



U.S. ARMY

EUROPE

STRONG EUROPE





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COMMANDER'S VISION

U.S. Army Europe is America's land power that is an ocean closer to every major security challenge America faces. The European security environment is changing. Russian aggression in Ukraine, Syria, the Black Sea, and the Baltic Sea are creating multiple dilemmas for governments across Europe.

Fears of Russian encroachment coupled with an ever-present terrorist threat by radicalized Islamists, and the systemic stress of hundreds of thousands of refugees flowing into Europe is causing unprecedented change in a complex environment. U.S. Army Europe works in close cooperation with our European partners and allies on a daily basis. Through forward positioning, U.S. Army Europe's forces train to improve interoperability, become familiar with the environment, and build relationships that are crucial to a combat ready force.

The next year promises to see more emphasis in Atlantic Resolve South as we continue to work with partners and allies to build capability, increase capacity, and strengthen relationships necessary to adopt a deterrence posture in response to any challenge.

As a welcomed addition to the Strong Europe team, U.S. Army Europe is set to receive a full armored brigade combat team on a persistent rotational basis in Europe. Starting in 2017, U.S. Army Forces Command units will deploy for nine-month rotations as part of Atlantic Resolve, providing forces the opportunity to train and



maneuver as brigade combat teams in order to improve interoperability and achieve deterrence.

Beginning in spring 2017, U.S. Army Europe will receive an attack reconnaissance battalion and additional medical evacuation rotary wing platforms in Europe. Together with an aviation support battalion, a brigade headquarters and headquarters support company, the rotational aviation assets fill out a combat aviation brigade in theater. These critical assets will solidify a deterrence posture with a forward presence at improved airfields throughout the Atlantic Resolve countries - Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland.

To augment these regionally allocated forces, U.S. Army Europe will receive prepositioned vehicles, weapons, and equipment in theater beginning this year. To ensure the infrastructure is in place to support this increase in forces in Europe, the European Reassurance Initiative continues to provide critical resources that positively affect the operational environment. ERI is instrumental to ensuring U.S. forces are postured to deter aggression across Europe. U.S. Army Europe remains focused on taking an active role in deterring aggression with our partners and allies throughout Europe.

By being an ocean closer to America's strategic challenges, U.S. Army Europe stands ready to mitigate multiple threat scenarios in a rapid manner. U.S. Army Europe is at the leading edge of America's efforts to deter Russia, assure our allies, and protect U.S. interests.



ABOUT STRONG EUROPE

Enhancing the alliance, leader development and readiness are the U.S. Army in Europe's enduring priorities.

The leadership in U.S. Army Europe uses five pillars to support these enduring priorities. They are:

- Empowering Junior Leaders
- Integrating Army Reserve & National Guard
- Working with our Allies & Partners
- Regionally Allocated Forces
- Dynamic Presence

All of these components are the DNA that makes up Strong Europe.

Now, more than ever, NATO is faced with increased security threats from a multitude of sources.

In this complex and dynamic European security environment, strengthening the alliance; developing innovative and adaptive leaders; and always being ready to guarantee our Article 5 obligations are all part of what makes our presence beneficial to the U.S. and Europe.



EMPOWERING JUNIOR LEADERS



U.S. Army Europe is a leadership laboratory that empowers junior leaders to thrive in a complex operating environment. These leaders are expected to operate in an environment of distributed operations -- often serving as the senior U.S. representative in a country. Under these conditions, they encounter unique challenges that could never be replicated outside of Europe. Junior leaders are executing the full range of operations from tactical to strategic as they integrate with our allies and partners, developing as leaders as described in the Army Operating Concept.



A 173rd Airborne Brigade Soldier briefs during a combined arms rehearsal at Saber Junction 16 in Germany.



A 2nd Cavalry Regiment Soldier talks to media during a stop in Lithuania along Dragon Ride II.



3rd Infantry Division Soldiers talk to the Georgian President at the Noble Partner 16 opening ceremony in Georgia.



DYNAMIC PRESENCE



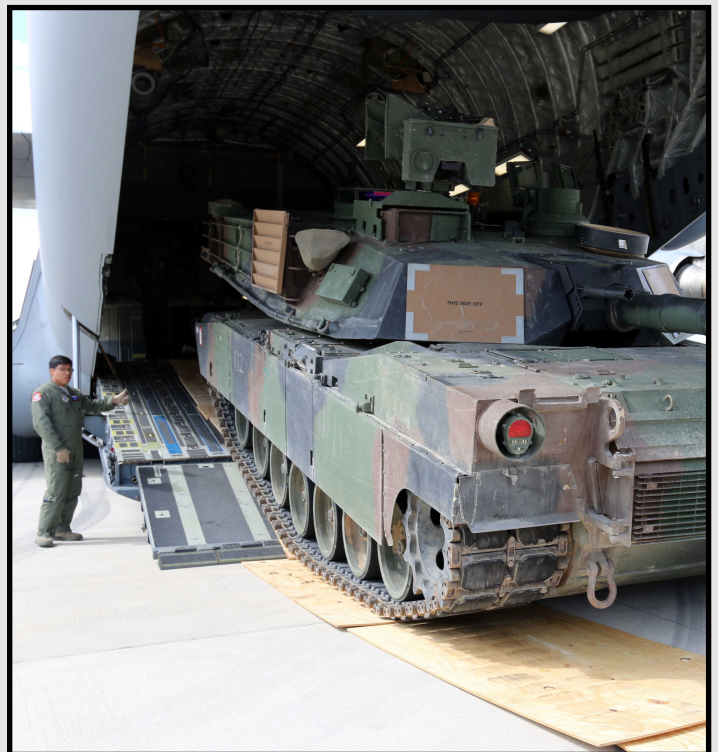
Dynamic presence enables U.S. Army Europe's connection to our allies, local government leaders and civilians in the U.S. and Europe. NATO is the most successful alliance, with over 60 years of history. U.S. Army Europe is a smaller force than in previous years, but we leverage every opportunity to develop relationships and capabilities throughout Europe. Through dynamic presence we demonstrate and tell the Strong Europe story. Sometimes dynamic presence is a full battalion commitment to an exercise, other times it is a Soldier liaison officer or a meeting between key leaders from allied and partnered nations. It is constant contact with others, in Europe and the U.S.



U.S. Army Europe Soldiers greet locals along the route of Dragoon Ride II.



The U.S. Army Europe Band and Chorus performs during the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo in Scotland.



An M1A2 Abrams tank is off-loaded from a C17 in Bulgaria.



WORKING WITH OUR ALLIES & PARTNERS



Working with our allies and partners is the normal way to operate in Europe. We contribute to strengthening our alliance as part of the NATO collective defense. The 7th Army Training Command is a place where U.S. forces train and practice interoperability with our allies and partners. Atlantic Resolve has resulted in 50 battalion-sized or greater exercises carried out from the Baltics to Black Sea so far this year. In Europe, it is not unusual to find U.S. military vehicles crossing a German-assembled bridge on British trucks. Together we forge a powerful land power network that simultaneously deters aggression and assures security.



U.S. Soldiers drive vehicles over an M3 bridge during a water crossing mission conducted as part of Anakonda 16 in Poland.



A 3rd Infantry Division Soldier and a Lithuanian Soldier radio their forces during a joint live fire exercise.



A 173rd Airborne Brigade Soldier and an Italian paratrooper prepare for a Joint Forcible Entry during Swift Response 16.



REGIONALLY ALLOCATED FORCES



U.S. Army Europe continues to lead the Army in integration of Regionally Allocated Forces, or RAF, by leveraging the European Rotational Force and multiple rotational aligned units. The 4th Infantry Division's out of Fort Carson, Colo., alignment with Europe further enables U.S. Army Europe to conduct joint and combined training in support of Atlantic Resolve using assigned forces. These forces train closely with our allies to improve interoperability, demonstrate the Army's power projection capability and provide assurance and deterrence.



A 1st Air Cavalry Brigade Soldier scans the horizon during an air assault mission at Saber Junction 16 in Germany.



A 3rd Infantry Division Soldier discusses vehicle set-up with Estonian Soldiers in support of Atlantic Resolve in Estonia.



Soldiers from 3rd Infantry Division discuss their mission during Combined Resolve VII in Germany.



INTEGRATING ARMY RESERVE & NATIONAL GUARD



Integration of the National Guard and Army Reserve into the U.S. Army Europe team is a major component to making 30,000 Soldiers look and feel like 300,000. Army Reserve and Guard Soldiers play a vital role in boosting land force capability across U.S. Army Europe's footprint through the 21 U.S. states that participate in the State Partnership Program in 22 different countries and by leveraging Overseas Deployment Training rotations. The National Guard is resourced with units that supplement the active force and the Army Reserve provides both individuals and units. When we synchronize and integrate these assets, we achieve greater component interoperability and capability in Europe.



Idaho Army National Guardsmen take up defensive positions during a situational training exercise at Saber Guardian 16 in Romania.



A U.S. Army Reserve Soldier from 716th Quartermaster Company fuels a HMMWV during Anakonda 16 in Poland.



A California National Guardsman talks to a group of Ukrainian National Guard Soldiers during Rapid Trident 16 in Ukraine.

PRIORITY EXERCISES

RAPID TRIDENT

Rapid Trident is a regional command post and field training exercise held in Ukraine which is focused on peacekeeping and stability operations to ensure a safe and secure environment. Rapid Trident supports interoperability among Ukraine, the U.S., NATO and Partnership for Peace member nations. Learn more at www.eur.army.mil/RapidTrident



SABER JUNCTION

Saber Junction is U.S. Army Europe's annual combat training center certification exercise held at Grafenwoehr and Hohenfels Training Areas in Germany. It is designed to evaluate the readiness of one of its two combat brigades to conduct unified land operations (a simultaneous combination of offensive, defensive and stability missions), with an emphasis on tactical interoperability among allied and partner-nation forces. Learn more at www.eur.army.mil/SaberJunction



NOBLE PARTNER

Exercise Noble Partner is a bilateral effort focused on enhancing U.S. and Georgian NATO Response Force interoperability in the context of military-to-military relationships. Learn more at www.eur.army.mil/NoblePartner



U.S. ARMY EUROPE

SABER STRIKE



Saber Strike is a long-standing U.S. Army Europe-led cooperative training exercise designed to improve joint interoperability through a range of missions that prepare the participating nations to support multinational contingency operations. The exercise rotates through Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia and Poland annually. Learn more at www.eur.army.mil/SaberStrike

COMBINED RESOLVE



Combined Resolve, held at Grafenwoehr and Hohenfels Training Areas in Germany, is designed to provide U.S. forces with multinational training and partnership opportunities that will enhance the flexibility, agility and ability to better operate alongside NATO allies and partners in Europe.

Learn more at www.eur.army.mil/7ATC/CombinedResolve.html

SABER GUARDIAN



Saber Guardian is an annual multinational exercise that rotates among Romania, Bulgaria and Ukraine. The exercise is part of U.S. European Command's Joint Exercise Program designed to enhance joint combined interoperability among NATO allies and Partnership for Peace nations.

Learn more at www.eur.army.mil/SaberGuardian

STRONG EUROPE UNITS

2nd Cavalry Regiment			66th Military Intelligence Brigade
3rd Infantry Division			173rd Airborne Brigade
4th Infantry Division			405th Army Field Support Brigade
5th Signal Command			409th Contracting Support Brigade
7th Army Training Command			598th Transportation Brigade
7th Mission Support Command			Headquarters, U.S. Army Europe
10th Army Air & Missile Defense Command			Installation Management Command Europe
12th Combat Aviation Brigade			Multinational Battle Group-East (Kosovo Force)
16th Sustainment Brigade			Regional Health Command Europe
18th Military Police Brigade			Theater Logistics Support Center Europe
19th Battlefield Coordination Detachment			U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Europe District
21st Theater Sustainment Command			U.S. Army NATO Brigade
30th Medical Brigade			

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