Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Defence Battalion. In this way, the Alliance assists with high-visibility events such as NATO summits and ministerial meetings, as well as sporting events such as the Athens Olympic Games.

Managing the consequences of terrorist attacks

Consequence management involves reactive measures to mitigate the destructive effects of terrorist attacks, incidents and natural disasters. It is primarily a national responsibility, however, NATO supports countries in several ways, in particular by

coordinating planning and preparedness in case of an attack.

Today's society is more vulnerable than it used to be due to ever increasing interconnectivity: a more open global community, more complex technological systems, increased dependency on electronic information and communications systems, intertwined food- production and delivery systems, interconnected and increasingly dense transportation networks, and a dependence on imported carbon fuels.

It is impossible to protect all of these assets all of the time, presenting clear vulnerabilities that terrorists can exploit. The threat of cyber terrorism to critical infrastructure is of increasing concern. For this reason, effective protection against terror-

ism and unconventional security challenges must focus not only on defence and deterrence but also on prevention and resilience, which will help societies to recover quickly after an attack.

Protecting populations and infrastructure

At the 2002 Prague Summit, a Civil Emergency Planning Action Plan was adopted for the protection of populations against the effects of weapons of mass destruction. Furthermore, a project was initiated the same year to develop non-binding guidelines and minimum standards for first responders regarding planning, training, procedures and equipment for chemical, biological, radioactive and nuclear (CBRN) incidents. Member and partner countries



may draw on these guidelines to enhance their preparedness to protect populations against such risks, as well as to improve interoperability between countries.

NATO's Public Health and Food/Water Group has developed treatment protocols for casualties following a CBRN attack. More generally, the Alliance has defined coordination mechanisms for medical evacuation capabilities and a mechanism for allocating and transporting victims to facilities in other countries.

To add flexibility, NATO has developed a Memorandum of Understanding which aims to accelerate and simplify cross-border transportation and customs clearance for international assistance to reach an affected location as quickly as possible when required. This mechanism can be used, for example, for providing assistance required to cope with the consequences of a CBRN incident.

Providing timely information to the public is also a key component of consequence management. NATO has developed guidelines for use by countries in this field to ensure that coordinated warnings are given.

The Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre

Allies have established an inventory of national civil and military capabilities that

could be made available to assist stricken countries – both member and partner countries – following a CBRN terrorist attack. This inventory is maintained by the Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre (EADRCC).

The EADRCC was originally created in 1998 to coordinate responses among Allies and partners to natural and man-made disasters. Since 2001, it has been given an additional coordinating role for responses to potential terrorist acts involving CBRN agents. The Centre has a standing mandate to respond to a national request for assistance in the event of such a terrorist attack, and organizes major international field exercises to practice consequence-management responses to simulated disaster situations.

NATO Crisis Management System

The NATO Crisis Management System provides a structured array of pre-identified political, military and civilian measures to be implemented by states and NATO in response to various crisis scenarios. This system provides the Alliance with a comprehensive set of options and measures to manage and respond to crises appropriately. These define the roles of the Civil Emergency Planning Committee, the Planning Groups, the EADRCC and the use of civil experts during times of crisis.

The systems and networks that make up the infrastructure of society are often taken for granted, yet disruption to just one if those systems can have dire consequences across other sectors and disrupt the wellbeing of our societies.

Ambassador Gábor Iklódy,
NATO Assistant Secretary General for
Emerging Security Challenges.

To support NATO's work, a network of 380 civil experts located across the Euro-Atlantic area has been built based on specific areas of expertise that are frequently required (see box page 6). Their expertise covers all civil aspects relevant to NATO planning and operations, including crisis management, consequence management and critical infrastructure protection. Experts are drawn from government and industry. They participate in training and exercises, and respond to requests for assistance in accordance with specific procedures known as the Civil Emergency Planning Crisis Management Arrangements.

Developing new technologies

Through a network of institutions on both sides of the Atlantic, NATO supports the

development of capabilities and innovative technology that specifically address the threat of terrorism. The aim is to protect troops, civilians and critical infrastructure against attacks perpetrated by terrorists, such as suicide attacks with improvised explosive devices, rocket attacks against aircraft, cyber attacks and the potential use of weapons of mass destruction.

Defence Against Terrorism Programme of Work

The Defence Against Terrorism (DAT) Programme of Work was developed in May 2004. It was later approved as part of an enhanced set of measures to strengthen the Alliance's fight against terrorism at the Istanbul Summit in June 2004.

The DAT Programme of Work has primarily focused on technological solutions to mitigate the effects of terrorist attacks. Most projects launched under the programme are focused on finding solutions that can be fielded in the short term. Individual NATO countries lead the projects with support and contributions from other member countries (and partner nations in some cases), NATO bodies and other stakeholders.

Work under the programme is focused on ten key technological areas:

1. Reducing the vulnerability of wide-body civilian and military aircraft to man-portable "shoulder-launched" missiles.
2. Protecting harbours and ships using sensor nets, electro-optical detectors,



- rapid reaction capabilities and unmanned underwater vehicles.
3. Reducing the vulnerability of helicopters to rocket-propelled grenades.
 4. Countering improvised explosive devices (IEDs), such as car- and road-side bombs, by their detection and disruption or neutralization.
 5. Detecting and protecting against CBRN weapons.
 6. Fostering technologies for intelligence, reconnaissance, surveillance and target acquisition.
 7. Improving NATO's technological and procedural capabilities in explosive ordnance disposal, as well as managing consequences of an explosion.
 8. Developing technologies to defend against mortar attacks.

9. Protecting critical infrastructure.
10. Developing non-lethal capabilities.

Countering chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear threats

The spread of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and their means of delivery, and the possibility that terrorists will acquire them are acknowledged as principal threats to the Alliance and its 900 million population. Therefore, NATO places a high priority on preventing the proliferation of WMD and defending against chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) threats and hazards. The 2010 Strategic Concept specifically emphasizes the need to further develop NATO's capacity to defend against the threat of CBRN weapons.

The NATO multinational CBRN Defence Task Force (which consists of a CBRN Defence Battalion and a CBRN Joint Assessment Team) was launched at the 2002 Prague Summit. It is designed to respond to and manage the consequences of the use of CBRN agents both inside and beyond NATO's area of responsibility. It regularly participates in NATO Response Force rotations and may also be committed to other tasks. In addition, efforts are underway to identify capabilities to detect which chemical and biological agents have been used in an attack and to provide appropriate warning.

NATO-certified Centres of Excellence on Joint CBRN Defence (in the Czech Republic) and on Defence against Terrorism (in Turkey) also contribute to these efforts (*see page 11*).

Defending against terrorism

The changing nature of terrorism requires a variety of NATO agencies and bodies to contribute their skills and expertise to combat it. The Defence Against Terrorism NATO Centre of Excellence (DAT COE) in Ankara, Turkey, plays an important role by providing training and education to nations.

Along with subject-matter experts based at the DAT COE, the Centre also calls upon a significant number of outside experts from academia, the military and across government divisions to deliver the latest training on how best to counter terrorism.

Since 9/11, governments around the world have had to contend with a rise in highly independent terrorist organizations, with a much more fluid structure than traditionally seen. "Over time we've seen the move towards more hybrid, cell-based terrorist organisations," explains Major Matthew Edwards, Course Director at the DAT COE. Less rigid,

decentralised structures makes it harder to break into these organizations and more difficult to stop terrorist acts.

Whereas previously countries worried about groups from within the country committing terrorist attacks, now governments must contend with threats from anywhere in the world. "Terrorism has evolved in a way that it has left the national border and it has become international," says Lieutenant Colonel Josef Greipl, Chief Concepts at DAT COE.

"It's not just a military problem," adds Major Edwards. To combat this multifaceted and evolving threat, the DAT COE conducts training and offers courses such as Legal Aspects of Combating Terrorism, Defence Against Suicide Bombing, Cyber Terrorism, Fighting the Financial Dimension of Cyber Terrorism, Efficient Crisis Management to Mitigate the Effects of Terrorist Activities, Defence Against Terrorism, Terrorism and the Media, and Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Terrorism.





Consultation, intelligence sharing

and tra

© Reuters | Denis Simyakov

Political consultation and cooperation have always been crucial to the success of the Alliance. Over the last decade NATO has sought to increase consultations on terrorism and terrorism-related issues. Information-sharing and, more specifically, intelligence sharing are key aspects of this exchange.

NATO consultation and coordination

The North Atlantic Council (NAC), the Alliance's principal political decision-making body, decides on NATO's overall role in the fight against terrorism. The response to terrorism is a regular agenda item at the Council's weekly deliberations.

Specific aspects of NATO's involvement are developed through specialized bodies and committees.

Intelligence sharing

At the 2002 Prague Summit, improved intelligence sharing was identified as a key aspect of cooperation among Allies. A Terrorist Threat Intelligence Unit (TTIU) was set up under the NATO Office of Security at the end of 2003, replacing a temporary cell established immediately after the 9/11 attacks. The TTIU functioned for the following seven years as a joint NATO body composed of officers from civilian and military intelligence agencies, having as its main



ining



In an interconnected world, the defeat of international terrorism... will require the cooperation of many nations.

Barack Obama,
President of the
United States of America

task the assessment of the terrorist challenges, risks and threats to NATO and its member nations. To that end, the TTIU developed an efficient liaison mechanism with Allied intelligence services and national terrorism coordination centres. In addition, the TTIU shared terrorism-related information with partner nations.

Based on the decision taken at the 2004 Istanbul Summit to review the intelligence structures at NATO Headquarters, connections with partner countries have been improved. In that regard, a new intelligence liaison cell was created at SHAPE in Mons, Belgium, and an Intelligence Liaison Unit (ILU) at NATO Headquarters in Brussels.

Within the framework of the comprehensive intelligence reform at NATO Headquarters that took place in 2010-2011, the TTIU's functions were taken over by the newly created Intelligence Unit. That transformation further enhanced the analytical approaches on terrorism and its links with other transnational threats. The current mechanism has also deepened cooperation among the NATO civilian and military intelligence components, and preserved the previously developed mechanisms that ensure coherent intelligence sharing with partners.

Training and education

NATO offers a range of training and education opportunities in the field of counter-terrorism to both Allies and partner countries. It can draw on a wide network that includes the NATO School in Oberammergau, Germany, the NATO Defence College in Rome, Italy and the Centres of Excellence that support the NATO command structure.

Currently, there are 19 Centres of Excellence, 16 of which have been fully accredited by NATO. Several of these centres have a link to the fight against terrorism, in particular the Centre of Excellence Defence Against Terrorism in Ankara, and the Centre for Counter-Improvised Explosive Devices in Madrid.

The Centre of Excellence for Defence Against Terrorism has served as both a location and catalyst for international dialogue and discussion regarding defence-against-terrorism issues. It has established links with over 50 countries and 40 organizations to provide subject-matter expertise on terrorism.

A network of partnerships



As terrorism continues to pose a direct threat to our security and international stability, international cooperation remains key and NATO is at the heart of that cooperation.

Anders Fogh Rasmussen,
NATO Secretary General

Since the 1990s, NATO has developed a network of partnerships with partner countries and other international organizations. The Alliance is taking steps to make its partnership policy more inclusive, flexible, meaningful and strategically oriented. The fight against terrorism is identified as one of the priority areas for dialogue, consultation and cooperation in the new policy approved by Allied foreign ministers in Berlin in 2011.

Euro-Atlantic partners

In the Euro-Atlantic area, the Alliance engages in relations with non-member countries through the 50-nation Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council and the Partnership for Peace (PfP) – a major programme of bilateral cooperation with individual Euro-Atlantic partners. Among these partners, NATO has also developed specific structures for its relationships with Russia, Ukraine and Georgia. Many of NATO's Euro-Atlantic partners actively support NATO operations, including Operation

Active Endeavour and the stabilization mission in Afghanistan.

The Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council met the day after the 9/11 attacks to express solidarity with the people of the United States of America and to pledge to undertake all efforts to combat the scourge of terrorism.

Since the 2002 Prague Summit, NATO has engaged with Euro-Atlantic partners in the fight against terrorism through the Partnership Action Plan against Terrorism (PAP-T).

Training together

The impact of terrorism can be enormously destabilizing for a country, undermining both economic progress and development. NATO has been working with its partners to exchange information and support counter terrorism efforts. One such initiative is with Azerbaijan, a Euro-Atlantic partner, which has begun planning construction of an international anti-terror training centre in Baku, with NATO expert advice.

“Creation of the Centre would help Azerbaijan to adopt foreign experience in combating terrorism and would create new opportunities to broaden regional and international cooperation on the issue,” says Samir Ismayilov, First Secretary of the Mission of Azerbaijan to NATO, adding, that the experiences of establishing NATO training centres in other countries are being closely studied.

The Action Plan has been evolving and expanding in line with the joint aims and efforts of Allies and partners. It defines partnership roles as well as instruments to fight terrorism and manage its consequences. For instance, NATO and partner countries work together to improve the safety of air space, including through the exchange of data and coordination procedures related to the handling of possible terrorist threats. Three informal working groups have been set up under the PAP-T addressing the security of energy infrastructure, border security, as well as financial aspects of terrorism and disruption of terrorist organizations' sources of finance. All countries of the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council participate in the PAP-T. It is open to NATO's Mediterranean Dialogue and Istanbul Cooperation Initiative partners, as well as other interested countries on a case-by-case basis.

Russia

Combating terrorism was among the main drivers behind the creation of the NATO-Russia Council (NRC) in May 2002, and remains a key focus of the Allies' dialogue and practical cooperation with Russia. In the wake of several terrorist attacks on Russia, NRC foreign ministers meeting in December 2004 launched a comprehensive Action Plan on Terrorism, which sets out areas of cooperation and is subject to regular review. In April 2011, the Action Plan was updated to enhance capabilities to act, individually and jointly, in three critical areas: preventing terrorism, combating terrorist activities and managing the consequences of terrorist acts.

Cooperation with Russia in the struggle against terrorism has taken the form of regular exchanges of information, in-depth consultation, joint threat assessments, civil



Detecting explosives

To confront and counter the threat of attacks on mass transit and other public gathering places, NATO countries and Russia have decided to work together and share technologies and expertise in a joint endeavour. Under the NATO-Russia Council, a Stand-Off Explosives Detection Programme (STANDEX) has been formed as a platform to detect and prevent potential attacks.

The launch of STANDEX in December 2009 was the culmination of several years work, initiated by the NATO-Russia Explosives Detection Expert Group, formed in 2003. It was recognized that the threat posed by suicide bombers was paramount, and investments were needed to develop techniques for stand-off detection applicable to the surveillance of large groups of people. This need has been rendered more urgent by continuing attacks in mass transit environments.

STANDEX's core concept is to bring together and integrate various different techniques and technologies for the detection of explosives and the localization, recognition, identification and tracking of potential perpetrators of attacks. Designing and demonstrating such an integrated system is an innovative contribution to meeting the challenge of stand-off detection of explosives.

Research institutes from NATO countries and Russia are involved in the development and engineering aspects. They include the Commissariat de l'Energie Atomique in France (in charge of co-ordinating the project), the Fraunhofer Institute in Germany, the Netherlands Organization for Applied Scientific Research, the Khlopin Radium Institute in Russia, and the Applied Science and Technology Organization in Russia. The NATO Science for Peace and Security Programme is responsible for the management of STANDEX.

emergency planning for terrorist attacks, high-level dialogue on the role of the military in combating terrorism and on the lessons learned from recent terrorist attacks, and scientific and technical cooperation. NATO Allies and Russia also cooperate in areas related to terrorism such as border control, non proliferation, airspace management, and nuclear safety.

Russian ships have in the past been deployed in support of Operation Active Endeavour, NATO's maritime counter-terrorist operation in the Mediterranean. At the Lisbon Summit, Russia confirmed its interest in resuming operational support for Active Endeavour.

In 2003, the NRC launched the Cooperative Airspace Initiative (CAI) to foster cooperation on airspace surveillance and air traffic coordination. The underlying goal is to enhance confidence-building and to strengthen capabilities required for the handling of situations in which aircraft are suspected of being used as weapons to perpetrate terrorist attacks. The CAI system reached its full operational capability in 2011 and is open to participation by other partner countries.

In addition, in terms of cooperation with Russia under NATO's Science for Peace and Security (SPS), the 2010-2012 Action Plan identifies the following three areas for cooperation:

- Explosives detection: Consisting of cooperative scientific research that will lead to better detection of both trace and bulk explosives. Work is ongoing between scientists on the "STANDEX project", which aims to develop technology that will enable the stand-off detection of explosive devices in mass transport and possibly other public gathering places (see box page 13).



- Information technology-based threats: Cooperative research geared towards strengthening the security of systems that are vulnerable to terrorist attacks. The objective of this initiative is to create a better understanding of how terrorists use information technology.
- The study of human factors in defence against terrorism: A dynamic and unconventional attempt to understand the motivations of terrorism from a social science perspective. In this context, the experience of the Virtual Forum provides an innovative platform for further discussion and research.

Mediterranean and Gulf region partners

The fight against terrorism is also an important area of dialogue and cooperation with NATO's southern Mediterranean-rim

partners through the Mediterranean Dialogue. Some Mediterranean Dialogue partners are actively supporting Operation Active Endeavour.

At the Istanbul Summit in June 2004, NATO launched the Istanbul Cooperation Initiative to reach out to countries in the Gulf region, widening NATO's network of partnerships in order to facilitate the fight against terrorism.

Global partners

In addition to these more structured partnerships, NATO cooperates with a range of individual partners from across the globe, such as Australia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Iraq and Afghanistan.

These countries share similar security concerns and have expressed an interest in



developing relations with the Alliance bilaterally. Their level of involvement with NATO varies, as do the areas of cooperation, but all are committed to tackling the threat of terrorism. Some global partners are making significant contributions to the efforts to stabilize Afghanistan and to ensure it never again becomes a safe haven for terrorists.

Science for peace and security

Terrorism is also a priority for the work NATO does to promote scientific collaboration between scientists and researchers in Allied and partner countries, under the Science for Peace and Security (SPS) Programme.

Work in this area focuses on topics such as defensible methods of fuel, supply and personnel transportation; medical counter measures for non-CBRN terrorist attacks;

explosives detection; cyber defence; the study of human factors in defence against terrorism; and border and port security.

Using a variety of methods to bring scientists together including workshops, training courses and multi-year research and development projects, the Defence Against Terrorist Threats element of the SPS programme has been very successful and helps foster an effective network of experts in key fields.

Working with other organizations

NATO also cooperates with other international organizations to ensure that information is shared and appropriate action can be taken more effectively in the fight against terrorism. NATO's new Strategic Concept commits the Alliance to working more closely with NATO's international partners, most importantly the United Nations and the European Union.

The United Nations (UN) is at the core of the framework of international organizations within which the Alliance operates, a principle that is enshrined in NATO's founding treaty. NATO and the UN share a commitment to maintaining international peace and security. The two organizations have been cooperating in this area since the early 1990s. A framework for expanded consultation and cooperation between the two organizations was agreed in September 2008 to help both NATO and the UN address threats and challenges more effectively.

NATO works with affiliated United Nations (UN) bodies such as the UN Counter-Terrorism Committee, its Executive Directorate and the Security Council Committee 1540. It has also established contacts with the UN on its Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and works closely with the UN agencies that play

a leading role in responding to international disasters and in consequence management.

The European Union (EU) is a unique and essential partner for NATO, although the relationship has yet to realize its full potential as a strategic partnership. The two organizations share a majority of members, and all members of both organizations share common values. The Strategic Concept clearly states that an active and effective EU contributes to the overall security of the Euro-Atlantic area. Relations between NATO and the EU were institutionalized in 2001, building on steps taken during the 1990s to promote greater European responsibility in defence matters.

Both NATO and the EU are committed to combat terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. They have exchanged information on their activities in the field of protection of civilian populations against chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear attacks. The two organizations also cooperate in the field of civil emergency planning by exchanging inventories of measures taken in this area.

NATO and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) are working together to build security and promote stability in the Euro-Atlantic area. In recent years dialogue has expanded to include terrorism and other new security threats, which today constitute a priority area for each of the two organizations.

No one country or organization can successfully address the threat of terrorism alone. Through its partnerships with non-member countries and with other organizations, NATO is contributing to the development of a comprehensive approach to tackling terrorism that combines political, civilian and military instruments.

NATO and the fight against terrorism

http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/topics_48801.htm

NATO's Defence Against Terrorism programme

http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/topics_50313.htm

Improving NATO's Capabilities:

http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/topics_49137.htm

CBRN Defence Battalion:

http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/topics_49156.htm

Centres of Excellence:

http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/topics_68372.htm

Civil Emergency Planning:

http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/topics_49158.htm

Partnerships: A cooperative approach to security:

http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/topics_51103.htm

Partnership Action Plan against Terrorism (PAP-T):

http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/topics_50084.htm

For more information go to www.nato.int or to order publications contact: publications@hq.nato.int

NATO Briefings address topical Alliance issues. They are published under the authority of the Secretary General and do not necessarily reflect official opinion or policy of member governments or of NATO.

NATO Public Diplomacy Division, 1110 Brussels, Belgium – Website: www.nato.int – Email: publications@hq.nato.int – © NATO 2011