



Observatory

NATO News & Opinion Clips

Promoting a more transparent and accountable NATO

No.28 – December 2011

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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NATO Watch Editorial:

Transparent inquiry into cross-border attack in Pakistan promised: but not for the drones

The US State Department's [commitment](#) to make public "in some fashion" the US Central Command (Centcom) led inquiry into the cross-border attack that killed 24 Pakistani soldiers is a welcome boost for transparency. The investigation is expected to look at "the full range of factors that contributed to this tragedy and it will be broad, expansive and thorough," says Centcom.

Efforts are still continuing to bring Pakistan on board for a joint investigation into the attacks and there is no official timeframe for the completion of the inquiry. But with Pakistan's army chief authorizing troops to fire back against future attacks across the Afghan border, there is an urgent need to improve communications, both real-time (in order to reduce the risk of such border incidents occurring) and high-level (to minimise any future incidents escalating into an all-out war between Afghanistan, the US and Pakistan).

A key related issue that shows no sign of emerging from the shadows any time soon, however, is the US-led drone war. Although US nationals are starting to vacate the Shamsi airbase in Pakistan, reportedly used by CIA-operated drones to target 'militants' in Pakistan's restive tribal belt, other drone launching and staging capabilities are set to take its place. The US inquiry may hope to quell some of the anti-NATO sentiment that has continued to spread throughout Pakistan as a result of the "friendly fire" incident, but unless it also addresses the larger question of drone attacks it is only likely to be a temporary palliative.

There needs to be an urgent debate within NATO, and especially the United States, as to whether military forces, covert or overt, should be engaged in Pakistan. The drone attacks, which are the core of US military activity in Pakistan, remain so 'secret' that US government officials refuse even to confirm that such a programme exists. Since everybody knows that it does, this fig-leaf of deniability enables US and Pakistani officials to routinely hide from their electorates the

consequences of these so-called 'precision' drone attacks.

This is exactly how conflicts spin out of control: with both sides making claims about who was at fault when things go wrong. And as the [Bureau for Investigative Journalism has documented](#) things do routinely go wrong with at least 175 children killed by these strikes. One was a boy named Tariq Aziz, who had volunteered to learn photography to begin documenting drone strikes near his home. Within 72 hours of attending a public meeting in Islamabad to discuss the impact of US drone strikes in their communities, Tariq was killed by such a strike. He was 16 years old. His 12-year-old cousin was also killed. The 174th and 175th documented child casualties in this 'secret' war.



NATO needs to consider the human above the technology: the time to devise limits on the use of armed drones has long since passed.

(Drone State? Photo credit: Truthout.org/flickr)

Guest Articles:

NATO needs to act on nuclear policy

Paul Ingram and Chris Lindborg, [BASIC](#)

NATO foreign ministers meet on 7-8 December, less than six months before the summit in Chicago. They have a full agenda, not least the debates over the management of withdrawal from Afghanistan and discussing lessons from the Libya experience. They will also consider the deterrence and defence posture review (DDPR) that has been developing behind closed doors, but still in a surprisingly unformed state given its planned completion in May.

Internal expectations are not high for significant change, but this really is not good news. Unless NATO member states take initiative not only to clarify declaratory policy, but also lay out the road towards the withdrawal of its symbolic nuclear deployments in Europe, and shift the tools of assurance toward non-nuclear measures, they will be responsible for freezing the arms control relationship with Russia for several years and impacting upon the chances of pulling together

international consensus behind tighter measures to combat the threat of nuclear proliferation.

In engaging Russia and seeking reciprocity, one step that has been much discussed by NATO is developing transparency. As we found out last week at several BASIC co-sponsored seminars in Moscow, NATO will find in Russia a reluctant partner in this area, but before allies point the finger of blame they could well look at their own practice.

Even in the United States, the most transparent of nuclear weapon states, overall spending on nuclear weapons is so opaque to those responsible for overseeing it there is even a debate on the order of spend. Last week in Washington, debates over nuclear weapons spending were reaching fever pitch as pressure was mounting to make budget cutting decisions.

There is even less transparency over the costs of deploying tactical nuclear weapons in Europe. The US Senate might soon consider legislation affecting how much the National Nuclear Security Administration will receive for the B-61 Life Extension Program (LEP), partly in support of the warheads that the United States deploys in Europe under NATO's nuclear sharing arrangements. The Administration requested \$223.5 million for the B61 LEP in Fiscal Year 2012. The Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development recommended earlier in September that spending be limited to \$180 million in FY 2012 and requested a number of reports and expert assurances that the LEP would not stretch beyond its means, concerned that reliability and performance would be sacrificed in favour of safety and security.

At a time of austerity and division over nuclear deployments, NATO's instinctive reaction will be to close ranks and minimize public debate. This will be a mistake –delaying the inevitable, obstructing progress on WMD control, and potentially building steam up that could blow apart the cohesion that is essential to the Alliance. True friends do not remain silent when their mates take irresponsible risks.

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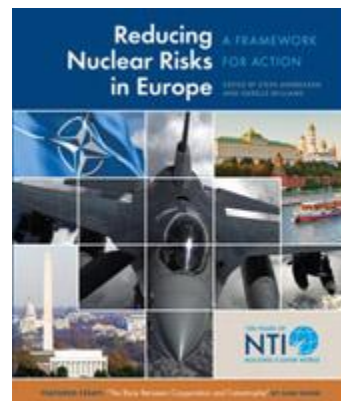


(Parts of a US B61 nuclear gravity bomb – photo credit: poniblog/flickr)

Reducing Nuclear Risks in Europe: But who decides on the framework for action?

Wilbert van der Zeijden, [IKV Pax Christi](#)

The Nuclear Threat Initiative (NTI) report, "Reducing Nuclear Risks in Europe: A framework for action", is a well timed effort to sum up the state of the debate on NATO nuclear weapons and posture. It provides the reader with an impressive collection of diverse views without



promoting any one single proposal. Rather, the report aims to facilitate debate. Whether it also does what the title indicates - presenting a framework for action - is debatable, but the report certainly helps thinking about such a framework.

The centrepiece of the 191 page long report is the initial essay by Sam Nunn who argues that current Non-Strategic Nuclear Weapons (NSNW) – sometimes referred to as Tactical Nuclear Weapon (TNW) - deployments in Europe are a dangerous anachronism. He convincingly concludes that "maintaining the current nuclear status quo in Europe runs a high cost and unacceptable risk". After the opening arguments the dire task fell to Simon Lunn to provide a comprehensive overview of the many different strands of debate over the past two years. It is somewhat of a dry read - but very functional in the sense that it allows the other contributors to assume in their writing that the audience already knows the state of the debate.

The other articles then take the audience deeper into specific discussions and analyses. Luckily, the editors have not shied away from allowing varied opinions and conclusions, with three chapters on historic, current and future discussions on NATO nuclear weapons and nuclear posture, chapters on declaratory policy, security and safety of the B61 bombs in Europe, two chapters on nuclear sharing and reassurance, three chapters on cooperation and negotiations with Russia and finally a chapter on NATO in the context of Asian security issues.

The authors manage to adequately reflect the spread and content of discussions in chambers and in the long hallways of NATO HQ in Brussels. None of these discussions are really new of course; they have been intensely debated since the start of the Strategic Concept consultations back in 2009. But the attempt to once again present a comprehensive overview of the current

state of the debate is certainly timely, now that NATO is gearing up towards negotiating the Defence and Deterrence Posture Review (DDPR).

The NTI report methodically goes over all the interrelated concerns and issues again: Russian reciprocity; Alliance reassurances and burden sharing; safety and security concerns of the nuclear bombs and the bases they are stationed at. This review article focuses on two of those discussions (Russia and burden sharing) and adds a point for discussion that is ostensibly missing from both the report and the general discourse altogether: the bias in the decision making process on these issues.

On Russia

Authors Catherine McArdle Kelleher, Robert Legvold and Alexei Arbatov present a thorough overview of the NATO-Russia relationship, the complexity of discussions with Russia, and Russian perceptions of NATO. Alexei Arbatov's article is arguably the one in the collection with the most 'new' information and analysis. As such, his contribution deserved a more prominent place, not least because it would have allowed other authors to avoid duplicating explanations of the problem of 'how to deal with Russia?'

Summarising heavily, Arbatov breaks apart the oft heard argument that NATO 'logically' needs to pair possible NSNW reductions to reciprocal steps from Russia. He shows us that the NSNW arsenals of the two former enemy blocks are hard to compare. In functionality, but also in political relevance - both real and perceived - linking the two nuclear arsenals is less obvious than it would seem. En route, Arbatov convincingly shows that the perception that Russian NSNW far outnumber NATO's is little more than the result of creative counting on NATO's part.

Arbatov's contribution shows, to my mind, how ill advised NATO's 2010 Strategic Concept (SC) position is in terms of linking NATO NSNW reductions to Russian NSNW reductions. The SC line that "any further reductions should take into account the disparity" is - following Arbatov - at best a questionable representation of reality.

What's more, the SC left open how much reciprocity is needed if any at all, for NATO to take a decision on its own nuclear arsenal. According to the Lisbon text, NATO should, prior to any decision, "seek agreement" with Russia. It is the word 'seek' that allows quite diverse interpretations. Does it mean that reductions can only come as a consequence of negotiations? Or does it merely mean that NATO should attempt to negotiate before coming to a decision? The first

interpretation would have the downside that NATO allows Russia to hijack the discussion on the need and desirability of NATO capabilities. The latter has the disadvantage that if Russia already knows that NATO will get rid of the TNW anyway, why would it offer anything in return?

As some authors stipulate in the NTI report, the bigger question is why Russia would be willing to offer anything in return for NSNW removal anyway? Russia's reliance on NSNW in combination with the knowledge that NATO has no practical military use for its NSNW anymore, logically means that Russia at best doesn't care what NATO does with its NSNW. More likely, Russia values the presence of American NSNW in Europe more than most NATO allies do, as it provides Russia with a virtually 'free' excuse to not discuss its own reliance on NSNW.

Finding glue

The report rightly reserved quite a bit of space for discussing the issue of NATO burden sharing, solidarity and assurances among the allies and how NSNW and their potential removal affect these central concepts in NATO's identity. Karl-Heinz Kamp and C.N. Remkes come to the conclusion that "it is not the physical stationing of

US nuclear weapons in Europe that will determine the future credibility of extended nuclear deterrence and the nuclear cohesion of the Alliance". Instead, the two authors argue that nuclear information sharing and a willingness to contribute to other forms of common deterrence are much more important.

(glue, too late – photo credit: surfzone™/ flickr)

In the subsequent chapter, Hans Binnendijk and Catherine McArdle Kelleher argue that security assurances are the primary reason why so many Central and Eastern European countries eagerly joined NATO after the collapse of the Soviet Union. For these countries, the NSNW and the nuclear sharing connected to them are primarily of symbolic importance. In short, the arrangement shows commitment by the US to the future security of the entire NATO territory in Europe. If the NSNW are removed, so the argument goes, what assurances will be left to show for article 5 style joint security?

Looking deeper into this line of argumentation, one invariably hits more problematic questions that NATO is reluctant to get into. For if militarily useless nukes are the primary symbolic show of Alliance burden sharing and assurance, what does that say about the viability of this Alliance? A red thread in this particular debate is that the importance of TNW is relative: nuclear burden



sharing is important only because NATO is so poor at sharing burdens in other ways. For example, member countries have not been able to live up to the expressed desire to invest minimally 2% of GDP in defence expenditures. Yet in the current financial climate, it is preposterous to expect this ever to become a reality.

Variable member state contributions to NATO military missions are another example of faltering NATO internal cohesion. Binnendijk and Kelleher offer valuable insights and thoughts on alternatives to symbolic burden sharing through NSNW deployment. Not all of them seem to fit the reality of the current budget crunch though. "Strengthening conventional forces and the article 5 mission" is an example. Their suggestions for more direct military involvement on the ground in the Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) region is a far more viable one if the objective is to promote the perception among CEE countries that their security matters. The authors remind us that this is what the CEE allies have consistently called for.

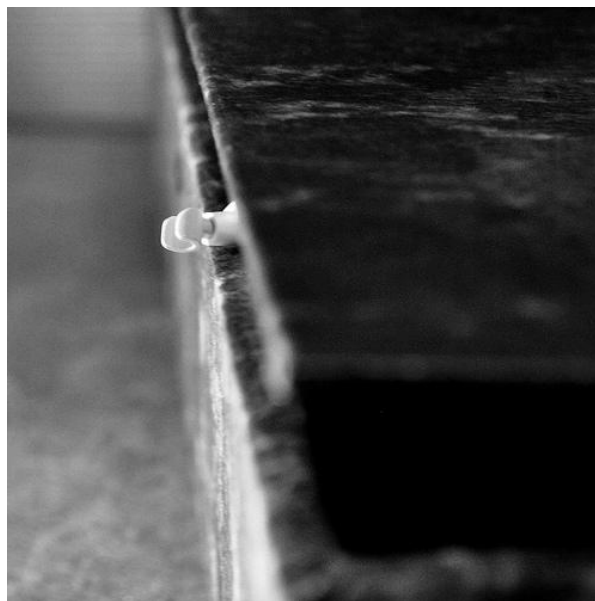
But then they go on to discuss other options that seem outright dangerous. They look at possibilities to maximise the deterrence capabilities of remaining US NSNW. These possibilities include, for example, proposals to improve the readiness level of the weapons. The authors seem to overlook that this would likely be perceived as quite a serious escalatory step by Russia - no doubt triggering a fierce response. Moreover, the authors seem to argue that because the current arrangements do not result in a credible threat to Russia, NATO first needs to make it a credible threat in order to force Russia into some sort of reciprocal deal! This is playing with the security of over 500 million Europeans in a way that I hope the readers will agree is unnecessary and unacceptable.

Opening the black box

The topics discussed in the NTI report largely overlap and develop a common list of three main "obstacles to NSNW removal". A similar list has been written on a whiteboard in my office as a reminder for quite a while now: "France and other outliers"; "NATO's hope for Russian reciprocity"; and "NATO's need to reassess burden sharing". However, there is a fourth item in my list, one that is not discussed in the NTI report, nor anywhere

else it seems. On my whiteboard it is bluntly called "organisational and process bias".

Analysing NATO is still pretty much calculation formulas with many unknown variables. We researchers, analysts and campaigners keep focussing first and foremost on the political variables. Who is in favour, and who is against? What arguments are used, how strong are those arguments? Which actor is strong enough to voice an opinion, and who shies away? What trade-offs are viable, and which are not? We often end up in discussions that are more than anything about interpretation of language by NATO or NATO officials. On occasion, it is NATO officials who have to point out to us that we pay too much attention to the formulation and not enough to the formulators.



(inside the black box – photo credit: Blue Square Thing/ flickr)

In our efforts, we assume that some weighing of rational positions takes place. That is at least the way we analyse the partial information that NATO provides. Some of the authors of this report - most notably Simon Lunn - have been trying to get beyond the many unknowns by approaching the 'players' within the institution directly. At IKV Pax Christi we took the same route over the past 18 months. It resulted among other things in a

publication called "[Withdrawal Issues](#)". Lunn and the authors of the NTI report - like us in our own report - fail to address what Graham Allison and many after him would call '[the black box](#)'. In analysing or criticising a complex institution such as NATO, we need more emphasis on the question, who decides? Who controls information flows and who shapes the decision making processes? Who functions as gate keeper? Is the institution flexible enough to break free from vested interests solidified in rusty structures?

The longer I frequent NATO HQ, the more I worry about the dysfunctional decision making processes at the heart of the institution. It increasingly seems that NATO is unable to make the organisational structure and decision making processes act in the service of the Alliance's goals and functions. The current debates on NATO's nuclear weapons and posture are deeply affected by this state of affairs. First of all, there is the problem that the International staff at NATO HQ generally seem to be more supportive of nuclear deterrence and of US nuclear deployments in

Europe than the large majority of national representatives at NATO missions.

A much more pervasive problem is that NATO has again come up with a structure for discussing these issues that is neither transparent, nor unbiased. Apparently, it is the High Level Group (HLG) of the Nuclear Planning Group (NPG) that is tasked with preparing advice to the North Atlantic Council (NAC) on the future of the NATO nukes. This is akin to asking the tax office if we need to raise more tax. Of course it is the member state ministers and heads of state that in the end have to support or contest any proposed text. But the selection of criteria and the format in which these criteria are discussed are heavily influenced by those parts of the organisation that have most to lose when NSNW are withdrawn or reduced.

Institutional and process bias provides the best explanation so far as to how it is possible, two years into the discussion, [the original German proposals for NSNW withdrawal](#) are still labelled

by many analysts and insiders as 'uncooperative behaviour'. And this despite all major studies on the issue, more or less supporting the German position. Indeed, it is a position that has overwhelming domestic support in Germany (among the public, parliament and coalition government), as well as the backing of virtually all arms control experts, Dutch, Belgian and Italian parliamentary resolutions, the director of NATO Defence College, most NATO-related diplomats (when speaking on a personal basis) and most former NATO diplomats. If the discussions within NATO were to reflect the majority democratic opinion of those the Alliance says it represents, consolidation of the remaining B61s on US territory would be a no-brainer.

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News, Commentary and Reports:

Afghanistan-Pakistan:

(photo credit: Stitch/ flickr)

News

[NATO drone attacks: US begins pull out from Pakistan's Shamsi airbase](#), *Economic Times*, 4 December

[Nato attack: US to make inquiry report public](#), *The News International*, 4 December

[Top British commander says west must see the job through in Afghanistan](#), *The Guardian*, 4 December - General James Bucknall calls on UK not to betray its 'investment in blood' and stresses Taliban cannot assassinate its way to power

[Protesters at Afghanistan conference demand faster troop withdrawal](#), *Deutsche Welle*, 3 December

[Nato plans push in eastern Afghanistan to quell Pakistan-based insurgents](#), *The Guardian*, 2 December - ISAF aims to reduce threat to Kabul by insurgent groups and has not ruled out cross-border raids into Pakistan

[Afghanistan faces \\$4bn defence funding shortfall](#), *The Guardian*, 1 December - US is prepared to foot only \$3bn of bill for security forces, raising fears that Kabul will struggle to fight Taliban since it would leave enough money for a force of 220,000, instead of the planned 352,000

[Afghanistan maternal mortality drops, survey suggests](#), *BBC News*, 30 November - many more Afghan women are surviving pregnancy and childbirth than was thought, a new survey suggests

[Pakistani Foreign Minister Discusses NATO Bombing](#), *NPR*, 29 November

[NATO retracts troops after Afghan civilian deaths](#), *Associated Press*, 29 November

[Pakistan denies firing provoked Nato border attack](#), *BBC News*, 28 November - Pakistan has denied reports that it opened fire first, provoking the Nato air strike which killed 24 troops at a checkpoint on the Afghan border

[Statement](#) by the NATO Secretary General on the incident along the Afghan-Pakistani Border, NATO Press Release, 27 November

[Statement](#) by NATO Secretary General on Afghan transition announcement, NATO Press Release, 27 November - President Karzai has confirmed the second group of Afghan provinces, cities and districts to



make the transition to Afghan security lead. Over the coming months, Afghan security forces will progressively take over lead responsibility for providing security in a further 18 areas

[NATO expresses 'regret' for lethal Pakistan strike](#), *AFP*, 27 November

[Nato attack kills Pakistani troops, says country's military](#), *The Guardian*, 26 November - helicopters from Afghanistan flew across border in north-west and attacked checkpoint, says Pakistan

[Six Children Are Killed by NATO Airstrike in Afghanistan](#), *New York Times*, 24 November



(Bonn conference, 5 December – photo credit: flickr)

[Afghanistan 'will be unable to fight Taliban after Western withdrawal'](#), *Daily Telegraph*, 23 November - Afghanistan will be unable to fund the fight against the Taliban after Western troops withdraw and faces a vast black hole in its finances the World Bank has warned

[RAF head says Afghan civil war possible when Nato leaves](#), *BBC News*, 23 November

[Michelle Obama Ignores Plight of Afghan Women](#), *Kabul Press*, 20 November

[In Pakistan, a deep civil-military divide](#), *Washington Post*, 17 November

[Afghanistan faces 'regional war' if NATO troops go](#), *AFP*, 17 November

[Karzai Pushes for End to Raids on Homes](#), *Wall Street Journal*, 17 November - Afghan President Hamid Karzai explained his plan for a long-term partnership with the United States, as he spoke to nearly 2,000 delegates convened for a four-day Loya Jirga, or grand assembly. Karzai also called for an end to NATO night raids, insisted that foreign forces stop house searches, and demanded that international forces hand over control of detention operations in the country

[The needs of the Afghan people must be at the forefront of future engagement says international NGO coalition](#), *NATO Watch News Brief*, 16 November

[Karzai renews calls for end to U.S. night raids against Taliban](#), *Los Angeles Times*, 16 November

[International Criminal Court mulls probe of Afghan detainee treatment](#), *Edmonton Journal*, 15 November

[Afghans must take over the fight: senior Canadian general](#), *Montreal Gazette*, 14 November

[Taliban spokesman 'arrested in Afghanistan'](#), *Daily Telegraph*, 14 November - the mouthpiece of the Taliban movement has been arrested in a military raid, Afghan officials have claimed.

[Life better since Taliban driven from Kabul, says Nato](#), *BBC News*, 13 November

[Afghanistan success is in eye of beholder](#), *Los Angeles Times*, 12 November - as NATO insists that violence is declining while many Afghans say daily life has grown more perilous, tension has grown over so-called metrics that can be used to chart progress or deterioration.

[Taliban target mobile phone masts to prevent tipoffs from Afghan civilians](#), *The Guardian*, 11 November - the mobile phone industry –one of the country's biggest post-2001 successes – is reporting crippling damage

[Germany to Reduce Troop Contingent in Afghanistan](#), *New York Times*, 10 November

[Afghan forces require NATO assistance beyond 2014](#), *Khaama Press*, 8 November

[Afghan Base Tests U.S. Exit Plans](#), *Wall Street Journal*, 8 November - US troops pulled out of the Nangalam base in eastern Afghanistan's isolated Pech Valley earlier this year only to return four months later to fix a rapidly deteriorating security situation on the base and in the area

[NATO in Afghanistan - The Train Through Hairatan](#), *natochannel.tv/ You Tube*, 8 November

[NATO turns to radio to try and get its own message to Afghan people](#), *Public Radio International*, 7 November; [Bringing News From A NATO Perspective To Afghans](#), *Here and Now*, 7 November

[Deputy U.S., NATO Training Chief in Afghanistan Is Fired](#), *Bloomberg*, 6 November

[US says its civilian aid to Afghanistan has peaked](#), *Reuters*, 3 November - a new study by the US State Department indicates that US civilian aid to Afghanistan has peaked, falling from \$4.1 billion in 2010 to \$2.5 billion in 2011

[Crucial plan to reintegrate Afghan insurgents falling flat](#), Shashank Bengali, *Kansas City Star*, 3 November - programs designed to "reintegrate" Taliban fighters into Afghan society are failing according to this report, which notes that only a fraction of the funds allocated for such purposes have been used, and that in provinces like Ghazni, not a single Taliban fighter has formally renounced his arms

Commentary and Reports

[Nato must rectify the errors it has made in Afghanistan](#), Jonathan Steele, *The Guardian*, 4 December - talks in Bonn need to address Pashtun marginalisation and not support an indefinite stay of American troops

[Bonn, 10 Years On - An FP Roundtable](#), *Foreign Policy*, 3 December

[A Deadly U.S. Attack on Pakistani Soil](#), Nate Hughes, *STRATFOR*, 1 December

Since the invasion of Afghanistan in October 2001, there have been so many proclamations of "success," of "mission accomplished," of corners turned and tipping points reached, of "progress" made, and so very, very little to show

♠♠ He was 22... She was 12...
[Lessons From the Dead in a No-Learning-Curve World](#), Tom Engelhardt, *Tom Dispatch.com*, 1 December

[Pakistan, Russia and the Threat to the Afghan War](#), George Friedman, *STRATFOR*, 30 November - days after the Pakistanis closed their borders to the passage of fuel and supplies for the NATO-led war effort in Afghanistan, for very different reasons the Russians threatened to close the alternative Russia-controlled Northern Distribution Network (NDN). The dual threats are significant even if they don't materialize. If both routes are cut, supplying Western forces operating in Afghanistan becomes impossible. Simply raising the possibility of cutting supply lines forces NATO and the US to recalculate their position in Afghanistan

[NATO Strike Can't Lead to Breach With Enemy-Ally Pakistan: View](#), *Bloomberg*, 30 November

[Is there hope for Afghanistan?](#) Linda Robinson, *Foreign Policy*, 29 November

[Nato's Salala raid: legal options](#), Ali Ameel Malik, *The News International*, 29 November

[NATO in Afghanistan - Loya Jirga in Kabul, Afghanistan](#), *natochannel.tv/ You Tube*, 21 November

[NATO in Afghanistan - Mazar after transition](#), *natochannel.tv/ You Tube*, 18 November

[Afghan views on the Loya Jirga](#), Khalid Mafton, *Foreign Policy*, 16 November

[NATO Training Mission In Afghanistan: Paving Way For Secure Afghan State? – Analysis](#), Justin D. Wallestad and Dr. Theodore Karasik, *Eurasia Review*, 16 November

♠♠ [Reflecting on Afghan public opinion](#), Ronald Neumann, *Foreign Policy*, 15 November

[The law and politics behind Afghanistan's "traditional" Loya Jirga](#), Scott Worden, *Foreign Policy*, 15 November

♠♠ [2014: New Afghanistan's year zero?](#) *NATO Review/ You Tube*, 15 November - as the country prepares to take the full lead for its own security following the draw-down of international forces, NATO Review asks three experts about how pivotal they see the year

[Bonn and beyond: Afghanistan's uncertain future](#), Javid Ahmad, *Foreign Policy*, 14 November

[Have the Taliban changed their tune?](#) Kate Clark, *Foreign Policy*, 10 November

[The Pentagon's Secret Plans to Secure Pakistan's Nuclear Arsenal](#), Jeffrey Goldberg and Marc Ambinder, *National Journal*, 9 November

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

[UN must okay any military move on Syria, MacKay says](#), *Globe and Mail*, 20 November

[New Calls to Press Syria From France and Turkey](#), *New York Times*, 18 November

[NATO's Mission Creep](#), Geoffrey Wheatcroft, *New York Times*, 15 November

[NATO Leader: No Intention to Intervene in Iran](#), *New York Times*, 2 November

Counter-Terrorism:

[US Senator asks US and NATO to support Kenya's Somalia incursion](#), *The Standard (Kenya)*, 24 November

[Intelligence sharing in combating terrorism](#) – New NATO LibGuide



Cyber Security:

[Poland and the US join NATO's Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence in Tallinn](#), *Poland.pl*, 18 November



[Defining cyber-security](#), SDA Report, 17 November - on 9 November the Security & Defence Agenda launched its cyber-security initiative with a high-level debate. The need for effective information sharing, the role of the software industry, the multidimensional approach to cyber-security and the balance between resilience and defence were just some of the issues addressed during this debate

[US joins NATO's cyber facility in Estonia](#), *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 17 November

[Working with the private sector to deter cyber attacks](#), NATO News, 10 November - to help resist and deter cyber threats, NATO has been working with some of the world's biggest private cyber security companies to share knowledge and experience

[U.S. says will boost its cyber arsenal](#), *Reuters*, 7 November - the Pentagon's advanced research arm said it is boosting efforts to build offensive cyber arms for possible keyboard-launched US military attacks against enemy targets

[Are We Heading Towards a 'Digital 9/11'?](#) Richard de Silva, *defenceIQ.com*, 3 November



SDA CYBER-SECURITY INITIATIVE

Defence Budgets, Procurement and Private Military Companies:

[NATO Coordination Key as Allies Face Cuts, Says Top U.S. Official](#), *US News and World Report*, 2 December - Daalder says NATO countries must work together to maintain defence forces

[NATO-commissioned serious game aids in warfighter training for maritime interdiction operations](#), *Military & Aerospace Electronics*, 28 November

[Despite victory in Libya, NATO is losing budget battle](#), J.L. Granatstein, *Edmonton Journal*, 23 November - as fiscally troubled allies cut defence spending, Canada will have to rethink its military priorities

[Abrial: NATO Closing ISR, Intel Sharing Gaps Exposed In Libya](#), *AoL Defense*, 22 November

[U.S. expects NATO allies to step up: Defense Secretary Panetta](#), *Montreal Gazette*, 18 November

[NATO Seeks Greater Operational Efficiencies](#), *Aviation Week*, 15 November

[Financial Crisis Hits NATO Funding](#), *Voice of America*, 15 November

[Eurocopter craft declared NATO compliant](#), *UPI.com*, 10 November

[Saving lives with non-lethal weapons](#), *natochannel.tv/ You Tube*, 7 November - story on the North American Technology Demonstration in Ottawa, Canada

[NATO's Noble Words Go for Naught](#), Judy Dempsey, *New York Times*, 7 November

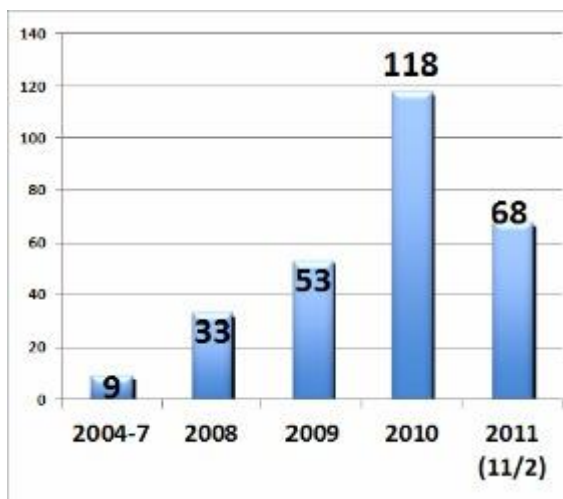
[General Dynamics Canada Delivers Computer Upgrades to Mission Consoles Aboard NATO AWACS Aircraft](#), *Ottawa Citizen*, Press release from General Dynamics, 4 November

Drones:

["Hancock 38" Defendants Found Guilty for Bold Army Base Protest Against U.S. Drone Attacks Abroad](#), *Democracy Now*, 2 December

♣♣ [Droning On](#), John Feffer, *World Beat*, 22 November - the CIA's drone war in Pakistan is setting precedents that will one day come back to haunt America

[The Drone Threat to National Security](#), John Villasenor, *Scientific American*, 11 November - continued advances in unmanned aerial vehicle technology have profound implications regarding the nature of modern warfare



♣♣ [U.S. Drone Kills 16-Year-Old Pakistani Boy Days After He Attends Anti-Drone Organizing Meeting](#), *Democracy Now*, 7 November

(US Drone Strikes 2004 – 2011 – source: <http://counterterrorism.newamerica.net/drones>)

[Multiple missteps led to drone killing U.S. troops in Afghanistan](#), *Los Angeles Times*, 5 November - though no dereliction of duty was found, a Pentagon investigation raised troubling questions: Among them: Was the Predator missile fired too quickly?

[Drones on Trial: 38 Protesters Face Charges for Disrupting Syracuse Base Used in Overseas Attacks](#), *Democracy Now*, 4 November

[U.S. Tightens Drone Rules](#), *Wall Street Journal*, 4 November - the United States has tightened rules surrounding its drone

programme in Pakistan, purportedly giving greater say over strikes to the State Department, notifying Pakistani leaders in advance of some strikes, and keeping the CIA from striking targets while Pakistani leaders are visiting the United States. However, the report notes that the CIA still has the authority to control targeting of both small- and large-scale attacks, quoting one senior official as saying, "It's not like they took the car keys away from the CIA...There are just more people in the car"

♣♣ [For Our Allies, Death From Above](#), Clive Stafford Smith, *New York Times*, 3 November

[Pakistani civilian victims vent anger over US drones](#), Orla Guerin, *BBC News*, 3 November

Energy Security:

[Lithuanian energy security centre may help NATO with innovative solutions for military needs](#), *The Baltic Course*, 11 November - solving military and civilian challenges is precisely where Lithuania's Energy Security Centre could make a reasonable contribution to NATO activities, said Lithuanian Minister of Foreign Affairs Audronius Azubalis at the opening of the conference and a specialized exhibition "Innovative Energy Solutions for Military Applications" in Vilnius

[NATO boosts energy solutions for the military](#), NATO News, 10 November - more than 200 energy experts from NATO, partner countries and the private sector gathered in the Lithuanian capital Vilnius to discuss technologies for making the military less dependent on fossil fuel. The conference "Innovative Energy Solutions for Military Applications" focussed on measures to increase the effectiveness and improve the security of future military missions, while reducing the military's carbon footprint (photo credit: NATO)



Enlargement and Partnerships:

NATO-Georgia Commission Meeting, Tbilisi, Georgia, 9-10 November

[Ivanishvili Reiterates 'NATO has No Alternative for Georgia's Security'](#), *Civil.ge*, 17 November

[Statement by NATO Secretary General on the elections in South Ossetia, Georgia](#), NATO Press Release, 14 November – "NATO does not recognise the elections held on November 13 in the Georgian region of South Ossetia"

[NATO Values Soldiers More Than Democracy](#), Paul Rimple, *Moscow Times*, 13 November

[NATO's Secretary-General Rasmussen addresses Georgian troops and encourages future membership](#), *Messenger.ge*, 11 November

[NATO says Georgia closer to joining but needs reforms](#), *Georgian Daily*, 11 November

[NATO Secretary General - Speech at the State University of Tbilisi](#), *You Tube*, 10 November

[Georgia still seeking NATO membership](#), *Press TV*, 10 November

NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen [video blog](#) 'Georgia moving closer to NATO', 10 November

[NATO Secretary General & Chairman of Georgian Parliament - Joint Press Point](#), *natochannel.tv/ You Tube*, 10 November

[NATO urges Georgia to deepen reforms for membership](#), *Channel News Asia*, 10 November

[NATO Secretary General - NATO-Georgia Commission meeting, Opening Remarks](#), *natochannel.tv/ You Tube*, 9 November; [NATO Secretary General press conference: NATO-Georgia Commission Meeting](#), *nato.channel.tv/ You Tube*, 9 November

Joint Statement - Meeting of the NATO-Georgia Commission at the level of Ambassadors, with the participation of the Prime Minister of Georgia, 9 November 2011, Tbilisi, Georgia

[Russia tensions make Nato wary of Georgia bid](#), *BBC News*, 9 November

[NATO issues in Georgia](#), *messenger.ge*, 8 November

[Georgia says it won't drag NATO into war](#), *Washington Times*, 6 November - Won't fight Russia again, official says

[NAC visit to Georgia / Meeting of the NATO-Georgia Commission](#), Tbilisi – Batumi, Georgia, 9-10 November 2011, NATO Press Release, 3 November

[Athens violated interim accord by blocking Skopje's Nato bid, ICJ rules](#), *The Sofia Echo*, 5 December



[NATO helps Belarus and Ukraine cope with flood risks](#), NATO News, 29 November - the Pripyat River Basin on the border between Belarus and Ukraine is prone to severe flooding. The basin includes the Chernobyl Exclusion Zone and one of the river's tributaries provides a local nuclear power station with cooling water, so effective monitoring is essential. Previously, monitoring was done by hand, which was too slow to give adequate warning and could not contribute to predicting flooding. This is changing, thanks to a NATO-sponsored project which is helping to establish an automatic, real-time monitoring system (photo credit: NATO)

[Ukraine and NATO to hold joint conference on problems of new challenges](#), *Interfax.com*, 24 November

[NATO experts to assist Armenian MOD](#), *News.am*, 24 November

[Untapped potential for increasing security co-operation, says OSCE Chairperson to NATO North Atlantic Council](#), OSCE Press Release, 23 November

[Finland takes forward multi-year cooperation programme with NC3A](#), New Release, 22 November - On 15 November, senior Finnish officials visited the NATO C3 Agency to discuss the details of a multi-year programme of work for cooperation on advanced technology

[Opening the doors for future NATO-Japan cooperation](#), NATO News, 15 November - Michito Tsuruoka believes that fostering relations and understanding between the Alliance and his home country of Japan is vital. A Senior Research Fellow at Japan's National Institute for Defence Studies in Tokyo, he was part of a group of fellow Japanese academics and think-tankers who recently spent a couple of days at NATO HQ discussing issues ranging from increasing partnerships to missile defence with Alliance officials

[Azerbaijan, NATO to hold technical consultations on Ceyrancol project in Brussels](#), *APA*, 11 November – this project considers the mine/UXO clearance of Ceyrancol area, which was former reservation of the Soviet Army in the South Caucasus situating on Azerbaijan-Georgia borders

[Experts: Ukraine-Russia-NATO a mutually beneficial format of cooperation](#), *Bsanna News*, 7 November

Exercises:

[NATO's Allied Air Command Ramstein \(Germany\) will hold the 10th Baltic Region Air Training Event](#), *Baltic Review*, 19 November

[Readiness level of the NATO Response Force certified in Lithuania](#), *defpro news*, 15 November - during Exercise Steadfast Juncture 2011 which took place in Lithuania from November 1 to 12 readiness level of the Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum (JFC-B) (Netherlands) to take the lead of the NATO Response Force (NRF) in 2012 was evaluated

Gender:



[NATO officials attend workshop on women, peace and security](#), *NATO News*, 7 November – “Our men and women deployed to operational theatres can do a good job only if they are properly trained,” said Ambassador Stephen Evans, Assistant Secretary General for NATO’s Operations Division, adding that gender perspective should become a routine aspect of all operational requirements in order to improve operational effectiveness and contribute successfully to sustainable and lasting peace. These were the opening remarks of a two day workshop at the NATO Defence College (NDC) in Rome on UN Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (photo credit: NATO)

Iraq:

[Talks on Iraq NATO mission stall over issue of immunity for troops](#), *Washington Post*, 1 December

Kosovo:

[Serbia and Kosovo reach border management agreement](#), *BBC News*, 3 December - the EU says Kosovo and Serbia have agreed to jointly manage their border crossings

[Merkel says Kosovo clash shows Serbia not ready for EU](#), *Reuters*, 2 December

[EU, NATO condemn attacks by Serb militants](#), *Associated Press*, 1 December

[Statement by the North Atlantic Council in KFOR format on the situation in Kosovo](#), *NATO Press Release*, 1 December

[Moscow slams NATO power games in Kosovo](#), *Russia Today*, 30 November

[NATO Soldiers, Ethnic Serbs Injured In Kosovo Clashes](#), *Radio Free Europe/ Radio Liberty*, 29 November

[Nato peacekeepers injured in clashes with local Serbs in Kosovo](#), *Irish Times*, 25 November

[NATO in Kosovo: No plans settled](#), *Russia Today*, 24 November

[NATO in Kosovo fires tear gas as Serbs resist dismantling of roadblock](#), *Washington Post*, 24 November

[Serbs clash with Nato in north Kosovo](#), *Hindustan Times*, 24 November

Libya:

[More questions than answers about NATO's Libya role](#), *Deutsche Welle*, 22 November - the reasons and the consequences behind NATO's bombing on the Libyan town of Majer still remain unclear three months on

[Libya 'no template' for NATO mission to Syria](#), *CBC.ca*, 19 November - Canadian defence minister cites 'moral obligation' to intervene in Libya

[NATO says trusts Libya, ICC on justice for Saif](#), *Reuters*, 19 November

[NATO and Libya - Mitiga missing persons group](#), *natochannel.tv/ You Tube*, 16 November

[Did NATO shut down its Libya operation too soon?](#), David Bosco, *Foreign Policy (blog)*, 14 November

[Terror, revenge engulf Nato's Libya](#), Franklin Lamb, *The Nation, Pakistan*, 14 November

[Gaddafi's missing MANPADS taint NATO's success in Libya](#), Paul Smyth, *defenceIQ.com*, 11 November

As regards collateral damage, I have to say that we conducted our operations in Libya in a very careful manner, so we have no confirmed civilian casualties caused by NATO..... Our air strikes have been precision strikes. We have targeted legitimate military or hit legitimate military targets and minimized the collateral damage. And for that reason I don't see any need for further investigation.

[Monthly press briefing](#) by NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen, 3 November

NATO must fully and transparently investigate – and, when appropriate, make amends for – civilian harm incurred as a result of its military operations in Libya. Similarly, the Libyan authorities should ensure all civilian conflict-losses are accounted for and amends offered to help civilians recover

Policy recommendation in [Libya: Protect Vulnerable Minorities & Assist Civilians Harmed](#), Joint Field Report by Refugees International & CIVIC, 8 November

[Some NATO ambassadors mull possible Libya review](#), *Atlanta Journal Constitution*, 11 November

[NATO may face possible ICC probe](#), *Associated Press*, 11 November

[NATO's Role in Ghaddafi's Downfall: Operation Unified Protector](#), Chris Pocock, *Aviation International News*, 10 November

[Removing Gaddafi was always Nato's goal](#), Thabo Mbeki, *The New Age Online*, 10 November - edited extract of a speech given by former South African president Thabo Mbeki at the AGM of the Law Society of the Northern Provinces at Sun City on 5 November

[How Libya Plays Into NATO's Identity Crisis](#), William Pfaff, *Truthdig*, 8 November

[The Libya intervention - Problems from hell, solutions from purgatory](#), *The Economist (blog)*, 8 November

[If asked, NATO could provide training for Libya: US](#), *AFP*, 7 November

[NATO's success in Libya unlikely to be repeated](#), *Globe and Mail*, 7 November

[Did NATO consider slow motion as an option to remove Gaddafi?](#) Beti O. Kamya, *Daily Monitor*, 7 November

[No 'major' role for NATO in post-Qaddafi Libya, says alliance chief](#), *Al Arabiya News*, 6 November

[Obama: Libya Mission Underscores NATO's Effectiveness](#), American Forces Press Service, 4 November

Maritime Security and Piracy:

[International counter piracy collaboration helps NATO to foil pirates](#), Allied Maritime Command Headquarters Northwood News Release, 14 November

[NATO bolsters Standing Maritime Force for deterrence operations](#), *DVIDS*, 11 November

Missile Defence:

[U.S. sticking to missile shield regardless of Moscow](#), *Reuters*, 2 December

[Russia Could Cancel Summit With NATO Due to Antimissile Impasse](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 30 November

[Medvedev Says U.S. Forcing European Missile Defense](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 28 November

[NATO-Russian relations go Cold Turkey over missile defence and CFE Treaty](#), *NATO Watch News Brief*, 27 November

[We'll hit NATO shield in Turkey if threatened: Iran](#), *AFP*, 26 November

[NATO not able to undermine Russian strategic deterrent – Pentagon](#), *Voice of Russia*, 24 November

[Russian President Issues Missile Threat](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 23 November

[White House defends missile defense after Russian warning](#), *Reuters*, 23 November

[Russia Could Field Missiles Over Failure to Reach Antimissile Deal](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 22 November

The suggestion that deployment of missiles in the areas neighbouring the Alliance is an appropriate response to NATO's system is very disappointing

Anders Fogh Rasmussen, NATO Secretary General

♣♣ [Medvedev's special statement on missile defense](#), *The Voice of Russia*, 23 November; [Statement](#) by the NATO Secretary General on Missile Defence, NATO Press Release, 23 November

A missile defense system for NATO? It's going to be hard to keep people committed if they think the U.S. is picking up the tab for Europe.

Kurt Volker, Former US Ambassador to NATO, speculating that a special congressional panel's anticipated failure to reach a deal on lowering the federal deficit would result in cuts to Pentagon funding for a planned European missile shield - [Russian, U.S. Foreign Policy Chiefs Discuss Missile Defense](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 21 November

[US budget woes could threaten plans for NATO missile defense system in Europe](#), *Washington Post*, 19 November

[U.S. May Offer Russia Some Data on SM-3 Interceptor](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 17 November

[NATO's Missile Defence – the first live-fire test](#), NATO News, 17 November - during the German-led exercise Rapid Arrow 2011, the NATO Active Layered Theatre Ballistic Missile Defence Interim Capability (ALTBMD) was successfully tested. Until now ballistic missile threats were only simulated and did not include firing a real interceptor missile. This time an actual interceptor missile was launched against a target area (photo credit: NATO)



[Exercise Rapid Arrow - Testing NATO's missile defence](#), *natochannel.tv/ You Tube*, 17 November – the first live fire exercise

testing NATO's Missile

[Russia calls on Britain amid tension over nuclear shield](#), *The Independent*, 15 November

[Obama, Medvedev Agree Antimissile Talks Should Continue](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 14 November

[Obama, Medvedev to Discuss Missile Shield Dispute](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 11 November

[U.S. Missile Defense Trial Offer Being "Studied" in Russia](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 10 November

[Russia Dismisses U.S. Antimissile Test Proposal as Propaganda](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 9 November

[MEADS Nations Authorize Two Intercept Trials](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 8 November - the three nations (United States, Italy and Germany) jointly funding the development of a divisive and costly antimissile system have authorized two flight intercept trials of the experimental technology, even as one of the countries (the United States) has already announced it does not intend to purchase any units

[Fake Chinese Components Could Compromise THAAD](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 8 November - the Terminal High-Altitude Area Defense system is just one of several US military programs that might have been compromised through the inclusion of fake Chinese electronics that were passed off as high grade

[NATO Running Out of Time for Antimissile Deal, Russia Warns](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 7 November

[NATO contracts missile defence upgrades](#), NATO C3 Agency Press Release, 4 November - the NATO Air Command and Control System Management Agency on behalf of the NATO Active Layered Theatre Ballistic Missile Defence Programme Office (ALTBMD PO) and in coordination with the NATO C3 Agency, signed today a contract with ThalesRaytheonSystems (TRS) to implement operator identified requirements in NATO's Interim Theatre Ballistic Missile Defence Capability

NATO-Russia Relations:

[NATO delegation visits Moscow to discuss military NATO-Russia cooperation](#), NATO News, 2 December

[Russia may drop NATO summit over missile defense](#), *Russia Today*, 30 November

[Medvedev Boasts New Baltic Radar is Proof of Russian Power](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 29 November

[The Russian bear grows](#), Anne Penketh, *BASIC This Week*, 28 November

[Russia Considers Blocking NATO Supply Routes](#), *Wall Street Journal*, 28 November - Russia said it may not let NATO use its territory to supply troops in Afghanistan if the alliance doesn't seriously consider its objections to a US-led missile shield for Europe, Russia's ambassador to NATO said

[Russia's new threats may endanger Obama's 'reset' policy](#), *Christian Science Monitor*, 27 November - Russian President Dmitry Medvedev said that he has ordered the Russian military to immediately take measures to counter US plans to install advanced radars and anti-missile interceptors in European countries

[NATO/Russian Tensions Escalate to New Heights](#), *thetrumpet.com*, 24 November

[Russia downplays NATO move on key arms treaty](#), *RIA Novosti*, 23 November

[Russia's 2008 war with Georgia prevented NATO growth - Medvedev](#), *RIA Novosti*, 21 November

[An absence of trust](#), *The Economist*, 19 November - Why Russia is no closer to working with NATO on missile defence

[NATO 'failing to adjust' – envoy](#), *Russia Today*, 17 November

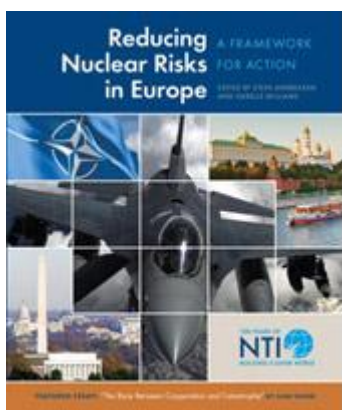
[Russian military chief warns of nuclear war risks](#), *Associated Press*, 17 November

[Russia Can Be a NATO Ally](#), Steven Pifer, *Moscow Times*, 14 November 2011

Nuclear Weapons:

[The nuclear bombs to nowhere](#), David E. Hoffman, *Foreign Policy*, 29 November

[Update U.S. Nukes or Face Consequences, Experts Warn](#), Dave Majumdar, *Defense News*, 28 November



♠♠ [Reducing Nuclear Risks in Europe: A Framework for Action](#), Nuclear Threat Initiative, November 2011 - with NATO members in the midst of a Deterrence and Defence Posture Review (DDPR)—a critical strategic assessment that will help define NATO's future security strategy—a new NTI report proposes a blueprint within NATO and with Russia for moving to a

new nuclear posture in Europe. The report features an essay by former US Senator and NTI Co-Chairman Sam Nunn who writes, "The rationale for maintaining thousands of tactical nuclear weapons in Europe for another

decade is out of date and dangerous for NATO and for Russia. Getting from where we are today – a dangerous and costly status quo – to where we want to be – the elimination of these weapons – will require a framework for dialogue between NATO and Russia and a clear goal".

Senator Nunn's essay outlines 10 specific steps for NATO to consider as the Allies plan for the Summit in Chicago in May 2012. At the core of "10 for 2012" is a NATO commitment to deepening consultations with Russia, including a new dialogue designed to increase "warning and decision time" for leaders. In addition, NATO should plan for further reductions and consolidation of US tactical nuclear weapons in Europe. The target of completing consolidation to the United States should be within five years, with the final timing and pace determined by broad developments with Russia.

The report includes chapters authored by leading international military, academic and policy experts who present recommendations relating to key NATO nuclear policy issues, including: declaratory policy; the security of tactical nuclear weapons; nuclear sharing arrangements; reassurance; conventional arms and missile defence; cooperation with Russia; and Asia's nuclear future

♠♠ [NATO's Incredible Nuclear Strategy: Why U.S. Weapons in Europe Deter No One](#), Edmond Seay, *Arms Control Today*, November 2011

♠♠ [The Future of NATO's Nuclear Weapons](#), Ambassador Rolf Nikel, *Nuclear Policy Paper No.9*, ACA/ BASIC/ IFSH, November 2011 - written by the Commissioner for Disarmament and Arms Control at the German Federal Foreign Office, this paper explains Germany's take on NATO's DDPR

[Turkey and the CTBTO host cross-regional workshop on banning nuclear testing](#), CTBTO Media Advisory, 11 November

[A democratic theory of disarmament](#), Kennette Benedict, *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, 9 November

[The State Department's Role in NATO Deterrence and Defense Posture Review \(DDPR\) and Future Arms Control](#), Testimony, Ellen Tauscher, Under Secretary for Arms Control and International Security, House Armed Services Strategic Forces Subcommittee Hearing on "The Current Status and Future Direction for U.S. Nuclear Weapons Policy and Posture", Washington, DC, 2 November

I cannot rule out that, in certain circumstances, local and regional armed conflicts could grow into a large-scale war, possibly even with nuclear weapons.

Gen. Nikolai Makarov, Russian General Staff chief, warning that rising tensions between Russia and onetime Soviet satellite states have increased the probability of a nuclear exchange. [Russian General Sees Growing Threat of Nuclear War](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 18 November

Reform:

[New chief of staff for NATO ACT in Norfolk](#), *The Virginian-Pilot*, 23 November



New NATO LibGuide on '[NATO Military Command Structure](#)'

Responsibility to Protect (R2P):

[Intervention Without Responsibility](#), Tarak Barkawi, *Al Jazeera*, 22 November - the Libyan 'no-fly' zone of intervening may have paved new way for treating symptoms without addressing the problem

R2P in Syria How to surmount the inaction of the UN Security Council? Luis Peral, European Union Institute for Security Studies, 16 November

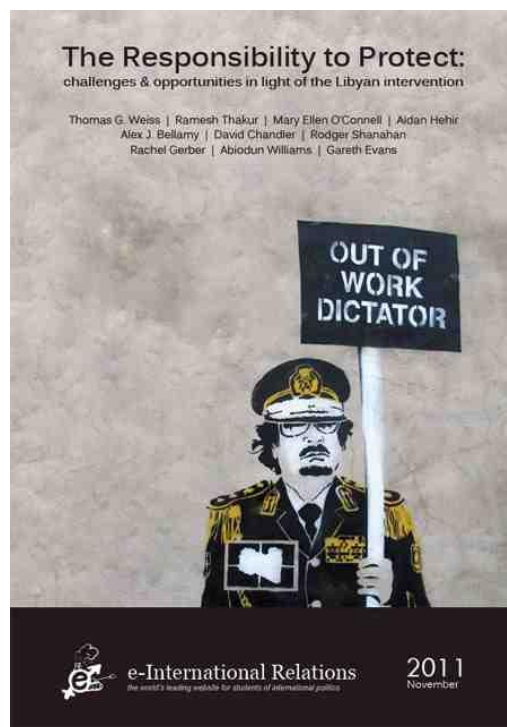
[The Responsibility to Protect: challenges & opportunities in light of the Libyan intervention](#), e-International Relations, November 2011 – this compendium seeks to draw attention to some of the most interesting aspects of the heated debate that rages on R2P. Authors include: Thomas G. Weiss, Ramesh Thakur, Mary Ellen O'Connell, Aidan Hehir, Alex J. Bellamy, David Chandler, Rodger Shanahan, Abiodun Williams, and Gareth Evans

[The Lesson of Libya](#), Gareth Evans, *New York Times*, 15 November

[How the World Can Peacefully Intervene in Syria](#), Anne-Marie Slaughter, *The Atlantic*, 11 November - preparing for civil war may be the only remaining way to avert it

[Responsibility to Protect after Libya and Cote D'Ivoire](#), *Background Briefing*, Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect, 7 November

[R2P, R.I.P.](#), David Rieff, *New York Times*, 7 November



Transatlantic Cooperation:

♠♠ [Is Europe Over?](#) John Feffer, *World Beat*, 15 November - What made Europe a compelling political, economic, and social alternative wedged between Anglo-American free marketeers and Soviet nomenklatura is rapidly becoming a thing of the past

[NATO optimistic on U.S.-Europe defense ties](#), *Reuters*, 11 November

Transparency and Accountability:

[Parliamentary Oversight Of Security And Intelligence Agencies In The European Union](#), Aidan Wills (Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces - DCAF) and Mathias Vermeulen (European University Institute - EUI), EU Committees – Area of freedom, security and justice, PE 453.207, June 2011 - this study evaluates the oversight of national security and intelligence agencies by parliaments and specialised non-parliamentary oversight bodies, with a view to identifying good practices that can inform the European Parliament's approach to strengthening the oversight of Europol, Eurojust, Frontex and, to a lesser extent, Sitcen. The study puts forward a series of detailed recommendations (including in the field of access to classified information) that are formulated on the basis of in-depth assessments of: (1) the current functions and powers of these four bodies; (2) existing arrangements for the oversight of these bodies by the European Parliament, the Joint Supervisory Bodies and national parliaments; and (3) the legal and institutional frameworks for parliamentary and specialised oversight of security and intelligence agencies in EU Member States and other major democracies. It also includes country case studies on parliamentary and specialised oversight of security and intelligence agencies in the following NATO member states: Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, United Kingdom and United States

Upcoming Events:

[NATO Foreign Affairs Ministerial Meetings](#), Brussels, 7-8 December

[ASIS 11th European Security Conference & Exhibition](#), London, 15-17 April 2012 - Adrian Kendry, Senior Defence Economist and Head of Defence and Security Economics, at NATO Headquarters will be the opening keynote speaker

NATO Chicago Summit: 20-21 May 2012

- [NATO/G8 opponents denied right to protest by city of Chicago, vow to continue fight for freedom of assembly](#), *Fight Back! Newspaper*, 17 November
- [Activists challenge authorities ahead of G8/NATO summit](#), *ABC7Chicago.com*, 16 November - the G8 and NATO will be meeting in Chicago, the first time both organizations have held meetings in the same US city
- [ANALYSIS: 600, 2012 and 0 \(zero\)](#), Harlan Ullman, *Pakistan Daily Times*, 10 November
- NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen, [video blog](#), 'Towards Chicago', 8 November

[NATO Parliamentary Assembly Spring Session](#), Tallin, 25-28 May 2012



Security News from NATO Member States:

(photo credit: darkmatter/flickr)

Canada

[NATO still matters](#), Cheryl Gallant, *Ottawa Citizen*, 28 November

[Canada's new role in the 'struggle between good and bad' has its risks](#), John Ivison, *National Post*, 24 November

[Canadian at helm of Libyan mission goes out in style](#), *Toronto Star*, 24 November

[Canada to maintain Mediterranean naval presence through 2012:](#)

[MacKay](#), *National Post*, 20 November

[Canadian commander of NATO's Libya mission deflects accolades for a job well done](#), *Vancouver Sun*, 19 November

[Honing Canada's approach to interventions](#), Roméo Dallaire and Philippe Lagassé, *Embassy*, 16 November

Should Canada Focus on Keeping the Peace? No J.L. Granatstein, *The Ottawa Citizen*, 12 November

[Troops get warm welcome as veterans decry paltry benefits](#), *Globe and Mail*, 4 November

Denmark

[NATO Secretary General thanks Denmark for outstanding contribution](#), NATO News, 4 November - Anders Fogh Rasmussen visited Copenhagen for talks with the new Danish government

Germany

[German troops to stay in Afghanistan after NATO goes](#), *AFP*, 26 November

[German foreign minister pledges lasting support to Afghan partners](#), *Deutsche Welle*, 19 November - Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle has pledged to maintain a lasting partnership with Afghanistan after NATO-led troops withdraw in 2014

[Financial Imperatives for Germany's Security and Defence Policy](#), Henrik Heidenkamp, *RUSI*, November 2011

Greece

[Analysis: Coup talk unwarranted despite Greek army shakeup](#), *Reuters*, 2 November

Italy

[Statement](#) by NATO Secretary General on the appointment of Admiral Giampaolo Di Paola as Italian Defence Minister, NATO Press Release, 16 November (photo credit: NATO)



Slovakia

[NATO in Afghanistan - Afghan police train with Slovak forces](#), *You Tube*, 2 December

[OSCE media freedom representative expresses concern over the wiretapping of Slovak journalists](#), OSCE Press Release, 25 November

Spain

[The controversial spanish arms trade, a secret business \(2001-2010\)](#), Tica Font and Francesc Benitez, Delàs Center from Justícia i Pau, October 2011 - the Spanish State, only in 2010, has sold 1,128 million euros in arms, many destined to countries in armed conflict, in a situation of tension and where Human Rights are violated

Turkey

[For Turkey, Lure of Tie to Europe Is Fading](#), *New York Times*, 4 December

[NATO on the 60th Anniversary of Turkish Membership](#), Selcuk Colakoglu, *The Journal of Turkish Weekly*, 2 December

[Turkey Moves to Intensify Sanctions Against Syria](#), *New York Times*, 30 November

[The Obama Doctrine, NATO and Turkey](#), Gökhan Bacik, *Today's Zaman*, 20 November

[Turkish activists protest NATO missile system](#), *Press TV*, 19 November

[Turkey's "Zero Problems" Problem](#), Sinan Ülgen, Carnegie Europe, 15 November

[Turkey increases pressure on Assad](#), *Financial Times*, 15 November

[Turkey Conducted Chemical Attacks: Kurdish Activists](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 7 November

United Kingdom

[In report, UK security adviser says Britain must draw lessons from Libya conflict](#), *Washington Post*, 1 December

[Carry On Shipping \(money\): The UK in aircraft carrier farce](#), Andrew Elwell, *DefenceIQ*, 30 November

[MoD spends £2bn on nuclear weapons ahead of Trident renewal decision](#), *The Guardian*, 27 November - ministry accused of pre-empting parliament's decision on Trident and attempting to force the hand of future governments

[Britain and France to seek stronger defence ties](#), *The Guardian*, 25 November - proposals for new air drones and strengthened NATO role to be examined at Anglo-French summit

[Just FOUR missiles: What HMS Westminster was carrying when sent to defend the Libyan frontline](#), *Daily Mail*, 21 November

(Harrier jump jet, Tate Britain – photo credit: andrew_j_w/flickr)

[Former defence secretary voices concern over SNP plans, Scotland Tonight](#), 18 November -



We're taking advantage of all the money the Brits have spent on them. It's like we're buying a car with maybe 15,000 miles on it. These are very good platforms.

Rear Admiral Mark Heinrich, chief of the US Navy's supply corps, on the purchase of Britain's entire fleet of Harrier jump jets - [Harrier fleet sold to US military](#), *The Guardian*, 16 November

George Robertson says plan to pull Scotland out of NATO is a recipe for jobs destruction

[Watchdog finds 'shocking' £6bn military overspend](#), *The Guardian*, 16 November - Britain's biggest defence projects are over budget and subject to delays, despite new control regime, NAO says

[UK troops to withdraw from Germany by end of decade under MoD plans](#), *The Guardian*, 10 November - under proposals accelerated by defence cuts, troops will return to the UK 15 years earlier than first planned

[Labour: UK should integrate key defence decisions with Europe](#), *The Guardian*, 9 November - Shadow defence secretary argues for better coordination on defence spending because there are already 'too many never to be used tanks'; [A future for UK and NATO defence](#) - Speech by Jim Murphy Labour Shadow Defence Secretary to the Dahrendorf Symposium, 9 November

United States

'Origins And Missions Of US Combatant Commands', Steven Aftergood, *Secrecy News*, Volume 2011, Issue No. 109, 29 November - the history, missions and operations of the nine US military combatant commands (COCOMs) are detailed in a new report from the Congressional Research Service: [The Unified Command Plan and Combatant Commands: Background and Issues for Congress](#) 7 November 2011. Collectively, these military commands operate across the globe. The report cites a series of stories by Dana Priest in the Washington Post in September 2000 which said the COCOMs "had evolved into the modern-day equivalent of the Roman Empire's proconsuls-- well-funded, semi-autonomous, unconventional centers of U.S. foreign policy." "The assertion that COCOMs have usurped other U.S. government entities in the foreign policy arena may deserve greater examination," the CRS report said

[Further U.S. Nuclear Tests Highly Unlikely: Former NNSA Chief](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 29 November

[U.S. Hypersonic "Global Strike" Technology Successfully Tested](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 18 November

[How Many Nuclear-Armed Subs Do We Really Need?](#) Tom Z. Collina, *Arms Control Now blog*, 16 November

[A U.S. Marine Base for Australia Irritates China](#), *New York Times*, 16 November

[Panetta: Budget Sequester Could Force Elimination of ICBMs](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 15 November

[U.S. Army to Test "Global Strike" Technology This Week](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 14 November

♣♣ [Big Change Whether We Like It or Not - Only Washington Is Clueless](#), Andrew Bacevich, *TomDispatch.com*, 13 November

♣♣ [Sunday Dialogue: Ideas for Cutting Military Spending](#), *New York Times*, 12 November

[Planned U.S. Bunker-Buster Sale Targets Iran](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 11 November - a pending US arms deal would supply the United Arab Emirates with as many as 4,900 bunker-buster bombs suited for possible airstrikes against underground Iranian nuclear facilities

[US military duped into using counterfeit parts](#), *Financial Times*, 8 November

[Obama meets NATO chief, discusses Afghan transition](#), *AFP*, 8 November

♣♣ [U.S. empties biggest Iraq base, takes Saddam's toilet](#), *Reuters*, 7 November - the US military is vacating Saddam Hussein's ornate palaces at its war headquarters in Baghdad and will turn the property over to Iraq next month, but Saddam's prison toilet is leaving with the Americans

[How the War on Terror Has Militarized the Police](#), *The Atlantic*, 7 November

[Lawmakers Aim to Stop Defense Cuts if Debt Panel Fails](#), *New York Times*, 4 November

[America's itch to brawl has a new target – but bombs can't conquer Iran](#), Simon Jenkins, *The Guardian*, 3 November - a post-imperial virus has infected foreign policy. We've been here before, we know the human cost, and now we must stop

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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