



# Observatory

NATO News & Opinion Clips

Promoting a more transparent and accountable NATO

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**Welcome** to NATO Watch's monthly *Observatory*: the only online publication dedicated entirely to news and independent commentary on NATO policy-making and operational activities. The clips are drawn from a wide range of subscriptions, feeds and alerts covering a substantial part of the major English language newspapers and other periodicals worldwide. If you are short on time – go straight to the recommended reading, marked ♠♠

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*"The Alliance has never been busier, budget constraints notwithstanding"*, Anders Fogh Rasmussen, NATO Secretary General, [op-ed](#) *Wall Street Journal*, 12 May

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## **NATO Watch Editorial:**

### **Is NATO listening? A four act reminder for the hard of hearing in Brussels and Washington**

#### **Act I: President Karzai demands an end to NATO airstrikes and night raids on Afghan homes (again)**

Following a recent NATO airstrike that mistakenly killed a group of children and women in southern Helmand province. Afghan President Karzai has said that he will no longer allow such attacks on residential compounds. Karzai has previously condemned certain military tactics—such as night raids—only to draw back from them later. NATO says it only conducts airstrikes with Afghan government coordination and approval, but said (not for the first time either) that it would review procedures. (photo credit: US army/flickr)



"In the days and weeks ahead we will coordinate very closely with President Karzai to ensure that his intent is met," NATO spokeswoman Maj. Sunset Belinsky said. However, on past evidence, little change in NATO military tactics can be expected as a result of this 'review', as indicated in Belinsky's qualifying remarks: "Coalition forces constantly strive to reduce the chance of civilian casualties and damage to structures, but when the insurgents use civilians as a shield and put our forces in a position where their only option is to use airstrikes, then they will take that option". So, the bottom line is that NATO puts the welfare of its troops above those of the citizens of Afghanistan that it is supposedly there to protect. And Karzai's call is treated as 'mainly symbolic' by Western officials who say privately that his presidential authority does not include veto power over specific targeting decisions made in the heat of combat.

Should NATO listen to Karzai and abandon night raids and airstrikes on residential compounds? Well, there are good reasons for doing so, even though this may increase the risk to NATO troops on the ground. And such risks are real enough, with NATO suffering 55 fatalities in May, making it the deadliest month yet for the coalition forces this year. However, without a change in tactics, Karzai argues that NATO forces risk being seen as an "occupying force" (the same phrase used by the Taliban to describe the international coalition) with potentially even greater consequences for the wider security situation in Afghanistan.

While NATO was initially applauded for managing to significantly reduce civilian casualties from its operations—the UN estimate 440 Afghan civilians were killed by NATO or Afghan forces in 2010, and a further 2,080 were killed by insurgents—there remains widespread anger among Afghans over the deaths of non-combatants at the hands

of foreign forces. In addition, US commander General David Petraeus is widely acknowledged to have reversed some of the initial tactical safeguards introduced to protect civilians since these were unpopular with troops on the ground. Since Petraeus took command in July last year, [the number of US and allied](#)

[airstrikes and night raids in Afghanistan has soared](#). Amidst the growing levels of violence, Britain's former ambassador to Afghanistan [described the current war tactics](#) as counter-productive and "profoundly wrong". If one of the end goals of the much heralded security 'transition' process is a sovereign nation, then the Alliance must begin to treat Afghanistan like one.

#### **Act II: African Union demands a ceasefire in Libya**

After initially backing NATO's involvement, South African President Jacob Zuma and the African Union (AU) have called for a halt to air strikes, arguing that the Alliance has overstepped its UN mandate to protect civilians. But following a meeting between Secretary General, Anders Fogh Rasmussen, and the Chairperson of the AU Commission, Jean Ping, to discuss the Libyan crisis, a [NATO press release](#) curtly stressed that the Alliance's "Operation Unified Protector was in full compliance with the provisions of United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1970 and 1973". And the next day [NATO announced](#) that it had extended its mission in Libya by 90 days, continuing a campaign that began in March.

Under the proposed AU 'roadmap for peace' everything would be on the table, including the place and position of Gaddafi, although he would not be required to step down from power as a prerequisite for further dialogue concerning the prospective cease-fire. Abdul Ilah al-Khatib, the UN secretary general's special envoy on Libya, has also been quietly shuttling between Tripoli and Benghazi, trying to broker a ceasefire and talks. In contrast, Rasmussen has constantly asserted that any ceasefire



must be 'credible and verifiable' and Western leaders (now including Russia following the G8 summit) interpret this to mean the prior departure of Gaddafi. (photo credit: Crethi Plethi/flickr)

Should NATO listen to the AU? With sizeable defections from the Gaddafi camp and NATO and the rebels now scenting victory—Gaddafi's "reign of terror is coming to an end" Rasmussen said in a speech in Bulgaria—the temptation is to sideline the AU's role in searching for a solution. This would be a mistake, however. If progress is really being made in Libya, why are Britain and France sending attack helicopters? Why did [General Sir David Richards, the chief of the UK defence staff, call for NATO to bomb infrastructure](#) in Tripoli? As NATO escalates in word and deed, all parties acknowledge that there is no military solution to the crisis. Nor are there any guarantees that Gaddafi's departure would suddenly bring peace and end the many conflicts in Libyan society.

With close to 900,000 people having fled Libya since the conflict began, a solution will likely be found within an African framework. The AU, warts and all, provides such a framework. Cynical or not, Gaddafi has made a ceasefire gesture. The best way to protect Libya's desperate civilians is for NATO to reverse its mistaken policy of taking sides. As in Afghanistan, the imperative is to find a political and humanitarian solution to the conflict, and stop waiting for a military breakthrough that seems unlikely to come. The Alliance should unconditionally promise a ceasefire at least for a significant window during which AU-brokered negotiations could start.

### **Act III: The Russians want guarantees that missile defences in Europe are not directed at them**

During his recent [visit to the United States](#), the NATO Secretary General devoted much of his air-time to the NATO-Russia relationship. His key point was that by working together, NATO and Russia can enhance security well beyond their own borders. He reiterated in a *Chicago Tribune* [op-ed](#) his belief that "missile defence offers another great opportunity to advance our relationship with Russia". "There are many difficult technical, legal and political issues still to be solved", Rasmussen added "but we are making good progress". Well, that is not quite how the Russians and Americans see it.

A top Obama administration national security official [said](#) Russia and the United States are

struggling to move beyond "old thinking" to resolve the long-running dispute over the planned European missile defence framework. NATO insists there should be two independent systems that exchange information, while the Kremlin favours a joint system with full-scale interoperability and demands NATO to guarantee that the system would not be aimed against Russian targets.

A recent meeting of Russia-NATO Council ambassadors failed to break new ground on the stalemate, and after meeting with President Obama at the G8 Summit, Russian President Dmitry Medvedev said it might need the better part of a decade to do so. "This issue will be solved in the future, maybe in 2020, but we should lay the basis for the work of a future generation of politicians, we should create the right foundation", Medvedev said. This pessimistic outlook was shared by a [report](#) released at the NATO Parliamentary Assembly spring session in Bulgaria, which concludes that the two sides' fundamental vision for the system remain far apart, and there appears to be little hope that an agreement will emerge.

(photo credit: openDemocracy/flickr)



Should NATO listen to the Russians? Given that failure to resolve the dispute could endanger NATO's 'reset' with Russia and lead the Kremlin to bolster its nuclear arsenal, a freeze on missile defence deployments in Europe would certainly buy some valuable time. The proposed Phased Adaptive Approach to missile defences is unproven, unnecessary and requires uncoded additional resources at a time when Alliance defence budgets are facing deep cuts. It needs to be recognised on all sides that missile defence systems are themselves 'old thinking', exacerbate divisions within Europe and hardly represent a good example of Rasmussen's call for 'Smart Defence'. Diplomacy and engagement can defuse tensions with North Korea and Iran—the supposed main source of ballistic missile proliferation concerns—and smarter, cheaper and more effective military solutions are available if a real threat ever emerges.

### **Act IV: Within NATO (and beyond) the call for an end to Tactical Nuclear Weapons is growing**

According to a [report](#) published by the Dutch-based NGO IKV Pax Christi in March, half of all NATO member states are seeking scenarios to



change the current deployment situation of US tactical nuclear weapons (TNW) currently based in Europe, while ten others would not object to a change. Only three states identified in the report would prefer to keep the current forward deployment (and one other member state expressed no opinion at all). All of the 24 countries that see the possibility of withdrawing the US weapons from Europe have concerns that would need to be addressed before the weapons can go, namely: replacing the 'burden sharing' represented by these weapons by more practical demonstrations of transatlantic solidarity; some form of reciprocity (transparency or confidence building measures) from Russia; and recognition and respect for the specific concerns raised by France.

Outside of NATO, the Non Aligned Movement (NAM), among other coalitions and individual Non-Nuclear Weapon States, has for decades been raising concerns about NATO's 'nuclear sharing' policy. At the 2010 NPT Review Conference, for example, the NAM advocated for these concerns to be addressed in the final document action plan and proposed specific language calling on the nuclear weapons states to "withdraw nuclear weapons stationed on the territories of non-nuclear-weapon States in accordance with article I and II of the Treaty".



Should NATO listen to those voices advocating a break with the nuclear 'status quo' within the Alliance? There has never been a better time to do so, with NATO currently undertaking a nuclear posture review process—the so called 'Deterrence and Defence Policy Review'—and seeking ways to engage with Moscow on the Russian arsenals. Several NATO countries are expected to use the consultation processes to call for an end to the forward deployment of US TNW in Europe and the adoption of a nuclear posture that is fully in compliance with NPT agreements. An April 2011 'non-paper' issued by ten NATO allies, for example, proposes several transparency and confidence building steps that NATO and Russia could undertake to break away from the long standing impasse on this issue. However, there is no shortage of other

proposals emerging that point towards NATO keeping up a credible nuclear deterrence capability without US nuclear bombs stationed in Europe (see the 'Nuclear Weapons' section of this edition of the *Observatory*). For NATO to significantly reduce its reliance on nuclear weapons, as part of a new, smart defence and deterrence posture, fit for purpose in a world of new security challenges, the advocates of change must be heard and acted upon.

## News, Commentary and Reports:

### Afghanistan-Pakistan:

(photo credit: Stitch/flickr)

#### News

[US-Pakistan form an anti-terror squad](#), *Associated Press*, 2 June

[Clinton: NATO Committed to Reducing Afghan Civilian Deaths](#), *Voice of America*, 1 June

[Petraeus: U.S. troops still needed in Afghanistan](#), *USA Today*, 1 June



*If we [had] spent a fraction of what we are paying now in Afghanistan on military equipment, into that country as aid and development when it had a chance perhaps of finding its own future, would that have not been a better decision? I know this is a controversial argument, but it's an argument that can be won*

[David Cameron defends aid spending at G8 summit](#), *The Guardian*, 27 May

[Nato air strikes can no longer target houses in Afghanistan, says Karzai](#), *The Guardian*, 31 May - President furious after recent attack killed civilians, though questions arise about his authority over coalition tactics

[Nato apologises for Afghan civilian deaths](#), *The Guardian*, 30 May - International forces in Afghanistan apologise for air strike that killed at least nine civilians

[Karzai demands NATO stop night raids](#), *UPI*, 28 May

[Nato commander injured in Taliban suicide attack in Afghanistan](#), *The Guardian*, 28 May

[NATO 2014 Afghan pullout premature: Russian envoy](#), *Reuters*, 26 May

[US cuts troop numbers in Pakistan](#), *The Guardian*, 26 May - Pakistan asks US to reduce military footprint in a sign of its annoyance over how raid that killed Bin Laden was carried out

[NATO and Afghan Forces Push Taliban Out of Seized Town](#), *New York Times*, 25 May

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*The nightly slaughter of the Taliban is profoundly wrong*  
Sherard Cowper-Coles, former British ambassador in Afghanistan, *The Guardian*, 25 May

♣♣ [Cautious Optimism - Germany Mediates Secret US-Taliban Talks](#), *Der Spiegel*, 24 May

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[Taliban warns Muslim Kazakhstan on entering Afghan war](#), *Reuters*, 22 May

[NATO beefs up Afghan police training as 2014 looms](#), *Trust Law*, 22 May

[Blasts in NATO trucks kill 16](#), *Pakistan Observer*, 22 May

[Thousands attend protest against US drone strikes](#), *Pakistan Daily Times*, 22 May

[Pakistani opposition party to block NATO supplies](#), *AFP*, 20 May

[Former NATO envoy: Taliban talks likely to be held in Turkey](#), *Today's Zaman*, 20 May

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[Afghan, foreign troops kill more than 60 insurgents: NATO force](#), *Reuters*, 19 May - A three-day offensive by Afghan and foreign forces has killed at least 60 insurgents in a relatively peaceful northwestern Afghan province, ISAF said

[Twelve Dead in Protests After Two Women Killed in Afghan Raid](#), *New York Times*, 18 May

[Britain to pull 400 troops out of Afghanistan this year](#), *The Guardian*, 17 May -David Cameron details withdrawal which will form first stage of plan to remove all UK troops by the end of 2014

[Pakistan: NATO helicopters hit border post](#), *Washington Post*, 17 May

(Chak Dam, 16 May -photo credit: ISAFmedia/flickr) [US drone attacks kill nine in Pakistan: officials](#), *AFP*, 16 May



[Transition to Afghan control is bumpy](#), Susan Sachs, *Globe and Mail*, 15 May - The international training operation in Afghanistan will devote extra resources this year to creating a police force that is more literate and aware of human rights, although critics say the NATO effort is still short-changing civilian policing in its massive effort to build an Afghan fighting force that can be handed control of the country

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[Bomb blast destroys five NATO oil tankers in Pakistan](#), *AFP*, 13 May

[Twin blasts kill more than 80 in Charsadda](#), *Dawn*, 13 May

[Cultural clashes drive Afghan recruits to turn on their Nato mentors](#), *The National*, 12 May

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[War is a bummer, chief of defence staff tells MPs](#), *The Guardian*, 11 May - Failure of intelligence in Afghanistan, notably about tribal loyalties and aggressive US operations, exacerbated already dangerous situation, says General Sir David Richards

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[NATO Forces Launch Border Operations in Afghanistan](#), *Voice of America*, 9 May

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[Playing the China Card - Has the Obama Administration Miscalculated in Pakistan?](#) Dilip Hiro, *TomDispatch.com*, 24 May

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[Bored to Death in Afghanistan \(and Washington\) - Mating Déjà Vu with a Mobius Strip in the Graveyard of Empire](#), Tom Engelhardt, *TomDispatch*, 19 May

[Of incursions and contradictions](#), *Pakistan Daily Times Editorial*, 19 May

[Comparing How NATO and Taliban Report the Afghan War](#), Uri Friedman, *The Atlantic Wire*, 17 May

(Afghan Youth Voices festival launch, 25 May – photo credit: Internews Network/flickr)



*The biggest change in Afghanistan, has been the creation of an environment which enables us to come back. Whatever I am doing now in Kabul, I couldn't have done ten years ago. From very basic things such as the choice of wearing clothes, growing or not growing a beard, studying and making or playing music.*

Siddique Ahmed, musician, [Dreaming of rock music in Kabul](#), NATO News, 31 May; [Kabul Dreams - Can you fly? \(Official Video\)](#)



- ✚ Since President Obama took office, the number of prisoners held by the US in Afghanistan has almost tripled—from 600 in 2008 to 1700 in 2011.
- ✚ The US Prison at Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan now holds almost ten times as many detainees as are being held at Guantanamo Bay.
- ✚ Prisoners at Bagram now have the right to appear before a board of military officers to plead for their release and challenge the claims that they are “enemy belligerents” fighting US forces.
- ✚ Prisoners still do not have the right to see the evidence being used against them, or the right to a lawyer to represent them.

[Detained and Denied in Afghanistan - How to Make U.S. Detention Comply with the Law](#), Human Rights First, May 2011

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[Whose side is Pakistan's ISI really on?](#) Declan Walsh, *The Guardian*, 12 May - It has been accused of supporting al-Qaida and double-dealing with the CIA. At the same time the ISI, Pakistan's powerful intelligence service, is being targeted by Islamist extremists. In the wake of Osama bin Laden's death, what role will it play?

♣♣ [Targeted killings and two worlds in Afghanistan: inside the Takhar attack](#), Kate Clark, *Foreign Policy*, 11 May

♣♣ [The Takhar attack: Targeted killings and the parallel worlds of US intelligence and Afghanistan](#), Kate Clark, Afghanistan Analysts Network, *AAN Thematic Report* 05/2011 - The targeted killing of Osama Bin Laden has given a boost to those in the US who believe this is also an effective strategy to defeat – or at least degrade – the Taliban in Afghanistan. This report warns against this strategy, stressing that the legality of targeted killings depends on the accuracy of the intelligence which drives them; [Murky Identities and Ties Hinder NATO's Hunt for Afghan Insurgents](#), Report Says, *New York Times*, 10 May

♣♣ [Violations by Afghan forces could escalate as they take on frontline role, says Oxfam](#), Oxfam Press Release, 10 May – see the report ‘No Time to Lose -Promoting the Accountability of the Afghan National Security Forces’, Oxfam, Joint Briefing Paper, 10 May; [Oxfam Warns Of Abuse Threat From Afghan Security Forces After NATO Withdrawal](#), *Radio Free Europe/ Radio*

*Liberty*, 11 May; [Afghan forces not ready for security role](#), Oxfam warns, *BBC News*, 10 May; [Rights abuses by Afghan forces grow](#): Oxfam, *AFP*, 10 May

[U.S.-Pakistani Relations Beyond Bin Laden](#), George Friedman, *STRATFOR*, 10 May

## Arab protests (and the implications for NATO's Mediterranean Dialogue and Istanbul Cooperation Initiative):

[Video message](#) from the NATO Secretary General, ‘NATO and the Arab Spring’, 1 June

♣♣ [NATO and the Arab Spring](#), Anders Fogh Rasmussen, *New York Times*, 31 May

## Arms Control:

[Defence against chemical agents – the use of science and technology](#), NATO News, 17 May -The threat from chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) agents remains a real and present danger in both NATO and partner countries. Providing the forum for greater understanding and cooperation in this regard, two NATO funded workshops, “Enhancement of CBRN Defence Capabilities” and “Military and Civilian Contributions to Disease Surveillance”, took place back-to-back in Kiev, Ukraine on 10 to 12 and 12 to 13 May 2011

*The moral nadir of UN-NATO "peacekeeping" is the photograph of Mladic blowing his cigar smoke in the face of the spineless Dutch colonel while in the background those his battalion should have protected were taken off to the killing fields*

Geoffrey Robertson, QC, a former UN war crimes judge, [Play safe so 'butcher of Bosnia' can't wriggle off the hook](#), *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 30 May

## Conflict Prevention, Crisis Management & Humanitarian Relief:

## Counter-Terrorism:

[After bin Laden: NATO's Resolve Against Terrorism Must Not Waver](#), Sally McNamara and Morgan Roach, *Heritage Foundation Web Memo* No.3248, 11 May

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[NATO report threatens to 'persecute' Anonymous](#), *Thing.co.uk*, 1 June - Hacktivist group named as threat by military alliance; in a [draft report](#) to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, General Rapporteur Lord Jopling claims that the loose-knit, leaderless group is "becoming more and more sophisticated", and "could potentially hack into sensitive government, military, and corporate files"

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[UK developing cyber-weapons programme to counter cyber war threat](#), *The Guardian*, 30 May - Military to gain a new range of offensive options to defend critical installations around the country from cyber attacks; [Stuxnet attack forced Britain to rethink the cyber war](#), Nick Hopkins, *The Guardian*, 30 May - Virus uniquely programmed to attack Iran's nuclear facility showed power of cyber-weapons had reached chilling new level; and [Forget a cyber Maginot line](#), Nick Harvey, UK armed forces minister, *The Guardian*, 30 May - In this new dimension the west must act now to drive a global consensus on cyberspace security

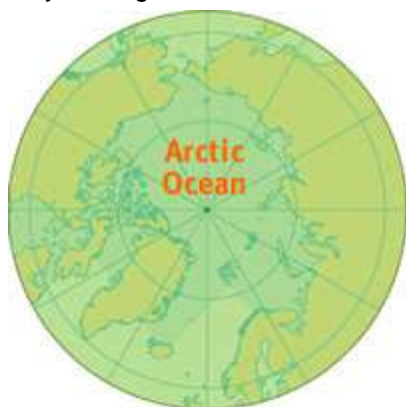
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## Defence Budgets, Procurement and Private Military Companies:

[Nato set to close key naval headquarters at Northwood, Hertfordshire](#), *Daily Telegraph*, 30 May - A major Nato command centre in Britain faces the axe in a series of cutbacks by the organisation



[A DynCorp contractor in Afghanistan](#), David Isenberg (blog), 11 May

## Energy Security:

[Wikileaks cables show race to carve up Arctic](#), *BBC Newsnight*, 12 May (photo credit: BlatantWorld.com/flickr)

*If we acknowledge that there is no more money available – and there isn't, at least for the foreseeable future – then we need to find new ways to build security that cost less money*

"NATO – Value for Security", [speech](#) by NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen in Bratislava, Slovakia, 19 May

## Enlargement and Partnerships:

*NATO Review*, May 2011 – Why NATO's Partners Matter:

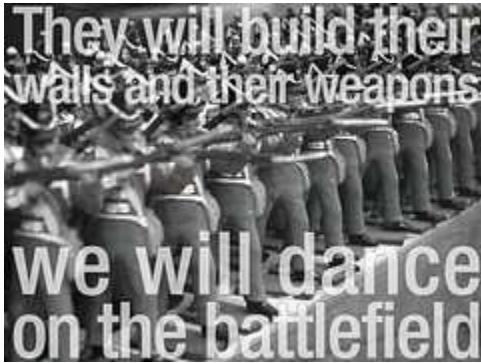
- [NATO and its partners - changing relationships?](#)
- [NATO and Sweden: old partners, new outlooks?](#)
- [Photostory: a look at some of NATO's partners](#)
- [Enduring Partnerships: is corruption now Afghanistan's main battlefield?](#)
- [Safety in numbers? NATO and its partners](#)
- [India and NATO: size no problem](#) - Michael Ruehle looks at what could be one of NATO's biggest ever partnerships

Caucasus: [Lessening the effects of earthquakes in the southern Caucasus](#), NATO News, 12 May – "The Caucasus is one of the most seismically active and hazardous regions in the Alpine-Himalayan collision



belt," explains Dr Niyazi Türkelli. He is one of the co-directors of a NATO-sponsored project aimed at building capacity and promoting cross-border cooperation in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia with a view to mitigating the effects of earthquakes in the region

EU: Death of an Institution. The end for Western European Union, a future for European defence, Alyson JK Bailes and Graham Messervy-Whiting, *Egmont Paper* n°46, May 2011 - In March 2010 the ten Member States of Western European Union (WEU) announced that the last organs, staffs and activities of that institution would be laid to rest by 30 June 2011. Why get rid of WEU's last vestiges precisely now? This study addresses the question, and seeks to assess WEU's achievements and legacies by reviewing its 57-year career from cradle to grave, including "intricate partnerships with both NATO and the EU" that in theory allowed NATO's military assets to be borrowed for missions under an EU political lead



Pooling & Sharing: From Slow March to Quick March? Sven Biscop and Jo Coelmont, *Egmont Security Policy Brief* 23, May 2011 - On 23 May, the Ministers of Defence of the EU27 will assess the first outcome of the "Ghent Framework" for pooling & sharing of military capabilities. While some defence establishments may be hesitant, now is no time for timidity. Ministers must take the lead for the process to yield substantial results. If "Ghent" was the expression of the will, now the first concrete actions must be taken.

(photo credit: dealingwith/flickr)

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Georgia: Chairman of NATO Military Committee meets Georgian Vice-Prime Minister, NATO News, 17 May - The Georgian Vice-Prime Minister, Mr Giorgi Baramidze met the Chairman of the NATO Military Committee (CMC), Admiral Giampaolo Di Paola, on the occasion of the exhibition held at NATO Headquarters on the subject of Georgian participation within the ISAF mission in Afghanistan

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Ukraine: Director General of NATO International Military Staff meets senior officials in Ukraine, NATO News, 13 May - Lieutenant General Juergen Bornemann, Director General International Military Staff (DG IMS), concluded a three-day visit to Ukraine's capital at the invitation of Colonel General Hryhoriy Pedchenko, Chief of the General Staff and Chief in Command of the Ukrainian Armed Forces; NATO-Ukraine: a history of success, *The Day Weekly Digest*, 24 May – interview with Juergen Bornemann

## Exercises - Spontex 2011:

RNAS Cudrose Merlin helicopters on NATO exercise, BBC News, 9 May - Helicopters from the Royal Naval Air Station (RNAS) at Cudrose in Cornwall are deploying to France

## Gender:

Improving gender awareness in KFOR, NATO News, 17 May

NATO Committee on Gender Perspectives Annual meeting, NATO News, 10 May - on 24-27 May NATO HQ hosted the annual meeting of the Committee on Gender Perspective. The subject was: "How can gender make a difference to Security in operations". The meeting aimed to create a summary of best practices and lessons learned showing the influence a gender perspective can have on security issues in operations. Additionally, indicators to measure success and progress in operations at tactical level were identified



## Libya:

### **NATO Operational Media Update, 3 June**

#### **Mission**

On March 27, NATO decided to take control over all military operations for Libya under UN Security Council Resolutions 1970 & 1973. The aim of Operation Unified Protector is to protect civilians and civilian-populated areas under attack or threat of attack. The mission consists of three elements: an arms embargo, a no-fly-zone and actions to protect civilians from attack or the threat of attack

#### **Air Operations**

Since the beginning of the NATO operation (31 March 2011) a total of 9,648 sorties and 3,640 strike sorties\* have been conducted. (\*Strike sorties are intended to identify and engage appropriate targets, but do not necessarily deploy munitions each time).

#### **Arms Embargo Activities**

A total of 17 ships under NATO command are actively patrolling the Central Mediterranean. 1,156 vessels have been hailed, 71 boardings and 8 denials have been conducted since the beginning of arms embargo operations.

#### **Command and Control**

NATO's operational commander for Operation Unified Protector is Lieutenant-General Charles Bouchard of the Canadian Air Force. His office and staff is located at the Joint Force Command in Naples.

More information on Operation Unified Protector:

[www.jfcnaples.nato.int](http://www.jfcnaples.nato.int)

[www.manp.nato.int](http://www.manp.nato.int)

[www.nato.int/libya](http://www.nato.int/libya)

### **News, Commentary and Reports**

[Nato's strategy in Libya is working – talks with Gaddafi won't](#), Ranj Alaaldin, *The Guardian*, 2 June - Negotiation offers Gaddafi a lifeline at a point when he is isolated, and would hamper the opposition's progress

[Statement by the NATO Secretary General on the extension of the mission in Libya](#), NATO News, 1 June - NATO and partners extend mission for Libya for another 90 days

[Libya: SAS veterans helping Nato identify Gaddafi targets in Misrata](#), *The Guardian*, 31 May - Ex-SAS soldiers and private security firm employees passing information to Nato attack helicopters

[Libya: Five generals defect as pressure mounts on Muammar Gaddafi](#), *Daily Telegraph*, 30 May - A mass defection of senior military officers puts more pressure on the regime of Col Muammar Gaddafi as the last chance for a negotiated settlement to the crisis seemed to pass and Nato prepared to intensify air strikes

[Libya's opposition offers amnesty to Gaddafi regime](#), *Financial Times*, 28 May

[Attack helicopters will change face of Libyan war](#), *Irish Times*, 28 May

♣♣ [Why no mention of a ceasefire for Libya, Obama?](#) Jonathan Steele, *The Guardian*, 27 May - The best way to protect desperate Libyan civilians is for Nato to reverse its mistake of taking sides

[After Mladic, NATO says learned Srebrenica lesson](#), *Reuters Africa*, 27 May

[NATO Defies Africa By Intensifying Bombardment Of Libya](#), *Mathaba.Net*, 27 May

(Shousha refugee camp, at the Libyan border (Tunisian side). April 2011 – photo credit: guerric/flickr)

[Why the War in Libya is Wrong](#), Dennis Kucinich, *Huffington Post*, 25 May

♣♣ [Friend or foe? Military intervention in Libya](#), *Humanitarian Policy Group Briefing Note*, Overseas Development Institute, May 2011

[Libya: NATO's Report Card](#), Micah Zenko, Council on Foreign Relations (blog), 25 May



[Debating the Libyan intervention: precedents and departures in international humanitarian law](#), Jennifer Welsh, David Rodin, Dapo Akande, and Cheyney Ryan, *Open Democracy*, 25 May

[Daunting Task for NATO in Libya as Strikes Intensify](#), *New York Times*, 24 May - With only indirect information from the ground, NATO relies on an array of imagery and electronic intercepts collected by drones, spy planes and satellites, as well as news media reports and other whispers of intelligence to build its campaign

[Dispatch From Tripoli - NATO's Feast of Blood](#), Cynthia McKinney, former member of Congress from Georgia, *Counterpunch*, 24 May

[Victory in Libya is closer than we think](#), Paul Smyth, *Daily Telegraph*, 24 May - Colonel Gaddafi's regime has been fatally weakened – now the West must prepare for its collapse

[Tripoli's M&S Store Still Open For Business](#), *Sky News*, 24 May - Hard as it may be to believe, Britain's best known retailer has a branch in the war-torn country's capital, Tripoli. The UK embassy is shut, the ambassador's residence has been destroyed, but the British stalwart of the high street is still open

[Libya: Nato steps up air strikes on Tripoli](#), *BBC News*, 24 May

[NATO strikes Pro- Qadhafi vehicle storage facility in Tripoli](#), *NATO News*, 24 May

*They were right to stop the guns and the tanks from getting to Benghazi. The problem they have now is the sense that they've crossed a line and are now part of the civil war and fighting on one side of the civil war.*

[Interview](#) with former United Nations secretary-general Kofi Annan, *allAfrica.com*, 18 May

♣♣ [Nato operations in Libya: data journalism breaks down which country does what](#), *The Guardian*, 22 May - How much is each Nato country contributing to operations in Libya? Here's the most comprehensive analysis yet of who is doing what - [Get the data](#); [Arab states play limited role in battle](#)

[against Muammar Gaddafi's regime](#), *The Guardian*, 22 May - Most of military might targeting Libyan leader and his forces is coming from US, UK and France, according to Guardian survey

[Nato's mission in Libya needs a complete rethink, says former admiral](#), *The Guardian*, 22 May - Rear Admiral Chris Parry says the campaign in Libya is fast becoming reminiscent of Afghanistan and Iraq

[Will Gaddafi go with a whimper or a bang?](#) Andrew Gilligan, *Daily Telegraph*, 22 May - There is propaganda on either side, but neither Colonel Gaddafi nor his NATO foes seem to have many new ideas

[How Nato's blunders have prolonged Libya's suffering](#), Patrick Cockburn, *The Independent*, 22 May - Air strikes will defeat Gaddafi. But unless regional partners help force his departure, he will fight to the finish – ushering in years of chaos and crisis

[NATO says stops tanker en route to Gaddafi](#), *Reuters*, 20 May

[NATO targets Libyan Navy in Tripoli, Al Khums and Sirte](#), *NATO News*, 20 May

## ***Libya – views from NATO member states and partner countries***

### ***AU***

[NATO and the African Union pursue dialogue on Libya](#), *NATO News*, 31 May

[Gaddafi wants truce in Libya, says Zuma, but terms unclear](#), *The Guardian*, 31 May - Leader appears in public to meet South African president on peace mission as more senior officials defect regime

[Jacob Zuma to meet Muammar Gaddafi in last-ditch peace bid](#), *The Guardian*, 29 May - African Union leaders put pressure on Libyan leader to seek diplomatic solution to conflict

[AU demands end to NATO Libya strikes](#), *AFP*, 26 May

[India, Africa call for end to Libya bombing](#), *The Hindu*, 26 May

["NATO attacks on Libya must end," says PAP](#), *Kenya Broadcasting Corporation*, 23 May - The Pan African Parliament has condemned what it calls the military aggression by NATO forces in Libya

### ***Canada***

[Canada approves extension of NATO's Libya mission](#), *CTV.ca*, 1 June

[Time to rethink Canadian involvement in ill-fated Libyan venture](#), Scott Taylor, *The Chronicle Herald*, 30 May

[Canada ordering more smart bombs for Libya campaign](#), *The Montreal Gazette*, 18 May

[Decision to extend Libya mission on agenda for new Parliament](#), *The Vancouver Sun*, 17 May

[Diplomacy will end Libyan crisis: Canadian Forces](#), *Toronto Sun*, 11 May

[Canadian Forces rotate new pilots into Libyan mission](#), *The Vancouver Sun*, 11 May

### ***France***

[French ex-Minister in Libya, would defend Gaddafi](#), *Reuters*, 29 May

[France to supply helicopters to NATO's Libya campaign](#), *Expatica.com*, 23 May - France will provide attack helicopters for NATO's air war in Libya to improve the alliance's ground strike capacity

[Libyan rebels seek European support](#), *Al Jazeera*, 14 May – Opposition council leader meets French president in Paris in a bid to garner support

### ***Italy***

[Berlusconi dismisses claim NATO strike killed Kadhafi's son](#), *AFP*, 25 May

[Libya 1911: How an Italian pilot began the air war era](#), Alan Johnston, *BBC News*, 10 May



[NATO strikes 'hit Libyan warships'](#), *Al Jazeera*, 20 May - Military alliance "sinks eight vessels belonging to Gaddafi" amid increasing pressure aimed at weakening Libyan leader

♣♣ [Uprising in Libya: The False Specter of Chemical Warfare](#), Jean Pascal Zanders, *WMD Junction*, 19 May - Recent outlandish claims that Libya's Muammar Qaddafi could use chemical or biological weapons against rebel forces ignore the facts.

♣♣ [Wanted: Qaddafi & Co. - Can the ICC Arrest the Libya Three?](#)

David Kaye, *Foreign Affairs*, 19 May

One byproduct of the West's intervention in Libya is that, together with the events of the Arab Spring, it has helped create a new broader regional narrative in which the West is seen as fighting alongside Muslims in defense of their freedoms, rather than fighting against them.

A less widely anticipated outcome of the West's intervention in Libya is that it is leading even committed jihadists to cautiously question and rethink core aspects of their ideology.

[NATO in Libya is a challenge to bin Laden's ideology](#), Noman Benotman, *Foreign Policy*, 18 May

[The colonel feels the squeeze](#) - From all sides—military, diplomatic and economic—the noose is tightening around Muammar Qaddafi, *The Economist*, 19 May

[The lessons of Libya](#) - Outsiders had good reason to intervene in Libya. But their cause may suffer from it, *The Economist*, 19 May

[Libyan Rebel Official Says Death Toll Hits at Least 15,000](#), *Bloomberg Business Week*, 19 May

♣♣ [The Lessons of Libya](#), Reese Schonfeld, *Huffington Post*, 18 May

[Libya: enough is enough](#), Nazir Ahmed, *The Guardian*, 18 May - We have started something in Libya that will be difficult to finish. Without a change of approach we risk another Afghanistan

[Another Gadhafi regime official defects](#), *Associated Press*, 17 May

[Libya says telecoms staff to act shield against NATO](#), *The West Australian*, 17 May

[Press briefing on Libya](#), NATO News, 17 May - by NATO Spokesperson Oana Lungescu and Wing Commander Mike Bracken, the Operation Unified Protector Spokesperson

[East Libyans split on foreign troop intervention](#), *Reuters Africa*, 16 May

[Hague war crimes court to issue arrest warrant for Gaddafi](#), *The Independent*, 16 May

[Muammar Gaddafi is hoping that a 'dignified' exit will halt air strikes](#), Martin Chulov, *The Guardian*, 14 May

[Inside the art deco war room for Nato on Libya](#), Con Coughlin, *Daily Telegraph*, 14 May - The imposing Art Deco building that dominates the hills above the Bay of Naples has been turned into a war room for Nato's military campaign against another notorious dictator

[Tripoli despatch: Nato tightens squeeze on Gaddafi](#), Andrew Gilligan, *Daily Telegraph*, 14 May - With neither the Libyan regime nor its opponents capable of a game-changing move, could a new Nato bombing strategy end the deadlock?

## Norway

[Norway looks to curtail Libya air strike role – other European NATO allies to follow?](#)

*NATO Watch News Brief*, 10 May

[Norway set to cut Libya involvement](#), *Views and News from Norway*, 9 May - Defense Minister Grete Faremo told the Norwegian Parliament that if NATO continues its UN-backed military intervention beyond its initial three-month commitment period, Norway's involvement would be "different and less comprehensive" than its current contribution

## Poland

[North Africa needs to find its own path to freedom](#), Radek Sikorski, Foreign Minister of Poland, *Tehran Times*, 21 May

## Russia

[Russia Says Qaddafi Has Lost Legitimacy to Govern, Joining Support of NATO](#), *Bloomberg*, 27 May

[Russia Urges Peacekeeping Force in Libya, Condemns NATO Strikes](#), *Bloomberg*, 20 May

[Moscow's peace-making efforts win all-round support in Libya](#), *The Voice of Russia*, 19 May

## Saudi Arabia

[Strong Saudi support for NATO action in Libya: Poll](#), *Arab News*, 13 May - Fifty percent of Saudis support NATO's military intervention in Libya while 33 percent oppose it and 17 percent have no comment, according to an online poll

## Spain

[Spain says receives Libya ceasefire request](#), *Reuters Africa*, 26 May

## Turkey

[Turkey meets Libyan rebels, tells Gaddafi to quit](#), *Reuters Africa*, 23 May

## UN

[U.N. seeks deal to allow food, medicine into Libya](#), *Reuters*, 18 May

[Libya Offers Truce to UN in Return for NATO Cease-fire](#), *Voice of America*, 15 May

[UN envoy for Libya to attempt cease-fire negotiation](#), *CNN International*, 15 May

## UK

[No decision on helicopters for Libya: Cameron](#), *AFP*, 26 May

[Libya Apache deployment signals Britain's escalating role in conflict](#), *The Guardian*, 25 May - Attack helicopters' use against Gaddafi to be formally announced amid warnings by forces minister of possible long haul for UK

[UK: Hague backs NATO change to attack Libya's infrastructure](#), *Muslim News*, 17 May

[Britain used to win the wars it fought – so what happened in Libya?](#) Stalemate with Gaddafi and lack of resources in Afghanistan all point to a lack of leadership, Con Coughlin, *Daily Telegraph*, 17 May

[Qaddafi and NATO agree on need for negotiations, but on what terms?](#) *Al Arabiya News*, 14 May

[Brega Airstrike](#), NATO Press Release, 13 May – “A command and control bunker was struck in Brega early this morning as the structure was being used by the Qadhafi regime to coordinate

*only an immediate ceasefire is consistent with the purpose originally claimed for NATO's intervention, that of protecting civilians*

♣♣ [Libya: Achieving a Ceasefire, Moving toward Legitimate Government](#), International Crisis Group Press Release, 13 May

strikes against the Libyan civilian population. We are aware of allegations of civilian casualties in connection to this strike, and although we cannot independently confirm the validity of the claim, we regret any loss of life by innocent civilians when they occur. The goal of NATO and its partners is to reduce the Qadhafi regime's ability to attack civilians by weakening

their command and control structure. The building struck had been clearly identified as a command and control centre”. [Libya accuses Nato over bombing of imams](#), *The Guardian*, 13 May - Government claims attack by Nato on Brega guest house killed 11 imams as Gaddafi broadcast quashes rumours he had been injured in an air strike

[NATO fast tracks Libya aid shipment procedures](#), *Reuters Africa*, 13 May

[NATO appeals to the mercy of Gadhafi troops to stop use of human shields](#), *The Canadian Press*, 12 May

[NATO ships thwart attack on Misrata harbour](#), NATO Press Release, 12 May - while conducting Embargo patrols in the waters off the coast of Libya, NATO warships participated in a coordinated defence against a small boat attack threatening the port city of Misrata; [Canadian ship returns fire at Libyan forces](#), *CBC News*, 12 May (photo credit: NATO)



[Qaddafi Must Go, NATO Chief Says in Atlanta](#), *Global Atlanta*, 12 May

[NATO's Mission, in Libya and Beyond](#), Anders Fogh Rasmussen, *Wall Street Journal*, 12 May - The Alliance has never been busier, budget

constraints notwithstanding

[NATO hits command and control bunkers in Tripoli](#), NATO News, 12 May

[Libya Offers Controlled Tour of NATO Bombing Sites in Tripoli](#), *New York Times*, 12 May

[International Warrant for Gadhafi Expected](#), *Voice of America*, 12 May

[Libyan Fallout: Does NATO Divide the Atlantic Partners? Part II](#), Tomas Valasek, *YaleGlobal*, 12 May - Expecting cherry-picking from NATO members, the US delegates security tasks to Europe

[Migrant workers fleeing Libya risk lives on smuggling boats](#), *Los Angeles Times*, 12 May - More vessels are becoming stranded in the Mediterranean, and the death toll is climbing. Some refugees say they were forced

[Libya: Fox supports call for intensified campaign](#), *BBC News*, 15 May - The Defence Secretary Liam Fox says he agrees with the head of the Armed Forces that NATO needs to intensify its campaign in Libya.

## US

[House Rebukes Obama for Continuing Libyan Mission Without Its Consent](#), *New York Times*, 3 June

[The war in Libya 'is not a war'. Really?](#) Dennis Kucinich, *The Guardian*, 2 June - NATO has extended combat operations in Libya, yet the president has dodged granting Congress its constitutional right to decide

[McCain: U.S.-Led Operation Would Have Gotten Rid of Qaddafi by Now](#), *Fox News*, 29 May

[As Goal Shifts in Libya, Time Constrains NATO](#), *New York Times*, 26 May - President Obama has subtly shifted Washington's public explanation of its goals in Libya, declaring now that he wants to assure the Libyan people are “finally free of 40 years of tyranny” at the hands of Col. Qaddafi, after first stating he wanted to protect civilians from massacres

[Libya Effort Is Called Violation of War Act](#), *New York Times*, 25 May - Several lawmakers from both parties accused President Obama of violating the War Powers Resolution by continuing American participation in NATO's air war in Libya without Congressional authorization

[Obama invites Libya rebels to open Washington office](#), *Los Angeles Times*, 24 May

[Senate parties agree on Libya resolution](#), *Associated Press*, 24 May

[Clinton: More NATO nations must join Libya mission](#), *Associated Press*, 24 May

[As NATO Claims Progress in Libya, a U.S. Deadline Is Put to the Test](#), *New York Times*, 20 May - the Obama administration appeared to ignore a statute requiring hostilities to cease after two months if Congress had not authorized them to continue

[With NATO in Austin, Critics Question Libya Bombing](#), *KUT News*, 11 May

[AFRICOM's Libyan Expedition](#), Jonathan Stevensen, *Foreign Affairs*, 9 May - Operation Odyssey Dawn will make life even harder for the U.S. Africa Command

onto rickety boats by Libyan soldiers, who rebels say want to use the flood of migrants as a form of retaliation against Italy and France

[Libya stalemate leaves Nato without 'Plan B'](#), Jonathan Marcus, *BBC News*, 11 May

♠♠ [Helping Libya's refugees is the better way to beat Gaddafi](#), Simon Tisdall, *The Guardian*, 11 May -The thousands of mostly African migrants are not the problem, they are victims. It is our duty to receive them with humanity;

[NATO and EU must do more to help migrants fleeing Libya by sea – Human Rights Watch and UNHCR](#), *NATO Watch News Brief*, 11 May

[Libyan regime accused of exploiting boat people](#), *The Guardian*, 11 May -Muammar Gaddafi's officials admit unseaworthy migrant ships are being allowed to sail in protest at Nato air strikes

[Signs of Fatigue and Unease as Europe Struggles with Libyan and Syrian Crises](#), Bruce Crumley, *Time (blog)*, 10 May

[Libyan Fallout: Does NATO Divide the Atlantic Partners? Part I](#), Alistair Burnett, *YaleGlobal*, 10 May - Varying contributions of NATO members in war with Libya reveal a glass half empty

[Press briefing on Libya by the NATO Deputy Spokesperson, Carmen Romero and Brigadier General Claudio Gabellini, Chief Operations Officer, Operation Unified Protector](#), NATO News, 10 May; [NATO, EU Defend Record of Saving African Migrants](#), *Voice of America*, 10 May

[Gaddafi stays out of public view as Nato bombs Tripoli](#), *The Guardian*, 10 May - Libyan leader not seen in public since bombing of son Saif al-Arab's home ten days ago

[Ship 'with 600 people aboard' sinks as refugees flee from Libya](#), *The Independent*, 10 May

[Libyan rebels caught in an uneasy lull](#), *Los Angeles Times*, 10 May

[NATO strikes target Gaddafi compound: witnesses](#), *Reuters*, 10 May

[NATO bombs rock Tripoli, Libya rebels advance](#), *The Montreal Gazette*, 10 May

(New York Anti-War Protest, 9 April – photo credit: Protest Photos 1/flickr)

[With Help From NATO, Libyan Rebels Gain Ground](#), *New York Times*, 9 May

[NATO: Investigate Fatal Boat Episode](#), Human Rights Watch Press Release, 9 May - 63 Allegedly Died After Drifting Vessel Sought Rescue Unsuccessfully; [Did NATO Leave 62 Africans to Die at Sea Off Libya?](#) *Time*, 9 May; [Nato: We did not leave migrants to die](#), *Mail and Guardian*, 9 May

[NATO and Libya: Déjà Vu or Exceeds Expectations?](#) Stephen Saideman, *Current Intelligence*, 9 May

[FAQs on Impact of Action in Libya on the Responsibility to Protect](#), International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect, 6 May



## Maritime Security and Piracy:

[Danish crew free Somali pirate hostages](#), *AFP*, 15 May

## Missile Defence:

[Czech participation in NATO's missile defence undecided: foreign minister](#), *Prague Daily Monitor*, 3 June



[Russian Lawmaker Calls on U.S. to Halt Fielding Missile Shield](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 1 June

[Pentagon Questions Proposed MEADS Program Limits](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 31 May

[Obama's Term Likely to End Without Russian Antimissile Accord, Ambassador Says](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 31 May

[Bulgarian Defense Ministry Refutes Plans of US Missile Defense Radar](#), *Novinite.com*, 28 May; [Foreign Minister: NATO Radar in Bulgarian Mountains is Hoax](#), *Novinite.com*, 29 May

(The destroyer USS Hopper (DDG 70) launches a Standard Missile-3 as it operates in the Pacific Ocean – photo credit: Ted Lipien/flickr)



["Old Thinking" Dominates Antimissile Deadlock: U.S. Official](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 27 May

[Medvedev Hints Antimissile Agreement With U.S. May Take Years](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 26 May

*If we don't work this out, then we will have to take steps to counter it, which we would not like. Then we are talking about forcing the development of our nuclear strike potential. This would be a very bad scenario, a scenario that would throw us back to the Cold War era.*

Dmitry Medvedev, Russian President, warning of repercussions if his nation and the US cannot reach agreement on European missile defence collaboration; [Russia Threatens Nuclear Arms Boost if Antimissile Dispute Persists](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 18 May

[Lavrov Says Russia-NATO Antimissile Cooperation is Critical "Test"](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 23 May

[Russia Seeks Pledge From NATO on Missile Defense](#), *New York Times*, 21 May

[European Missile Shield Targets Russia, General Claims](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 20 May

[Russia presses U.S. for guarantee on missile shield](#), *Reuters*, 20 May

[Missile defence issue: chance for progress remains](#), *The Voice of Russia*, 19 May

[NATO and United States Set to Test Missile Defense Link](#), *Signal Magazine*, 16 May

[No Europe missile shield without Russia – Medvedev](#), *The Voice of Russia*, 15 May

[NATO, Russia coming to an agreement on missile defense](#), Anders Fogh Rasmussen, *Chicago Tribune*, 12 May

[Breakthrough: 'Holy Grail' Satellite System Tracks Life of Ballistic Missile](#), Richard de Silva, *DefenceIQ*, 12 May

[Rasmussen calls for NATO, Russia to 'build security together'](#), *RIA Novosti*, 12 May

[Russia Calls For Common Ground With U.S. on Missile Shield](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 10 May

## NATO Parliamentary Assembly:

[NATO Parliamentary Assembly Spring Session in Varnia](#), Bulgaria, 27-30 May - The Parliament of Bulgaria hosted the NATO PA's Spring Session in Varna bringing together some 250 parliamentarians from the 28 NATO member countries from North America and Europe as well as delegates from partner countries and observers to discuss common international security concerns and reports to be adopted during the Annual Session in Bucharest in October 2011. [Committee reports and summaries](#):

- [074 CDS 11 E](#): Draft General Report. "Information and National Security"  
General Rapporteur: Lord JOPLING (United Kingdom)
- [075 CDS DG 11 E](#): Draft Report of the Sub-Committee on Democratic Governance. "Post-Orange Ukraine : Internal Dynamics and Foreign Policy Priorities"  
Rapporteur : Lucio MALAN (Italy)
- [076 CDS 11 E](#): Draft Special Report. "Governance challenges in Afghanistan – an Update"  
Special Rapporteur : Vitalino CANAS (Portugal)
- [078 DSC 11 E](#): Draft General Report. "Transition in Afghanistan: Assessing the Security Effort"  
General Rapporteur: Sven MIKSER (Estonia)
- [79 DSCFC 11 E](#): Draft Report of the Sub-Committee on Future Security and Defence Capabilities. "Missile Defence: the Way Ahead for NATO"  
Rapporteur : Raymond KNOPS (Netherlands)
- [080 DSCTC 11 E](#): Draft Report of the Sub-Committee on Transatlantic Defence and Security Co-operation. "NATO Operations under the New Strategic Concept and the Implications of the Evolution of the CSDP"  
Rapporteur: Nicole AMELINE (France)
- [083 ESCTER 11 E](#): Draft Report of the Sub-Committee on Transatlantic Economic Relations. "Finding Workable Solutions in Afghanistan : The Work of the International Community in Building a Functioning Economy and Society"  
Rapporteur: Jeppe KOFOD (Denmark)
- [082 ESC 11 E](#): Draft General Report. "Confronting a Difficult Fiscal Environment: the Economic and Security Implications of Fiscal Consolidation"  
General Rapporteur: Simon van DRIEL (Netherlands)
- [084 ESCEW 11 E](#): Draft Report of the Sub-Committee on East-West Economic Co-operation and Convergence. "The Balkan Economies: Regional Roadblocks, Europe 's Distractions and Global Crisis"  
Rapporteur : John SEWEL (United Kingdom)

- [086 PC 11 E](#): Draft General Report. "The Rise of China and Possible Implications for NATO "  
General Rapporteur: Assen AGOV (Bulgaria)
- [087 PCNP 11 E](#): Draft Report of the Sub-Committee on NATO Partnerships. "Belarus - A Difficult Partner"  
Rapporteur : Daniel BACQUELAINE (Belgium)
- [088 PCTR 11 E](#): Draft Report of the Sub-Committee on Transatlantic Relations. "Afghanistan - the Regional Context"  
Rapporteur : John Dirby PAULSEN (Denmark)
- [090 STC 11 E](#): Draft General Report. "Countering Biological and Chemical Threats: The Way Forward"  
General Rapporteur : David SCOTT (United States )
- [091 STCEES 11 E](#): Draft Report of the Sub-Committee on Energy and Environmental Security. "Food and Water Security : Implications for Euro-Atlantic Security"  
Rapporteur : Philippe VITEL (France)
- [092 STC 11 E](#): Draft Special Report. "Countering the Afghan Insurgency: Low-Tech Threats, High-Tech Solutions"  
Special Rapporteur: Pierre Claude NOLIN (Canada)

[Messages](#) from the President of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, Dr Karl A. Lamers and the Head of the Bulgarian Delegation to the NATO PA, Dobroslav Dimitrov

[Press releases](#); press reports:

[NATO to build virtual cooperation with Russia: official](#), *Xinhua*, 30 May

[Russia, NATO far from building joint missile shield: report](#), *Xinhua*, 29 May

[NATO report sees slow progress in Afghanistan](#), *Xinhua*, 29 May



## NATO-Russia Relations:

[Russia against pressure on Balkan states to join NATO - Lavrov](#), *RIA Novosti*, 2 June

[NATO and Russia to exercise together against air terrorism](#), NATO News, 1 June - From 6-10 June, NATO and Russian fighter aircraft will take part in counterterrorism exercise "Vigilant Skies 2011" - a joint demonstration of the NATO-Russia Council Cooperative Airspace Initiative (NRC CAI). This initiative is designed to prevent terrorist attacks which use civilian aircraft, such as the 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Centre, by sharing information on movements

in NATO and Russian airspace, and by coordinating interceptions of renegade aircraft (photo credit: NATO)

[Russia Sees Growing Cruise Missile Threat From West](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 31 May - European and US armed forces are likely to possess 80,000 cruise missiles within the next decade, including thousands of nuclear-tipped weapons, the Russian army General Staff indicated

[Russian sub joins NATO exercise for first time](#), *RIA Novosti*, 31 May

[CSTO-NATO cooperation could be an efficient alternative – Sharavin](#), *Ria Novosti*, 30 May

[Russian Senators visit NATO](#), NATO News, 25 May - For the first time since 2003 a group of Russian Senators paid a visit to NATO HQ and SHAPE on 23-24 May 2011

[Video message](#) from the NATO Secretary General, "NATO-Russia towards further cooperation", 12 May

[Advancing NATO-Russia Cooperation](#), NATO News, 11 May - in a [speech](#) in Chicago, NATO Sec. General says the Allies and Russia have a great opportunity to advance their relationship through missile defence

[Joint Press Conference NATO-Russia Council](#), Joint Press conference by the Chairman of the NATO Military Committee and the Chief of Defence of the Russian Federation, *NATOchannel.tv*, 4 May

## Nuclear Weapons:

(photo credit: hellothomas/flickr)

[Berlin Split over US Nuke Modernization](#), *Der Spiegel*, 30 May

♠♠ [NATO's Nuclear Posture Review: Nuclear Sharing Instead of Nuclear Stationing](#), Karl-Heinz Kamp, *NATO Defense College Research Paper* No.68 May 2011 - NATO has started a nuclear posture review process - the so called "Deterrence and Defence Policy Review". This study concludes that it is not so much the physical



presence of nuclear weapons that makes the US commitment credible but to a large degree what is called "nuclear sharing" or "nuclear participation". For decades the United States provided the allies with information on its nuclear strategies and concepts. Moreover, Washington allowed the possibility of nuclear consultations and facilitated common nuclear planning. If these mechanisms of nuclear sharing can be kept up and updated to today's requirements, NATO can keep up a credible nuclear deterrence capability without US nuclear bombs stationed in Europe.



[If the Bombs Go: European Perspectives on NATO's Nuclear Debate](#), Edited by Malcolm Chalmers and Andrew Somerville, *Whitehall Report* 1-11, Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies, May 2011 - this report analyses the issues that could arise if US nuclear weapons were removed from Europe. The paper examines how NATO's numerous internal and external assurance and deterrence relationships might be altered. Seven authors from the region explore potential developments of nuclear consultation, contingency plans and missile defence infrastructure required to address the security needs of NATO members.

♣♣ [Reducing the Role of Tactical Nuclear Weapons in Europe: Perspectives and Proposals on the NATO Policy Debate](#), Paul Ingram and Oliver Meier, Editors, *An ACA and BASIC Report*, May 2011 - the report is the fruit of a year's informal discussions involving policy makers and diplomats from key NATO member states, at events across Europe organized (by BASIC with partner organizations ACA and IFSH) before and after the NATO Lisbon summit last November

[Reductions of Tactical Nuclear Weapons in Europe: Unbinding the Gordian Knot](#), Jacek Durkale, The Polish Institute of International Affairs, *PISM Strategic File* No.16, May 2011 – the author favours designing a long-term, cohesive and practical NATO approach towards Russia, which eventually will lead to NATO and Russian reductions of nuclear arsenals

[Italy's Tactical Nuclear Weapons](#), Laura Spagnuolo, BASIC, 20 May - Debate in Europe about the role and future of tactical nuclear weapons (TNW) has revealed different positions between allies. Amid these discussions, Italy has remained conspicuously silent. This paper reviews the Italian position, by piecing together the likely elements and examining the reasons behind the country's reticence in taking an explicit position on TNW

[Iowa and Tactical Nuclear Weapons](#), Paul Deaton, *Blog for Iowa*, 6 May

[Guest Blog: Paul Ingram on NATO Nuclear Policy](#) - Response to Christopher Ford's blog post on "NATO, Nuclear Sharing and the INF Analogy", *New Paradigms Forum*, 25 April

## Transatlantic Cooperation:

♣♣ [Visegrad: A New European Military Force](#), George Friedman, *STRATFOR*, 17 May - On May 12, the Visegrad Group announced the formation of a "battle group" under the command of Poland. The battle group would be in place by 2016 as an independent force and would not be part of NATO command. In addition, starting in 2013, the four countries would begin military exercises together under the auspices of the NATO Response Force.

[Interview: Anders Rasmussen](#), *Newsweek*, 15 May - The NATO secretary-general speaks on the significance of the alliance's Libya mission and how bin Laden's death will affect Afghanistan

[NATO Secretary General meeting with President Obama](#), NATO News, 13 May

[NATO Secretary General finishes US tour in Washington D.C.](#), NATO News, 13 May  
(photo credit: NATO)

[Video message](#) from the NATO Secretary General, "Commitment, Capability and Connectivity", 13 May 2011



"NATO: A Changing Alliance in a Changing World", [speech](#) by NATO Secretary General to the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) in Washington D.C., 12 May; [NATO chief says Libya operation exposing technological gap within the alliance](#), *Washington Post*, 12 May

[Libya, Afghanistan on agenda for Obama's meeting with NATO secretary general Friday](#), *Washington Post*, 11 May

*When I was growing up in Denmark, we feared nuclear attack. United in NATO, we faced down that threat, and we overcame it.*

[Speech](#) by NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen, "NATO: Preserving Unity Through Solidarity", at the World Affairs Council of Atlanta in Atlanta, Georgia, 9 May



[Texas and the Defence of Freedom](#), NATO News, 10 May - NATO Secretary General started the fourth day of his US trip with a visit to the Texas National Guard in Austin, the largest of its kind in the United States:

- "Defending Freedom and Common Values in the 21st Century", [Speech](#) by NATO Secretary General



Anders Fogh Rasmussen at the Lyndon Baines Johnson Presidential Library in Austin, Texas, 10 May

- [Video message](#) from the NATO Secretary General, "values to protect", 10 May

- [Remarks](#) to the Texas National Guard by NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen at Camp Mabry Museum in Austin, Texas, 10 May (photo credit: NATO)

[Transatlantic solidarity](#), NATO News, 9 May - NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen gave speeches to World Affairs Council of Atlanta and to the Georgia National Guards at Dobbins Air Force Base on the third day at his US Trip:

- [Remarks](#) to the Georgia National Guard, by NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen at Dobbins Air Force Base, Atlanta, Georgia, 9 May
- "NATO: Preserving Unity Through Solidarity", [Speech](#) by NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen at the World Affairs Council of Atlanta in Atlanta, Georgia, 9 May

[Deepen the Transatlantic Community](#), Ira Louis Straus, *transatlantic-community.org*, 9 May - Top of the transatlantic agenda should be deepening the transatlantic community on all levels, from the institutional rung of the ladder, to the identity-loyalty rung, to the membership rung

## Upcoming Events:

(photo credit: ex.libris/flickr)

[Preparing for tomorrow: cyber defence and the New Strategic Concept](#), NATO Funded workshop, Cambridge, UK, 6-7 June - will bring together 40 experts from NATO and partner countries, including Russia, to proffer answers and provide an analytical context for a clearer understanding of what NATO's cyber security strategy should be



[NATO Defence Ministers Meeting](#), Brussels, 8-9 June – Ministers are expected to endorse a missile defence action plan and assess the progress of the joint analysis on how NATO and Russia can cooperate on missile defence

[Twelfth RUSI Missile Defence Conference](#), London, 15-16 June 2011 - RUSI's first public opportunity to discuss NATO's decision to develop a missile defence capability as envisaged in the newly adopted Strategic Concept, enhanced cooperation with Russia and emerging missile threats

[Shaping NATO's reform agenda](#), International conference, Cercle Gaulois, Brussels, 29 June – Organised by the Security & Defence Agenda (SDA) and the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) and chaired by SDA co-president and former NATO Secretary-General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer.

[NATO Parliamentary Assembly, 57<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session](#), Bucharest, Romania, 7-11 October

## Security News from NATO Member States:

(photo credit: darkmatter/flickr)

### Belgium

[The 2010 Belgian EU Presidency and CSDP](#), Johan Andries, *Egmont Security Policy Brief* 21, April 2011 - looks at the Belgian objectives, the new framework of the Lisbon Treaty, operations and missions, the relations with the Partners, capabilities, EUBG, PESCO and the Ghent Framework.

### Bulgaria

[Bulgaria Teams up with Turkey for Military Projects](#), *Standart News*, 30 May - Bulgaria's premier wants an antimissile shield over the whole territory of the country



[Nato must send clear message of support to revolutions in Middle East and North Africa, Bulgaria's FM says](#), *The Sofia Echo*, 30 May

## Canada

[NATO allies push majority Tories to up Afghanistan role](#), *The National Post*, 20 May

[Canada secretly assured NATO it would consider Afghan training mission](#), *The Canadian Press*, 13 May

[Canadian soldiers turn attention to training Afghan forces](#), *Toronto Star*, 11 May

[While Harper talked tough with NATO on Arctic, US believed PM all bark no bite](#), *APTN National News*, 11 May - Prime Minister Stephen Harper personally warned NATO's secretary general to keep the alliance out of the Arctic or risk increasing tensions with Russia, according to "confidential" US diplomatic cables



(Afghan locals greet 1 Royal Canadian Regiment Bravo Company personnel while they patrol the area in Kandahar, 3 June – photo credit:isafmedia/flickr)

## Estonia

[Estonian Prime Minister visits NATO Headquarters](#), *NATO News*, 18 May - Estonian Prime Minister Andrus Ansip visited NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen at NATO Headquarters in Brussels to discuss key issues such as current operations, Smart Defence and emerging security challenges; [Joint press briefing](#) by NATO Secretary General, Anders Fogh Rasmussen and the Prime Minister of Estonia, Mr. Andrus Ansip, 18 May

## France

[Russia to buy warships from France](#), *Financial Times*, 26 May



## Germany

[Germany Limits Information Exchange with US Intelligence](#), *Der Spiegel*, 17 May - Angela Merkel's government has come under pressure following the deaths of German Islamists in Waziristan through American drone strikes. Berlin has responded by restricting the type of information that German intelligence agencies may pass on to their US counterparts

(US Military Intelligence Battalion participate in a Leaders Reaction Course – photo credit: Presidio of Monterey: DLIFLC & USAG/flickr)

[Rift Widens As Germany Alienates NATO Allies](#), Benjamin

Weinthal, *Radio Free Europe/ Radio Liberty*, 12 May

[German-Syrian al Qaeda member gets lenient sentence](#), *Deutsche Welle*, 9 May - sentence of four years and nine months after pleading guilty to belonging to the terrorist network

## Italy

[Italy Promises Solo Backing for 'Vulcano' Artillery Prototype as Partners Bail](#), *DefenceIQ*, 11 May

## Netherlands

[Disaster in Den Haag: What Are We Learning from Dutch Defence Cuts?](#) *DefenceIQ.com*, 10 May

## Poland

[Poland troops acquitted over deadly Afghanistan raid](#), *BBC News*, 1 June - A court in Poland has acquitted seven Polish soldiers over an attack on an Afghan village in 2007 in which six civilians died

[Doing Geopolitics in Eastern Europe](#), Jan Techau, Commentary, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, 25 May - President Obama's visit to Warsaw is the most important symbolic element of his trip to Europe, signifying Washington's geopolitical re-investment in Eastern and Central Europe

[Lawyers for USS Cole bomb suspect file court case](#), *Associated Press*, 9 May

## Romania

[US flexes muscle in the Black Sea](#), M K Bhadrakumar, *Asia Times*, 18 May – article argues that the Black Sea is about to lose its historical exclusivity as a Russian-Turkish preserve, as a result of a visit by the USA-TRANSCOM commander General McNabb to Bucharest

## Slovakia

[NATO Secretary General talks Smart Defence in Slovakia](#), NATO News, 19 May

## Turkey

[U.S. Falls Out of Favor With NATO Ally](#), Marc Champion, *Wall Street Journal (blog)*, 18 May - The [latest global poll by the Pew Research Center](#) released Wednesday makes grim reading for US diplomats trying to turn the Arab Spring to Washington's advantage, and most of all anyone tasked with improving relations with NATO ally Turkey.

[Internet filtering and changes to press law further limit media freedom in Turkey, says OSCE media freedom representative](#), OSCE Press Release, 17 May

[Arab Spring, Turkish Summer?](#) Richard Javad Heydarian, *Foreign Policy in Focus*, 16 May

[The Road to Turkey's June Elections: Crises, Strategies, and Outcomes](#), Henri J. Barkey, *Carnegie Europe Commentary*, 9 May

## United Kingdom

[Armed forces face radical changes under Lord Levene plans](#), *The Guardian*, 27 May - Powers and positions of senior officers under threat at a time when military is engaged in operations in Libya and Afghanistan

[MoD under fire for 'unstable' planning](#), *Financial Times*, 20 May

[Work on Trident nuclear renewal gets go ahead](#), *BBC News*, 19 May - The defence secretary has given the go-ahead for initial work to begin on the replacement of Britain's Trident nuclear weapons system

[BAE to pay 'final' \\$79m fine over US violations](#), *The Independent*, 18 May



[Hoon job spurs call to close revolving doors](#), *Financial Times*, 17 May - the appointment of Geoff Hoon to helicopter company AgustaWestland underlines the need for reform of Britain's "revolving doors" between Westminster and the corporate world, transparency campaigners said

(revolving doors – photo credit: Zrendavir\_flickr)

[Armed forces face new wave of cuts](#), *The Guardian*, 16 May - Following last year's strategic defence and security review, the MoD is to conduct new study to consider how more savings could be made

[RAF announces new Reaper squadron](#), MOD Press Release, 13 May 11 - The Chief of the Air Staff announced that a new Reaper Squadron will form at RAF Waddington in Lincolnshire, which will mean the aircraft over Afghanistan will be controlled from the UK for the first time

[Security minister Baroness Neville-Jones steps down](#), *BBC News*, 9 May - will take on a new role involving cyber security

## United States

[Perpetual War Is a Bigger Threat Than Terrorism](#), Conor Friedersdorf, *The Atlantic*, 31 May

[Obama and the Arab Spring](#), George Friedman, *STRATFOR*, 24 May

♣♣ [Obama's Reset: Arab Spring or Same Old Thing?](#) How the President and the Pentagon Prop Up Both Middle Eastern Despots and American Arms Dealers, Nick Turse, *TomDispatch*, 17 May

[The War Lovers - Why It Feels So Good to Be Embedded with](#)

Here is the reality of post-legal America: since the attacks of September 11, 2001, the National Security Complex has engorged itself [on American fears](#) and grown at a remarkable pace. According to [Top Secret America](#), a *Washington Post* series written in mid-2010, 854,000 people have "top secret" security clearances, "33 building complexes for top-secret intelligence work are under construction or have been built since September 2001... 51 federal organizations and military commands, operating in 15 U.S. cities, track the flow of money to and from terrorist networks... [and] some 1,271 government organizations and 1,931 private companies work on programs related to counterterrorism, homeland security, and intelligence in about 10,000 locations across the United States".

♣♣ [Dumb Question of the Twenty-first Century: Is It Legal? Post-Legal America and the National Security Complex](#), Tom Engelhardt, *TomDispatch*, 30 May



during President Obama's first full year in office, the number of "original classification decisions," or new secrets, grew by 22.6 percent, according to the latest annual [report](#) from the [Information Security Oversight Office](#)

Steven Aftergood, *Secrecy News*, Volume 2011, Issue No. 47, 18 May

[the U.S. Military](#), Peter Van Buren, *TomDispatch.com*, 15 May

♣♣ [Then Came 'Geronimo'](#), Marc Ambinder, *National Journal*, 12 May - looks at how the US Joint Special Operations Command has expanded into a 'secret army' within the US military

♣♣ [The Crash and Burn of Old Regimes - Washington Court Culture and Its Endless Wars](#), William J. Astore, *TomDispatch*, 12 May

F-35 selected acquisition report disclosed, Steven Aftergood, *Secrecy News*, Volume 2011, Issue No. 45, 12 May - the latest [annual report to Congress](#) on the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter Program details the [soaring costs](#) and deferred production schedule associated with the program

[U.S. Assassination Campaign Continues as CIA Drone Targets U.S.-Born Cleric Anwar](#)

*Osama bin Laden had been dead only a few days when House Republicans began their efforts to expand, rather than contract, the war on terror. Not content with the president's wide-ranging powers to pursue the archcriminals of Sept. 11, 2001, Republicans want to authorize the military to pursue virtually anyone suspected of terrorism, anywhere on earth, from now to the end of time*

[A Conflict Without End](#), *New York Times Editorial*, 16 May

[al-Awlaki in Yemen](#), *Democracy Now*, 9 May; [Drone Targets Yemeni Cleric](#), *Wall Street Journal*, 7 May

[Pass Em' Right: Assessing the Threat of WMD Terrorism from America's Christian Patriots](#), Paul D. Brister and Nina A. Kollars, *Perspectives on Terrorism*, Vol.5 No.2, 2011 - this article deepens the discussion of WMD terrorism by focusing upon an oft-overlooked movement that resides within American borders: the Christian Patriot Movement, which is a phenomenon that has gone largely unnoticed as American counterterrorism efforts focus largely upon Islamist terrorist organizations. It concludes that, although the Patriots have demonstrated intent to employ WMD, they lack the overall capability to design, acquire, or employ such weapons of significant lethality.

[Obituary: Robert Fred Ellsworth, former US Ambassador to NATO](#)

[Former Kan. Congressman, Ellsworth, dies](#), Maria Sudekum Fisher, *The Sacramento Bee*, 11 May

[Robert Ellsworth, Lawmaker and Nixon Aide, Is Dead at 84](#), *New York Times*, 11 May

[Rasmussen starts tour in the US with visit to wounded troops](#), *NATO News*, 7 May - NATO Secretary General began his tour of America with a visit to wounded troops at the National Naval Medical Center near Washington (photo credit: NATO)



[Counterinsurgency \(COIN\)](#)

[Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance \(ISR\) Operations](#), Defense Science Board, February 2011 (released May 2011) - with its overwhelming emphasis on technical collection, US military intelligence is poorly equipped to meet the requirements of the counterinsurgency mission, according to this study. Among other things, "the defense intelligence community does not have the foreign language and culture depth and breadth necessary to plan and support COIN operations," according to the DSB

And finally, a sign of things to come? "After a hastily convened session the UN Security Council has agreed that the only course of action available to them to protect 2.3 billion innocent yet hopeful football-mad civilians worldwide is to take 'all necessary means' to end tyranny at the heart of football. NATO has reluctantly agreed to take the leading role in implementing resolution 2022 and planning is under way to launch precision strikes against FIFA strongholds in and around Zurich". [NATO to bomb FIFA](#), *NewsBiscuit (satire)*, 30 May

## IDEAS, FEEDBACK, SUGGESTIONS?

**Ideas, feedback, suggestions?** We want to hear from you. Please contact us at [NATO Watch](#) with any news and stories for the *Observatory*, as well as feedback or suggestions.

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