



Observatory

NATO News & Opinion Clips

Promoting a more transparent and accountable NATO

No.35 – August/September 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 ♠♠

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NATO Watch Editorial:

Green-on-blue attacks highlight another violent summer in Afghanistan

Whether resulting from [infiltration by foreign spies](#), cultural clashes, personal grievances or [fasting](#), the death toll from insider attacks of Western troops by Afghan security forces, also known as 'green-on-blue' attacks, continues to rise. Some 45 coalition troops have died in more than 30 attacks this year, at least 15 of them in August alone—last year there were 21 attacks, killing 35; and in 2010 there were 11 attacks with 20 deaths.

The surge of insider attacks is a significant threat to NATO's exit strategy of turning over security to Afghan forces by the end of 2014. Currently, approximately 130,000 ('blue') NATO troops are fighting insurgents in Afghanistan alongside 350,000 ('green') Afghans. NATO has responded by arming so-called 'guardian angel' soldiers to provide 24-hour security on 'mixed' bases, drafting specialist counter intelligence personnel into the Afghan army and suspending some police training. The head of the Afghan army has also ordered the reinvestigation of 150,000 soldiers (almost three quarters of the force) for security vetting and biometric profiling. These measures are hardly conducive to creating mutual trust and as NATO combat troops transition out of Afghanistan, the military trainers left embedded in Afghan units will be even more vulnerable to such attacks.

While the 'green-on-blue' attacks and other NATO casualty figures receive most of the Western media headlines—the war [claimed the 2,000th American life](#) (not counting the [record number of suicides](#) in the US military)—it is Afghan civilians and security forces that continued to bear the brunt of the upsurge in violence. General John Allen, the top US and NATO commander confirmed that Afghan police and army casualties were also on the rise, mostly by roadside bombs known as improvised explosive devices. Some estimates suggest that [Afghan security forces are dying at five times the rate of NATO soldiers](#) with official figures regularly under-reporting casualties so as not to undermine moral. Again, such casualty figures can be expected to rise as Afghan security forces increase their presence on the battlefield and take more responsibility from NATO troops ahead of the drawdown.

The prospects for Afghan civilians are even grimmer. According to the United Nations, 1,145

civilians were killed and a further 1,954 were injured during the first half of 2012. Although the UN figures represent a 15% fall in overall deaths and injuries from the previous year, civilian casualties appear to have spiked during the 'summer fighting season'. The UN attributed 80% of these casualties to 'militant forces', while casualties attributed to NATO and Afghan government forces declined as a result of strengthened policies to protect civilians: 165 civilians killed in the first half of the year, down 35% from 2011, with the majority (127) arising from coalition airstrikes.

That it has taken NATO so long to implement policies that provide better protection for civilians is indicative of a campaign that has lurched from one crisis to another. Despite the optimism of NATO's Supreme Allied Commander Europe that ["we will win in Afghanistan"](#), most signs point to the fact that the war will not end for the Afghans in 2014 -- and could get much worse. With that legacy in mind and clarion calls for US and NATO intervention in other crises, such as Syria and Iran, growing louder, perhaps it is time to pause and reflect on the [words of the outgoing US ambassador to Afghanistan, Ryan Crocker](#). The retiring diplomat voiced concern about becoming involved in conflicts "in somebody else's stadium, playing by somebody else's ground rules" without first understanding the country's "environment, history, [and] politics".



A veteran senior Afghan officer was even less diplomatic in an [interview in Newsweek magazine](#): "I understand why our men are shooting US and NATO soldiers. I too have been personally hurt by the way American forces behave towards my soldiers, our villagers, our religion and culture. Too many of them are racist, arrogant, and simply don't respect us". These are surely fundamental starting points without which all the talk about a [comprehensive approach to crisis management](#) remains just hot air.

What will NATO contribute to the R2P dialogue at the UN General Assembly?

Governments around the world are preparing for the General Assembly informal interactive dialogue on the Responsibility to Protect (R2P) to be held on 5 September (and webcast live [here](#)). The dialogue will provide an opportunity for Member States, regional organizations, and civil society to reflect on the [Report of the UN Secretary-General](#) which examines the various dimensions of the R2P's third pillar, which includes a broad range of non-coercive and

coercive measures that actors at the national, regional, and international level can utilize for the protection of populations.

This provides an opening for the NATO Secretary General to speak in support of R2P, to relate NATO's experiences from the Libya intervention of the importance of responding in a timely and decisive manner, and to convey how the alliance might further contribute towards UN efforts to strengthen the mechanisms available to protect populations from mass atrocities.

The Secretary General could also reflect on the importance of how to protect responsibly at every stage of the implementation of R2P and how best to operationalize the norm within the alliance.

As someone who regularly speaks about the need to engage in dialogue on collaborative security efforts, this is a golden opportunity for Anders Fogh Rasmussen to make an important statement of intent – what do you say, Mr Secretary General?

Scotland debates NATO future

Sometimes debates about NATO break out in the most unexpected places. This summer one of the most vigorous debates has been taking place in NATO Watch's own backyard. I am writing this editorial in one of the safest and least threatened parts of Europe: the North West Highlands of Scotland. Though rarely considered by contemporary security and defence think-tanks, it is an area with an important strategic past, present and, likely as not, future.

During World War II, for example, 19 of the 78 Russian Arctic Convoys—totalling 481 merchant ships and over 100 naval vessels—sailed from [Loch Ewe](#), a tranquil North West Highland anchorage, to North Russian ports of Murmansk and Archangel. The convoys provided aid to Russian allies blockaded by German forces and were described by Winston Churchill as the 'worst journey in the world'. Over 3,000 sailors, often young men, perished in the icy waters of the North Atlantic between 1941 and 1945.

Today, while there are few visible reminders of that remarkable effort, the local community are working hard to raise money for a [Russian Arctic Convoy Museum](#) on the shores of the loch as a lasting legacy to those who died. There is, however, a noticeable reminder of the subsequent

Cold War: Loch Ewe 'Z' Berth. Built in 1963, the facility comprises a NATO Petroleum, Oil and Lubricants (POL) Jetty, which mainly serves as an operational reserve refuelling base for both NATO and UK vessels. In addition, the 'Z' berth designation (Loch Ewe is a deep sea loch, enabling submarines to approach the jetty without breaking the water surface too soon) allows Britain's nuclear-powered submarines to return home temporarily for servicing and/or recreational purposes. The new Astute-class nuclear powered submarine in particular is often visible in the seas around this coast line – and in October 2010 the £1 billion boat [ran aground during sea-trials](#) off the coast of Skye.

The area is also used for NATO and UK military exercises, the most prominent of which is the regular bi-annual NATO exercise, [Joint Warrior](#). This year the exercise was bigger than ever and took place with warships, submarines and aircraft operating along the west coast of Scotland. And the Highland's strategic future? With massive changes impacting on the [High North and Arctic](#) expected to become a significant geo-strategic feature of the years and decades ahead, an increased security role cannot be ruled out.



(Sailors flake out mooring lines on the flight deck during sea and anchor detail as the guided-missile destroyer USS Forrest Sherman transits away from Faslane Naval Base during Exercise Joint Warrior 2012 – photo credit: US Navy/ flickr)

Of course, Scotland as whole has a similar strategic legacy, active role in current UK defence affairs and potentially significant future security roles both within and beyond these shores. The most controversial aspect of Scotland's contribution to UK defence is the basing of the nuclear force at Faslane and Coulport, although 'conventional' base closures and merger of Scottish regiments have also caused much resentment.

Why then is NATO so much in the news in Scotland (see section below in this newsletter)? Rather surprisingly, NATO membership has become one of the touchstone issues of a wider debate about Scottish independence. A number of political parties, advocacy groups and individuals within Scotland have long been campaigning for Scotland to once again become an independent sovereign state. (Scotland was an independent country from its foundation in the Early Middle Ages until 1707 with the Act of Union). The Scottish National Party (SNP)-controlled Scottish Government has expressed its intention to hold an independence referendum in late 2014.



(Ahck, Freedom! – photo credit: Ben Spark/ flickr)

The SNP is also in the midst of a policy review that is seeking to have its long-standing policy of Scotland becoming a member of NATO's Partnership for Peace—which provides for defence co-operation between NATO and non-NATO countries (like Sweden, Austria, Finland and Ireland)—being dropped in favour of full NATO membership. This has caused uproar in SNP circles with Members of the Scottish Parliament (MSPs), party branches and other senior nationalist figures lining up to challenge the controversial policy shift. The issue is due to come to head at the SNP's annual policy conference in October.

A key aspect of this debate within a debate is whether an independent Scotland would be able to clear nuclear weapons from its military bases (a long-standing nationalist redline) and remain in NATO. Some analysts, like [Malcolm Chalmers](#) (Research Director at the Royal United Services Institute), have argued that the SNP “may not find it easy to move in this direction”, primarily because it would be “hard to square” acceptance of NATO nuclear deterrence with an expulsion of the UK's nuclear force from Scottish bases. “There would be a fundamental inconsistency in

accepting the role of nuclear weapons in NATO's security, but demanding their rapid removal from one's own national territory”, he writes.

I beg to differ: it *is* feasible (whether it is desirable is another matter) for Scotland to have full membership of nuclear-armed NATO and still be committed to the removal of Trident from Scottish soil. Indeed, Scottish links to NATO—whether as a full member or as a ‘partner’—would be largely irrelevant to the tough bilateral negotiations between Holyrood and Westminster that would determine the future of the nuclear force. And since we are mostly talking about political rather than technical decisions, the issues are somewhat complex and should not be reduced to simple ‘black or white’ solutions. Not only are nuances important, outcomes can also be shaped by events and political decisions that are not foreseen by ‘experts’, such as the collapse of the former Soviet Union or the Arab Spring – both of which took most of the International Relations intelligentsia by surprise.

Ultimately, therefore, the people and political leaders of Scotland can themselves take decisions that may seem “hard to square” with existing political realities, but in time help to change the terms of the debate. The whole discussion about Scottish independence, unthinkable only a few years ago, is a case in point.

NATO Watch will be publishing a more detailed briefing in advance of the SNP conference setting out the various political costs and benefits associated with an independent Scotland either withdrawing from or opting to join the alliance. In the meantime, it is a good to see these issues being aired and widely discussed. This after all is what democracy is all about.

News, Commentary and Reports:

Afghanistan-Pakistan:

News

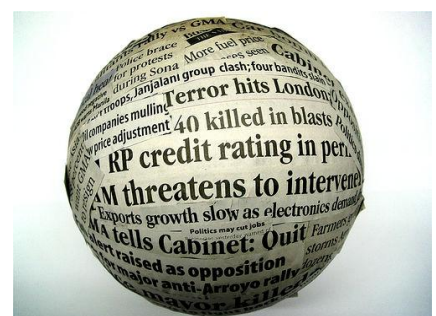
[NATO chief: rogue Afghan attacks will not hasten pullout](#), *Reuters*, 3 September

[U.S. Halting Program to Train Afghan Recruits](#), *New York Times*, 2 September

[NATO suspends training of new Afghan recruits](#), *Deutsche Welle*, 2 September

[Green-on-blue blues](#), *The Economist*, 1 September - Afghan soldiers increasingly turn on their NATO colleagues

(photo credit: Stitch/flickr)



[Five Australian soldiers killed in Afghanistan](#), *BBC News*, 30 August

[NATO may need more troops to ship home Afghan gear](#), *Reuters*, 28 August

[NATO: Afghan Ally Fires on Coalition, Kills 2](#), *Wall Street Journal*, 27 August

[CIA drones kill warlord's family and Taliban chief](#), *The Guardian*, 26 August - Senior Afghan commander and his bodyguards are wiped out

[NATO says it has closed more than 200 bases in Afghanistan as part of drawdown](#), *Washington Post*, 26 August

[US general blames fasting for attacks](#), *Financial Times*, 23 August



(An Afghan child at the Physiotherapy and Rehabilitation Support for Afghanistan Orphanage in Kabul receives school supplies and candy, 31 August 2012 – photo credit: ISAF/ flickr)

[Afghanistan, Contradicting NATO, Blames Foreign Spies for Insider Attacks](#), *New York Times*, 22 August

[In Toll of 2,000, New Portrait of Afghan War](#), *New York Times*, 21 August - according to this analysis of US DoD records, the number of US armed forces killed in the war in Afghanistan has reached 2,000 – half of whom died in the last 27 months, and one-in- two died in the southern provinces of Kandahar or Helmand

[Nato troop deaths: New Zealand considering early Afghan withdrawal](#), *The News Tribe*, 20 August

[NATO, Taliban in war of words over Afghan deaths](#), *Seattle Times*, 18 August - a suicide bombing at a wedding, a deadly airstrike on a village, grenades in a mosque - hundreds of Afghan civilians are dying violently this summer, while the Taliban and the NATO coalition wage verbal warfare

[NATO: Most Attacks On Troops Driven By Grievances](#), *WRTV Indianapolis*, 18 August - 10% Of Attacks Related To Insurgency, NATO Spokesman Says

[Number of NATO forces killed by Afghan recruits hits new high](#), *The Christian Science Monitor*, 17 August - the number of 'green-on-blue' attacks in Afghanistan this year has surpassed that of all 2011, eroding trust and deepening concern about the security transition

[Nato moves to thwart Taliban infiltration of Afghan police and army](#), *The Telegraph*, 16 August - NATO has adopted a set of security screening measures to thwart Taliban infiltration of the Afghan police and army, the senior British general in Kabul has admitted

[U.S. Copter Crashes, Killing 11 in Afghanistan](#), *Wall Street Journal*, 16 August

[At least 20 Afghan civilians wounded as attackers target mosque and market](#), *The Guardian*, 15 August - grenades thrown during morning prayers the day after bloody attacks kill 50 across Afghanistan

[NATO reports corruption in military contracts in Afghanistan](#), *Khaama Press*, 15 August

[Shootings by Afghan Forces Take Growing Toll on NATO Troops](#), Peter Bergen and Jennifer Rowland, New America Foundation, 14 August

[End Sought to Attacks on Allies by Afghans](#), *New York Times*, 13 August

[Three more U.S. soldiers killed by Afghans in grim day for NATO](#), *Reuters*, 11 August

[NATO troops and police killed in Afghanistan](#), *Al Jazeera*, 11 August - at least nine police officers fatally shot by their colleagues in Nimroz while six NATO soldiers are killed in Helmand

[Afghanistan sees first drop in violence against civilians in 5 years, U.N. finds](#), *CNN*, 8 August - the UN said that the number of Afghan civilian casualties have dropped for the first time in five years, falling 15% in the first half of 2012 compared to the same period last year. However, UN officials said the conflict intensified in May, and civilian casualties increased again as the summer fighting progressed

[Dutch Diplomat Named NATO Senior Civilian Representative In Afghanistan](#), *RTT News*, 7 August - NATO Secretary-General has

Only a handful of the 31 attacks this year have clearly been a result of Taliban activity like infiltration. That suggests a level of malaise or anger within the Afghan forces that could complicate NATO's training program, which relies on trust and cooperation

[Afghan Attacks on Allied Troops Prompt NATO to Shift Policy](#), *New York Times*, 18 August

appointed Dutch Diplomat Maurits R. Jochems as the next NATO Senior Civilian Representative (SCR) in Afghanistan - he replaces Ambassador Simon Gass, who has served as SCR since April 2011

[Afghan defence minister and key British and US ally resigns](#), *The Telegraph*, 7 August - the Afghan defence minister who, a key British and US ally in trying to build his country's army, has resigned in what diplomats fear could have "significant consequences" for the handover

[NATO airstrike kills Haqqani leader](#), *Associated Press*, 6 August

[Two Top Afghan Security Ministers Face Dismissal](#), *New York Times*, 4 August - the Afghan parliament voted to dismiss two of Afghanistan's top security officials, Defence Minister Abdul Rahim Wardak and Interior Minister Bismullah Khan Mohammadi, over the government's failure to defend Afghanistan from rocket attacks blamed on elements of the military in neighbouring Pakistan

[David Cameron warned that Afghanistan pullout could allow al-Qaeda to return](#), *The Telegraph*, 4 August – UK military commanders have warned the PM that Afghanistan's future could be jeopardised with al-Qaeda returning to the country if foreign troops are withdrawn too quickly, senior sources have disclosed

[Putin Criticizes NATO Withdrawal From Afghanistan](#), *Moscow Times*, 1 August

[U.S. Afghan aid could flop on counterinsurgency goals – watchdog](#), *Reuters*, 30 July

[NATO trucks suspended for 5th day at Pakistan crossing](#), *AFP*, 30 July

[Afghan forces deaths outstrip NATO's 5-1: officials](#), *AFP*, 29 July

[NATO: Militant attacks in Afghanistan up 11 percent in past 3 months](#), *Washington Post*, 27 July

[Afghan President Hamid Karzai demands handover, not demolition, of NATO bases](#), *Washington Post*, 24 July

[Pakistan drone strike 'kills 10' suspected militants](#), *BBC News*, 24 July - a US drone attack has killed at least 10 suspected militants in Pakistan's north-western tribal area, Pakistani security officials say

♣♣ [Top Afghans Tied to '90s Carnage, Researchers Say](#), *New York Times*, 22 July - an as-yet unreleased report by the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission names more than 500 Afghans as responsible for the mass killings of militants and civilians during Afghanistan's civil war in the 1990s, many of whom are now powerful government figures or wealthy warlords. President Karzai removed the commissioner responsible for the report, Ahmad Nader Nadery, late last year, reportedly at the behest of the first vice president Marshal Muhammad Qasim Fahim, who did not want the group's research reaching the public

[Uniformed Gunman Kills NATO Contractors](#), *Wall Street Journal*, 22 July

[Afghanistan: Taliban bomb destroys 22 Nato fuel tankers](#), *BBC News*, 18 July

[5,000 Taliban left the battlefield since 2010: NATO](#), *AFP*, 16 July

[Northern Route a Key Supply Network for NATO Troops in Afghanistan](#), *Voice of America*, 16 July

[One year on from the start of transition to Afghan lead for security](#), *NATO News*, 16 July - a year ago Afghan security forces formally took over the lead for security in Bamyan province from the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF). Bamyan was part of the first tranche of provinces and districts to start transition. Since then, a further two tranches have been identified for transition – soon 75% of the Afghan population will be living in areas under Afghan security lead

[Govt trampled people's wishes on NATO supplies, says Imran](#), *Pakistan Today*, 15 July

AFGHANISTAN AGREEMENTS

A Collection of Official Texts from 2001 to 2011

Bonn Agreement - The First International Bonn Conference on Afghanistan, Bonn, December 2001

Co-Chairs' Summary of Conclusions of the Tokyo Conference - International Conference on Reconstruction Assistance to Afghanistan, Tokyo, January 2002

The Berlin Declaration - The International Conference on Afghanistan, Berlin, April 2004

The Afghanistan Compact - The International Conference on Afghanistan, London, January 2006

Declaration of the International Conference in Support of Afghanistan - International Conference on Afghanistan, Paris, June 2008

London Conference Communiqué - The London Conference: Afghan Leadership, Regional Cooperation, International Partnership, London, January 2010

Kabul Conference Communiqué - The Kabul International Conference on Afghanistan, Kabul, July 2010

Bonn Conference Communiqué - The Second International Bonn Conference on

[Afghan suicide bomber kills military and government officials at wedding](#), *The Guardian*, 14 July - more than a dozen guests are killed by bomber who infiltrated MP's daughter's wedding in northern Samangan province

[NATO Hands Over Security Of North Afghan Region To Local Forces](#), *Radio Free Europe/ Radio Liberty*, 12 July

(US and Afghan soldiers prepare to search a house in the village of Starkats, Khowst province, Afghanistan, 2 April 2011 – photo credit: captive shots/ flickr)

[NATO Military Supplies Roll Again Through Pakistan](#), *Voice of America*, 12 July

[U.S. Ambassador Hails 'Significant' Turn in Afghan Talks](#), *Wall Street Journal*, 12 July

[U.S. crafted Pakistan "apology" to suit allies abroad, opponents at home](#), *Reuters*, 11 July

[Afghanistan aid: Donors pledge \\$16bn at Tokyo meeting](#), *BBC News*, 8 July

[Tokyo Conference gives hope and courage to Afghans](#), *NATO News*, 8 July



[Bombs, clashes kill 35, including NATO troops, in Afghanistan](#), *Reuters*, 8 July - at least 35 people, including seven NATO soldiers, were killed in a string of roadside bombs and clashes

[Hillary Clinton declares Afghanistan a 'major non-Nato ally' of US](#), *The Guardian*, 7 July - declaration on eve of donor conference allows for streamlined military co-operation including access to weapons and training. Afghanistan joins 14 other countries with major non-NATO ally status, including Japan, Australia, and Israel, but is by far the least developed and least likely to be able to defend itself and maintain internal security

[Afghan Conflict Losing Air Power as U.S. Pulls Out](#), C.J.Chivers, *New York Times*, 6 July

[Pakistan to scan all NATO containers](#), *AFP*, 6 July

[Latest US drone strike in Pakistan kills 12 suspected militants](#), *The Guardian*, 6 July - attack comes on the heels of Pakistan opening transit routes to Nato supplies after a seven-month impasse over US actions

[NATO Supply Trucks From Pakistan Resume Trek to Afghanistan](#), *New York Times*, 5 July - the first trucks carrying NATO supplies crossed from Pakistan to Afghanistan at the Chaman border crossing after a seven-month blockade of the ground routes

[Pakistan ends dispute over Nato supply routes after Hillary Clinton apology](#), *The Guardian*, 3 July - agreement to reopen supply lines across Afghan border follows apology from US secretary of state for deaths of Pakistani troops

[NATO Secretary General welcomes Pakistani announcement on supply lines](#), *NATO News*, 3 July

[Thawing relations: 'Nato supply routes likely to resume this week'](#), *Tribune.com.pk*, 2 July

[Afghan war cause suffers as shootings by local allies soar](#), Ben Farmer, *The Telegraph*, 2 July - Green on blue is Nato-speak for Afghan soldiers or policemen turning their weapons on Nato troops and the trend undercutting the international coalition's strategy in the violence-wracked nation

[NATO blockade costing US an extra \\$2.1 billion: report](#), *Pakistan Today*, 1 July

[NATO Ambassador addresses UN Security Council on Afghanistan](#), *NATO News*, 28 June

Commentary and Reports

♦♦ [Afghanistan: the hard lessons of history](#), Alex Thomson, *Channel Four News (blog)*, 31 August

[We will win in Afghanistan](#), James Stavridis, *The Guardian*, 30 August - despite setbacks, the international effort to bring lasting peace and stability to Afghanistan is working

[The Best Laid Plans - How Quickly Will the U.S. Leave Afghanistan?](#) Tom Engelhardt, *TomDispatch.com*, 26 August

♦♦ [Buried Mines in Afghanistan](#), Sarah Chayes, Q&A, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, 26 August – the author, who lived for most of the past decade in Afghanistan and served as an adviser to senior US military leadership, argues for a sober look at the time bombs US policy may be planting in Afghanistan, and for rigorous planning to mitigate the potential damage

[Justice and State-Building in Afghanistan: State vs. Society vs. Taliban](#), The Asia Foundation, *Occasional Paper* No.16, August 2012

Counter-Narcotics in Afghanistan, NATO Civil Military Fusion Center, August 2012 - this document brings together five recent reports on counter-narcotics efforts in Afghanistan. These include sector specific reports on Illicit Drugs & Afghanistan; Opium Poppies & the Afghan Economy; Irrigation, Profits & Alternative Crops; Opium Poppies & Security; and Afghan Opiates - A Regional Dilemma

[Mistrust between ANA and the NATO alliance](#), Musa Khan Jalalzai, *Pakistan Daily Times*, 16 August

[Afghanistan's Other Neighbor](#), Sarah Chayes, Carnegie Commentary, 6 August - the US and Pakistan have just signed a MoU detailing conditions for reopening the border with Afghanistan to NATO transit traffic, closed after a friendly fire incident last November. Thousands of fuel tankers and cargo trucks are untangling seven-month-old snarls at ports and windswept border posts, to lumber back onto the roads. But that breakthrough should not detract from the importance another of Afghanistan's neighbours: Uzbekistan

The Decision to Plant Poppies: Irrigation, Profits & Alternative Crops in Afghanistan, NATO Civil-Military Fusion Centre, August 2012

[Putin's Clever Plan to Keep NATO in Afghanistan](#), Marc Champion, *Bloomberg*, 2 August

[Afghanistan Index](#), Ian S. Livingston and Michael O'Hanlon, The Brookings Institution, 30 July

♣♣ [The once and future civil war in Afghanistan](#), Ryan Evans, *Foreign Policy*, 26 July

[Making More Out of Less: How NATO States Can Seize the Opportunities of Shrinking Resources in Afghanistan](#), Michael F Harsch and Scott Smith, ISN Security Watch, 24 July - after NATO forces withdraw in 2014, a durable peace in Afghanistan will have to be built with fewer resources. This may create incentives for more efficient and effective engagement with the region as a whole

(US Army SPC. Eric Frazier from Van Nuys, CA, with 26th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade 1st Infantry Division, speaks to children in Spera District, Khowsht province, Afghanistan, 14 May 2011 – photo credit: captive shots/ flickr)



[After Combat, the Perils of Partnership: NATO and Afghanistan beyond 2014](#), Sten Rynning, NATO Defense College *Research Paper* 80, July 2012 -

NATO is currently focused on organizing the withdrawal of combat forces and training Afghan security forces so as to transit authority by the end of 2014. What will happen after the bulk of the NATO forces have left the region? NATO and the international community have promised an “enduring commitment” or an “enduring partnership”. However, a more detailed focus on the debate within the Alliance and on the outcomes of the Chicago Summit shows that there will be only a very modest partnership with Afghanistan. This Research Paper indicates that NATO will “go small” in Afghanistan and is likely to be complemented by a US-led coalition. NATO’s “enduring partnership” is likely to materialize in a small training mission in Kabul, and maybe one or two other cities, with very limited “assistance” apart from training and a consultation mechanism

[Afghanistan Casualties: Military Forces and Civilians](#), Susan G. Chesser, Congressional Research Service, 12 July

[Reopening of the NATO supply routes won't stop cross-national terrorism from Pakistan](#), Ehsan Azari Stanizai, *Open Democracy*, 12 July

[Afghanistan: The Timetable for Security Transition](#), Louisa Brooke-Holland and Claire Taylor, UK House of Commons Library *Standard Note* SN05851, 9 July

Opium Poppies & Security in Afghanistan, NATO Civil-Military Fusion Centre, July 2012

[Tokyo Briefing Paper: Aid Effectiveness/Economic Development](#), British and Irish Agencies Afghanistan Group, July 2012.

[Women and transition in Afghanistan](#), CARE, July 2012

[This Week at War: The Next Afghan War](#), Robert Haddick, *Foreign Policy*, 5 July - Could there be a hot war between Afghanistan and Pakistan?

[Nato has the support of Afghans. If only the same were true of its leaders](#), Hew Strachan, *The Guardian*, 2 July - the Taliban know the momentum in the Afghan war is with the coalition. Does the coalition?

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

[Nato after Assad \(and Khamenei\)](#), Greg Austin, *New Europe* (blog), 2 September

[Against All Odds: Relations between NATO and the MENA Region](#), Dr. Florence Gaub, *Strategic Studies Institute Monograph*, US Army War College, August 2012 - since the end of the Cold War, the Alliance has undertaken a number of efforts to build strategic relationships with the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), recognizing the region's importance for Allied security. However, geostrategic realities are not in NATO's favour: it is a region of crisis; suspicious of the West in general; riddled with internal instability; and is difficult to build ties with. This monograph examines the existing relationships as well as the remaining obstacles, and proposes solutions to the latter.

[NATO Should Improve Relations with Its Southern Neighbors](#), Luke Coffey, Heritage Foundation, *Issue Brief*, 27 July

[Arab spring took British intelligence by surprise, report says](#), *The Guardian*, 12 July - committee says there are questions about whether agencies should have been able to anticipate how events might unfold

Arctic Security:

[Canada uncertain about joining NATO's Arctic war games](#), *CBC.ca*, 24 August - Is the Harper government's rhetoric on Arctic sovereignty overblown?

[Is NATO taking over the Arctic?](#) Marten Lindberg, *ISN blog*, 22 August

[Changes in the Arctic: Background and Issues for Congress](#), Ronald O'Rourke, Congressional Research Service, 1 August

Arms Control:

[Arms Control and European Security](#), Stephen J. Blank and Louis H. Jordan Jr (eds), *Strategic Studies Institute Monograph*, US Army War College, August 2012 - contains three papers exploring the future of the Conventional Forces in Europe Treaty (CFE) from the perspectives of the US, UK and Russian governments

Counter-Terrorism and Counter-Insurgency:

[Splitting al-Qa'ida and its affiliates](#), Daniel Byman, *Foreign Policy*, 30 July

[NATO and the problem of asymmetric warfare](#), Dennis Stute, *Deutsche Welle*, 23 July

[Threats from within](#), *NATO Review*, July/August 2012 - In this edition of NATO Review, we look at the dangers of 'the enemy within'. Homegrown terrorists are one of the best - or worst - examples of asymmetrical war. They are difficult to detect, often blend in well with the local population and can strike with devastating effect. But how new is this? And should we be worried about this increasing?



[Homegrown failure: why the domestic terror threat is overblown](#) - seek and you shall find is an old phrase. But it is an apt one, argues Benjamin Friedman, when applied to the search for something which has almost certainly always been there



[Homegrown terrorism: how can NATO fight it?](#)



["New" terrorism in the Western world?](#) Homegrown terrorism is not new, argues Marc Sageman. It is as old as political struggle. But it does have new elements in it – not least being the Internet

[Thoughts of a former extremist](#) - few can give a more personal insight into how serious home-grown terrorism is than Maajid Naawaz. Formerly a member of Islamic group Hizb ut-Tahrir, he now heads up a counter-extremist



foundation. Here he explains why people are drawn to extremism and what it means for potential responses

[Homegrown terrorism: how the EU sees it](#) - Homegrown terrorism is clearly a domestic, national issue. So how can a multinational organisation like the EU play a



meaningful role? The man who fills the post of EU counter-terrorism coordinator explains what can - and can't - be done by the EU. And highlights some of the impacts it has already had

[The economic downturn: a boon for home-grown terrorists?](#) Will the present economic downturn - with its higher rates of youth unemployment, depression and disillusionment - have any impact on homegrown terrorist recruitment or activity. Dr Brooke Roger looks at how much we can know



[Terror, coercion and foreign policy](#) - Mitch Silber has looked through masses of profiles of homegrown terrorists and their motivations in his role as the New York Police Department's Intelligence Division's Analytic and Cyber Units. Here he presents some of the main themes that emerged from that analysis

Crisis Management:

[NATO Not Prepared for Comprehensive Approach](#), Andrew Michta, ISN Podcast, 25 July - Given NATO's financial constraints, its 'comprehensive approach' to crisis management has become little more than a "verbal exercise"

Cyber Security:

[Defining Cyberterrorism: Capturing a Broad Range of Activities in Cyberspace](#), Jonalan Brickey, CTC Sentinel, Vol. 5, Issue 8 (August 2012)

[Darpa Looks to Make Cyberwar Routine With Secret 'Plan X'](#), Noah Shachtman, *Wired*, 21 August - the Pentagon's top research arm is unveiling a new, classified cyberwarfare project. But it's not about building the next Stuxnet, Darpa swears. Instead, "Plan X" is designed to make online strikes a more routine part of US military operations

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[NATO-EU: working to fill gaps in defence capabilities](#), NATO News, 13 August - NATO's relations with the EU go back twenty years: the 1992 Maastricht Treaty was the first EU treaty to mention NATO. Today, at a time of financial crisis and reductions in defence budgets, it is more important than ever for the two organizations to strengthen cooperation, spend more intelligently, and improve the complementarity of their defence capabilities in order to meet common security challenges

[CT Company To Help NATO Special Forces Communicate On Battlefield](#), *Hartford Courant*, 4 August

[NATO SOF picks U.S. communications system](#), *UPI.com*, 2 August

[Norsat Granted Final Acceptance with NATO's NCI Agency for Dual Ku and X Band Portable Satellite Terminals](#), *Market Watch Press Release*, 1 August

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[NATO Special Forces Taps Mutualink for Global Cross Coalition Communications](#), *Market Watch Press Release*, 31 July

[Can Pooling & Sharing Help the Franco-German Alliance?](#) Malcolm Surer, ISIS Europe *ESR* 60, July 2012 - with the 50th Anniversary of the Elysee Treaty next January, French Defence Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian and his German counterpart Thomas De Maziere met in Berlin in June to discuss defence collaboration. This review covers the current Franco-German defence alliance and how the European Défense Agency's 'Pooling & Sharing' program can help it in the future by examining past achievements and future plans

[NATO NCI Names Wave as Approved Vendor With Basic Ordering Agreement](#), *Market Watch Press Release*, 25 July - First Step in Providing NATO Countries With Access to Wave's Endpoint Security Portfolio

[Pooling and Sharing in the EU and NATO](#), Christian Mölling, ISN, 24 July - the author argues that in a climate of austerity promoting European-level defence requires political commitment rather than technocratic solutions

[SES Cooperates with Northrop Grumman on New NATO Alliance Ground Surveillance System](#), Market Watch Press Release, 13 July

[ViaSat Antennas and Modems Selected by Selex for NATO Communications](#), *Market Watch* Press Release, 11 July - X-band systems and MD-1366 EBEM planned for European network upgrades

Drones:

♣♣ [The morality of drone warfare revisited](#), Bradley Strawser, *The Guardian*, 6 August - Drone strikes may cause less collateral damage than bombing, but that's not an argument for current US targeted killing policy

[Future is assured for death-dealing, life-saving drones](#), *The Guardian*, 4 August - developers predict that pilotless devices will join planes in civilian airspace – and dream of electric robots counting sheep

[Drones by country: who has all the UAVs?](#) *The Guardian*, 3 August - the US has used drones in hundreds of attacks in Pakistan, Somalia and Yemen - but which countries have UAVs and how many? Over 800 detailed here

[Drone race will ultimately lead to a sanitised factory of slaughter](#), Noel Sharkey, *The Guardian*, 3 August - the rise in use of drone attacks and the technology that goes with them is the final step in the industrial revolution of war

[Drone warfare: a new generation of deadly unmanned weapons](#), *The Guardian*, 2 August - business is booming at the vast base in Nevada, where tomorrow's Top Guns are learning to target terrorists from afar

[The philosopher making the moral case for US drones: 'There's no downside'](#), *The Guardian*, 2 August - it's one of the US's most controversial policies; one that resulted in large numbers of civilian deaths overseas. So why does Bradley Strawser see targeted killing as a moral obligation?

[The legal dilemma over drone strikes: justified killings or war crimes?](#) *The Guardian*, 2 August - some lawyers are closely involved in authorising strikes – while others attack them on HR grounds

[British pilots flew armed US drones in Libya, MoD reveals](#), *The Guardian*, 26 July - disclosure comes 10 months after end of a campaign in which the government insisted no British drones were involved

[Do Drone Strikes on al-Qaida Make Us Safer?](#)

Sean M. Lynn-Jones, *The Diplomat*, 20 July



(photo credit: Tjololo Photo/ flickr)

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[The Moral Case for Drones](#), Scott Shane, *New York Times*, 14 July

[UK and France to sign drone deal](#), *Financial Times*, 10 July

[15 Killed in U.S. Drone Strike in Pakistan](#), *New York Times*, 7 July

[Drones decimating Taliban in Pakistan](#), Peter Bergen, *CNN*, 4 July

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NATO Senior Analyst Mehmet Kinachi tells *Defence IQ* how the alliance is confronting the issue of energy security, [podcast](#), 28 August

[Canvassing the Targeting of Energy Infrastructure: The Energy Infrastructure Attack Database](#), Jennifer Giroux and Peter Burgherr, *Journal of Energy Security*, 7 August

[Energy: NATO's 'Achilles' Heel'?](#) John Daly, *ISN*, 26 July

Enlargement and Partnerships:

[The NATO Global Hub](#), Richard Weitz, Project Syndicate, 30 August

♣♣ [How NATO Expansion Makes America Less Safe](#), Doug Bandow, *Forbes*, 13 August

[The expansion of NATO and the South Caucasus](#), David Stepanyan, *Vestnik Kavkaza*, 6 August

NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen [video blog](#), 'Push for Partnership Progress', 18 July

[Why European Union \(EU\) and NATO countries are tiptoeing to counteract the fast pasting eastern power blocks influence of China and India](#), Wiclyff Bonga, *Europe's World*, 11 July

[NATO to Strengthen Ability to Act with Global Partners](#), *defpro.news*, 6 July

[Worldwide Military Network: NATO's "Global Military Block"](#), Rick Rozoff, *Global Researcher*, 6 July

"Keeping NATO's door open", [Speech](#) by NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen at the Croatia Summit, 6 July

[Afghan and Central Asian Members of Parliament work to strengthen cooperation](#), NATO News, 5 July - a group of 14 parliamentarians from Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan visited NATO HQ in Brussels. The visit was part of a long-standing public diplomacy programme. The group met with representatives of the Diplomatic Corps, as well as with members of the International Staff, including Ambassador Dirk Brengelmann, Assistant Secretary General for Political Affairs and Security Policy

[NATO Secretary General sets out strategic vision for a globally connected Alliance](#), NATO News, 4 July - Forging closer links with worldwide partners in Asia, Africa and elsewhere will be crucial to guaranteeing future security in the Euro-Atlantic area, Secretary General Rasmussen said in a major policy speech

"NATO – delivering security in the 21st century", [Speech](#) by NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen, Chatham House, London, 4 July (also see [video blog](#) post)



New NATO LibGuide on 'NATO Partnerships'

[NATO LibGuides](#) contain research resources selected by the NATO Multimedia Library staff and publicly available on the Internet. The selection criteria are based on the sources' currency and relevancy to the topic. The LibGuides are constantly updated and are available on the Internet at <http://natolibguides.info>.

Bosnia and Herzegovina

[Deputy Secretary General encourages Bosnia and Herzegovina to remove obstacle to NATO integration](#), NATO News, 20 July - the NATO Deputy Secretary General, Ambassador Alexander Vershbow visited Bosnia and Herzegovina on 19- 20 July. The purpose of the visit was to exchange views with representatives of the Government on the country's commitment to the NATO accession process

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[Finnish defence minister rejects Russia rhetoric](#), *Reuters*, 29 June

Georgia

[The two sides to Georgia's NATO aspirations](#), *Messenger.ge*, 17 July

[Georgia continues on path to NATO membership](#), *Messenger.ge*, 2 July

[NATO Deputy Secretary General on Ties with Georgia](#), *Civil.ge*, 30 June

[NATO Deputy Secretary General highlights Chicago outcomes, praises reforms in trip to Georgia](#), NATO News, 29 June - Ambassador Alexander Vershbow, NATO's Deputy Secretary General, welcomed the progress Georgia is making in democratic reforms during a two-day visit there on 26-27 June

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[Bring Israel into NATO](#), Yehuda Lukacs, *Haaretz*, 31 August - Israeli membership in NATO is a type of long-term structural solution to the ongoing crisis in the Middle East that policy makers should seriously consider

[Israel in EU and NATO? It's Not So Crazy, Says Former Bulgarian FM](#), *Journal of Turkish Weekly*, 10 July

Montenegro

[NATO Commends Montenegro For Progress On Reforms, 'vital For Future Membership'](#), *RTT News*, 19 July

[NATO welcomes continued progress on reform in Montenegro](#), NATO News, 19 July - NATO Deputy Sec General, Ambassador Alexander Vershbow visited Montenegro to reaffirm NATO's open door policy

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[NATO praises ties to South Korea](#), *UPI.com*, 8 August

Ukraine

[Ukraine and NATO - an On-Off Relationship](#), Ian Shields, ISN, 26 July – until quite recently Ukraine had aspirations for full membership of NATO. Yet, according to this analysis, Kiev's former Russian masters continue to influence Ukraine's relations with the Alliance

[NATO Experts Assess Actions of Ukrainian Militaries Within Rapid Trident 2012](#), *defpro.news*, 24 July

[NATO's Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Europe visits Ukraine](#), NATO News, 24 July - General Sir Richard Shirreff, Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Europe, headed up a NATO delegation that visited Ukraine from 23-27 July for high-level discussions on operational cooperation and defence reform

[NATO PA may send its observers to Rada elections, says alliance's secretary general](#), *Interfax*, 16 July

[NATO Secretary General urges Kyiv to remove obstacles in relations with alliance](#), *Interfax*, 16 July

[NATO Parliamentary Assembly asking Kyiv to allow Tymoshenko to be treated in Germany](#), *Interfax*, 10 July

[15 years of Distinctive Partnership between NATO and Ukraine](#), NATO News, 9 July - fifteen years ago the Charter on a Distinctive Partnership between NATO and Ukraine was signed. It identified areas for consultation and cooperation, and established the NATO-Ukraine Commission to take work forward. Since then, dialogue and practical cooperation have become well-established in a wide range of areas

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UN

[UN Military Advisor addresses NATO's Military Committee](#), NATO News, 3 July - General Knud Bartels, Chairman of NATO's Military Committee, welcomed Lt.Gen Babacar Gaye, UN Assistant Secretary-General and Military Advisor,

who updated the Committee on current UN operations and future military challenges (photo credit: NATO)

Exercises:

[Near misses over Scotland during Nato war games](#), *BBC News*, 1 August - two near misses involving military aircraft occurred over Scotland during Europe's largest military exercise, it has emerged

[ESG supported NATO's field trial for the development of efficient information processing in a multinational reconnaissance data network](#), *defpro.news*, 26 July

[«Unified Vision 12 » - putting interoperability to the test](#), NATO News, 16 July - modern threats such as terrorism and cyber attacks combined with economic austerity have made the need for increased cooperation and exchange of information even more important. Interoperable solutions are tested regularly through various means, including training and trials such as the "Unified Vision 12" trials held in Ørland, Norway from 18-29 June

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[NATO names Norwegian diplomat as Special Representative for Women, Peace and Security](#), NATO Press Release, 28 August

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[NATO will send special unit in the north!](#) *M-Magazine*, 23 August

[Two Serbian Soldiers Killed By Old NATO Cluster Bomb](#), *Radio Free Europe/ Radio Liberty*, 1 August

[Twenty years ago: the birth of NATO's crisis-management role](#), NATO News, 24 July - twenty years ago, in July 1992, NATO started taking on a limited crisis-management role in support of international efforts to end the conflict in the former Yugoslavia. Within a few years, the Alliance was called upon to play a more robust role: it deployed its first ever peace-support operation to Bosnia and Herzegovina in 1995 and later intervened to end the crisis in Kosovo in 1999

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[NATO Chief, Ambassadors Visit KFOR](#), *RTT News*, 11 July

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[Explosive Situation: Qaddafi's Abandoned Weapons and the Threat to Libya's Civilians](#), Harvard Law School's International Human Rights Clinic (IHRC), in partnership with CIVIC and the Center for American Progress, August 2012 – this report documents the risks posed to civilians from the stockpiling and spread of the former dictator's munitions following the 2011 armed conflict. Based on in-country investigations, the report calls on Libya to immediately secure or destroy unstable stockpiles of weapons, and with international support, set out to clear munitions, educate the population about risks, and assist victims

[NATO Chief Hails Libya Elections](#), *RTT News*, 19 July

[Statement by the NATO Secretary General on the Libyan election results](#), NATO News, 18 July

[Arab public opinion and the NATO mission in Libya](#), *The Muslim News*, 10 July

(Female voters sing while waiting in line to vote in Libya, 7 July 2012 – photo credit: UNDP/ flickr)

[A Libyan election on NATO's terms](#), Patrick Hayes, *Spiked*, 4 July - the first election in 47 years should have been momentous, but Western meddling warped Libya's democratic struggle

[Libya's Elections under Threat](#), International Crisis Group – Alert, 3 July



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[Maritime PSC: Not the Solution, But Part of the Solution](#), David Isenberg (blog), 22 August

Chinese naval escort taskforce commander meets with NATO counterpart, *People's Daily Online*, 22 August

Piracy is a "failed state" problem and needs a multi-national solution, says former CTF 151 Commander, Andrew Elwell, *DefenceIQ*, 21 August

Hijacked dhow recovered by NATO warship, *Maritime Journal*, 16 August

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NATO vessel Rotterdam frees hijacked dhow, *NATO News*, 13 August (photo credit: NATO)



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NATO says it's winning war against Somali piracy, *Reuters*, 21 July

Missile Defence:

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New Russian Nuke Cuts Will Depend on U.S. Missile Defense Moves: Putin, *Global Security Newswire*, 24 August

Russia Warns West on Antimissile Effort, *Global Security Newswire*, 21 August

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Missile Defense Agency May Go in New Direction With New Chief, *Advocate Says*, *Global Security Newswire*, 8 August

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Lawmakers Move to Block Missile Defense Laser, *Global Security Newswire*, 6 August

Arms Race May Result if Antimissile Dispute Persists: Medvedev, *Global Security Newswire*, 30 July



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(Of missiles and men - shaping NATO's reform agenda, SDA conference, 29 June 2011 – photo credit: SDA/ flickr)

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[Drugs burning ceremony opens meeting on NATO-Russia counter-narcotics training project](#), NATO News, 2 July - high-level representatives from countries in the NATO-Russia Council (NRC) counter-narcotics training initiative gathered in Tashkent, Uzbekistan to chart the future course of the project

[Russia Approves Ulyanovsk NATO Hub](#), *RIA Novosti*, 29 June

Nuclear Weapons:

(photo credit: hellothomas/flickr)

[Spending Billions on B-61 Nuclear Bomb Upgrades Doesn't Make Sense](#), Mia Steinle, *Huffington Post*, 23 August

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Who will be deterred by the refurbished B-61? Is the symbolism of deploying the nuclear gravity bomb in Europe worth the billions of dollars? Does it make sense to embark on a \$10 billion program to refurbish a weapon that could be put on the table in negotiations with Russia a few years from now?
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♣♣ Breaking NATO Consensus, [What's New in Nukes? Newsletter July 2012](#). - The Chicago NATO summit issued an important document, the Deterrence and Defence Posture Review (DDPR) in which NATO explains its new nuclear posture. NoNukes asked Oliver Meier (Germany), Hans Lammerant (Belgium) and Wilbert van der Zeijden (Netherlands) how the disappointing DDPR was received in their countries and what they see as next steps towards removing the obsolete nuclear weapons from their countries. You can find the articles here:

- [Germany and U.S. nuclear weapons after the Chicago Summit](#) (Oliver Meier)
- [Belgium and the Tactical Nuclear Weapons after Chicago](#) (Hans Lammerant)
- [The Netherlands and the Tactical Nuclear Weapons after the DDPR](#) (Wilbert van der Zeijden)

- [NATO, NPT and Nuclear Sharing](#) (Susi Snyder)

[NATO's Nuclear Realism](#), Karl-Heinz Kamp, Carnegie Europe, 13 July

♣♣ [Dissecting the DDPR](#), Ted Seay, ACA, BASIC & IFSH *Nuclear Policy Paper* No.10, July 2012 - NATO's Chicago Summit in May provided the Alliance with its second opportunity in two years to re-think the presence of US theatre nuclear weapons in Europe, but for the second time, NATO failed. This report examines key decisions made (and not made) in Chicago, in relation to the future of NATO's nuclear sharing arrangements and the Alliance as a whole. Seay believes that real change in NATO policy must involve US leadership and a push for specific actions at the next NATO Foreign Ministerial meeting (most likely to be held in December 2012). He writes, "NATO's political mechanisms are deadlocked around the nuclear issue; allowing them to stay that way for much longer risks the very existence of the Alliance. For that reason, the US government must recognise the danger and act soon to save NATO from a nuclear implosion".

Reform:

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[New Supreme Allied Commander Transformation](#), NATO Press Release, 6 August - the NAC has approved the nomination by the French President of Air Force General Jean-Paul Paloméros as Supreme Allied Commander Transformation

[NATO nations can never escape: even left-wing governments and parties are infiltrated by Atlanticists](#), Wayne Madsen, Strategic Culture Foundation, 30 July

[Reflections on NATO's Chicago Summit](#), Richard Longworth, ISN, 27 July

[NATO after Chicago – Cruising or Stumbling Along?](#) ISN, 23 July

[Your Ideas, Your NATO: A Look Back](#), *atlantic-community.org*, 16 July - Editor-in-Chief Joerg Wolf takes a look back at the five months of "Your Ideas, Your NATO" in this new video

[MA Thesis: NATO Transformation and Centers of Excellence](#), Sean Lobo, *atlantic-community.org*, 14 June - this thesis seeks to identify and map out different institutional logics of what is perceived as appropriate by key personnel affiliated with the Centers of Excellence concept, and to analyze the concept's roles and rationale, especially with regard to the overall transformation of NATO

Responsibility to Protect (R2P):

[Saving R2P from Syria](#), Patrick Quinton-Brown, Canadian International Council, 14 August

♣♣ [The Responsibility to Protect: Timely and Decisive Response](#), Report of the Secretary-General, 25 July - in advance of this year's United Nations General Assembly annual informal, interactive dialogue on R2P on 5 September 2012, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has published his fourth report on the issue, which provides an overview of the tools under the third pillar of R2P, including mediation, preventive diplomacy, public advocacy, fact-finding missions, commissions of inquiry, monitoring and observer missions, International Criminal Court referrals, targeted sanctions and the use of military force. The Secretary-General also discusses different actors available to implement measures as well as the need to act and protect responsibly, building on the Brazilian led-concept of "responsibility while protecting" proposed in a concept note presented before the UN Security Council on 9 November 2011. The International Coalition for the

Responsibility to Protect has [published a short overview of the Secretary-General's report](#).

[A Syrian intervention must be weighed against the costs](#), Hugh White, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 10 July

[For justice and civilians, don't rule out regime change](#), Louise Arbour, *The Globe and Mail*, 26 June

(Scottish First Minister Alex Salmond meets with UK PM David Cameron at St Andrews House, Edinburgh for discussions on the independence referendum, 16 February 2012 – photo credit: Scottish Government/ flickr)



Scottish Independence and NATO Membership:

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[SNP Nato turnaround is morally defenceless](#), Tom Miers, *The Scotsman*, 1 September

[No place in Nato without the nuclear option](#), Michael Kelly, *The Scotsman*, 30 August

[Nato policy must serve the nation, not US corporate interests](#), Robin McAlpine, *Scotland on Sunday*, 26 August

[Scottish independence: SNP faces showdown over anti-Nato policy](#), *The Scotsman*, 26 August

[Why independent Scotland must stay in Nato](#), George Kerevan, *The Scotsman*, 24 August

[Nato U-turn should have been expected](#), letters, *Herald Scotland*, 19 August

[Scottish independence: Nationalists' CND group prepares to do battle over party's Nato U-turn](#), *The Scotsman*, 14 August

[Nato-powered independence? No thanks](#), Ian Bell, *Herald Scotland*, 12 August - among those who can contemplate mass slaughter, the euphemism is sometimes the deadliest weapon of all

[Guerrilla campaign plotted by SNP rebels in Nato row](#), *The Scotsman*, 7 August

[Nuclear campaigners accuse SNP of 'buckling' over Nato membership](#), *stv.tv*, 4 August

[SNP facing challenge over policy on Nato](#), *The Scotsman*, 31 July

[Scottish independence: SNP faces backlash over Nato membership](#), *The Scotsman*, 26 July

[Nato won't sink Scots' advances](#), Jimm Sillars, *The Scotsman*, 25 July

[A question of independence: Nato policy gives SNP a dilemma](#), Tom Peterkin, *Scotland on Sunday*, 22 July

[Most Scots back Nato, says poll](#), *Press Association*, 21 July

[Alex Salmond reverses opposition to Nato](#), *Daily Telegraph*, 19 July

Alex Salmond has dropped decades of opposition to an independent Scotland joining Nato but rejected warnings this would mean keeping nuclear weapons

[Lord Robertson: Independent Scotland will need nuclear weapons to get into NATO](#), *Daily Record*, 18 July

[Independent Scotland could join Nato, says SNP's Angus Robertson](#), *BBC News*, 17 July

♣♣ [In full: SNP resolution on Nato](#), *The Scotsman*, 16 July

[Kingdom's End?](#) Malcolm Chalmers, *RUSI Journal*, Jun 2012, Vol. 157, No. 3 - should the Scots vote Yes in the referendum on independence, what would the consequences be for the two successor states? Chalmers explores the potential implications of an independent Scotland for the security of the British Isles

A decision by the SNP to endorse membership of Nato while at the same time rejecting Trident would be immoral and hypocritical. Nato is an alliance that relies on a conditional threat to use weapons of mass destruction

Rev David Mumford, [Letter](#), *The Courier*, 18 July

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[U.S. Could Send Elite Units to Seize Syrian Chemical Weapons Stockpiles](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 23 August

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[Turkey's pursuit of Kurdish rebels: Pretext for NATO intervention in Syria?](#) *Russia Today*, 27 July

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[NATO Reiterates Commitment To 'Political Solution' In Syria](#), *Radio Free Europe/ Radio Liberty*, 2 July

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[Syria Vs. NATO: A Breakdown Of Forces](#), *International Business Times*, 30 June

we have to create in the West a genuine capacity for dealing with future challenges. Neither the Allied Command Transformation futures study or the so-called Albright Group did that. Lisbon was just a placeholder with a strategic concept that wasn't strategic, either in thought or creating political support

Ambassador Robert Hunter, ACUS Meeting, 'The Future of US European Command', Washington DC, 19 July

Transatlantic Cooperation:

[Conflicting Allegiances: NATO, EU or Sovereignty?](#) Rhys Ashvin Merrett, *atlantic-community.org*, 10 August - recent activity by the EU High Representative and Secretary General of NATO reflect the surge of interest in the Asia-Pacific. But the extent of NATO and EU strategic involvement in the region is dependent upon a group of 21 European states that are members of both institutions

[The Strategic Consequences Of The Euro Crisis: Cracks In NATO, New Euro Map](#), Harald Malmgren and Robbin Laird, *AOL Defense*, 30 July

[The pivot takes a pounding](#), Chris Carroll, *Stars and Stripes*, 19 July – report on Atlantic Council of the United States (ACUS) Meeting on 'The Future of US European Command'

[Widening Gaps in U.S. and European Defense Capabilities and Cooperation](#), Charles Barry and Hans Binnendijk, *Transatlantic Current* No.6, National Defense University, July 2012

[Keeping America Safe: Why U.S. Bases in Europe Remain Vital](#), Luke Coffey, The American Heritage Foundation, *Special Report* No.111, 11 July

[The Role Of EU Battlegroups In European Defence](#), Myrto Hatzigeorgopoulos, ISIS Europe, *European Security Review* No.56, June 2012

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Congress Resists Efforts To Reduce Secrecy, *Secrecy News*, FAS Project on Government Secrecy, Volume 2012, Issue No. 80, 6 August - the phenomenon of congressionally-sponsored secrecy was starkly illustrated in a new House Judiciary Committee [report](#) on the FISA Amendments Act, which governs intelligence surveillance for purposes of counterterrorism

[Obama administration struggles to live up to its transparency promise, Post analysis shows](#), *Washington Post*, 3 August

Financial Costs of Classification Soar, *Secrecy News*, FAS Project on Government Secrecy, Volume 2012, Issue No. 62, 2 July - at a time when "leaks" are said to be running rampant, the US government is spending more money than ever before to protect classified information - the estimated cost increased last year by at least 12% to a record high level of \$11.36 billion. An additional \$1.2 billion was spent to protect classified information held by industry contractors. These figures were [reported](#) to the President by the [Information Security Oversight Office](#); also see, [Report: Secrecy spending jumped by more than \\$1 billion last year](#), *Federal Times*, 29 June

Upcoming Events:

[Next steps in missile defence](#), SDA Roundtable, Brussels, 27 September - with Ambassador Alexander Vershbow, NATO Deputy Secretary General, as keynote speaker

[Ground the Drones - Week of Action](#), UK-wide events, 6-13 October - around the globe opposition to drones is growing. In the UK, as part of 'International Keep Space for Peace', a second Drone Week of Action is being organised

[Global Briefing 2012](#), The International Crisis Group, Brussels, 18-19 October - a high-level gathering



examining urgent issues and solutions concerning major conflict flashpoints across the globe, including discussions with over thirty of ICG's field-based senior staff and Board members

[Health, conflict and armed unmanned aerial vehicles: The way forward or a step too far?](#) Royal Society of Medicine, London, 30 October – this meeting will discuss the challenges presented by the increasing use of armed UAVs, and the rapid technological advances they represent, from a public health perspective

Security News from NATO Member States:

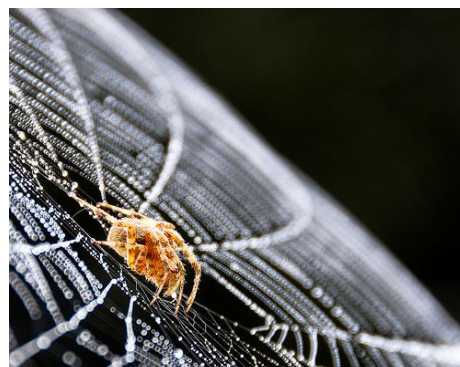
Bulgaria

(photo credit: darkmatter/flickr)

[4 NATO Warships Arrive in Bulgaria after Terror Attack](#), *novinite.com*, 19 July

[Statement by the NATO Secretary General on the attack in Bulgaria](#), NATO News, 19 July

[5 Israelis Killed in Bulgaria; Netanyahu Blames Iranians](#), *New York Times*, 18 July



Canada

[Military urged to stop animal tests](#), *The Vancouver Sun*, 16 August - Canada exposes pigs to nerve agents as part of surgical trauma course

[Canada and The North Atlantic Treaty Organization \(NATO\)](#), Yves Engler, Centre for Research on Globalisation, 15 August

[Axing CSIS watchdog 'huge loss' for Canadians, says former inspector general](#), *The Canadian Press*, 9 August

[Secret CSIS committee weighs torture's role in terror tips](#), *The Canadian Press*, 6 August

[The Search for Canadian Maritime Security through a NATO lens](#), Tim Lynch, *FrontLine Defence* Vol. 9 No. 4, 2012

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[NATO praises Croatian security reforms](#), *Southeast European Times*, 24 July

[NATO Secretary General hails Croatia's dedication to security](#), NATO News, 6 July - NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen praised Croatia's commitment to security during a visit to the Adriatic nation

Czech Republic

[NATO air forces training starts in Náměšť next week](#), *Prague Daily Monitor*, 31 August

[NATO air forces to have exercise in Czech Republic in September](#), *Prague Daily Monitor*, 13 August

[Czech NATO envoys warn against cuts in defence spending](#), *Prague Daily Monitor*, 9 August

Estonia

[Estonia and NATO: Cost and Benefit Analysis](#), Henri Erti, *atlantic-community.org*, July 2012 - NATO membership for Estonia can be beneficial if future tangible opportunities and probabilities of external aggression are regarded as priorities

France

[French Security Concerns: Urgent vs. Important](#), Jenni Muttonen and Ralph A Stamm, *ISN Blog*, 24 July

[Anglo-French defence pact opened to other allies](#), *Financial Times*, 24 July

[Hollande alienates NATO](#), *The Voice of Russia*, 19 July

Germany

[How German Experts Perceived the Chicago Summit](#), *atlantic-community.org*, 21 August - German experts assess the NATO Summit in Chicago as "partly successful". The resolutions relating to Afghanistan barely

[The] nuclear weapon is an expensive absurdity.

Paul Quilès, Former French Defence Minister, cited in [France Could Eliminate Nukes to Save Money: Ex-Officials](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 19 July

shifted their opinions. The Alliance only demonstrated to some extent that it had strengthened international partnerships. The think tankers, academics, and journalists surveyed by Atlantic Initiative were especially sceptical of the Smart Defence initiative, with which the Alliance wants to promote efficient defence spending

[Germany arrests Nato 'spy' suspect](#), *The Telegraph*, 7 August - German police have arrested a civilian employee of Nato on suspicion of espionage at the US air base at Ramstein

[Civilian charged with stealing Nato data](#), *Financial Times*, 7 August

[Germany's Arms Exports as Smart Power](#), Matteo Scianna, *atlantic-community.org*, Germany should use her armament export policy as a means of "smart power". Selling tanks to Saudi Arabia would help foster a strategic partnership. Pursuing a comprehensive approach with European and NATO partners in arms sales would assure continued influence in key regions

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[Lithuania to deepen commitments to NATO](#), *eGov Monitor/ The Baltic Times*, 3 July

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[Ex Dutch defence chief stumbles to the rescue as MPs contemplate ditching F-35](#), Yousuf Malik, *Defence IQ*, 29 August

[Translation of the Dutch Defense Cyber Strategy](#)

[MPs back call to cancel new fighter jet, next cabinet will decide](#), *DutchNews.nl*, 6 July - a majority of MPs have backed calls for the Netherlands to pull out of the joint strike fighter jet project, 10 years after the order was originally placed



(The F-35 Joint Strike Aircraft – too exotic for the Dutch?)

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[Norway bucks global trend with huge armoured vehicle investment](#), Andrew Elwell, *Defence IQ*, 30 July

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[Poland's Strategy](#), George Friedman, *Stratfor*, 28 August

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[Poland Reaffirms Ambition for Independent Antimissile Capability](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 16 August

[Poland peels back layers on secret CIA prison for suspected terrorists](#), *McClatchy*, 13 August

[Polish Leader Seeks National Antimissile Capacity](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 6 August

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[Amy Goodman in Spain on the 75th Anniversary of Guernica Bombing, Portrayed by Picasso Painting](#), *Democracy Now*, 6 July

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[Iranian spy ring exposed in Turkey, dealing blow to ties between neighbours](#), *Today's Zaman*, 29 August

[Bomb in Turkish town of Gaziantep kills eight](#), *The Guardian*, 20 August - dozens more injured after remote-controlled car bomb blamed on Kurdish separatists explodes in vicinity of police station

[Turkey: NATO's Neo-Ottoman Spearhead in the Middle East](#), by Rick Rozoff, Centre for Research on Globalization, 8 August

[Choosing Hegemony: Turkey, NATO and the Path to War](#), Eric Draitser, Centre for Research on Globalization, 2 August

[Turkey begins work on ICBM](#), *Hürriyet Daily News*, 24 July

[Turkish Panel Could Postpone Antimissile Decision](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 10 July

[Turkey's first indigenous tank set to be unveiled](#), Andrew Elwell, *DefenceIQ*, 7 July

[New charges against journalist further curb free expression in Turkey, says OSCE media freedom representative](#), OSCE Press Release, 6 July

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[Top brass to feel pain of MoD austerity cuts](#), *Financial Times*, 19 August - the MoD is to slash its "top-heavy" central command by a quarter under a new round of defence cuts

[Ministry of Defence plans new wave of unmanned marine drones](#), *The Guardian*, 2 August - NATO's success with airborne drones inspires focus on unmanned maritime vehicles

[Britain first to take delivery of F-35 as U.S. lauds 'special relationship'](#), *DefenceIQ*, 19 July

(The most expensive model aircraft ever - the UK Secretary of State for Defence Philip Hammond shaking hands with his US counterpart Leon Panetta in the Pentagon's press briefing room as the two held a model of the F-35B Joint Strike Fighter, 18 July)



[David Cameron warned over speed of troop withdrawal from Afghanistan](#), *The Guardian*, 18 July - top military commanders tell PM during Afghan visit that stability of country and UK security is at risk if presence not maintained

[Nuclear weapon safety hindered by cuts, says MoD report](#), Rob Edwards, *The Guardian*, 17 July - Head of armed forces nuclear watchdog says reduction in number of expert staff will affect submarines and silos

[Government has failed to engage with arguments, says Committee on National Security Strategy](#), Joint Select Committee on the National Security Strategy, 11 July - report highlights concerns about the Government response to its March 2012 report, First review of the National Security Strategy 2010

[The F-35 decision: Disastrous implications for UK airpower](#), James Bosbotinis, *DefenceIQ*, 9 July

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[UK must not abandon Afghanistan after Nato pullout, ministers warn](#), *The Guardian*, 6 July

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[The Invisible Wounds of War: Number of Soldiers Committing Suicide Reaches Record High](#), *Democracy Now*, 21 August

[U.S. Conducts Test of Hypersonic Aircraft](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 15 August - the US Air Force carried out another test of an experimental hypersonic unmanned aircraft that could eventually be used to deliver non-nuclear warheads anywhere in the world in less than an hour

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[DOD Approves NATO Medals for Operations in Africa and Libya](#), Department of Defense, Press Release, 23 July

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[Three plead not guilty to NATO Summit terrorism charges](#), *Reuters*, 2 July

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