



Observatory

NATO News & Opinion Clips

Promoting a more transparent and accountable NATO

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

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NATO Watch Editorial:

A tale of two summits: the Group of Eight and NATO

Guest editorial by Dr Ian Anthony, Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) – first published as a [SIPRI Update essay](#) on 12 April

This month's NATO summit will be held in Chicago, in an election year. While it will be hard to find anyone willing to go on record as saying that the choice of location is intended to be a boost for President Obama, it's difficult to interpret it any other way. The NATO summit will take place at the same time as a meeting of leaders of the most industrialized countries, the Group of Eight (G8). Perhaps unfortunately for NATO, both the agenda and the format of the G8 summit make it the more interesting and important of the meetings.

The Chicago summit is, in some respects, a formality. As its purpose is to deliver on key decisions made at the 2010 Lisbon summit, the fact that it is being held at all amounts to business as usual for NATO. According to its own website, the summit will focus on three main themes: Afghanistan, the Alliance's territorial defence capabilities and 'strengthening NATO's network of partners across the globe'.

Unspoken tensions

There is no doubt that the NATO summit will produce declarations emphasizing solidarity. European countries may seek and will probably receive a strong signal of continued commitment to their security from the United States, whose approach to Europe is changing in light of recent analyses of the global security environment. This is particularly true since multiple speeches and publications have emanated from high levels in Washington outlining a greater Pacific focus in US security priorities.

Nonetheless, the European NATO member states all understand that a trans-Atlantic forum in which they can discuss issues of military security and plan military cooperation is useful and necessary, and will continue to be so—quite possibly in perpetuity. Therefore, NATO rests on a very solid

foundation. However, it is also clear that the statements in Chicago will defer decisions on, or elide discussion of, a number of matters.

In some cases this is because the outcome is, to a certain extent, out of the hands of the Alliance. If the matter was ever in doubt, it is certainly obvious by now that a stable and secure Afghanistan is not within the gift of NATO. While the desirability of partnerships will no doubt be underlined, clear guidance on who will partner with NATO and for what purpose is unlikely.

NATO and Russia: heading for estrangement

The changing US view of the role of Europe looks like weakening commitment in the eyes of some Europeans, although it doesn't look that way to the US, which sees it as tailoring its commitment to the current circumstances. On the other hand, if President Putin's very clear long-term program for modernizing Russia works, this will have long-term impacts on European security priorities.

(Cartoon - [The Guardian](#), 13 March – reproduced with the kind permission of the artist; Copyright © Steve Bell 2012 - All rights Reserved)

NATO and Russia appear to be heading towards a period of estrangement. The importance of one issue on which cooperation has been emphasized—

logistic support to NATO operations in Afghanistan—is likely to recede. On issues such as missile defence, where positions are locked and appear mutually incompatible, there is likely to be either an agreement to disagree, or an effort to push the difficult underlying questions further into the background.

Moreover, efforts to address issues in the NATO–Russia forum would probably make matters worse rather than better. President Putin has made such a public issue of missile defence domestically that he would either have to explain to his Russian audience why he didn't push harder in direct talks with NATO or perform at the NATO summit in a way that would hardly build mutual confidence.

The potential implications of Russian military reform

Russia has been trying to stop the USA's Ballistic Missile Defence (BMD) system since the 1990s



and strongly opposed the US withdrawal from the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty in 2001. It will no doubt keep trying, but with the United States, not NATO, as its preferred interlocutor.

Meanwhile NATO has no common or final view on the potential implications of Russian military reform, including the increase in its military expenditure by 9 per cent in real terms in 2011. Russian modernization may be a sign that Moscow is finally coming to grips with a corrupt and dysfunctional military establishment, but it could also be a future challenge for NATO to deal with.

All that the NATO member states seem willing to do is seek a degree of reassurance through their own actions but the Chicago summit is unlikely to explain the relationship between conventional forces, nuclear forces and missile defences in promoting defence and deterrence. Nothing bolder is anticipated than a statement to the effect that each of these types of weapon has a role to play.

What about the Group of Eight?

One recent problem for NATO has been how to explain its role in meeting new security challenges. Many of these are non-military in nature, and the Alliance has no obvious advantages compared to other organizations and forums when addressing them. In other cases, the role of military instruments in preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons is controversial within the Alliance.

Recent experience of addressing this issue within NATO offers no encouragement. The deep divisions created in the run-up to the war in Iraq have deterred any effort to engage NATO in the ongoing confrontation between many of the Allies and Iran over its nuclear ambitions.

Perhaps of greater interest is the question of how security issues will be discussed at the concurrent G8 summit, whose agenda demonstrates that security in the 21st century is not just a matter of reinvigorating alliances forged in the cold war. As a spokeswoman for the US National Security Council stated at the time of the announcement of the change of location for the G8 summit, '[t]here are a lot of political, economic and security issues that come together at the G8.'

The need for better political guidelines for action on global security

The change in location for the G8 summit from Chicago to Camp David could also facilitate a

deeper and more rewarding discussion among the leaders than a NATO summit can accommodate. With almost 30 leaders present, a meaningful discussion among them on how complex 'political, economic and security issues' interact will certainly not be on the agenda at the NATO summit.

The holding of the G8 summit in a relatively secluded location may create an opportunity to go beyond the delivery of prepared texts leading to rehearsed joint statements. If such a format can provide better political guidelines for action on the big questions of global security then the G8 summit will have fulfilled its mandate.

Somewhat paradoxically, it might be that the G8 summit is also the place where some questions of relevance to NATO are also addressed. The willingness of the Russian President to travel to Chicago has been the focus of much discussion but the presence of Mr Putin at Camp David, and the nature of his participation, may offer a better indication of the prospects for finding common ground.

Dr Ian Anthony is the Research Coordinator at SIPRI and the Director of the SIPRI Programme on Arms Control, Disarmament and Non-proliferation.

(Chicago sunrise — photo credit: timmo/flickr)



Dutch call for an end to the deployment of US Tactical Nuclear Weapons grows louder

Wilbert van der Zeijden and Susi Snyder, IKV Pax Christi

There is little confidence that the NATO Defence and Deterrence Posture Review (DDPR) will deal with the divisive issue of the deployment of US nuclear weapons in five non-nuclear weapon states in Europe. Word on the Brussels streets is that the DDPR will – at best – entail a proposal to Russia to talk about transparency on numbers and locations of both the Russian and US tactical nuclear stockpiles. More than this watered down consensus is apparently impossible, because a few countries are blocking reduction of numbers, relocation to the US or the end of nuclear sharing altogether.

That said, the April 12 debate on NATO in the Dutch parliament raises the question as to how relevant the DDPR formulation really is for US nuclear weapons deployed in Europe. As Dutch political parties are starting to realise that NATO is again failing to address their concerns, they also realise that the 'rule' of consensus decision making within NATO on such matters is not a

formal requirement. Some of them have started to call for a fixed date to end the deployment of B61 tactical nuclear weapons, and to go around NATO-consensus if necessary. Since then, the government has fallen and the group of parties taking this new, no-nonsense approach to the deployment of military redundant nuclear weapons in non-nuclear weapon states is expected to do well in the coming elections. A DDPR failing to go beyond the expected watered down consensus may be ripe for the trash can as early as October 2012.

IKV Pax Christi released a [report](#) in April arguing that changing or ending the deployment of nuclear weapons does not require NATO consensus. Recent experiences, where the US withdrew nuclear weapons from Greece and the UK showed that NATO consensus decision making did not play a significant part in the run up to the decision. The decisions were basically taken bilaterally. Indeed, there are no formal NATO rules or regulations that can prevent the US and host countries from together deciding to reduce numbers or end deployments. The current mantra 'only consensus decisions can change the future of nuclear sharing and deployments' is a political choice, not a formal rule.

(no consensus – photo credit: JK/flickr)

The idea that nuclear deployments can only be changed through NATO consensus is relatively new. And could be very short lived. In the Netherlands, the debate among political parties is no longer whether or not the bombs need to go. The debate is on the question as to whether NATO should be allowed yet another chance to deal with the issue internally, or whether the Netherlands should proceed to do what is within its formal power: Approach the US and bilaterally negotiate the withdrawal of the roughly 20 US B61 dial-a-yield nuclear gravity bombs at Volkel Airbase in the municipality of Uden. NATO allies can put pressure on the Netherlands not to break free from consensus decision making. But at the end of the day, there is nothing they can do if the Netherlands decides that enough is enough, the weapons have to go.

The April 12 parliamentary hearing showed that a growing number of political parties in the Netherlands will no longer accept the NATO logic that France, Hungary, Lithuania and perhaps one or two others can indefinitely block the removal of weapons that are clearly redundant. They want

the weapons out and they want to deal with the issue now – before the Dutch have to start investing in the modernisation of the bombs and the infrastructure, and for the purchase of new dual capable aircraft to replace the ageing F-16s that this non-nuclear weapon state now uses to be able to fly nuclear weapons around.

The Labour Party (PvdA) during the hearing clearly repositioned itself on the issue, saying that *those weapons have lost every military relevance. For a political meaning they do not have to be on Dutch soil. My party wants to see these weapons removed, if necessary though bilateral decisions**

The Socialist Party (which is expected to become the largest progressive party) stressed that

we propose to make it clear to NATO Allies that the government will bilaterally negotiate with the U.S. the removal of nuclear weapons if the Alliance cannot reach a consensus on the removal of these weapons within a set timeframe.

To encourage this, we can perhaps declare that at a certain date, determined by the Netherlands, the F16s will no longer be available for the nuclear task and that the infrastructure that is now being maintained for that purpose, including the training of pilots, will be removed from the Defence budgets.

The smaller GreenLeft party stated in the debate that

the presence of nuclear weapons on Dutch soil and in Belgium, Germany, Italy and Turkey should [...] no longer be made dependent on negotiations between the U.S. and Russia. [...] why don't we discuss this bilaterally with the U.S., just like the UK and Greece have done? [...] We are not going to modernise [the B61 bombs], we'll take them out of the Netherlands before 2017.

Libertarian party D66 added to the upbeat atmosphere by stating that

about nuclear disarmament we only have one thing to say: My party supports the end of the Dutch nuclear task, as we've said time and time again.

There is no 'other side' in this debate advocating NATO's nuclear status quo. The Christian Democrats (CDA) and the Liberal Party (VVD) who together made up the minority government have both indicated they support the removal of



the nuclear bombs, but preferably through a NATO consensus decision. Their government collapsed though, 10 days after the above-mentioned parliamentary debate.

Current polls show that the parties who are advocating strongly for the early termination of B61 deployments in the Netherlands, would draw a majority of votes.

NATO's reason to only allow change through consensus decision making has been that, above all, the Alliance needs to demonstrate political unity. But if, after two years of consultations and discussions, NATO's DDPR propagates a policy that lacks the support of key players such as the host states, the show of political unity may last barely beyond 'Chicago'. A Dutch no-nonsense government solving this tired issue bilaterally with the US may be in charge in the Hague as early as October 2012.

It is late, but not too late for NATO to realize that it needs to give more space for the formal decision making prerogatives of host states if it wants to maintain real political unity. A decision to relocate the B61s back to the US within a short time period and a timeframe for ending the current nuclear sharing practices is the only way NATO will really overcome the divisive effects of US nuclear deployments in non-nuclear weapon countries in Europe.

**Note: All citations are the authors own translations from Dutch. Tweede Kamer der Staten Generaal (2012): Concept Verslag van een Algemeen Overleg over: NAVO Ministersbijeenkomst*

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News, Commentary and Reports:

Afghanistan-Pakistan:

(photo credit: Stitch/ flickr)

News

[Pakistan Condemns U.S. Drone Strike Ahead of Chicago Summit](#), *Wall Street Journal*, 30 April - the first such strike since the Pakistani parliament demanded an end to US drone attacks in Pakistan two weeks ago. Pakistan's Foreign Ministry issued a statement asserting that the strikes "are in total contravention of international law and established norms of interstate relations"



[Attacks on Coalition Forces by Afghan Counterparts Are on the Rise](#), *New York Times*, 27 April

[NATO in Afghanistan - The soldiers of Jowzjan province](#), *NATOchannel.tv/ You Tube*, 26 April

[Nato accused of misleading reports](#), *Belfast Telegraph*, 25 April

[Nato's fuel-run truckers washed up on Karachi promenade](#), *The Guardian*, Drivers who run Taliban gauntlet on road to Afghanistan halted by retaliation for US killing of Pakistani troops

[Nato should not 'rush for the exits' from Afghanistan, says British commander](#), *The Guardian*, 24 April - progress in Helmand at risk if troops pull out too quickly, warns Brigadier Patrick Sanders

[NATO in Afghanistan - Defending the Afghan Parliament](#), *NATOchannel.tv/ You Tube*, 24 April

[NATO Shows Confidence in Afghan Security Forces](#), *New York Times*, 23 April

[With Pact, U.S. Agrees to Help Afghans for Years to Come](#), *New York Times*, 22 April - the US and Afghanistan finally agreed a draft of a long-term strategic partnership agreement, which pledges that the US will provide military and financial support to Afghanistan for at least ten years after the NATO withdrawal deadline in 2014. The agreement must now be approved by the Afghan parliament and President Hamid Karzai, before it can be signed into effect by Karzai and President Barack Obama

[US troops pose with body parts of Afghan insurgents in new photos](#), *The Guardian*, 18 April - NATO and US officials condemn photographs released to the LA Times as tense relations with Afghanistan worsen

[Australian troops to exit Afghanistan a year early](#), *The Guardian*, 17 April - Julia Gillard says Australian troops will exit Afghanistan almost a year earlier than planned, with most home by the end of 2013

[Karzai says NATO failed as 18-hour Kabul attack ends](#), *Reuters*, 16 April

[Afghan war whistleblower Daniel Davis: 'I had to speak out – lives are at stake'](#), *The Guardian*, 14 April - Soldier wrote detailed report claiming US generals 'have so distorted the truth ... the truth has become unrecognisable'

[Afghan forces with NATO air support conduct major operation against insurgents in east](#), *Washington Post*, 14 April

[Special operations draft war plan continues counterinsurgency by other means in Afghanistan](#), *Washington Post*, 12 April - the head of US Special Operations, Adm. Bill McRaven, is reportedly designing a post-2014 war plan that involves replacing thousands of regular US troops with small teams of Special Forces that would be paired with Afghan Army units to provide instruction, intelligence and communication support

[Pakistan Approves New Guidelines for Ties with US, NATO](#), *Voice of America* (blog), 12 April

[Afghan Force Will Be Cut After Taking Leading Role](#), *New York Times*, 10 April - Afghan Defence Minister Gen. Abdul Rahim Wardak said that the number of Afghan security forces will likely be reduced to 230,000 from their peak strength of 352,000 following the NATO withdrawal in 2014. The projected number is based on a "conceptual model" of army, police, and border-protection troops that will be able to defend Afghanistan, but will also be sustainable when foreign aid drops

(Kentucky Agribusiness Development Team 4's Sgt. 1st Class Crystal Dunn (center) takes a moment to 'high five' some local children prior to a meeting in Afghanistan's Arghandab District on 5 April - photo credit: Kentucky National Guard/ flickr)



[No sign of spring offensive by Taliban, NATO says](#), *Reuters*, 10 April

♣♣ [U.S. Transfers Control of Night Raids to Afghanistan](#), *New York Times*, 8 April - the US and Afghanistan signed an agreement on controversial night raids, resolving a key sticking point in efforts to formulate a long-term strategic partnership agreement. The agreement gives Afghan Special Forces authority to carry out night raids, with help from US troops provided "only as required or requested"

♣♣ [Memorandum of Understanding between the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and the United States of America on Afghanistanization of Special Operations on Afghan Soil](#), ISAF, 8 April

[Support for peace talks growing, Afghan diplomat says](#), *Reuters*, 8 April

[Nato supplies can be restored if drone strikes end: Nawaz](#), *The News International*, 7 April

[Afghan unit carries out night operation](#), NATO News, 5 April - around midnight, Afghan soldiers pour out of two Chinook helicopters. They walk single file in the pitch-dark of the barren mountain tops. The silence of the valley is broken only occasionally by barking dogs.

[Afghanistan suicide bomber 'kills 10' in Faryab](#), *BBC News*, 4 April - a suicide bomb attack in northern Afghanistan has left at least 10 people dead, officials say

[Afghan forces take over security in Lashkar Gah](#), NATO News, 3 April - the final area of Lashkar Gah to transfer to Afghan security control has been handed over at a ceremony at Checkpoint Dosti

[Stress and gripes, not Taliban, drive Afghan insider attacks – NATO](#), *Reuters UK*, 2 April

[NATO denies accelerating Afghanistan troop withdrawal](#), *AFP*, 2 April

[Afghan army, police pose growing risk to U.S., NATO troops](#), *CNN*, 29 March

Commentary and Reports

[The Effectiveness of Provincial Reconstruction Teams in Afghanistan](#), Estelle Rouge, NATO Watch, 30 April – this paper evaluates the performance of the German, UK and US Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) models regarding the three NATO-ISAF objectives of facilitating development, strengthening governance and enhancing security. It assesses the UK model as the most successful

[NATO's lies on Afghanistan continue](#), Haroon Siddiqui, *Toronto Star*, 28 April

Socio-Economic Reintegration and Livelihoods - Part 3 of a 4-Part Series on Peace and Reintegration in Afghanistan, Rainer Gonzalez Palau, NATO Civil-Military Fusion Centre, April 2012

[Letters: Nato risks leaving behind a perilous Afghanistan](#), *The Independent*, 23 April

The Peace Process & Afghanistan's Women - Part 2 of a 4-Part Series on Peace & Reintegration in Afghanistan, Stefanie Nijssen, NATO Civil-Military Fusion Centre, April 2012 - this report reviews open-source information regarding the potential impact of reconciliation and reintegration on the role of women and the achievements they have attained in the last decade

[NATO and Afghanistan committed to partnership beyond 2014](#), NATO News, 12 April - NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen expressed the Alliance's continued strong commitment to Afghanistan after talks with President Hamid Karzai in Kabul; [Joint press conference](#) with NATO Secretary General and Afghan President in Kabul, 12 April; [NATO Secretary General witnesses Afghan Army strength](#), NATO News, 12 April - NATO Secretary General visited the Afghan commandos at their training facility at Camp Morehead located in the outskirts of Kabul; 'Taking stock of progress in Afghanistan', NATO Secretary General [video blog](#), 12 April



(NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen and NATO Senior Civilian Representative Ambassador Simon Gass arrive at Camp Moorhead, Afghanistan, 12 April – photo credit: NATO)

[Active-Duty Army Whistleblower Lt. Col. Daniel Davis: U.S. Deceiving Public on Afghan War](#), *Democracy Now*, 11 April

[Improvised Explosive Devices, the war of the invisible bombs](#), NATO News, 10 April - more than half the casualties among the NATO forces in Afghanistan in 2011 were caused by improvised explosive devices (IED). This is also the case for one in three Afghans killed last year. In 2010, NATO adopted an action plan on counter-IED(C-IED) aimed at

increasing the detection and neutralization of such devices, as well as the dismantling of the networks that manufacture them. The NATO C3 Agency (NC3A) is responsible for developing those advanced technologies to combat IEDs.

[Myths and Misconceptions in the Afghan Transition](#), Noah Coburn and Shamahmood Miakhel, United States Institute of Peace, *PeaceBrief*, 9 April

Peace & Reintegration: An Introduction - Part 1 of a 4-Part Series on Peace and Reintegration in Afghanistan, Steven A. Zyck, NATO Civil-Military Fusion Centre, April 2012 - this piece provides an overview of the issues related to peace and reintegration with a particular focus on the Afghanistan Peace and Reintegration Programme (APRP) and its subsidiary institutions and processes

[Afghanistan: Post-Taliban Governance, Security, and U.S. Policy](#), Kenneth Katzman, *Congressional Research Service*, 4 April

[Should the U.S. Leave Afghanistan Now?](#) *New York Times* Room for debate, 3 April

[The Logistical Nightmare of Leaving Afghanistan](#), Christian Neef, *De Spiegel*, 3 April

[Gender and Economic Choice: What's Old and What's New for Women in Afghanistan](#), Chona R. Echavez, Afghanistan Research and Evaluation Unit, March 2012

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

[NATO condemns Syria but will not intervene](#), *Agenzia Giornalistica Italia*, 27 April

[Assad will get the message when NATO meets in Turkey](#), Tariq Alhomayed, *Arab News.com*, 21 April

[Clinton Sees NATO Role in Pressuring Syria's Assad Regime](#), *Bloomberg*, 20 April

[Chicago Summit: NATO To Complete Domination Of Arab World](#), Rick Rozoff, *Stop NATO* (blog), 18 April

[Syria: the only plan in town](#), *The Guardian* editorial, 12 April - it would be a fatal mistake to dismiss the Annan plan prematurely and argue for NATO intervention

[Obama and Nato should act before the Syria crisis spreads further](#), Simon Tisdall, *The Guardian*, 10 April - Syria's crisis is spreading to Turkey and Lebanon, and regional powers are increasingly entangled

[Syria: Who is on the right side of history?](#) Gülnur Aybet, *Today's Zaman*, 9 April

[Libyan scenario for Syria?](#) *The Voice of Russia*, 5 April

[Partners in Democracy, Partners in Security: NATO and the Arab Spring](#), *atlantic-community.org*, 3 April - new challenges require new partnerships. NATO must reach out to countries in North Africa by restructuring the Mediterranean Dialogue and partnering with other institutional actors to offer comprehensive assistance aimed at building democratic institutions.

Chicago Summit:

[Turkey blocks EU from NATO summit unless OIC also attends](#), *Today's Zaman*, 30 April

[NATO Invades Chicago: But Where is the "Responsibility to Protect" \(R2P\) for Citizens in this War-Zone City?](#) Ross Ruthenberg, Center for Research on Globalization, 29 April

[Declaration on Chicago Summit Meeting of NATO Heads of State and Government and Strategic Development of Ukraine – NATO Cooperation](#), Euro-Atlantic Ukraine, 29 April

[US seeks to modernize NATO, deepen partnerships](#), *AFP*, 27 April

[NATO Secretary General Begins Pre-Summit Consultations with Visit to Spain](#), *defpro.news*, 27 April

[Local NATO hosts red-faced over 'Red Zone' militarization plan](#), *Chicago Sun-Times*, 26 April

They should consider actually abandoning the whole project, not immediately liquidating NATO but gradually

Former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, [Gorbachev talks about NATO's future in Chicago](#), *ABC7Chicago.com*, 24 April

♠♠ [Joint Declaration of Visegrad Group States in the run-up to the NATO Summit in Chicago](#), 18 April - the foreign and defence ministers of the Visegrad Group (Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia) presented a Joint Declaration outlining regional priorities ahead of the NATO Summit, underscoring commitments relating to Article 5 and collective defence. The V4 ministers also addressed tactical nuclear weapons in the context of NATO-Russia relations, and the problem of military technology transfers to non-

NATO countries

[Intelligence Report: Secret Service soliciting security bids ahead of Chicago NATO summit](#), *ABC7 News*, 17 April

[Afghan endgame: Pakistan likely to attend NATO summit in Chicago](#), *The Express Tribune*, 11 April

[Ahead of NATO Summit, Occupy Launches 'Chicago Spring'](#), *In These Times*, 9 April

[Chicago relents, grants NATO protesters a permit, activists say](#), *Reuters*, 5 April

[A Protest of NATO From NATO Countries](#), Tom Haydon, *Huffington Post*, 5 April

[Clinton outlines 3 primary NATO summit goals while in Va.](#), *Washington Post*, 4 April

[Why we need NATO — or not](#), Letters to the Editor, *Chicago Sun-Times*, 2 April

[Is NATO a big problem?](#) Neil Steinberg, *Chicago Sun-Times*, 1 April

Counter-Terrorism:

[NATO Emerging Security Challenges Division Partners with Emergent BioSolutions to Host Biopreparedness Workshop at the Counter Terror Expo in London](#), *Market Watch* (Press Release), 26 April

Cyber Security:

[Taliban website under repeat attack by hackers](#), *The Guardian*, 27 April - hackers post pictures of Afghan women being shot or hanged as cyberwar between NATO and Taliban intensifies

[Cybersecurity: Authoritative Reports and Resources](#), Rita Tehan, *Congressional Research Service*, 26 April

[Estonia Invites Japan to Join NATO's Cyber Security Efforts](#), *RIA Novosti*, 17 April

Defence Budgets, Procurement and Private Military Companies:

[NATO Secretary General highlights Smart Defence as answer to austerity on visit to Italy](#), *NATO News*, 27 April - NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen stressed the importance of Smart Defence as the answer to pressure on defence budgets in talks with Italian leaders in Rome

[Eurofighters for NATO and for Export: An Example of 'Dumb Defence'?](#) *NATO Watch Briefing Paper No.23*, 17 April 2012

[Your Ideas, Your NATO: Smart Defense](#), *Atlantic-community.org*, 16 April - Editorial Team: In the third theme week from our policy workshop, we focus on NATO and Smart Defence. How might NATO encourage nations, concerned about diminished sovereignty, to invest in Smart Defence? What mechanisms would make this kind of cooperation efficient and effective? Read our young writers' top ideas:

- [Specialization: Creating a Comparative \(Defense\) Advantage](#), Max Smeets, 9 April;
- [Solidarity and Sovereignty: A Blueprint for Smart Defense](#), Moritz Poellath, 10 April;
- [NATO and Russia Need the "Smarts" to Cooperate](#), Dmitry Stefanovich, 11 April;
- [Smart Defense through Smart Strategy: The Need for a "Best Deal" Policy](#), Bram Peter De Ridder, 12 April; and
- [NATO's Smart Sales: Smart Defense as a Product](#), Samuel Eamon Erickson, 13 April

[How to Make 'Smart Defense' a Success](#), Tomas Valasek, *GLOBSEC Policy Brief*, April 2012 - NATO must

You and I are drawn together today by our desire to change the world's insane addiction to excessive military spending

Nobel Peace Prize winner Oscar Arias, [video message](#) of support for Global Day of Action on Military Spending, 17 April

...too much of what Europe did spend went to vanity projects like the independent nuclear deterrents maintained by Britain and France. Too little has been spent preparing for more realistic security challenges

[NATO After Libya](#), *New York Times* Editorial, 18 April

give countries incentives to pursue smart defence. First, there should be reassurance that a member would never be exposed if they give up certain capabilities. Second, NATO countries should agree to cover the start-up costs of collaborative projects. Third, NATO governments should distribute the lessons learned from collaboration, especially since some EU states have already struggled with these questions. In the end, NATO must provide more incentives if smart defence is to be successful

[Cobham tracks down radar orders from Nato](#), *London Evening Standard*, 16 April – company secured orders worth £13 million to supply Ground-Penetrating Radar, which is used to detect mines

[NATO allies expressing interest in optionally-manned K-MAX](#), *Flight global*, 13 April – K-MAX is a cargo helicopter built by Lockheed Martin

♦♦ Financial and Economic Data Relating to NATO Defence, NATO Press Release, 13 April - [Defence expenditures of NATO Countries \(1990-2011\)](#)

NATO Review – April 2012: Smart Defence

Smart Defence is 'learning by doing'. But, with budgets down and risks up, the learning has to start soon. NATO Review looks into

what this could mean for everyone



[Smart Defence: the political angle](#) - How does NATO's top brass see the Smart Defence project? How much do they see the difficulties, opportunities and importance of it? NATO Review asked NATO's Deputy Secretary General - and Smart Defence envoy - Ambassador Alexander Vershbow to find out (video).

[Smart Defence: what does it mean?](#) When it comes to explaining Smart Defence, there's probably nobody more qualified than Ludwig Decamps. He heads up NATO's Smart Defence team. Here NATO Review quizzes him on what the project means, how it could work and why it's important (video).



[Smart Defence: the parliamentary angle](#) - Smart Defence will suffer if it doesn't get the national parliaments to sign up to it. So how is the project seen in these nations? NATO Review asked NATO Parliamentary Assembly Secretary General David Hobbs for his view (video).

[Smart Defence: the economic angle](#) - Smart Defence is not all about the economy. But the economic crisis has certainly played its part. How does the economic landscape look now. And what effect could this have on the development of Smart Defence. NATO Review asks NATO's Senior Defence Economist for his insights (video).





[Smart Defence: the analyst's view](#) - How do those outside see Smart Defence? And do they see it working? Dr Bastian Giegerich of the International Institute for Security Studies has already written a brief paper analysing Smart Defence. Here NATO Review asks him about the main points (video)

[Smart Defence for Greece and Turkey?](#) How easy would it be for two very different neighbours to engage in Smart Defence? One has economic problems while the other has growing influence in the region. Greek and Turkish analysts look at how and if this could work?



[New NATO LibGuide on 'Smart Defence and Interoperability'](#), 2 April - NATO LibGuides direct you to high quality research resources selected by the NATO Multimedia Library staff and publicly available on the Internet. This new LibGuide is intended to provide a few starting points to assist you with your research on issues related to smart defence and interoperability, in particular in the NATO context

[Park Air is awarded Afghan NATO contract](#), *Peterborough Evening Telegraph*, 3 April

[NATO Release Their First Serious Game on Google's Play Marketplace](#), *MarketWatch* (press release), 2 April; a full case study of the Boarder's Ahoy simulation for NATO is available to [read on the Caspian Learning website](#)

[Defence jobs boost as BAE Systems lands £450m Eurofighter deal](#), *The Guardian*, 31 March – the five year contract from NATO's Eurofighter Management Agency is to provide engineering support services for the fleet of Typhoon jets

[Smart Defense: Can a Lean NATO Meet the Challenges of the 21st Century?](#) Conference at the Chicago Club, Chicago, Illinois, US, 28-30 March – this international conference focused on the challenges confronting the alliance in a time of changing threats and constrained resources. [Papers commissioned for the conference](#) will be released in advance of the NATO Summit.

Drones:

[As Obama Expands Drone War, Activists & Victims' Advocates Join D.C. Summit on Growing Civilian Toll](#), *Democracy Now*, 27 April

[Drone Summit: Killing and Spying by Remote Control](#), Washington DC, 28-29 April - the peace group CODEPINK and the legal advocacy organizations Reprieve and the Center for Constitutional Rights hosted the first international drone summit that brought together human rights advocates, robotics technology experts, lawyers, journalists and activists

[Scaled-back Pakistan drone strikes reflect success - U.S. official](#), *Reuters UK*, 13 April

[Unmanned Aerial Vehicles: Opportunities And Challenges For The Alliance](#), Pierre Claude Nolin (Canada), Draft Special Report, NATO Parliamentary Assembly Science and Technology Committee, 2 April

[U.S. Could Fly Spy Drones From Australian Territory](#), *Defense News*, 28 March

Enlargement and Partnerships:

Azerbaijan

[NATO Trust Fund projects clear dangerous munitions in Azerbaijan](#), NATO News, 24 April - Jeyranchel, in northeastern Azerbaijan covers an area of about 62 square kilometres just along the Georgian border. It was also the site of a live firing range, used from 1955 until 1991 by the former Soviet Army. Now the range lies abandoned and unused, with unexploded munitions littering the ground around it

[Azerbaijan-NATO cooperation makes Iranian and Armenian officials vulnerable](#), *News.az*, 20 April

[Baku hopes NATO Chicago summit will support Azerbaijan's territorial integrity](#), *Trend.az*, 13 April

Bosnia and Herzegovina

[Rasmussen: NATO fully supports Euro-Atlantic aspirations of BiH](#), *EMPortal*, 11 April

[Joint press point](#) by NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen and the Chairman of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mr. Bakir Izetbegović

Georgia

[NATO reaffirms membership pledge to Georgia](#), *New Europe*, 15 April

[Georgia's NATO holding pattern](#), *messenger.ge*, 6 April

[NATO Secretary General praises Georgia's commitment and reforms](#), NATO News, 3 April - NATO Secretary General Rasmussen praised Georgia's commitment to NATO and to domestic reforms as he welcomed President Mikheil Saakashvili to the Alliance's HQ in Brussels – also see [joint press briefing](#)

Israel

[Turkey vetoes Israel's latest NATO partnership bid, despite criticisms](#), *Today's Zaman*, 23 April

Kyrgyzstan

[NATO-funded programme helps Kyrgyz military personnel transition to civilian life](#), NATO News, 11 April - helping military personnel facing redundancy adapt to civilian life is a constant problem faced by the Kyrgyz Armed Forces as they undergo reform. With skills that do not always easily translate into the civilian labour market, life after the armed services can be difficult for those searching for a job. A three year-old NATO-funded retraining and resettlement programme is helping to mitigate the socio-economic consequences of the defence restructuring

Macedonia

[Macedonia and NATO Sign Agreement for Expanded Cooperation](#), *defpro.news*, 30 April

[Latvia will back Macedonia's NATO membership at Chicago summit](#), *EM Portal*, 28 April

[Macedonia's Plea for a Seat in NATO Falls on Busy Ears](#), Tom Shanker, *New York Times*, 26 April

[Ivanov: NATO to rethink its positions on Macedonia's membership](#), *EM Portal*, 24 April

[Macedonia pushes NATO, EU membership](#), *Politico*, 18 April

[NATO can't let Macedonia fall by the wayside at Chicago](#), Sally Painter, *The Hill* (blog), 4 April

Montenegro

[Montenegro at NATO's Doorstep: Engagement Costs Steadily Rising](#), Anna Filimonova, Strategic Culture Foundation, 10 April

New Zealand

[Nato commander in Wellington for talks](#), *stuff.co.nz*, 12 April

Other

[A case for overhaul of NATO's partnerships](#), Andras Simonyi, *Washington Times*, 10 April - Organization should seek links with capable non-members



Exercises: Joint Warrior

[Cardboard boats aid Nato war games off Scotland](#), *BBC News*, 28 April (officers rehearsing an assault by Royal Marines as part of the finale to war games taking place around Scotland using paper models of HMS Illustrious and HMS Bulwark; the photograph was taken on board HMS Illustrious- photo credit: MoD)

[Nato ready to play war games](#), *Press and Journal*, 13 April

[Navy tests anti-terror capability](#), *The Independent*, 13 April

Iran:

[Why Washington's Iran Policy Could Lead to Global Disaster - What History Should Teach Us About Blockading Iran](#), Juan Cole, *TomDispatch.com*, 12 April

[Iran, Powers to Convene Nuclear Meeting in Turkey](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 9 April

Kosovo:

[NATO deploys force in Kosovo ahead of Serbian elections](#), *Southeast European Times*, 30 April

[NATO bolsters Kosovo force before Serb elections](#), *Reuters*, 25 April

[NATO grants KFOR request for reinforcements](#), *B92*, 24 April

[Anniversary of NATO's attack on state TV premises](#), *B92*, 23 April - today marks 13 years since 16 employees of Serbia's state broadcaster RTS died when NATO warplanes attacked the media outlet's building in Belgrade

[Germany says NATO set to deploy some 700 additional troops to Kosovo ahead of Serbia election](#), *Washington Post*, 21 April

[Acting Head of OSCE Mission in Kosovo condemns recent violence in Mitrovica](#), OSCE Press Release, 9 April

[Kosovo resumes clearing mined areas](#), *Associated Press*, 5 April

Libya:

[Rights group slams NATO, others for deaths at sea](#), *Associated Press*, 24 April

[New Libya post-mortems highlight NATO's flaws](#), Brian Stewart, *CBC News*, 18 April

[Migrants Left to Die on the High Seas Continue to Haunt NATO](#), *TIME*, 17 April

[Migrant boat tragedy: UK crew may have seen doomed vessel](#), *The Guardian*, 11 April - latest report raises possibility British helicopter was aware of people adrift for two weeks without food or water

[Goldsmiths, University of London report on the 'left-to-die boat'](#), *The Guardian*, 11 April

Did the Libyan conflict -- and NATO's intervention in it -- light this long fuse? Did Mali lose Timbuktu because NATO saved Benghazi? Informed observers disagree. Some think the conflict was virtually inevitable, with or without men and arms from Libya. Others see a direct knock-on effect from Libya that upset a delicate balance. Whatever the case, it is undeniable that, as a consequence of the Libyan campaign, a stronger, more intense insurgency in the Malian Sahara was not only predictable but predicted. Everyone who was watching saw it coming from afar

[The Mess in Mali - How the war on terror ruined a success story in West Africa](#), Gregory Mann, *Foreign Policy*, 5 April

It's not lessons learned, it's lessons lost. There is no reason whatsoever, in an otherwise effective campaign, not to look back and explore the areas where things went wrong.

Fred Abrahams, a special adviser for Human Rights Watch, cited in [♠♠NATO Sees Flaws in Air Campaign Against Qaddafi](#), *New York Times*, 14 April

- the document

outlines the scale and sophistication of NATO's maritime surveillance operation in the Mediterranean at the time of the Libyan conflict – and the ease with which a rescue of the stricken boat could have been undertaken

[NATO Silent on Libya Operation Consequences – Lavrov](#), *RIA Novosti*, 10 April

[NATO nations must help restore order in Mali](#), *Washington Post* Editorial, 6 April

[NATO and Libya Deaths](#), Oana Lungescu NATO Spokeswoman, *New York Times* – letter, 30 March

Maritime Security and Piracy:

International Maritime Piracy and Armed Robbery, Britta Rinehard, NATO Civil-Military Fusion Centre, April 2012 - this report discusses global maritime piracy, looking at key regions such as the Americas, the Gulf of Aden and Indian Ocean, West Africa and South-East Asia, addressing the broader context of piracy as well as differences identified among piracy prone regions

[Nato ships in Grand Harbour](#), *Times of Malta*, 20 April

[NATO - Taking on the pirates](#), *NATOchannel.tv/ You Tube*, 17 April

[NATO detains 16 suspected Somali pirates](#), *UPI.com*, 12 April

[NATO Ship Captures Suspected Pirates Off Somali Coast](#), *The Maritime Executive*, 12 April

[Guards, razor wire help keep Somali pirates at bay – NATO](#), *Reuters*, 2 April

Missile Defence:

[House Panel Demands NATO Pay its Share of Missile Shield Cost](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 27 April

[US lawmakers to NATO: pay up for missile defense](#), *Reuters AlertNet*, 26 April

[Russian Antimissile Forum to Draw 50 Nations](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 26 April

[Rogozin Off NATO Missile Negotiations](#), *Moscow Times*, 26 April

[Russia Renews Threat to Deploy Short-Range Missiles to Kaliningrad](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 25 April

[NATO Bigwig Headed to Moscow for Missile Defense Talks](#), *Moscow Times*, 24 April

[U.S. Government Experts See Major Hurdles for European Missile Shield](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 23 April

[Reports cast doubt on European missile defense](#), *Associated Press*, 21 April

[Russia, NATO Discuss Missile Defense Plans](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 19 April

[North Korea's Failed Rocket Launch Prompts Missile Defense Questions](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 18 April

[Cruise Missiles and NATO Missile Defense: Under the Radar?](#) Dennis M. Gormley, *Proliferation Papers* No.41, Ifri Security Studies Center, Spring 2012 - this paper seeks to demonstrate that the threat of cruise missile proliferation is as equally challenging to NATO as the threat of ballistic missiles. While cruise missile defence programs have faced severe cuts in the past years, the author suggests that a range of options could still be implemented to address NATO's myopic view of missile defence

[Russia, U.S. Unable to Reach Understanding on Missile Shield](#), Lavrov Says, *Global Security Newswire*, 13 April

[NATO HQ Allied Air Command Ramstein passes missile defence test](#), *NATOchannel.tv/ You Tube*, 13 April

[NATO Hints at "Political" Agreement With Russia on Missile Defense](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 12 April

[Persian Gulf States, U.S. to Jointly Build Ballistic Missile Shield](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 9 April

[Russia Lauds Missile Defense Computer Exercise With NATO](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 6 April

[U.S. Will Not Curtail Missile Shield: Ambassador](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 4 April

[Ukraine considering role in NATO's missile defense system](#), Jorge Benitez, Atlantic Council (blog), 31 March

[Erdoğan, in Iran, says NATO radar could be dismantled if needed](#), *Today's Zaman*, 30 March

NATO Chiefs of Defence Meeting, 25-26 April (Brussels):

[NATO Chiefs of Defence meeting – Part II](#), *NATO Watch News Brief*, 27 April



[NATO Chiefs of Defence meeting](#), *NATO Watch News Brief*, 26 April

[167th Military Committee in Chiefs of Defence Session](#), IMS Press Release, 26 April - Chiefs of Defence from NATO member and Partner countries concluded two days of meetings at NATO HQ. Chaired by General Knud Bartels, Chairman of the Military Committee, NATO's highest-level military gathered in Brussels to discuss NATO operations in Afghanistan and Kosovo, lessons Identified in Libya, military cooperation with Partners and issues in anticipation of the Chicago Summit (photo credit – NATO)

[NATO Committee Chairman Reaffirms Afghanistan Commitment](#), *defpro news*, 26 April

[U.S. JCS Chairman, NATO Defense Chiefs Gather for Conference](#), *defpro.news*, 25 April

[167th NATO Chiefs of Defence meeting](#), Brussels, 25-26 April 2012, NATO HQ (Media Advisory), 19 April

NATO Foreign and Defence Ministers Meeting, 18-19 April (Brussels):

Official texts

[Chairman's statement](#) - Meeting of the NATO-Russia Council at the level of Foreign Ministers held in Brussels on 19 April

NATO statements

[Press conference](#) by NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen after the meeting of the NATO Ministers of Foreign Affairs with non-NATO ISAF contributing nations

[Opening remarks](#) by NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen in the meeting of the NATO Ministers of Foreign Affairs with non-NATO ISAF contributing nations, 19 April

[Statement](#) by NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen at the press point following the NATO-Russia Council meeting in Foreign Ministers session, 19 April

[Opening remarks](#) by NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen at the NATO-Russia Council meeting in Foreign Ministers session, 19 April

[Press point](#) by NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen following the joint North Atlantic Council meeting in Foreign Affairs and Defence Ministers session; also video of [opening remarks](#) and [Q&A](#), [NATOchannel.tv/ You Tube](#), 18 April

[Press conference](#) by NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen following the North Atlantic Council Meeting in Defence Ministers Session, 18 April – also video of [opening remarks](#) and [Q&A](#), [NATOchannel.tv/ You Tube](#), 18 April

[Opening statement](#) by NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen at the North Atlantic Council Meeting in Defence Ministers Session, 18 April

[Arrival statement](#) by NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen prior to the NATO Foreign Affairs and Defence Ministers meetings at NATO Headquarters (followed by a Q&A session), 18 April (photo credit: NATO)

[Opening remarks](#) by the NATO Spokesperson, Oana Lungescu, at the press briefing on the upcoming Ministerial meetings, 16 April



NATO press releases

[NATO-Russia Ministers discuss closer cooperation](#), NATO News, 19 April - NATO foreign ministers together with their Russian counterpart, Sergey Lavrov, marked 10 years of increased bilateral cooperation under the NATO-Russia Council (NRC)

[NATO Defence Ministers plan for NATO Forces 2020](#), NATO News, 18 April - NATO Defence Ministers discussed the best way to make sure that NATO has the modern capabilities it needs for the coming decade and beyond

[NATO defence and foreign ministers prepare Chicago summit](#), NATO News, 18 April - The defence and foreign ministers of NATO's 28 member states gathered at the Alliance's HQ in Brussels for two days of talks to prepare the forthcoming NATO Summit in Chicago

NATO media backgrounders

[NATO-Russia practical cooperation](#), NATO, April 2012

[Transition to Afghan lead: *Inteqal*](#), NATO, April 2012

[Afghan National Security Forces \(ANSF\): Training and Development](#), NATO, April 2012

Media reports

[NATO Foreign and Defence Ministers Meeting – Part II](#), *NATO Watch News Brief*, 20 April

[NATO Foreign and Defence Ministers Meeting – Part I](#), *NATO Watch News Brief*, 19 April

[Chicago Summit: NATO Prepares For Operations Until 2020 And Beyond...Throughout The Galaxy](#), Rick Rozoff, *Stop NATO* (blog), 19 April

[Russia slams NATO withdrawal from Afghanistan](#), *CTV.ca*, 19 April

[NATO Members Spar over Post-Withdrawal Financing](#), *De Spiegel*, 19 April

[NATO head calls on China, Russia to help fund Afghan forces](#), *Reuters*, 19 April

[Agni-V: Nato denies India's missile program a threat; PM praises scientists](#), *Newstrack India*, 19 April

[Nato chiefs and politicians at war over 'risky' Afghan withdrawal plans](#), *The Independent*, 19 April - international summit split over cost-cutting exit strategy that would see security forces radically depleted as soon as West leaves

[U.S. and NATO Finalize Pacts on Ending Afghan War](#), *New York Times*, 18 April

[Afghanistan needs firm security funding pledges, U.S. says](#), *Los Angeles Times*, 18 April - Afghan officials fear that without specific aid contributions, they won't have the resources to battle insurgents after foreign troops leave

[U.S., NATO ready plan to hand off Afghanistan combat](#), *CTV.ca*, 18 April

[NATO Ministers Plan Future Role in Afghanistan](#), *Voice of America*, 18 April

[NATO says concrete plans emerging for Afghanistan after 2014](#), *Reuters*, 18 April

[Nato: 'no rush to exit' Afghanistan despite Australia's surprise pull-out](#), *Daily Telegraph*, 18 April – NATO insisted that there is no "rush to the exit" from Afghanistan in the wake of the surprise announcement that Australia was pulling out its troops one year early

[NATO's post-exit Afghan security bill](#), *British Forces News*, 18 April

[Plotting NATO's endgame in Afghanistan](#), *CNN (blog)*, 18 April

[Nato to discuss funding Afghan forces after pull-out](#), *BBC News*, 18 April

[NATO ministers to deliberate Afghan strategy](#), *Deutsche Welle*, 17 April

[From halls of NATO, defense of drawdowns](#), *CNN (blog)*, 17 April

[NATO ministers to grapple with Afghan troubles](#), *Reuters AlertNet*, 17 April

NATO-Russia Relations:

[Kremlin's Tack Set On NATO Hub In Russia](#), Ryskeldi Satke, *Eurasia Review*, 28 April

♠♠ [Russia and NATO in hot water](#), Viktor Litovkin and Yevgeny Shestakov, *Russia beyond the headlines*, 25 April - while NATO and Russia still view each other warily over missile defence, two Russian experts don't see any significant progress in resolving this stand-off and warn against starting another arm race

[NATO-Russia Session Not Expected in Chicago](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 24 April

[Russia-NATO: new chapter, old claims](#), *The Voice of Russia*, 21 April

[Over 800 Protesters Hold Anti-NATO Rally on Volga](#), *RIA Novosti*, 21 April

[NATO-Russia counter-narcotics training reaches milestone](#), NATO News, 19 April - a NATO-Russia Council (NRC) project to train counter-narcotics personnel in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Central Asia reached a significant milestone in April: 2000 officers have now been trained under this project, one of the most successful NRC initiatives to date

[Communists Rally in Moscow Against NATO 'Base'](#), *RIA Novosti*, 19 April

[Lavrov Assails NATO on Eve of Key Talks](#), *Moscow Times*, 18 April

[NATO Objects to Russian Deployment of Antimissile Units in Kaliningrad](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 18 April

[Deputy Secretary General addresses NATO-Russia Council role-play at Moscow University](#), NATO News, 17 April - a large number of students gathered at the Moscow State Linguistic University for a NATO-Russia Council role-play event organised by the university with the support of the NATO Information Office in Russia; [Address by Ambassador Alexander Aershow](#), NATO Deputy Secretary General to participants in a role play on the NATO-Russia Council, Moscow State Linguistic University, 17 April

[Putin to NATO: Yankees, Please Stay in Afghanistan](#), *Voice of America (blog)*, 14 April

[Putin calls NATO 'relic of the Cold War,' but promises support on Afghanistan cooperation](#), *Washington Post*, 11 April

[Rogozin Slams Ulyanovsk 'NATO Base' Speculation](#), *RIA Novosti*, 10 April

[Russia Fielding Antimissile Units in Kaliningrad, Report Claims](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 9 April

[Rogozin's Replacement At NATO Suggests More Diplomatic Approach From Russia](#), *EurasiaNet*, 6 April

[Moscow picks new envoy to NATO – report](#), *Russia Today*, 6 April

[Dream team? Russia proposes joint anti-drug efforts in Afghanistan](#), *Russia Today*, 5 April

[Russia to Control NATO Ulyanovsk Transit Base – Lavrov](#), *RIA Novosti*, 5 April

Alaskan Aleuts taking a vow of silence in protest against a rams' testicles surplus in the Antarctic.

Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Rogozin, writing on Facebook about the Ulyanovsk protests, cited in [NATO Flight Plan Awakens Russians' Ire](#), *Moscow Times*, 10 April

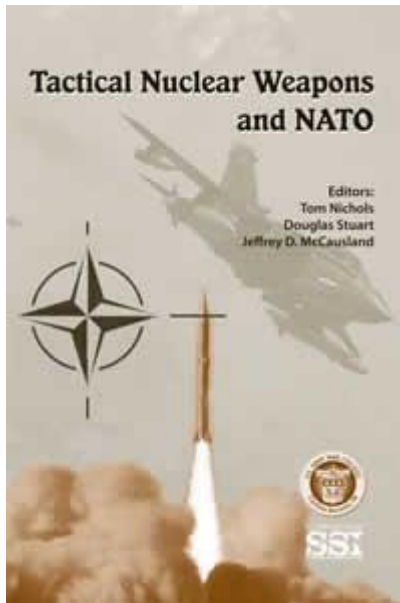
[NATO-Russia exercise tests responses to simulated terrorist attack](#), NATO News, 2 April - "Terrorists hijack a passenger cruise ship in international waters and threaten to sink it if their demands are not met within 48 hours. The hostages aboard include citizens of a number of NATO-Russia Council (NRC) countries." This was the fictitious scenario for a counter-terrorism tabletop exercise organized under the NRC, at NATO HQ

[Dancing with the Bear: Managing Escalation in a Conflict with Russia](#), Forrest E. Morgan, IFRI Security Studies Center, *Proliferation Paper* No. 40, Winter 2012

Nuclear Weapons:

(photo credit: hellothomas/flickr)

[Senators Suggest Freeze on B-61 Bomb Funding Pending Cost Estimates](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 27 April



[Tactical Nuclear Weapons and NATO](#), Tom Nichols, Douglas Stuart and Jeffrey D. McCausland (editors), US Army War College, Strategic Studies Institute (Book, 540 pages), April 2012 - the authors conclude that status quo on tactical nuclear weapons is unacceptable. It is past the time for NATO to make more resolute decisions, find a coherent strategy, and formulate more definite plans about its nuclear status. So far, NATO remains a "nuclear alliance," but it is increasingly hard to define what that means



[Time to get U.S. nukes out of Europe](#), Stephen Walt, *Foreign Policy*, 18 April

[US Tactical Nuclear Weapons in Europe after NATO's Lisbon Summit: Why their Withdrawal is Desirable and Feasible](#), Tom Sauer and Bob van der Zwaan, *International Relations* 26(1) pp78–100, March 2012

[Looking Beyond the Chicago Summit: Nuclear Weapons in Europe and the](#)

[Future of NATO](#), George Perkovich, Malcolm Chalmers, Steven Pifer, Paul Schulte, Jaclyn Tandler, *Carnegie Paper*, April 2012

♠♠ [Exit Strategies - The case for redefining NATO consensus on U.S. TNW](#), Wilbert van der Zeijden, Susi Snyder and Peter Paul Ekker, *IKV Pax Christi*, April 2012

[Russia, U.S. Could Rethink Nonstrategic Nuclear Arms Deployments](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 5 April

[Turkish Survey Results Support Heritage Findings](#), *The Foundry*, 3 April

[U.S. Not Prepared for Talks on Cutting Nonstrategic Nuclear Arms](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 2 April

['NATO Game Over': 500 held at anti-war protest at HQ](#), *Russia Today*, 2 April

[Next Arms Talks Between US, Russia Might Involve Tactical Weapons](#), *Voice of America*, 2 April

[200 anti-Nato protesters detained](#), *Belfast Telegraph*, 1 April

[483 Arrested at NATO Headquarters; Sadly, None Work for NATO](#), *warisacrime.org*, 1 April

In Chicago, NATO should state that it now believes the fundamental purpose of its nuclear weapons is to deter the use of nuclear weapons by others, and it should plan for further reductions of U.S. tactical nuclear weapons in Europe. The target of completing consolidation to the United States should be within five years, with the timing and pace determined by broad political and security developments between NATO and Russia, including but not limited to Russian tactical nuclear deployments near NATO's border

♠♠ [Toward a World Without Nukes](#), Helmut Schmidt and Sam Nunn, *New York Times*, 13 April

Reform:

♠♠ [Keeping NATO Relevant](#), Jamie Shea, *Carnegie Policy Outlook*, April 2012

Responsibility to Protect (R2P):

[Libya: Why Nato Intervention in Country Is Not a Victory for Responsibility to Protect](#), Jide Martyns Okeke, *allAfrica.com*, 10 April

R2P: The Next Decade, *The Courier*, Stanley Foundation, Spring 2012

- [Marking Ten Years of the Responsibility to Protect](#) - Policymakers, experts gather to assess the evolving principle of human protection
- [The Responsibility to Protect In Action](#) - The debate today is about how, not whether, to protect civilians
- [A Coming of Age for Human Protection](#) - For the R2P principle, 2011 proved to be a banner year for cooperation...and new complications
- [The Future of Responsibility](#) - As R2P moves into its second decade, questions of prevention and use of force grow more complex
- [Let's make 2012 the "Year of Prevention"](#) - An excerpt of remarks by the UN secretary-general at "R2P: The Next Decade," a conference held in January by the Stanley Foundation, the Carnegie Corporation of NY, and the MacArthur Foundation

Transatlantic Cooperation:

[The Future of NATO](#), *You Tube*, 25 April - as US and EU leaders prepare for the NATO summit, CFR's Stewart M. Patrick, director of the International Institutions and Global Governance Program, and Robin Niblett, director of Chatham House, discuss why NATO will remain important for Europe

[EU Nations urged to be forward-looking on security](#), NATO News, 23 April - NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen, in a speech to the European Parliament, called for closer NATO-EU coordination on security issues and urged the EU to adopt the needed capabilities to take action abroad; "[A global perspective for Europe](#)", address by NATO Secretary General to the joint meeting of the EU Parliament's Committee on Foreign Affairs and Sub-committee on Security and Defence, 23 April

Transparency and Accountability:

[NATO and Facebook Join Forces in the Global Digital Age](#), Stephanie Babst and Elizabeth Linder, *Huffington Post*, 19 April

♠♠ [Indra Adnan's Nato Address](#), *The Soft Power Network* (blog), 14 April - talk given in Brussels to NATO at a conference convened on the Power of Soft Power on 27 March

[Institutionalizing Innovation in Secrecy Policy](#), [Secrecy News](#), from the FAS Project on Government Secrecy, Volume 2012, Issue No. 31, 9 April

Upcoming Events:

(photo credit: ex.libris/flickr)

[Turkey and the Bomb](#), Carnegie Europe, Brussels, 2 May - there is widespread concern that an Iranian nuclear weapon will lead to an arms race, encouraging regional powers like Turkey, Egypt, and Saudi Arabia to explore the nuclear option. Despite this worry, most nuclear-capable states have chosen not to develop a nuclear arsenal—and Turkey is no exception. What key considerations are likely to influence Turkey's decision to proliferate? Will a nuclear-armed Iran change Ankara's position?

[The Chicago Summit and NATO's New Challenges](#), Carnegie Europe, Brussels, 8 May - How will the Alliance contain the burgeoning dissent within its ranks as the US pivots towards the Asia-Pacific and withdraws from Europe? Can Europeans be expected to take responsibility for their own security and ultimately for their own periphery while grappling with current economic woes? Jamie Shea, deputy assistant secretary general for Emerging Security Challenges at NATO, Lisa Aronsson, head of the Transatlantic Programme at the Royal United Services Institute, and Carnegie's Jan Techau will discuss these challenges

[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. **NOW OPEN FOR REGISTRATION**

[Counter-Summit for Peace and Economic Justice](#), Chicago, 18-19 May - peace and justice activists will gather to map an alternative path towards a world free of war, want and occupations. 24 Workshops, International Speakers, Trainings, Campaign Briefings. Sponsored by: Network for a NATO Free Future: a coalition of peace, faith, labour, economic and racial justice, and immigrant rights groups



[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



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 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: Supreme Allied Commander Admiral James G. Stavridis, and President of the Czech Republic Vaclav Klaus (May 22).

[After Chicago: Re-evaluating NATO's priorities](#), International conference chaired by SDA co-presidents Jaap de Hoop Scheffer and Javier Solana, Brussels, 25 May

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

Security News from NATO Member States:

(photo credit: darkmatter/flickr)

Bulgaria

[U.S., Bulgarian air forces kick off Thracian Star 2012](#), *U.S. Air Forces in Europe*, 19 April

[Joint-nation NCO symposium empowers Bulgarian, US enlisted leaders](#), *U.S. Air Forces in Europe*, 11 April

Canada

[Canada spent \\$25 million in bombing Gadhafi side](#), *Times Colonist*, 19 April

[Minister MacKay and Minister Baird Attend the NATO Joint Foreign and Defence Ministers Meeting in Brussels](#), MarketWatch Press Release, 19 April

[The F-35 fiasco and Ottawa's culture of secrecy](#), Brian Stewart, *CBC News*, 4 April

[Canada steps in over fighter jet order](#), *Financial Times*, 3 April - the Canadian government stripped the defence department of control of the F-35 fighter jet procurement project after an official watchdog found the ministry had understated the cost of the aircraft in reports to parliament

[Canada's Engagement in Afghanistan: Fourteenth and Final Report to Parliament](#), Government of Canada, 29 March

Estonia

[NATO Science Conference to be Held in Tallinn](#), *defpro news*, 17 April

France

[US confident of France's commitment to NATO](#), *AFP*, 26 April

[More French Aircraft to Receive Nuclear Capability](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 24 April

[French left preps NATO allies for fast Afghan exit](#), *Reuters*, 11 April

[French left rally behind anti-NATO Mélenchon](#), *France 24*, 6 April

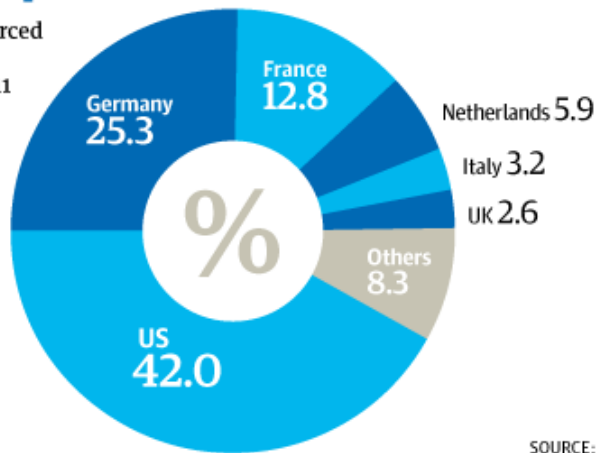
[France's enduring nuclear deterrent](#), Jonathan Marcus, *BBC News*, 29 March



(how will French presidential elections impact on NATO? – photo credit: Mrs TeePot/ flickr)

Greek arms imports

Where Greece sourced its arms, 10-year period 2002 to 2011



SOURCE: SIPRI

Greece

♠♠ [German 'hypocrisy' over Greek military spending has critics up in arms](#), *The Guardian*, 19 April - Athens' fondness for weaponry, and willingness of Germany and France to feed it, under fire as Greece struggles with debt crisis (graphic credit: *The Guardian*)

[President Gorge Ivanov: NATO invitation will improve Macedonia-Greece relations](#), *EMportal*, 8 April

[Aphrodite's Gift: Can Cypriot Gas Power a New Dialogue?](#) *Europe Report No.216*, International Crisis Group, 2 April

Lithuania

[Director General of NATO International Military Staff pays an official visit to Lithuania](#), NATO News, 4 April - LtGen Jürgen Bornemann, Director General of the International Military Staff (DGIMS), paid an official visit to Lithuania on invitation of the Chief of Defense of the Lithuanian Armed Forces, LtGen Arvydas Pocius

Poland

[Poland to continue NATO Baltic air space mission](#), *WNCT*, 17 April

[Poland-Lithuania - Getting serious](#), *The Economist* (blog), 14 April

Spain

[OSCE media freedom representative welcomes Spain's draft transparency law, says it should be further improved](#), *OSCE Press Release*, 11 April

Turkey

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The United States is a bit like a 375-pound, middle-aged man with a heart condition walking down a city street at night eating a Big Mac. He's sweating profusely because he's afraid he might get mugged. But the thing that's going to kill him is the burger

David Rothkopf, [The Enemy Within](#), *Foreign Policy*, May/June 2012

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