



# Observatory

NATO News & Opinion Clips

Promoting a more transparent and accountable NATO

No.30 – March 2012

**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 ♠♠

## Contents:

NATO Watch Editorial: p2

- Beware of secretary generals bearing gifts
- A good time to investigate the secret wars in Greece and Turkey?
- The Russian presidential election and strategic posturing

News, Commentary & Reports p4

Afghanistan-Pakistan

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

Baltic Air Patrols

Chicago Summit

Conflict Prevention, Crisis Management & Humanitarian Relief

Cyber Security

Defence Budgets, Procurement and Private Military Companies

Drones; Enlargement and Partnerships

Exercises

Iran; Kosovo; Libya

Maritime Security & Piracy

Missile Defence

NATO Defence Ministers Meeting

NATO-Russia Relations

Nuclear Weapons

Reform; Responsibility to Protect (R2P)

Special Forces

Transatlantic Cooperation

Transparency and Accountability

Upcoming Events p16

Security News from NATO Member States p17

Canada; Denmark; Estonia; France; Germany; Greece; Italy; Norway; Romania; Turkey; UK; USA

IDEAS, FEEDBACK, SUGGESTIONS? p20

## Shadow NATO Summit III

Washington DC

14-15 May 2012

Organised by BASIC –  
Bulletin of the Atomic  
Scientists – The Elliott  
School of International Affairs  
– NATO Watch – Strategy  
International

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## NATO Watch

conducts independent monitoring and analysis of NATO and aims to increase transparency, stimulate parliamentary engagement and broaden public awareness and participation in a progressive reform agenda within NATO. **NATO Watch website** [www.natowatch.org](http://www.natowatch.org)

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## NATO Watch Editorial:

### Beware of secretary generals bearing gifts

Sixty years ago, on 18 February 1952, Greece and Turkey became members of NATO. This was the first round of enlargement for the Alliance, only three years after its creation and just after the outbreak of the Korean War. Few Greeks seemed in the mood to celebrate this anniversary, however. Greece, lest we forget, is in the depths of a Great Depression, with a fifth consecutive year of contraction now predicted, unemployment at a record 20.9% and poverty having now engulfed more than a third of the population.

Enter stage right, the NATO Secretary General with a message of hope to lift the nation's dark mood. In a [speech](#) in Athens on 17 February Anders Fogh Rasmussen suggested that the security offered by the alliance would create the "right conditions for Greece's economic revival and its long-term prosperity".

The Greek defence budget was reportedly one of the hardest hit in the latest round of austerity measures, but Rasmussen warned that global challenges such as terrorism, proliferation, piracy and cyber warfare would "not wait until our economies are back in order" and required just as urgent attention and international cooperation as the financial crisis. He added that Greece should use the crisis as an "opportunity to introduce significant defence reforms". It should "concentrate on deployable forces" rather than "waste scarce resources on static forces stuck in barracks".

[Rasmussen is encouraging](#) all NATO members to adopt this "smart defence" approach at its summit in Chicago in May. However, it is hard to see how investment in "deployable forces" deters or is an effective response to proliferation or cyber attacks. The jury is also out on the effectiveness of out-of-area military counter-terrorism and counter-piracy operations. In both cases, military force is but one item in an interventionist toolbox that must be more heavily weighted towards 'soft security', including prevention and eradication of root causes. Finally, what if Alliance troops had remained in barracks over the past decade rather than being deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan? It would need acute counter-factual jiggery-pokery to spend more than [the \\$6 trillion](#) wasted on these two wars of choice.

Thus, while the principle that underpins 'smart defence'—the need for allies to work more closely to provide military capabilities that individual countries cannot afford—is spot on, it also has the potential to conceal the development of unnecessary or destabilising capabilities for questionable strategic ends. Without proper transparency and accountability in the decision-making process, smart defence could be the most unwelcome gift since the Greeks tricked their way into the city of Troy with a wooden horse.

(photo credit: [rubyblossom/ flicker](#))



### A good time to investigate the secret wars in Greece and Turkey?

The [commemorations of the 60th anniversary of Greek and Turkish membership of NATO](#) have tended to focus on the two countries' contributions to grand strategy: guarding the Alliance's southern flank (during the Cold War Turkey

protected a third of NATO's total borders with Warsaw Pact countries) and their more contemporary assistance in addressing new security challenges such as violent extremism or the Afghanistan 'stabilisation' mission. There is only limited recognition that Greece and Turkey joined NATO in 1952 as part of the Truman containment policy—directed at ensuring that these two countries and others like them ended up on the right side of the Iron Curtain—and none whatsoever as to the controversial nature of that policy.

No aspect was more controversial than the CIA and NATO's 'secret armies' ([Operation Gladio](#)) that operated under various guises and names for nearly four decades from the start of the Cold War. This shadowy network of parallel intelligence and armed organisations across many NATO and even neutral countries was intended to continue anti-communist operations in the event of a Warsaw Pact invasion. When the allegations first came to light in 1990, NATO responded with a denial (nothing was known of Gladio) and official indifference continues to this day, despite parliamentary inquiries in Italy, Switzerland and Belgium. An [incisive study](#) by Daniele Ganser on the issue published in 2005 concluded that the secret stay-behind armies of NATO were both a prudent precaution and a source of terror.

The 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of NATO membership ought to provide a timely opportunity for a joint Greek-

Turkish parliamentary investigation of the history of the Gladio activities in the Alliance's southern edge. NATO should throw open its archives to support such an inquiry. Several accounts attribute these clandestine Turkish and Greek Gladio activities as contributing, either actively or passively, to many of the destabilising and terrorist activities within both countries during the Cold War, including four coup d'états (three in Turkey in 1960, 1971 and 1980, and one in Greece in 1967).

With periodic whispered fears of a return to military rule in both Greece and Turkey, a joint truth and reconciliation process to examine past state sponsored terrorist operations and human rights violations might contribute to a reduction in contemporary extremist positions, as well as mark an important step on the path towards Greek-Turkish reconciliation.

## The Russian presidential election and strategic posturing

*Guest editorial by Chris Lindborg, BASIC – first published as [BASIC This Week](#)*

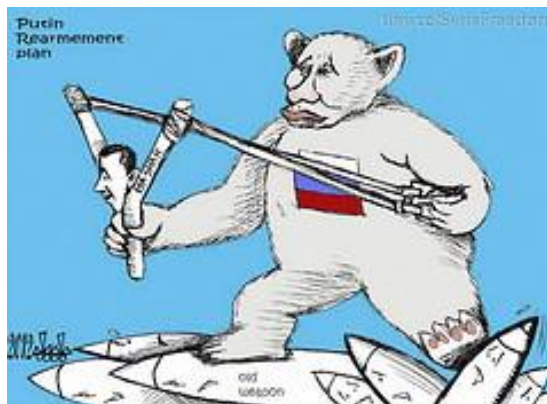
Russia will hold its presidential election on Sunday and Vladimir Putin is expected to move from his current role as Prime Minister back to the presidential helm, for at least the next six years. Ahead of the election, he has ramped up the rhetoric on strengthening Russia's strategic posture, and has posed Russia as still being the only true global counterweight to US military power.

On the campaign trail, Putin has raised his commitment to military modernization and last week wrote in *Rossiyskaya Gazeta* that he will prepare Russian forces to confront a wide array of advanced threats. He affirmed that his country will need to spend about \$770 billion, including on strategic missiles, during the next ten years. Russian security expert Dmitri Trenin of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in Moscow noted that the character of this modernization reflects the old approach of focusing on the United States as Russia's main opponent, and could well be beyond what the country can afford. Putin has cited US and NATO plans for ballistic missile defence as one of the reasons Russia needs to bolster its strategic forces. Yet he and other Russian leaders have issued this warning repeatedly over the years and well before the current political season. Putin has emphasized in recent days how Russian strategic parity with the United States is critical for ensuring

global stability, and warned of a new potential arms race. The New START signing between the two countries in the spring of 2010 now seems a distant memory.

Putin has also called out the United States on its approach to Iran, accusing Washington of trying to change the regime in Tehran, and not only prevent it from pursuing nuclear weapons. Russia has steadfastly disapproved of the more recent and stringent sanctions imposed outside of the UN framework. In July last year, Russia put forward a step-by-step proposal for trying to resolve the crisis which is now back under consideration, having been dismissed earlier by the United States for being too lenient on Iran. Putin's expression of frustration goes deeper than political posturing, but also reflects genuine differences with the United States over economic and regional interests and perceptions over how to most effectively dissuade Iranian leaders from developing their own nuclear arsenal.

Even after the Russian elections are over, in the United States President Barack Obama will face his own election challenges that will make it difficult for him to devote attention or political capital to very public international diplomatic achievements, whether over arms control with Russia or Iran's nuclear program. Political opponents may likely characterize moves toward diplomacy as signs of weakness. The Pentagon's ongoing nuclear guidance review, which in part entails a re-analysis of how the United States should address Russian nuclear forces, has already stirred political opponents to warn against deep cuts after a recent leak to the Associated Press about various options under the highly secretive review.



Also this week, chief US negotiator for the New START agreement, and now Acting Under Secretary of State for Arms Control, Rose Gottemoeller, is traveling to Berlin, Geneva, Warsaw and Vilnius to discuss future movements for nuclear and conventional arms control in Europe. For now, this type of hard work behind the scenes will be where the arms control action happens until Russian and US leaders can again tone down rhetoric focused on threats, and more visibly commit to new progress, which looks daunting even outside of election season.

(photo credit: FreedomHouse/ flickr)



## News, Commentary and Reports:

### Afghanistan-Pakistan:

(photo credit: Stitch/ flickr)

#### News

[Koran Burning in Afghanistan Prompts 3 Parallel Inquiries](#), *New York Times*, 29 February

[NATO pulls out of Afghan ministries. What's the impact?](#) *The Christian Science Monitor*, 27 February - many Afghans say advisers create a valuable link to NATO and foreign donors, but Afghans who work close with the advisers say the training and oversight varies in quality

[Afghan Handover Plan Roiled](#), *Wall Street Journal*, 27 February - Coalition Pulls Out Advisers as Pace of Withdrawal Debated; New Car Bomb Attack on Airport

[Afghanistan: France and Germany withdraw civilian staff](#), *BBC News*, 26 February - France and Germany are following the US and Britain in withdrawing civilian staff from Afghan government institutions in the wake of the killing of two senior US NATO officers

[Afghanistan Nato officers shot dead in Kabul ministry](#), *BBC News*, 25 February

[NATO: 99 percent of reformed insurgents staying out of fight](#), *Stars and Stripes*, 22 February - nearly all of the 3,100 former Taliban fighters who have officially laid down their weapons and joined an Afghan government reintegration program appear to have left the fight for good, according to a NATO official

[NATO Commander Apologizes for Koran Disposal in Afghanistan](#), *New York Times*, 21 February - over 2,000 Afghans besieged Bagram Air Force Base shouting "Death to America," and throwing Molotov cocktails and rocks toward the base. Gen. Allen promised a full investigation into the incident, in which NATO forces reportedly began to burn the religious material unintentionally before being informed of their mistake by some of their Afghan comrades; [NATO in Afghanistan - ISAF Commander responds](#), *NATOchannel.tv/ You Tube*, 21 February

[The man who retrieves the Taliban's dead](#), *Washington Post*, 20 February – NATO and the Taliban have established a careful procedure in Kandahar Province to return each dead Taliban fighter's body to the Mirwais morgue for potential identification and a proper burial. One man is trusted by both the Taliban and the coalition forces to transport bodies in the trunk of his taxicab to their families or to the correct authorities

[NATO speedup of transfer to Afghan forces highlights problems](#), *Los Angeles Times*, 19 February - as allied commanders call Afghan forces capable of taking over most fighting by the end of 2013, the problems of the police and army come into sharper focus

[Fisher: Afghan training force likely to shrink](#), *Montreal Gazette*, 17 February

[Bound by hatred of the US, Pakistan extremists and politicians join hands to shake government](#), *Washington Post*, 15 February

[After a Reassessment, NATO Resumes Sending Detainees to Afghanistan Jails](#), *New York Times*, 15 February (Police checkpoint in Marzak village 26 February – photo credit: US Army/ flickr)



[8 Young Afghans Killed in Strike, NATO Acknowledges](#), *New York Times*, 15 February

[Nato supply route is reopened through Pakistan](#), *The Independent*, 15 February

[Afghan Border Police take the lead to secure northern crossing](#), *NATO News*, 14 February

[New wave of troops deploy to Afghanistan as part of NATO training mission](#), *Globe and Mail*, 13 February

[NATO says found Afghan children dead after air strike](#), *Reuters*, 13 February

[NATO investigates report of Afghan civilian deaths](#), *CNN*, 10 February

[Afghan forces will be 'good enough' to take over: US](#), *AFP*, 8 February

[Pakistan, NATO Hold Border Talks Following Deadly Attack](#), *Voice of America*, 8 February



[U.S. aims for Afghan talks breakthrough at May summit](#), *Chicago Tribune*, 8 February

[CIA digs in as Americans withdraw from Iraq, Afghanistan](#), *Washington Post*, 8 February

[3m NATO containers passed thru Pak sans payment](#), Akhtar Jamal, *Pakistan Observer*, 5 February - more than three million US/NATO containers and fuel tankers have passed through Pakistan during last ten years without making any payment to Islamabad - had each container or tanker been charged \$10,000, Pakistan would have earned \$30 billion

[U.S. Plans Shift to Elite Units as It Winds Down in Afghanistan](#), *New York Times*, 4 February

[Record Number of Afghan Civilians Died in 2011, Mostly in Insurgent Attacks, U.N. Says](#), *New York Times*, 4 February

[NATO members rattled by U.S. combat plan on Afghanistan](#), *Los Angeles Times*, 2 February - some object to being caught off guard by Panetta's talk of transferring combat duties to Afghans in 2013

[NATO ministers to consider accelerated withdrawal from combat role in Afghanistan](#), *Washington Post*, 2 February

[Why Taliban are so strong in Afghanistan](#), Bilal Sarwary, *BBC News*, 2 February

[NATO Chief: Afghan Timeline Unchanged](#), *Voice of America*, 2 February

(ISAF commander Gen. John R. Allen welcomes Afghan National Army Brig. Gen. Khatool Mohammadzai to the Gender Integration Luncheon at ISAF HQ, Kabul, 25 February – photo credit: ISAFmedia/ flickr)



[Quietly, NATO Hints It Could Leave Afghanistan Faster](#), *Wired News*, 1 February

[Pakistan dismisses Nato report on Afghan Taliban links](#), *BBC News*, 1 February - Pakistan's foreign minister says her country has no hidden agenda in Afghanistan, in response to a leaked secret NATO report on Islamabad's links to the Afghan Taliban

[Lawmakers: Stop insider attacks by Afghan troops](#), *Seattle Post Intelligencer*, 1 February – the US military provided sweeping details of the problem of insider attacks by Afghan security forces against US and other coalition troops, prompting lawmakers to call the screening process for Afghan forces "tragically weak"

[Afghan timeline will be addressed at NATO summit](#), *Associated Press*, 1 February

[US plans to end Afghan combat mission in 2013](#), *The Guardian*, 1 February - Defence secretary Leon Panetta says shift from fighting to training being brought forward by a year or more

[Taliban believe they will take over from US and Nato in Afghanistan – report](#), *The Guardian*, 1 February - Pakistan and NATO reject assertions by Taliban and al-Qaida detainees in document based on interrogations

## **Commentary and Reports**

[What the Quran burnings tell us](#), Stephen M. Walt, *Foreign Policy*, 29 February

[Will the Pakistan-Afghanistan border be reopened to NATO?](#) Pavle Levkovic, Atlantic Council of Canada, 29 February

[Despite the deepening crisis, the Afghan strategy is worth saving](#), *Washington Post editorial*, 29 February

[Blown Away - How the U.S. Fanned the Flames in Afghanistan](#), Tom Engelhardt and Nick Turse, *TomDispatch.com*, 28 February

[Is the Koran Burning Afghanistan's Dum Dum Moment?](#) Sarwar Kashmeri, *Huffington Post*, 27 February – in 1857 the East India Company, a British corporation that had colonized India for a hundred years, introduced the latest version of its service cartridge at the village of Dum Dum outside Calcutta. The cartridge had to be greased by hand to be effective. Rumours soon reached the Indian army contingents that the grease was made of pork fat -- unholy for Muslims, and beef fat -- unholy for Hindus. Entire regiments mutinied, shot their British officers and any other Westerners they could find...

[Fleeing War, Finding Misery: the Plight of Internally Displaced in Afghanistan](#), Amnesty International, February 2012

[Regional implications of NATO withdrawal from Afghanistan: What role for the EU?](#) Clare Castillejo, FRIDE, February 2012

[Nato forces have lost legitimacy](#), *Gulf News Editorial*, 23 February - ignorant actions in Afghanistan continue to infuriate both radicals and liberals

[Maximizing Chances for Success in Afghanistan and Pakistan](#), Michael E. O'Hanlon and Bruce Riedel, *Brookings Institution*, 15 February 2012,

The TAPI Natural Gas Pipeline: Status & Source of Potential Delays, Rainer Gonzalez Palau, NATO Civil-Military Fusion Centre, February 2012 - this report addresses the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) natural gas pipeline project and, based upon open-source information, identifies factors which have previously and could, in the future, delay progress on this key piece of regional energy infrastructure

♣♣ [450 Bases and It's Not Over Yet - The Pentagon's Afghan Basing Plans for Prisons, Drones, and Black Ops](#), Nick Turse, *TomDispatch.com*, 12 February

["Moderate" Taliban: A wolf in sheep's clothing?](#) Rachel Reid, *Foreign Policy*, 10 February

♣♣ [Afghanistan: Annual Report 2011, Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict](#), UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), February 2012

Corruption & Anti-Corruption Issues in Afghanistan, The NATO Civil-Military Fusion Centre (CFC), February 2012

[NATO in Afghanistan: An Early Exit?](#) Pavle Levkovic, Atlantic Council of Canada, 8 February

[Afghanistan: Moving Toward a Distant Endgame](#), George Friedman, *STRATFOR*, 6 February

[NATO in Afghanistan - Former Taliban become deminers](#), *NATOchannel.tv/ You Tube*, 6 February

[The death of the American dream in Afghanistan](#), Patrick Cockburn, *The Independent*, 5 February - a devastating leaked NATO report shows the extent of US failure, as the Taliban prepare for the occupying forces to leave

[Putting the Afghans in charge](#), Roger D. Carstens, *Foreign Policy*, 2 February

[Afghanistan's injustice system](#), Nick Grono, *Foreign Policy*, 1 February

♣♣ [Afghanistan: the big lie](#), *The Guardian* editorial, 1 February - we are repeatedly told the Taliban is being pushed back, but the truth is it shows no sign of being bombed to the peace table

[Nato prediction of Taliban victory in Afghanistan is immensely damaging](#), Simon Tisdall, *The Guardian*, 1 February - the NATO report on the Taliban and the timing of the leak have serious negative implications on a range of fronts



♣♣ [Afghanistan Index: Tracking Variables of Reconstruction & Security in Post-9/11 Afghanistan](#), Ian S. Livingston and Michael O'Hanlon, Brookings Institution, 30 January

[Towards A Stable Afghanistan - The Way Forward](#), A report of the Joint Working Group of RUSI and the Vivekananda International Foundation, *RUSI Occasional Paper*, January 2012

[Negotiating Peace in Afghanistan Without Repeating Vietnam](#), James Dobbins, RAND Corporation, January 2012

[Strategic Support to Security Sector Reform in Afghanistan, 2001–2010](#), Christian Dennys and Tom Hamilton-Baillie, Centre for International Governance Innovation, January 2012 - This paper argues that security sector reform (SSR) in Afghanistan suffers from a lack of strategic direction and political agreement. It focuses on disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR), and police and army reform in two case studies — Baghlan province and Nahr-I Sarraj district in Helmand province — in order to demonstrate the pitfalls of an SSR process driven by operational activities in the absence of an overarching strategy

*Senior ranking U.S. military leaders have so distorted the truth when communicating with the U.S. Congress and American people in regards to conditions on the ground in Afghanistan that the truth has become unrecognizable*

Army Lieutenant Colonel Daniel Davis, ♣♣ [Dereliction of Duty II: Senior Military Leaders' Loss of Integrity Wounds Afghan War Effort](#), 27 January 2012

[In Afghan War, Officer Becomes a Whistle-Blower](#), *New York Times*, 5 February

[The Afghanistan Report the Pentagon Doesn't Want You to Read](#), Michael Hastings, *Rolling Stone*, 10 February

[Army Whistleblower Lt. Col. Daniel Davis Says Pentagon Deceiving Public on Afghan War](#), *Democracy Now*, 15 February

[Spinning Afghanistan, America's longest war](#), Amy Gordon, *The Guardian*, 16 February - according to a military whistleblower, army leaders are practising a deception on the US public about this unwinnable war



♠♠ [Transition In The Afghanistan-Pakistan War: How Does This War End?](#) Anthony H. Cordesman, Centre for Strategic and International Studies, 11 January

[Police Perception Survey – 2011: The Afghan Perspective](#), United Nations Development Programme, December 2011 - the Afghan National Police (ANP) is making significant strides in public support, gaining greater confidence, respect and regard from Afghan citizens during the past year. But sharp regional differences mark the challenges ahead, as do reports of police corruption, misbehaviour and mistreatment of ordinary Afghans – although progress has been recorded in these areas as well

[The Afghan Papers: Committing Britain to War in Helmand, 2005-06](#), Edited by Michael Clarke, *RUSI Whitehall Paper*, 20 December

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

[Arguments Against Military Intervention in Syria](#), David Roberts, Deputy Director RUSI Qatar; [Arguments For Military Intervention in Syria](#), Michael Stephens, Researcher, RUSI Qatar, RUSI, February 2012

[Major Ground Force Likely Needed to Guard Syrian Chemical Arms: Pentagon](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 23 February

[Syria intervention drive mirrors Bosnia's history](#), *Reuters*, 19 February

[NATO to stay out of Syria even if U.N. mandate emerges](#), *Reuters*, 17 February

[NATO intervention in Syria depends on allies' political choice](#), *Today's Zaman*, 12 February

[NATO Partnerships and the Arab Spring: Achievements and Perspectives for the 2012 Chicago Summit](#), Isabelle François, Center for Transatlantic Security Studies Institute for National Strategic Studies, *Transatlantic Perspectives*, No. 1, December 2011

[NATO condemns continued crackdown in Syria](#), *Kuwait News Agency*, 1 February

## Baltic Air Patrols:

[Ministry Dubs NATO's Baltic Fighter Mission Biggest Victory in Years](#), *ERR (Estonia)*, 10 February

[NATO fighter jets can patrol anything they want](#), *Pravda*, 9 February

[NATO extends Baltic air patrols until 2018](#), *Associated Press*, 8 February

[NATO Secretary General welcomes agreement on Baltic Air Policing](#), *NATO News*, 8 February

## Chicago Summit:

[NATO Allies gather in Washington to prepare Chicago Summit](#), *NATO Press Release*, 29 February



[NATO Allies discuss in Washington preparations for upcoming Chicago Summit](#), *NATO News*, 28 February

- [Introductory remarks](#) by NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen at the National Defence University, Washington DC, 28 February
- ♠♠ [Remarks](#) by NATO Secretary General Rasmussen at the Allied Command Transformation (ACT) Seminar, Washington DC, 28 February (photo credit: NATO); [Press conference](#) by NATO Secretary General Rasmussen and Supreme Allied Commander Transformation General Stéphane Abrial at the ACT Seminar, 28 February

[Chicago asked not to stifle wireless at G-8, NATO summits](#), *The State Journal-Register*, 15 February

[NATO and NATO Parliamentary Assembly focus on Chicago Summit priorities](#), *NATO News*, 13 February - the North Atlantic Council met with representatives of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly at NATO headquarters for an exchange of views on the priorities for the upcoming NATO summit in Chicago

[NATO, G8 In Chicago: Security Groups Ramping Up In Preparation For Expected Protests](#), *Huffington Post*, 2 February

[Occupying NATO and the G-8 in Chicago](#), *The Bloomington Alternative*, 31 January - Adbusters invokes spirit of '68 in call for worldwide protest

[NATO's Chicago Summit: A Thorny Agenda](#), Karl-Heinz Kamp, *Research Paper 70*, NATO Defense College, January 2012 - currently, there are six core topics scheduled for Chicago - four "old" ones (stemming from the Lisbon summit) and two new ones. The old ones are Afghanistan, NATO-Russia, Missile Defence and the Deterrence and Defence Posture Review (DDPR) - the new ones being Libya/Arab-Spring and Smart Defence. Each of them is highly complex and it will be difficult to find consensus or summit "deliverables"

## Conflict Prevention, Crisis Management & Humanitarian Relief:

[Slovenia and Greece aid snow-covered Montenegro](#), NATO News, 28 February - following heavy snowfall, Montenegro declared a state of emergency throughout the country and made a call for assistance from the Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre (EADRCC), which is NATO's focal point for coordination of assistance provided by Allies and Partners in cases of civil emergency

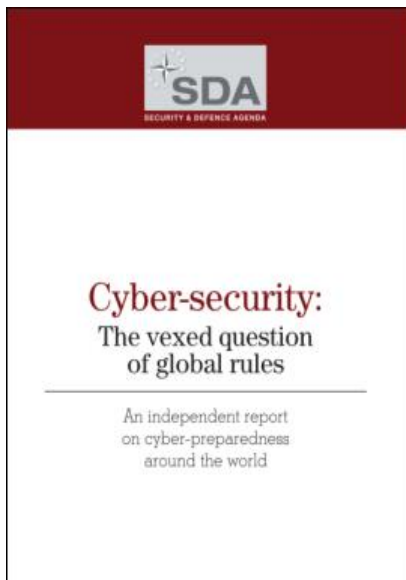
## Cyber Security:

[Finmeccanica Says NATO Contract Is Gateway for More Cyber Work](#), *Bloomberg*, 1 March

♣♣ [Cyber-Weapons](#), Thomas Rid & Peter McBurney, *RUSI Journal*, February/ March 2012, Vol 157. No.1, pp6-13 - what are cyber-weapons? Instruments of code-borne attack span a wide spectrum, from generic but low-potential tools to specific but high-potential weaponry. This distinction suggests a two-pronged hypothesis that stands in stark contrast to some of the received wisdom on cyber-security. Maximising the destructive potential of a cyber-weapon is likely to come with a double effect: it will significantly increase the resources, intelligence and time required for development and deployment – and more destructive potential is likely to decrease the number of targets, the risk of collateral damage and the political utility of cyber-weapons

[Nato to begin cyber security drive](#), *Financial Times*, 28 February

[Report: NATO Needs More Cyber Capabilities](#), *National Journal*, 27 February; [NATO's Cyber Capabilities: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow](#), Jason Healey and Leendert van Bochoven, *Atlantic Council Issue Brief*, February 2012



[Wired Opinion: Cyberwar Is the New Yellowcake](#), Jerry Brito and Tate Watkins, *Wired*, 14 February

[NATO cyber defence centre ready to open](#), *British Forces News/ You Tube*, 14 February

[NATO cyber defense lags](#), *FCW.com*, 2 February

[NATO Doesn't Yet Know How To Protect Its Networks](#), *Wired News (blog)*, 1 February

[Cyber-security: The vexed question of global rules](#), SDA Report, 30 January 2012 - based on over 80 interviews with senior specialists and policy makers and a survey of 250 experts from around the world, this report "bridges the gap between cyber experts and political decision makers, highlighting the points of contention and important lessons that global leaders need to learn from recent experiences". The report also grades the cyber-security capabilities of 21 countries analysing their strengths and weaknesses; comment: [Big Mac: Security firm McAfee reveals a whopper about China's cyber capabilities](#), Andrew Elwell, *DefenceIQ*, 1 February

## Defence Budgets, Procurement and Private Military Companies:

NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen [video blog](#), 'Committed to Capabilities', 1 March

[Frost & Sullivan: Integration of C4ISR Systems Gets a New Thrust With Increased Deployment of NATO Forces](#), *Market Watch (Press Release)*, 29 February

[Official: NATO Investment Critical Despite Fiscal Challenge](#), *US DoD News Release*, 28 February

[NATO Takes Innovative Lead With the Introduction of Mobile Virtual Training](#), *defpro.news*, 22 February

[NATO Common Funds Burdensharing: Background and Current Issues](#), Carl Ek, *Congressional Research Service*, 15 February



NATO - Distributed Networked Battle Labs (DNBL): a virtual platform for real tests, [NATOchannel.tv/ You Tube](#), 12 February

'Plug and Play' to Bridge NATO Asymmetries, *The Journal of Turkish Weekly*, 6 February

NATO looks at 'Smart Defense' to cut costs, *Deutsche Welle*, 5 February

NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen [video blog](#), 'Connected Forces', 4 February

NATO Will Buy Its First Spy Drones, Eventually, *Wired News*, 31 January

NATO To OK Global Hawks, Announce Interim Missile Defense Capability, Colin Clark, *AOL Defense*, 31 January

*By continuing to outsource high-risk jobs that were previously performed by soldiers, the military, in effect, is privatizing the ultimate sacrifice*

Steven L. Schooner, law professor at George Washington University, cited in [Risks of Afghan War Shift From Soldiers to Contractors](#), *New York Times*, 11 February

## Drones:

♣♣ [Remotely Piloted War - How Drone War Became The American Way of Life](#), Tom Engelhardt, *TomDispatch.com*, 23 February

NATO to Spend 3 Billion Euros on Global Hawk Program, *Defense News*, 15 February

NATO to buy 5 US-made reconnaissance drones after Libya war exposed shortcomings, *Washington Post*, 15 February

Pentagon Budget Said to Fund First NATO Global Hawk Drones, *Bloomberg Business Week*, 10 February

Canada pulls out of NATO surveillance project, *CBC.ca*, 9 February - U.S., Germany, Norway among countries in UAV surveillance project based in Italy

NATO's new Unmanned Air Vehicles, *NATOchannel.tv/ You Tube*, 6 February

U.S. Said to Target Rescuers at Drone Strike Sites, *New York Times*, 5 February; U.S. Accused of Using Drones to Target Rescue Workers and Funerals in Pakistan, *Democracy Now*, 6 February

NATO Agrees to Fund Surveillance Operation Using Northrop Drones, *Bloomberg*, 3 February

'Congress Calls For Accelerated Use Of Drones In U.S.', *Secrecy News*, FAS Project on Government Secrecy, Volume 2012, Issue No. 9, 3 February - a House-Senate [conference report](#) called on the Administration to accelerate the use of civilian unmanned aerial systems (UAS), or "drones," in U.S. airspace. The pending [authorization bill](#) for the Federal Aviation Administration directs the Secretary of Transportation to develop within nine months "a comprehensive plan to safely accelerate the integration of civil unmanned aircraft systems into the national airspace system".

Obama Defends Drone Use, *Wall Street Journal*, 31 January - in a rare official discussion of the covert drone program run by the CIA, President Barack Obama defended the US' use of drones to strike suspected terrorists in Pakistan and elsewhere yesterday during a Google+ hangout. Obama maintained that the drone program has not been responsible for a "huge" number of civilian casualties, and is "kept on a very tight leash" so as to be extremely targeted toward "active terrorists"

### Keeping the prison at Guantanamo Bay open for terrorist suspects?

	Approve
Liberal Dems	53%
Moderate Dems	67%
Public	70%

### The use of unmanned, "drone" aircraft against terrorist suspects overseas?

	Approve
Liberal Dems	77%
Moderate Dems	82%
Public	83%

Washington Post-ABC News Poll, Feb. 1-4

(photo credit: Third Way/ flickr)

## Enlargement and Partnerships:

[Boosting training and education with NATO's partners](#), NATO News, 15 February - Partnership Training and Education Centres (PTEC) play an essential role in supporting NATO's objectives for partnership with non-member countries. Initially launched in 1999 under the Partnership for Peace programme to develop training and education activities with Euro-Atlantic partners, activities have since been opened to participation of all partners. Most of the 23 institutions that currently make up the network of centres – of which 12 are located in partner countries – took part in an annual networking event known as the "Marketplace" at NATO HQ

### Armenia

[Armenia-NATO cooperation deepens-President](#), *Information-Analytic Agency NEWS.am*, 13 February

## **Azerbaijan**

[Baku to improve ties with NATO](#), *New Europe*, 26 February

[Azerbaijani President meets NATO Secretary General in Brussels](#), *Trend.az*, 15 February/ [NATO Secretary General welcomes President Ilham Aliyev of Azerbaijan at NATO Headquarters](#), *NATOchannel.tv/ You Tube*, 15 February

## **China**

(photo credit: US-China Today/ flickr)

[NATO Military Delegation Discusses Cooperation with Chinese Authorities in Beijing](#), *defpro.news*, 17 February

[China And NATO Talk Regularly: 'Getting To Know You'](#), Colin Clark, *AOL Defense*, 31 January

## **Georgia**

[Georgia's Exclusion from NATO: Is the West Out of Excuses?](#) Seth Mandell, *Commentary*, 31 January

## **India**

[Worth exploring NATO partnership with India:](#) *Pentagon*, *The Hindu*, 2 March

[NATO-India: Prospects of A Partnership](#), Robert Helbig, *NATO Defense College Research Paper No. 73*, February 2012

## **Israel**

[Turks torpedo Israel Navy participation in NATO op](#), *Jerusalem Post*, 10 February

## **Japan**

[Deputy Secretary General welcomes Japanese donation for Afghan Forces Training](#), *NATO News*, 21 January - the NATO Deputy Secretary General welcomed an important contribution of \$20 million from the Japanese Government to the Afghan National Army Trust Fund. The donation will support long-term basic literacy training for the Afghan National Security Forces; [Joint Press Point - NATO Deputy SecGen w/ Ambassador Japan to Belgium](#), *NATOchannel.tv/ You Tube*, 21 February

## **Macedonia**

[President Ivanov sends letter to NATO Heads of State](#), *EMportal*, 19 February - Macedonian President Gjorge Ivanov sent a letter to NATO Heads of State asking for support for the Republic of Macedonia's NATO membership, because as he said, it is an opportunity the injustice from Bucharest to be repaired

[Macedonia Asks to Join NATO despite Greek Opposition](#), *Naharnet*, 18 February

[Macedonia Doubles NATO Membership Efforts Amid Doubts](#), *Eurasia Review*, 16 February

## **Tajikistan**

[NATO-sponsored project to help secure dangerous munitions in Tajikistan](#), *NATO News*, 31 January - fifteen years after the end of a civil war, Tajikistan is left with thousands of tonnes of munitions insecurely stored in makeshift storage sites across the country. Several more munitions caches lie undiscovered, posing a major security threat. A Partnership Trust Fund project will soon help Tajikistan counter this threat

[NATO's not so smart initiative](#), Emanuele Scimia, *Asia Times*, 9 February - NATO has launched a trust fund project to secure or destroy munitions in Tajikistan. But impending developments in Afghanistan, coupled with budgetary constraints in Europe and the US, will curb the Alliance's projection in Central and South Asia

## **Ukraine**

[NATO week running in Kyiv](#), *The National News Agency of Ukraine*, 6 February

[Ukraine's Game of Risk](#), Paweł Wołowski, *New Eastern Europe*, 23 January

## **UN**

[NATO and the United Nations Agree to Intensify Cooperation to Support Children Affected by Armed Conflict](#), *NATO Press Release*, 22 February



[NATO's UN Liaison Officer addresses West-Point cadets](#), NATO News, 8 February - "NATO delivers security", theme of NATO's Chicago Summit in May, was one of the topics of a series of briefings to West-Point cadets by NATO's Military Liaison Officer to the United Nations, Col. Paul Van der Hei

## Exercises:

**[Cold Response 2012 \(12-21 March\)](#)** (Cold Response 2009, Norway – photo credit: soldatnyt/flickr)

[NATO tests its forces in Arctic](#), *The Voice of Russia*, 9 February – 16,000 people as well as fighting ships and aviation from Denmark, Canada, Netherlands, Norway, France, Sweden, UK and the US are to take part

**[Proud Manta 12 \(14-16 February\)](#)**

[NATO Forces in the Mediterraenan for Exercise PROUD MANTA 12](#), *DVIDS*, 6 February - from Feb. 14-26, 11 NATO nations will provide five submarines, 15 aircraft (including shore and ship based helos) and 12 surface ships (including two auxiliary ships from Italy and one NATO research vessel) to take part in Proud Manta 12, NATO's largest anti-submarine warfare exercise. The exercise will take place in the Ionian Sea to the southeast of Sicily. Forces are provided by Canada, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Turkey, the United Kingdom, and the United States



## Iran:

[NATO to Iran: Don't worry about missile shield unless you plan attack](#), *Today's Zaman*, 13 February

[NATO must bolster ties with states threatened by nuclear Iran, expert says](#), *Haaretz*, 1 February - researcher at NATO Defence College says nuclear Iran would increase 'subconventional confrontations of 'nuclear hedging' among NATO partners in the region'

[Hormuz-Mania - Why Closure of the Strait of Hormuz Could Ignite a War and a Global Depression](#), Michael T. Klare, *TomDispatch.com*, 31 January

## Kosovo:

[NATO Updates Plans For Kosovo Draw Down](#), *Aviation Week*, 9 February

[Dialogue historic chance, NATO chief says](#), *B92*, 3 February - NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen said Friday that the continuation of the Belgrade-Priština dialogue is of vital importance

[Kosovo and Serbia: A Little Goodwill Could Go a Long Way](#), International Crisis Group *Europe Report* N°2152, Feb 2012

[NATO "thwarted" organ trade investigation](#), *B92*, 1 February - Former Hague Tribunal Chief Prosecutor Carla Del Ponte has stated that NATO thwarted the investigation into the human organ trafficking in Kosovo

## Libya:

[Libya, One Year On: National Transitional Council Struggles with Revolutionary Change](#), *ICRtoP blog*, 28 February

[NATO: Caught in the headlights](#), Marwan Bishara, *Al Jazeera*, 21 February

[As Calls for Intervention in Syria Grow, Vijay Prashad Urges Reevaluation of NATO Attack on Libya](#), *Democracy Now*, 21 February

[UK Defence Committee claims that civilian casualties from NATO bombing in Libya 'cannot be counted' and admits that it 'does not have the power' to press for scrutiny of NATO's analysis of the conflict](#), *NATO Watch Press Briefing*, 21 February



♠♠ [NATO's secret war against Gadhafi](#), David Pugliese, *The Ottawa Citizen*, 21 February - officially, international forces weren't supposed to take sides. In reality, they played a key role in the rebels' victory

♠♠ [The Libya Mission One Year Later: The rules of engagement](#), David Pugliese, *The Ottawa Citizen*, 19 February

(Libya 24 February – photo credit: andycarvin/flickr)



[One year on: chaotic Libya reveals the perils of humanitarian intervention](#), Peter Beaumont, *The Observer*, 19 February

[Mbeki lashes out at UN, Nato over Libya attacks](#), *Times Live*, 17 February

[Canadian commander in Libya warns of tough transition](#), *CBC.ca*, 14 February - reports of torture, prisoner abuse persist after Gaddafi's death

[NATO Ponders The Long-Term Cost Of Libya](#), *Strategy Page*, 13 February

[Daalder, Stavridis Should Consider the Problems Libya Intervention Caused](#), *The NATO Monitor*, 8 February

[Nato Death Toll in Libya 'Cannot be Counted'](#), *International Business Times*, 8 February

[Mali Besieged by Fighters Fleeing Libya](#), Scott Stewart, *STRATFOR*, 2 February

[Blame Nato for the mess in Libya](#), Ramzy Baroud, *Gulf News*, 1 February - unrepresentative NTC is unable to control militias, tribes and factions, which are committing human rights abuses in a bid to settle scores

UK Defence Committee - Ninth Report: [Operations in Libya](#), House of Commons, 25 January

Stability in a Post-Gaddafi Libya, Melodee M. Baines, NATO Civil-Military Fusion Centre (CFC), *Mediterranean Basin thematic report*, January 2012

[Libya Crisis: National Security Adviser's Review of Central Co-ordination and Lessons Learned](#), 10 Downing Street, UK Government, 1 December

*This is destruction! We're destroying Libya with our bare hands*

Nouri Ftais, a 51-year-old militia commander trying to restore calm after a firefight with another militia in Tripoli, Libya, where the government has become virtually paralyzed by rivalries, local grievances and an abundance of arms, [Libya Struggles to Curb Militias as Chaos Grows](#), *New York Times*, 8 February

*NATO's operation in Libya has rightly been hailed as a model intervention*

[NATO's Victory in Libya](#), Ivo H. Daalder (US permanent representative to NATO) and James G. Stavridis (NATO's supreme allied commander for Europe), *Foreign Affairs*, 2 February

## Maritime Security and Piracy:

[NATO Group sails on anti-terrorist mission: Active Endeavour](#), *DVIDS*, 28 February

[Denmark piracy raid off Somalia leaves two dead](#), *BBC News*, 28 February – the Danish Navy has said two hostages have been killed as a Danish warship confronted a pirate vessel off the coast of Somalia

[NATO maritime group completes port visit to Tunis](#), *DVIDS*, 15 February

[Maritime Transport And Destabilizing Commodity Flows](#), Hugh Griffiths and Michael Jenks, *SIPRI Policy Paper* 32, January 2012

[International Coast Guard forum needed to discuss Arctic security issues, says CSIS](#), *Fierce Homeland Security*, 19 January

Regional Courts and Prisons: Developing Local Capacity to Prosecute Somali Pirates, Amber Ramsey NATO Civil-Military Fusion Centre (CFC), *Anti-Piracy thematic report*, January 2012

## Missile Defence:



♠♠ [Lifting the Lid on Menwith Hill: the strategic roles and economic impact of the US Spy Base in Yorkshire](#), Steve Schofield, Yorkshire CND, March 2012 – this report sheds light on the work of the US base which is run by the National Security Agency (NSA) under an informal and secretive lease agreement with the UK Government. Important questions are raised within the report regarding the base's accountability to Parliament – Read NATO Watch's review of this report, [here](#)

[NATO Military Committee visits US Navy Destroyer with Ballistic Missile Defence Capabilities](#), *NATO News*, 29 February

[NATO Chief Says Missile Defense Talks With Russia at Standstill](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 29 February

[US forces manning radar defense site in Turkey](#), *Today's Zaman*, 27 February

[U.S. Confirms Radar Site in Turkey is Operational](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 27 February

[Russia Vows to Neutralize NATO Missile Shield if Deal is Not Struck](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 22 February

[U.S. IDs Aegis Antimissile Ships Set for Deployment in Spain](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 17 February

[European, U.S. Targets Within Reach of Iranian Missiles, General Says](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 17 February

*We have to either build our own antimissile defense or give some asymmetrical answers*

Vladimir Putin, Russian Prime Minister, warning his government would mount a strong response to US missile defence efforts in Europe; [Putin Warns of "Asymmetric" Response to U.S. Missile Defense](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 23 February

[Russia Says NATO Missile-Defense Talks At 'Dead End'](#), *Radio Free Europe/ Radio Liberty*, 6 February

[NATO: Missile shield plans proceed despite Russia](#), *Associated Press*, 4 February

[Putin Says NATO Missile System Pointed At Russia](#), *Radio Free Europe/ Radio Liberty*, 3 February

[NATO Will Switch On Its \(Tiny\) Missile Shield in May](#), *Wired*, 2 February

[NATO 'to base missile shield command in Germany'](#), *AFP*, 2 February

[Russia, NATO May Hold Missile Defense Drills in March](#), *RIA Novosti*, 2 February

[NATO Missile Defence Information Leaflet](#), January 2012

## NATO Defence Ministers Meeting – Brussels, 2-3 February:

### **NATO Communications**

[Press conference](#) by NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen following the meeting of NATO Defence Ministers, 3 February

[NATO Reaffirms Commitment to 2014 Lisbon Goal in Afghanistan](#), *NATO News*, 3 February - Defence Ministers of the 50 NATO and ISAF nations met today to review the security situation in Afghanistan and discuss NATO's enduring commitment to Afghanistan

[Opening remarks](#) by NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen at the Meeting of NATO Defence Ministers with non-NATO ISAF Contributing Nations, 3 February

[NATO Defence Ministers discuss security situation in Northern Kosovo](#), *NATO News*, 3 February - NATO Defence Ministers reviewed the security situation in the northern part of Kosovo which experienced an increase in violence in 2011. Allies were joined by Ministers from non-NATO troop contributors and a representative of the European Union

[Opening remarks](#) by NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen at the Meeting of NATO Defence Ministers with non-NATO KFOR Contributing Nations, 3 February

[NATO Defence Ministers support Smart Defence as a driver for change](#), *NATO News*, 2 February - NATO Defence Ministers gave their support to the goal to achieve a maximum effect and efficiency with funds allocated to defence, by cooperating more on multinational initiatives (photo credit: NATO)

[NATO Defence Ministers pave the way to Chicago Summit](#), *NATO News*, 2 February - the Defence Ministers of NATO's 28 Allies and over 20 partner countries meet in Brussels for talks on a range of issues including Afghanistan, Smart Defence and NATO Reform

[Press conference](#), NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen following the Defence Ministers meeting, 2 February; see You Tube Q&A [here](#)

[Opening statement](#) by NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen at the Defence Ministers meeting, 2 February; see *You Tube* version [here](#)



[Arrival statement](#) by NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen prior to the NATO Defence Ministers meetings at NATO Headquarters, 2 February; see [You Tube version here](#)

[Press briefing](#) by the NATO Spokesperson, Oana Lungescu, 1 February

### **Media Reaction**

[Panetta Provides Perspectives From Trip to NATO, Germany](#), *American Forces Press Service*, US Department of Defense, 10 February

[Canadian Defence Minister Attends the NATO Defence Ministers Meeting in Brussels](#), *defpro.com*, 6 February

[Politics drives exit from Afghanistan](#), Deb Riechmann, *Associated Press*, 4 February

[Day 2 talks for NATO defence ministers](#), *British Forces News*, 3 February

[Funding Afghan security on NATO agenda](#), *Euronews*, 3 February

[NATO to Acquire First Fleet of Unarmed Drones](#), *Wall Street Journal*, 3 February

[Cost drives NATO bid for smaller Afghan army](#), *Reuters*, 3 February

[NATO nations finally agree deal on drone project](#), *Reuters*, 3 February

[NATO ministers mull financing for Afghan security forces post-2014](#), *Washington Post*, 3 February

[U.S. Will Keep Fighting as Afghans Take the Lead, Panetta Says](#), *New York Times*, 2 February

[NATO ministers mull Afghan drawdown](#), *Newsday*, 2 February

[NATO Defense Ministers Discuss Afghanistan Withdrawal](#), *Voice of America*, 2 February

[Panetta faces tough NATO meeting after budget shift](#), *Reuters*, 1 February

*Should Russia join NATO? No, it shouldn't, because world powers create alliances, not join them*

Russian Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Rogozin, [Russia and NATO: symbiosis of opposites](#), *Voice of Russia*, 17 February

### **NATO-Russia Relations:**

[Russia to Rebuild Military Airfields near NATO Borders](#), *RIA Novosti*, 22 February

[Putin Pledges 400 ICBMs for Russia in Ten Years](#), *RIA Novosti*, 20 February

[Winter Academy opens in Russia](#), NATO News, 16 February - on 13 February, the 14th edition of the Winter Academy opened in Abramtsevo on the outskirts of Moscow. The title of this year's event is "NATO and partners: searching for common answers to new security challenges"

[Russia's military: modern warfare the Moscow way](#), Charles Clover, *Financial Times*, 31 January - Kremlin plans to restore the army's flagging power are meeting resistance at home

### **Nuclear Weapons:**

(photo credit: helliothomas/flickr)

♠♠ [The NATO Deterrence and Defence Posture Review: A Status Report](#), Simon Lunn and Ian Kearns, European Leadership Network for Multilateral Nuclear Disarmament and Non-proliferation, *ELN NATO Policy Brief No.1*, February 2012 - Based on interviews with

international and national staff at NATO headquarters in Brussels, the paper outlines the current NATO review process and state of play, the national positions being taken up in the debate, and the issues at stake.

It argues that without the injection of political interest and leadership there is a risk the opportunity for a comprehensive re-think of required NATO capabilities in new circumstances is being missed along with a vital opportunity to identify new avenues for productive dialogue with Russia. Prospects for the Chicago Summit in May are consequently uncertain at best. NATO cohesion and effectiveness, along with the overall security climate in Europe, may suffer as a result

[Poland, NATO and Non-Strategic Nuclear Weapons in Europe](#), Andrew Somerville, Ian Kearns and Malcolm Chalmers, *RUSI and ELN Occasional Paper*, February 2012 - this paper is the product of an ELN-RUSI partnership programme to address particular national positions in the non-strategic nuclear weapons (NSNW) debate within NATO. The series starts with Poland because it could have a pivotal role to play, and has a position that is complex and too often caricatured. The paper charts Poland's security concerns and





changing foreign policy considerations, and sets the country's approach to the nuclear question within that wider context. Further papers on Turkey and the Baltic States will follow

♠♠ [Away from a World of Peril](#), Sam Nunn, *Survival*, Vol. 54 No. 1, February–March 2012, pp. 234–244

[Strong Russian Nuclear Force Deters Conflict, Putin Says](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 27 February

*The whole point of nuclear submarines is that they go all around the world and you don't know where they are. That's why they're a deterrent*

Mark Lyall Grant, British Ambassador to the United Nations, responding to an assertion by Argentina's top diplomat that one of the UK's ballistic missile submarines was sailing close to the disputed Falkland Islands; cited in [British Ballistic Missile Sub in South Atlantic, Argentina Says](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 13 February

[Tactical Nuclear Weapons In Italy: Striking a Balance between Disarmament Aspirations and Alliance Obligations](#), Paolo Foradori, *The Nonproliferation Review* Volume 19 Issue 1, 2012

[Nonstrategic Nuclear Weapons](#), Amy F. Woolf, *Congressional Research Service*, 14 February

[New START Follow-Up Talks Seen Addressing All US, Russian Nuclear Arms](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 13 February

[New push to remove tactical nuclear weapons from Europe](#), Julian Borger, *The Guardian (blog)*, 3 February - more than 20 years after the Cold War there are still more than a thousand nuclear bombs and short-range missiles in Europe ready to launch at very short notice. Now there is a new idea on how to get off the continent's old front lines.

[Tactical nuclear weapons 'are an anachronism'](#), Gordon Corera, *BBC News*, 3 February

### Reform:

[Former US defense official Vershbow takes over as NATO's deputy chief](#), *Washington Post*, 15 February

[Ambassador Alexander Vershbow takes office as NATO Deputy](#)

[Secretary General](#), *NATO News*, 13 February

## Responsibility to Protect (R2P):

[Civil Society Reflects on Challenges for RtoP Post-Libya](#), International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect, February 2012

[Western intervention in Syria won't work, so what's to be done to stop the killing?](#) Mehdi Hasan, *New Statesman*, 9 February

[Mugabe fears Nato attack](#), *Zimbabwe Independent*, 3 February

[R2P: The Next Decade](#), Rachel Gerber, The Stanley Foundation, *Policy Memo*, February 2012

## Special Forces:

[NATO's Special Forces Network](#), *NATO News*, 27 February - the skills and expertise of Special Forces are valuable assets to NATO operations. But whereas Special Forces are often seen as a national prerogative, the transatlantic Alliance also has a NATO Special Operations Headquarters (NSHQ) where Special Forces work together

[Inside NATO's Special Forces network](#), *NATOchannel.tv/ You Tube*, 22 February

## Transatlantic Cooperation:

[All alone? What US retrenchment means for Europe and NATO](#), François Heisbourg, Wolfgang Ischinger, George Robertson and Kori Schake, Edited by Tomas Valasek, Centre for European Reform February 2012 - with the US reducing its role in NATO, the Europeans need to assume more military responsibility, and the alliance needs to narrow its ambitions



[As the EU Said at the NATO Summit](#), Sven Biscop, *Egmont Security Policy Brief* No. 33, February 2012 – the May 2012 NATO Summit in Chicago will see the first results of the new attempt to make Europeans more capable militarily. Having decided last December on projects addressing some of the key shortfalls, the EU has a unique opportunity to deliver a strong message – if projects become reality. The European Council can be the tool, and its President the voice, of a strong collective effort

[Europeans Ignore Strain In Ties To U.S.](#), Judy Dempsey, Letter from Europe, *International Herald Tribune*, 7 February

[Remarks](#) by NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen at the Munich Security Conference plenary session on "Building Euro-Atlantic Security, 4 February

[Panetta Pledges Troops for NATO Response Force to Assure Europe](#), *Bloomberg*, 4 February



♠♠ [EASI: Euro-Atlantic Security Initiative](#), Final Report, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, February 2012 - 26 former generals, senior policymakers, and businesspeople from Russia, North America, and Europe warned that the security situation in the Euro-Atlantic region is sliding backward, and called for the creation of a new, more ambitious security dialogue in the region. The project is co-chaired by NTI co-chairman Sam Nunn, former German deputy foreign minister and ambassador to the United States Wolfgang Ischinger and former Russian foreign minister Igor Ivanov. The report lays out a series of concrete steps in six areas to improve relations between Russia, Europe, and the United States, leading to the eventual creation of a genuine Euro-Atlantic Security Community: missile defence cooperation in Europe; Lengthened early warning and decision-making time in the military sphere; Resolution of protracted conflicts; Reconciliation of historical grievances between states; Stabilization of the European Union-Russian gas relationship; and Collaboration in the Arctic; [Euro-Atlantic Goals](#), Wolfgang Ischinger, Igor Ivanov and Sam Nunn, *New York Times*, 31 January

[This Week at War: What Is NATO Good For?](#) Robert Haddick, *Foreign Policy*, 3 February - the US pivot to Asia could give the military alliance a chance to find a new identity

[The Transatlantic Bargain](#), volume edited by Mark Ducasse, NATO Defense College, January 2012

## Transparency and Accountability:

[Report of the Defense Science Board Task Force on Basic Research](#), Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, Washington, D.C., January 2012 - the US DoD basic research program has many strengths as well as some serious weaknesses, according to this report, but it needs to open up and to improve its information management practices. "As is true for most programs in the DoD,... less bureaucracy and more transparency would be welcome improvements," the DSB study said. Current DoD information practices are not even responsive to internal agency needs, let alone requests from outsiders, the DSB found (c/o *Secrecy News*, Federation of American Scientists)

[Silent State - The Campaign Against Whistleblowers in Washington](#), Peter Van Buren, *TomDispatch.com*, 9 February

Gary Ross, [Who Watches the Watchmen? The Conflict Between National Security and Freedom of the Press](#), US Defense Intelligence Agency's [National Intelligence University](#), Washington, DC, July 2011 – this book-length study argues that the tension between maintaining national security secrets and the public's right to know cannot be "solved," but can be better understood and more intelligently managed.

## Upcoming Events:

(photo credit: ex.libris/flickr)

[Women and Security: Leaders, Targets, and Activists - An international Women's Day Event](#), The Atlantic Treaty Association, in cooperation with the Youth Atlantic Treaty Association, 8 March, Brussels – this Panel Debate will focus on a range of issues, including participation of women in peace and security leadership, victimization of women through sexual violence, and women's initiation of civil society level security projects



[Security Jam](#), 19-23 March – online discussion bringing together thousands of representatives of national governments and armed forces, international institutions, NGOs, think-tanks, industry, university and the media to find solutions to global security issues

[Smart Defense: Can a Lean NATO Meet the Challenges of the 21st Century?](#) 28-30 March, The Chicago Club, Chicago, Illinois, US – this international conference will focus on the challenges confronting the alliance in a time of changing threats and constrained resources. Papers commissioned for this conference will be released in advance of the NATO Summit. The Chicago Council is organizing the conference with a consortium of partners from NATO members including Canada, France, Turkey, Poland, Germany and UK

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

[Global Day of Action on Military Spending](#), 17 April – this second annual Global Day of Action on Military Spending is being organised to coincide with the release of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute's (SIPRI) new annual figures on world military expenditures. On this day, people on all continents will join together in joint actions to focus public, political, and media attention on the costs of military spending and the need for new priorities



**Shadow NATO Summit**, Washington DC, 14-15 May - Organised by BASIC, Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, The Elliott School of International Affairs, NATO Watch and Strategy International, this two-day conference will draw together officials, NGOs, activists, students and other representatives of civil society to discuss the big themes around transatlantic security and the future of NATO. Please contact [NATO Watch](#) for further details

**Young Atlanticist Summit**, 18-21 May, Chicago, US - organised by the Chicago Council in partnership with The Atlantic Council, will include 50-75 young leaders, between 26-35 years of age, recruited from all NATO countries and some partner countries. The Young Atlanticist Summit will connect emerging leaders from North America, Europe, and other relevant regions with one another and with today's Alliance leaders. The application form, as well as participant qualifications and detailed information on the NATO Working Group and the 2012 Young Atlanticist Summits, can be found at [www.youngatlanticist.org](http://www.youngatlanticist.org)



### **NATO Chicago Summit: 20-21 May 2012**

[The Chicago Council Plans Suite of Activities Around G8 and NATO Summits](#), Chicago Council on Global Affairs – includes two public program speaker series:

- *"In Jeopardy? Europe and the Transatlantic Alliance"* focuses on the future of the transatlantic alliance, global economic issues, and conflict and security strategies in multiple arenas. Confirmed speakers include: former Ambassador to NATO R. Nicholas Burns (March 28), Financial Times columnist Martin Wolf (April 23), and former U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright (May 2).
- *"On the Summits: Perspectives from Global Leaders"* gives Chicagoans an opportunity to hear from visiting leaders. Confirmed speakers include: U.S. Permanent Representative to NATO Ivo Daadler (March 1), British Ambassador to the U.S. Sir Peter Westmacott (March 21), Supreme Allied Commander Admiral James G. Stavridis, and President of the Czech Republic Vaclav Klaus (May 22).

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

## **Security News from NATO Member States:**

(photo credit: darkmatter/flickr)

### **Canada**

[The Strategic Outlook for Canada](#), Paul Chapin and George Petrolekas, *Vimy Paper* No.5: February 2012

[Canadian plans for a military air force hub in Germany go ahead despite protests](#), *Toronto Star*, 23 February

[At last, Canada has a counterterrorism strategy](#), *The Ottawa Citizen*, 13 February

[Canada needs more accurate bombs, says head of Libya mission](#), *Montreal Gazette*, 13 February

[Canada withdraws from NATO surveillance program](#), *Vancouver Sun*, 9 February

[NATO strong despite defence cuts: MacKay](#), *London Free Press*, 4 February

### **Denmark**

[Army chief ordered figures changed](#), *Politiken.dk*, 8 February - Parliament was misinformed 13 times about the number of Iraqi prisoners

### **Estonia**

[Estonia awards George W. Bush for supporting its NATO membership](#), *Washington Post*, 1 February

### **France**

[Memorial dedicated to those who have lost their lives under NATO flag unveiled in France](#), NATO News, 25 February - a memorial was unveiled in Fréthun, in the north of France, to honour those who died in





operations under the NATO flag, passing on their memory to future generations, and fostering further international collaboration concerning war operations and their commemoration (photo credit: NATO)



## Germany

[Germany Closes Afghan Military Base Early](#), *Der Spiegel*, 24 February

[Germany's Role in Europe and the European Debt Crisis](#), George Friedman, *STRATFOR*, 31 January

## Greece

[NATO Secretary General - Joint press conference w/ Defence Minister of Greece](#), *NATOchannel.tv/ You Tube*, 17 February

[NATO Secretary General - Building security when times are tough](#), *You Tube*, 17 February - speech by NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen in Athens

[NATO SG urges all Cyprus parties to their utmost to find a solution](#), *Famagusta Gazette*, 16 February

[NATO chief: Greek crisis opportunity for defence reform](#), *PublicServiceEurope.com*, 16 February

## NATO Review: Greece and Turkey: 60 years in NATO

2012 marks 60 years since Turkey and Greece joined NATO in 1952. This edition of *NATO Review*, gauges how the countries have changed in the last six decades, looks at their relationship with each other and asks where their security outlooks lay now (see articles on Turkey below)



[Greece and NATO: a long lasting relationship](#) - the Alternate Minister of National Defence of Greece, Yiannis Ragoussis, tells *NATO Review* how important NATO is for Greece, as well as about his country's active membership in NATO

[The Way Forward: Sixty years from the accession of Greece and Turkey to NATO](#) - Dr Marina Skordeli analyses the strategic importance and location of Greece and Turkey and how each country derives its significance from



different considerations and threat assessments

[Greece: what 60 years in NATO means](#) - What did it feel like to join NATO in 1952? Here we ask, among other experts, someone who was there. Vice-Admiral Vasilios Mitsakos recounts how Greece joining the young NATO Alliance meant spending

more time with international counterparts. And how even babysitting duties drew countries together...

[Greece and NATO: view from the next generation](#) - What do young Greeks feel about NATO? Do they know - or care - what it is for? Here we ask three young Greek students how they see NATO's past, present and future



[The historic document confirming Greece and Turkey joining NATO](#) - here we reprint the 'Resolution on the accession of Greece and Turkey to the North Atlantic Treaty', signed in 1952

## Italy

[Italy to cut Joint Strike Fighter orders](#), *Financial Times*, 15 February - Admiral Giampaolo Di Paola, defence minister, told parliament that Italy would reduce its purchases to 90 aircraft from the 131 ordered in 2002 at an original cost of €15bn

## Norway

[Norway supports Smart Defence through Building Integrity](#), *NATO News*, 3 February - meeting at NATO HQ the Norwegian Minister of Defence underlined the importance of building smart institutions to support smart defence

## Romania

[Romania, 12 other NATO countries to buy EUR 3 bln no-pilot planes and surveillance system](#), *Romania-Insider.com*, 16 February

## Turkey

[NATO Secretary General Speech - New NATO, New Turkey](#), *NATOchannel.tv/ You Tube*, 20 February

[Turkey and NATO Sixty Years On](#), Süreyya Yiğit, *The Journal of Turkish Weekly*, 20 February

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[NATO Review: Greece and Turkey: 60 years in NATO](#), February 2012

2012 marks 60 years since Turkey and Greece joined NATO in 1952. This edition of *NATO Review*, gauges how the countries have changed in the last six decades, looks at their relationship with each other and asks where their security outlooks lay now (see articles on Greece above)



[Turkey: interview with Defence Minister Yilmaz](#) - NATO Review interviews Turkish Defence Minister Ismet Yilmaz about smart defence, Turkish foreign policy and what being in NATO for 60 years means

[Turkey: what 60 years in NATO means](#) - does NATO have a role to play in Turkey's new stronger foreign policy outlook? Does the Turkish public see NATO as necessary? Here we ask Turkish journalists and analysts to describe how they feel NATO looks from a Turkish perspective



[The historic document confirming Greece and Turkey joining NATO](#) - here we reprint the 'Resolution on the accession of Greece and Turkey to the North Atlantic Treaty', signed in 1952

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[Turkey Pledges No Third Country Use of NATO Defenses](#), *Voice of America*, 17 February

[NATO Secretary General thanks Turkey for vital role in the Alliance](#), *NATO News*, 17 February - the NATO Secretary General, accompanied by the Chairman of the Military Committee, visited Ankara on 16 - 17 February 2012 and met with President Abdullah Gul and Minister of Foreign Affairs Ahmet Davutoglu (photo credit: NATO)



[Turkey and the Bomb](#), Sinan Ülgen, *Carnegie Paper*, February 2012 - though most states that want a nuclear weapon can get one through determined effort, the fact remains that most choose not to proliferate. Turkey is no exception. Not even the prospect of a nuclear-armed Iran is likely to push Ankara to develop its own nuclear weapons. The only circumstance where such a scenario would acquire a degree of likelihood is a breakdown in Turkey's security relationship with the US

[Turkey and NATO: 60 Years On](#), Menekse Tokya, *Journal of Turkish Weekly*, 15 February - since Turkey joined NATO on February 18th 1952, it has remained the lynchpin of its security policy, protecting the country from internal and external threats while constituting the cornerstone of Euro-Atlantic integration and co-operation

[Rasmussen praises Turkey's crucial role within NATO](#), *Today's Zaman*, 9 February

[Turkey aims to increase ballistic missile ranges](#), *Hürriyet Daily News*, 1 February - missiles with a range of 2,500 km are a realistic target according to Professor Yücel Altınbaşak, head of Turkey's State Scientific Research Institute. However, analysts remain uncertain as to Turkey's capacity or need to achieve this goal

[Turkey as a NATO Partner: Reality vs. Rhetoric](#), Yurter Ozcan, *Turkish Policy Quarterly*, Volume 10 No.3, Fall 2011 - the Turkish government uses an often negative rhetoric vis-à-vis Turkey's NATO membership that correlates with public opinion towards the US. Yet these trends are at odds with the major decisions that the governing party has made, which instead point towards a growing cooperation with NATO partners

## United Kingdom

[UK aircraft carrier plans in confusion as ministers revisit square one](#), *The Guardian*, 1 March - decision expected by Easter on which US joint strike fighter Britain will buy

[Independent Scotland could join Nato, say SNP sources](#), *The Guardian*, 1 March - SNP is believed to be considering scrapping opposition to Nato membership as part of radical shakeup of defence strategy

[U.K. Unprepared for Biological Strike, Opposition Party Says](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 23 February; [21st Century Defence -The Labour Party Shadow Defence Review](#), Consultation paper, February 2012

[U.K. Must do More to Prepare For EMP Attack, Lawmakers Say](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 22 February

[UK-France declaration on security and defence](#), 10 Downing Street, 17 February

[How secret renditions shed light on MI6's licence to kill and torture](#), Ian Cobain, *The Guardian*, 14 February - Little-known clause lets secretary of state authorise UK's spies to commit crimes abroad

[Scottish independence: SNP deeply divided over policy to withdraw from membership of Nato](#), *The Scotsman*, 13 February

[SNP heading for Nato U-turn in referendum battle plans](#), Kenny Farquharson, *Scotland on Sunday*, 12 February

*Having worked at the MoD I can say with complete certainty that the Buy British policy resulted in deaths of servicemen, in both cases I'm thinking of the senior military staff were forced to buy British equipment which was not only inferior but also more expensive*

Online comment, [MoD will no longer favour UK companies](#), *Financial Times*, 31 January

[Defence cuts threaten ability to run concurrent campaigns, MPs say](#), *The Guardian*, 8 February

[Equipment manufacture dogs MoD](#), *Financial Times*, 31 January

[The Destinations of the Defence Pound](#), Trevor Taylor and John Louth, *RUSI Briefing Paper*, January 2012

## United States

DOD Issues New Information Security Regulation, [Secrecy News](#), from the FAS Project on Government Secrecy, Volume 2012, Issue No. 17, 27 February - the new regulation, published in four volumes as [DoD Manual 5200.01](#) and dated 24 February 2012, replaces Information Security Regulation [5200.1-R](#), which dates from 1997

[Militants and civilians killed in multiple US Somalia strikes](#), Chris Woods, Bureau of Investigative Journalism, 22 February

[Nothing "Off-base" About Ron Paul's Estimates of U.S. Bases Overseas](#), David Vine, *Foreign Policy in Focus*, 20 February

[Scoring the Global War on Terror - From Liberation to Assassination in Three Quick Rounds](#), Andrew Bacevich, *TomDispatch.com*, 19 February

[Defense: FY2012 Budget Request, Authorization and Appropriations](#), Pat Towell, Congressional Research Service, 13 February

[Conventional Prompt Global Strike and Long-Range Ballistic Missiles: Background and Issues](#), Amy F. Woolf, Congressional Research Service, 13 February

[Admiral Seeks Freer Hand in Deployment of Elite Forces](#), *New York Times*, 12 February

[83% of Americans support Obama's drones: poll](#), *Global Post*, 8 February - a new poll finds overwhelming approval for President Obama's national security policies among Americans

♣♣ [Offshore Everywhere - How Drones, Special Operations Forces, and the U.S. Navy Plan to End National Sovereignty As We Know It](#), Tom Engelhardt, *TomDispatch.com*, 5 February

♣♣ [A Historical Perspective on "Hollow Forces"](#), Andrew Feickert and Stephen Daggett, *Congressional Research Service*, 31 January - Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta and other officials have [warned](#) that if US military spending is cut significantly, the unacceptable result would be a "a hollow force incapable of sustaining the missions it is assigned". But this report by the CRS suggests that the use of the term "hollow force" is inappropriate and unwarranted under present circumstances (via *Secrecy News*, FAS, 3 February)

[Pentagon Unveils New Plan for Conventional Submarine-Based Ballistic Missiles](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 27 January

[U.S. Special Operations Forces \(SOF\): Background and Issues for Congress](#), Andrew Feickert, *Congressional Research Service*, 11 January - over the past decade, the number of US SOF personnel has nearly doubled, while budgets for special operations have nearly tripled, and overseas deployments have quadrupled (via *Secrecy News*, FAS, 1 February)

[U.S. Special Operations Command Fact Book 2012](#), US Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) Public Affairs (via *Secrecy News*, FAS, 1 February)

[The Future of U.S. Special Operations Forces: Ten Years After 9/11 and Twenty-Five Years After Goldwater-Nichols](#), hearing before a subcommittee of the House Armed Services Committee, 22 September 2011

## 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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