



Observatory

NATO News & Opinion Clips

Confidential NATO report warns of military shortfalls

A 9 June *Spiegel Online* article [High dependence on the US: NATO lacks military capabilities](#) says that a confidential NATO report outlined where European partners in the transatlantic alliance had fallen short of their commitments.

Apparently, the report uses a 'traffic light' system of coding to indicate areas of relative strength and weakness with most attracting a red or orange dot, a few attracting yellow dots and none at all attracting a green dot. Fifteen 'problem areas' were identified indicating that, for the foreseeable future, NATO's force projection will be hampered by lack of capability.

NATO Secretary General Rasmussen indicated that some of the shortfalls highlighted in the analysis were exposed during the NATO mission in Libya two years ago, including an insufficient supply of precision

munitions and air refuelling tanker aircraft to support fighter jets. Other problems identified were shortages of medical staff, electronic warfare jamming devices and equipment for Special Forces. These shortfalls will probably have to be filled by the United States, as before, as the situation is unlikely to be improved before 2019.

Rasmussen called the imbalance of burden-sharing between the US and other Allies 'untenable' and concluded: "Most allies must do more". At a dinner during the NATO Defence Ministerial on 4 June, US Defence Secretary Chuck Hagel said that his military was no longer willing to compensate for the shortcomings of the Europeans.

[Rasmussen visited Washington](#) prior to the June Defence Ministerials in Brussels and discussed with President Obama the im-

portance of continuing to improve and integrate NATO defence, a problem which required more burden-sharing among all NATO members.

NATO's report on shortfall capabilities may be confidential, but it appears that the Secretary General was referring to it when he addressed a joint meeting of the [European Parliament's Committee on Foreign Affairs and Subcommittee on Security and Defence](#) on 6 May. His statement picked up the theme from his Atlantic Council presentation during his visit to Washington the previous week. He firmly believed that Europe must have a strong common security and defence policy: "If European nations do not make a firm commitment to invest in security and defence, then all talk about a strengthened European defence and security policy will just be hot air".

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Red line, crossed (apparently): but Syria doesn't need more weapons

The Obama administration is preparing to arm Syrian rebels following 'clear evidence' of chemical weapon use by the Assad regime. Having apparently killed as many as 150 people with chemical weapons and crossed the 'red line' set by President Obama for triggering a more focused US response, the CIA has been instructed to coordinate direct military assistance to the Syrian rebels. There are at least three major concerns with this turn of events.

First, there are disturbing echoes of what was being said about Saddam Hussein's WMD in 2003, including a reprise of the media's lack of scepticism about White House claims.

Second, [the red line has absolutely no credibility](#) when the UN estimates that 93,000 people have already died in the two-year-old civil war. The Responsibility to Protect (R2P) red line was crossed many months ago, but in the absence of an international consensus for intervention the West has resorted to an ill-defined assortment of mixed messages.



(Syria's Winter—photo credit: Freedom House/ flickr)

Third, a decision to arm the rebels is likely to escalate the war and do little to advance the likelihood of a new round of peace talks in Geneva. New supplies of US, British and French weapons will encourage the rebels to fight on, hoping that the balance tips in their favour. Assad is likely to think the same, especially if rearmed with Russian heavy weapons.

And will a no-fly zone be far behind? While the US administration has been

wary about creating a no-fly zone for Syria, plans for a "limited no-fly zone" stretching as far as 25 miles inside Syria appear to be underway.

What Syria needs is innovative thinking designed to deescalate the crisis. First, a concerted and sustained international effort is needed to cut off the arms flow to both sides and to broker a ceasefire agreement. This needs Russia and Iran on board. Rouhani's election win offers the potential of a more conciliatory Iranian foreign policy and US objections to letting Iran attend the proposed Geneva peace conference should now be dropped. Pressure also needs to be applied on Syria's rebel forces to come up with a negotiating strategy and to take part as well.

Even if it is not possible to negotiate a country-wide ceasefire at this point in time, [local ceasefire arrangements](#) could be sought, as well as the creation of R2P zones in non-government controlled areas.

Second, a more targeted and sizeable humanitarian response to the refugee crisis is needed. The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA) estimates that 6.8 million people in the region are affected by the Syrian conflict and that one in three Syrians are in need of "urgent humanitarian assistance". The international response to this humanitarian emergency has been woefully inadequate to date. NATO could conceivably play a logistical role in assisting some of the humanitarian agencies to bridge these gaps. Much of the gear for doing this is already in Jordan as part of ongoing [military exercises](#).

Third, both sides in the conflict stand accused of carrying out [war crimes](#). To enable future indictments by the International Criminal Court (ICC) and perhaps act as a deterrent against further atrocities, NATO could offer to gather evidence of atrocities carried out by specific key leaders and groups through a combination of intelligence gathering, social media, and satellite and drone reconnaissance. Finally, the NATO Secretary General should be adding his voice to those that are calling on the UN Security Council to refer the Syria situation to ICC to ensure accountability for all war crimes and crimes against humanity.

NATO's transition plans for Afghanistan called into question

With the media focused on the stage-managed announcement that the Afghan National Security Force (ANSF) were taking full responsibility for protecting the population and maintaining the integrity of the country, President Karzai made two significant announcements which will undoubtedly affect what happens when NATO's mission in Afghanistan changes after 2014.

On 18 June the President said he would send representatives of his [High Peace Council to the Gulf State of Qatar to discuss peace with the Taliban](#), who opened an office in the capital, Doha this week. Karzai wants the talks to be moved to Afghanistan and to focus on bringing an end to violence. Kabul and Washington have both indicated that the Taliban must renounce all ties to al-Qaida and other terrorist groups and accept Afghanistan's constitution.

The following day Karzai suspended the fourth round of bilateral post-2014 security agreement talks with the US administration, reportedly in protest over the US failure to include Afghanistan directly in the peace talks.

According to [BBC](#) reports, President Karzai was also frustrated by the failure to make a ceasefire part of the preconditions to the talks. "There is a contradiction between what the US Government says and what it does regarding Afghanistan peace talks", President Karzai's spokesman Aimal Faizi said. [The Washington Post](#) revealed that senior US officials were scheduled to hold talks with Taliban envoys in Doha on Thursday 19 June.

These developments may result in the Afghan High Peace Council not going to Doha as announced, particularly as the Taliban have always refused to meet President Karzai or his Government, dismissing them as puppets of Washington. The Taliban previously suspended peace talks with US officials in March 2012.

Another complicating factor will be the stance taken by the Tehreek-e-Taliban (the Pakistani Taliban). Their spokesman Ihsanullah Ihsan told [Reuters](#) that they would support the peace talks and would respect a peace agreement by not carrying out cross-border attacks. But he said such an agreement would not apply to the Pakistani Taliban at home: "We are

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Article: Where NATO and Russian visions coincide, and where they don't

By Nigel Chamberlain, NATO Watch

Ambassador Dirk Brungelmann, NATO Assistant Secretary General for Political Affairs and Security Policy, addressed the plenary session of the Conference on Military and Political Aspects of European Security in Moscow on 23 May. [His speech](#) focused on NATO's contribution to European Security, specifically on three areas where he feels that NATO and Russia's vision coincide:

1. Active engagement with the Council of Europe, the OSCE and the EU, in building stability in Europe and making use of NATO's unique set of political and military capabilities.
2. Cooperative work by all European nations and Russia who bear a shared responsibility for the security and stability of the Euro-Atlantic area.
3. Finding more common ground between NATO and Russia on the key outstanding issues of missile defence, reciprocal transparency and full respect for existing commitments.

NATO's contribution to the security of Europe, and beyond

The Ambassador spoke of NATO's commitment to supporting peace and security in the Balkans via KFOR in Kosovo and IFOR and SFOR in Bosnia and Herzegovina, with both operations supported by Russia. He added: "However, our responsibility for Europe's security cannot be confined only to the geographical borders of the continent. We have to realize that many of the recent threats and challenges to Europe originate elsewhere." Giving examples of NATO's 'out-of-area' operations, he cited:

- the lasting commitment to Afghanistan's security, with the support of, and in cooperation with partners, including Russia; and
- the engagement in counter-piracy efforts off the Horn of Africa and work on counter-terrorism.

NATO's special partnership with Russia

The Ambassador said that NATO is committed to building a stable, peaceful and undivided Europe, whole and free, and to the benefit of all its peoples. It wants to see a true strategic partnership with Russia as they bear a joint responsibility for the security of the European continent

and of the Euro-Atlantic area. He cited cooperative work in a growing number of common security challenges, including:

- countering the threats posed by terrorism and protecting populations, infrastructure and territories from natural and man-made disasters;
- peacekeeping operations in the Mediterranean Sea and in the Indian Ocean;
- developing the Cooperative Airspace Initiative;
- establishing the Counter Narcotics Training Project for Afghanistan, Central Asia and Pakistan; and,
- securing stability in Afghanistan by improving the capacity of the Afghan National Security Forces to maintain an operational helicopter fleet and ensuring a smooth transit for ISAF-bound goods to and from Afghanistan.

(Commodore Henning Amundsen welcomes Captain Ivan Kovalyov, Commander of the Russian



Federation Baltic Fleet Task Group, on board the NATO flagship HNoMS Fridtjof Nansen, 10 June 2013—photo credit: NATO)

Where NATO and Russia's visions for Europe's security differ

The Ambassador started this section of his speech with the statement that: "We have not yet agreed on a way forward on missile defence cooperation." He then outlined some of issues where more work was needed.

He referred to Russia's desire for a new treaty to address Europe's changing security needs which are not shared by NATO. Existing arrangements may be hampered by "member states lack consensus on a common vision for Europe's security" but "we are now in a better shape to discuss and address any disagreements".

He reiterated that NATO has "no

intention, no plan and no reason to deploy nuclear weapons on the territory of new members" and has refrained from "additional permanent stationing of substantial combat forces". He said that a strong, effective and verifiable conventional arms control regime in Europe is desirable but the CFE Treaty is in critical shape. A number of proposals and ideas are currently being considered to achieve this objective through greater transparency, predictability and mutual confidence for all.

Returning to differences on missile defence, the Ambassador said that NATO's 2010 decision to build a missile defence system was coupled with a strong offer to Russia to cooperate in the development stages. Both NATO and Russia's missile defence needs would be better met by increasing mutual security through a flow of information and confidence through transparency. However, Russia continues to perceive a threat to its strategic deterrent and is claiming that only legal guarantees can provide it with the trust it needs to see NATO's defensive deployments as non-threatening. NATO's missile defence assets in Europe are designed to counter ballistic missiles originating from the outside the Euro-Atlantic area. These assets are incapable of diminishing the effectiveness of Russia's strategic deterrent.

The way forward

In conclusion, the Ambassador said that NATO and Russia must remain committed to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of states and their borders as recognised by international law and guaranteed by the UN Charter, which also excludes the presence of the armed forces of one nation on the sovereign territory of another, without its consent.

In closing his last official visit to Moscow as NATO Assistant Secretary General for Political Affairs and Security Policy, Brungelmann said NATO remains fully committed to the security of Europe and stands ready to work with Russia on conventional arms control, missile defence, and by offering transparency on a number of strategic stability issues in order to enhance trust and predictability. A strategic partnership with Russia, with profound political dialogue and broad practical cooperation, is the only way to achieve the genuine stability and security in Europe.

News, Commentary and Reports:



(photo credit: [Stitch/flickr](#))

News

[NATO Secretary General welcomes Afghan transition announcement](#), NATO News, 18 June

[NATO Secretary General in Kabul as Afghan security forces take lead countrywide](#), NATO News, 18 June—President Hamid Karzai announced the fifth and final group of Afghan provinces, cities and districts to undergo transition in the coming months. “This is a day for Afghans to be proud. And I am proud to stand with you”, Mr Fogh Rasmussen said

[Afghans take nationwide security lead from NATO](#), BBC News, 18 June

[Afghans Poised to Take Security Lead From US, NATO](#), ABC News, 16 June

[NATO general warns on progress in Afghanistan](#), *The Australian*, 15 June

[Afghan gains not yet sustainable: NATO commander](#), AFP, 14 June

[Terrorist Attacks in Afghanistan Get Bolder](#), *Voice of America*, 12 June

[Afghanistan: Deadly explosion at Kabul Supreme Court](#), BBC News, 11 June

[US General Dunford: 'Fight for Afghan rights not over'](#), BBC News, 11 June—the commander of international forces in Afghanistan has warned the international community not to turn its back on Afghanistan

[Taliban Attack Kills 7 Georgian Soldiers in Afghanistan](#), *New York Times*, 7 June

[U.S., Germany, Italy commit to training roles in post-2014 Afghanistan](#), *Washington Post*, 5 June

[NATO fleshes out details of smaller,](#)

Afghanistan-Pakistan:

[post-2014 Afghan mission](#), *Reuters*, 5 June

[NATO to discuss post-2014 Afghan war commitments, but not release final troop numbers](#), *Washington Post*, 4 June

[Red Cross cuts its staff in Afghanistan as Nato withdrawal fuels turmoil](#), *The Telegraph*, 4 June—an attack on a Red Cross compound in Afghanistan has forced the organisation to withdraw a significant number of staff from the country, even as the prospect of civil war looms

[Nato summit to enshrine Obama's war-ending legacy](#), *The Times of India*, 1 June

[NATO to hold 2014 summit on Afghanistan troop withdrawal](#), *Reuters*, 31 May

[Mission to bolster relations with Pakistan and keep Afghan exit route open](#), NATO Watch News Brief, 31 May

[NATO strengthens military-to-military cooperation with Pakistan](#), NATO News, 30 May—On 28 and 29 May 2013, General Knud Bartels, Chairman of NATO's Military Committee, made an official visit to Pakistan at the invitation of General Kayani, the Pakistani Chief of Army Staff

[Afghan detainees present Nato states with dilemma](#), BBC News, 29 May

[Drone Strike Is Said to Kill a Top Pakistani Taliban Figure](#), *New York Times*, 29 May

[Foreign Projects Give Afghans Fashion, Skate Park and Now 10,000 Balloons](#), *New York Times*, 25 May

[Afghanistan After The United States And NATO Leave: Economic Boomtown, Or A Disaster Waiting To Happen?](#) *International Business Times*, 24 May

[Afghan peace lost in transition worries](#), *Washington Post*, 21 May

[Afghanistan is NATO's highest operational priority](#), NATO Watch News Brief, 21 May

[How the Afghan Conflict Will Be Decided](#), *National Journal*, 20 May—a horrific week for US casualties reaffirms President Obama's rush to rely on the Afghan army. But can they handle it?

[Without U.S. helicopters, Afghans struggle to save wounded](#), *Washington Post*, 20 May

[Russia May Deploy Troops To Afghan Border After NATO Withdrawal, Says Ambassador To Afghanistan](#), *Huffington Post*, 17 May

[Taliban rival claims Kabul blast that leaves at least 15 dead, including two U.S. troops](#), *Washington Post*, 16 May

[Junior diplomats from Pakistan and Bangladesh visit NATO](#), NATO News, 15 May—a group of junior diplomats from Pakistan and Bangladesh visited NATO HQ to learn more about the Alliance and its cooperation with countries across the globe

[What progress on the post-2014 Afghan Security Agreement?](#) NATO Watch News Brief, 15 May

[Afghan Commandos Step Up Their Combat Role](#), *New York Times*, 14 May—a combination of allied Special Operations forces and Afghan troops are set to assume more responsibility in Afghanistan as NATO gradually hands over security operations

[NATO's Plan for Afghanistan Post-2014: A 'Stable Instability'](#), Michael Hirsh, *National Journal*, 13 May—US, allies are talking about commitments through 2018 and beyond, says top commander

[Karzai to allow US bases in Afghanistan after Nato withdrawal](#), *The Telegraph*, 9 May—Afghanistan is ready to let America retain nine bases in the country after NATO's combat mission ends next year, Hamid Karzai has said

Talking to the Taleban— Twelve years late

So what was the point of all that war business?

And whatever you do don't talk to Assad

Steve Bell [Cartoon](#)

The Guardian, 18 June

Commentary and Reports

[The Logistical Challenges Confronting the Afghanistan Drawdown](#), The NATO Allied Command Operations (ACO) Civil-Military Fusion Centre (CFC), June 2013

[Why NATO Needs to remain committed to Afghanistan after 2014](#), Krista Burns, The Atlantic Council of Canada, 12 June

[Afghanistan: NATO's Mission Possible](#), M. Ashraf Haidari, *Foreign Policy*, 6 June

[The Withdrawal of NATO Forces and the Prospects for Afghan-Tajik Relations](#), Kosimsho Iskandarov, Afghani-

stan Regional Forum No. 8, May 2013

[Tales in a Kabul Restaurant](#), Kathy Kelly, *Truth-Out*, 25 May 2013

[Afghanistan post-2014. Groping in the Dark?](#) Jair van der Lijn, Clingendel, Netherlands Institute of International Relations, May 2013

[Status of Developing Afghan Governance and Lessons for Future Endeavors](#). Steve Sternlieb, *Stability: International Journal of Security & Development*, 2(1): 12, pp. 1-10, May 2013

[For Europe in Afghanistan, Long-term Commitment Despite Lack of Interests](#), Valentina Pasquali, *World Politics Review*, 20 May

[Westminster's Take On Future Of Afghanistan – Analysis](#), Monish Gulati, *Eurasia Review*, 18 May

The cost of the intervention in Afghanistan since 2001 will exceed \$1tn. The human cost is incalculable. But western interests and the fate of a people still hang in the balance. If we cannot finally muster some decent strategy, there is some opiate in our culture more stupefying than anything grown in Afghanistan
[Afghanistan: transitional relief](#), *The Guardian* editorial, 12 May—more effort is being put into crafting a face-saving narrative or keeping the country out of the news altogether

Arctic Security:

[NATO Rejects Direct Arctic Presence](#), *Defense News*, 29 May

Arms Control:

[NATO Inspectors Fly 'Open Skies' Mission Over Russia](#), *RIA Novosti*, 3 June

[NATO and its Partners to discuss non-proliferation and disarmament challenges](#), NATO News, 3 June—the ninth Annual NATO Conference on WMD Arms Control, Disarmament and Non-proliferation is taking place this year in the Croatian town of Split on 6th and 7th May. Hosted by the Croatian Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, the event will bring together senior officials from countries on four continents and the major international organizations

'The Role of Arms Control, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation in Today's Security Policy', [Remarks](#) by German Commissioner for Arms Control and Disarmament, Ambassador Rolf Nikel, at the Annual NATO-Conference on WMD Arms Control, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation in Split, 6-7 May

Counter-Terrorism:

[NATO experts and industry leaders discuss counter-terrorism](#), NATO News, 10 May—counter-terrorism was at the top of the agenda during discussions between NATO experts and industry leaders at the Counter Terror Expo in London on 24 and 25 April 2013

Cyber Security:

[NATO enlisted in cyber security efforts](#), *The Baltic Times*, 12 June

[Secret cyber directive calls for ability to attack without warning](#), *Washington Post*, 7 June—President Obama called on national security leaders to develop destructive cyberwarfare capabilities that could be triggered with "little or no warning" against adversaries around the world, according to a top-secret document

[NATO countries to mull options for mutual cyber assistance](#), *Navy Times*, 6 June

[NATO boosts cyber defences but members differ on its role](#), *Reuters*, 5 June

[NATO members agree on quick-response cyber attack teams](#), *Deutsche Welle*, 4 June

[Nato suffered 2,500 cyber attacks in 2012](#), *The Telegraph*, 4 June

[White-hat hacker fights cyber intrusions on NATO systems](#), NATO News, 3 June—Cyber attacks around the world are becoming more frequent, alarming and complex. Our interconnected societies depend on new technologies, which are constantly being probed for vulnerabilities to exploit. NATO calls on the skills of cybersecurity experts to assess its computer networks and takes measures to avert and defend against cyber attacks (photo credit: NATO)

[NATO's Next War—in Cyberspace](#), Anders Fogh Rasmussen, *Wall Street Journal*, 2 June—the Atlantic Alliance protected its members during the age of the Berlin Wall. We must be prepared to protect them during the age of the firewall



[NATO defence ministers to discuss cyber security](#), *New Europe*, 31 May

[Cyber War Will Not Take Place": Dr Thomas Rid presents his book at NATO Headquarters](#), NATO News, 31 May—author Dr Thomas Rid presented his book *Cyber War Will Not Take Place* and took part in a discussion organised by the NATO Multimedia Library on 7 May 2013

[Ministers to meet to review NATO's cyber defences](#), *Chicago Tribune*, 30 May

[Battlefield Internet: NATO's geek brigade fights online foes](#), *Denver Post*, 28 May

[Is 'cyber war' just a scare tactic?](#) *Mercury-Register*, 24 May

[NATO's geek brigade](#), *Global Post*, 22 May—with cyber war pegged as a serious threat, NATO is prepared to respond with real force

[EU invites NATO to boost cyber alliance](#), *Hurriyet Daily News*, 20 May

[Cyber Threat Top Concern for NATO](#), *Voice of America*, 13 May

[Arms production goes cyber: a challenge for arms control](#), Vincent Boulanin, SIPRI, 13 May

[Are Cyber-Weapons Effective?](#), Ivanka Barzashka (2013), *The RUSI Journal*, 158:2, 48-56, 28 April

Defence Budgets, Procurement and Private Military Companies:

[Defense cuts 'hollowing out' European armies: U.S. envoy](#), *Reuters*, 17 June

[NATO Needs Members to Develop Distributed Capability](#), *Defense News*, 14 June

[Airbus A400M delivery could slip into July: sources](#), *Reuters*, 10 June

[NATO Adopts Microsoft's Kinect Technology for Training](#), *Technorati*, 8 June

[The Cold War Redux? Are Washington, Moscow, and Beijing Using the Global Arms Trade to Create a New Cold War?](#) Michael T. Klare, *TomDispatch.com*, 30 May

[NATO Hunts Operational and Strategic Sims](#), *Defense News*, 24 May

[NATO Unveils Intuitive Training Simulation Using Gesture Recognition Technology](#), *heraldonline.com*, 22 May

[NATO Leader Calls for Embracing Innovation](#), *Signal Magazine*, 15 May

♦♦ [Guns, Debt and Corruption—Military spending and the EU crisis](#), Frank Slijper, April 2013—High levels of military spending played a key role in the unfolding economic crisis in Europe and continues to undermine efforts to resolve it.

[Austerity in Europe? Tighten the military belt](#), Frank Slijper, *Open Democracy*, 24 April

Energy Security:

[NATO Defence Ministers agreed to enhance NATO's role in energy security](#), *The Lithuanian Tribune*, 6 June

[NATO and partners discuss emerging risks to energy security at conference in Baku](#), *NATO News*, 4 June—

Emerging risks to energy security are of concern to NATO Allies and partners alike. The cross-cutting character of these risks was the focus of a conference in Baku, Azerbaijan, on 22 and 23 May, organised by Azerbaijan's Diplomatic Academy and Ministry of Foreign Affairs together with the US State Department and NATO's Emerging Security Challenges Division

Drones:

[Caught in the Crossfire: NATO-Pakistani Relations and the American Drone Program](#), Avery Bruenjes, The Atlantic Council of Canada, 17 June

[Aerospace trio campaigns for European drone programme](#), *Financial Times*, 16 June

♦♦ [UK's use of drones in Afghanistan 'may be in breach of international law'](#), *The Guardian*, 8 June

[Pakistan PM Nawaz Sharif urges end to US drone strikes](#), *BBC News*, 5 June

[German minister defends ditching of drone deal](#), *Financial Times*, 5 June

[Germany signals it will stick with NATO drone plan](#), *Reuters*, 4 June

[Report: US drone attacks via US bases in Germany](#), *Deutsche Welle*, 31 May

[Semi-autonomous killer drones from around the globe](#), John Reed, *Foreign Policy*, 29 May

[Northrop and EADS in rescue call for](#)

[Euro Hawk](#), *Financial Times*, 27 May

[NATO drone project set to continue](#), *Deutsche Welle*, 24 May

[Obama, in a Shift, to Limit Targets of Drone Strikes](#), *New York Times*, 22 May

[Drones: Myths and Reality in Pakistan](#), International Crisis Group, *Asia Report* No.247, 21 May—drone strikes alone will not eliminate the jihadi threat in Pakistan's Federally Administered Tribal Areas. Extension of Pakistani law and full constitutional rights to the region is the only long-term solution

[Germany's NATO drone project hits EU snags](#), *Deutsche Welle*, 15 May

[Pilotless Planes, Pacific Tensions](#), Richard Parker, *New York Times*, 12 May

[Talking in Circles](#), Micah Zenko, *Foreign Policy*, 9 May—why Harold Koh's big speech on targeted killings is just more of the same, intentional Obama muddle

Deprivation of Citizenship and the Targeted Killing of Britons

This is an edited extract of a note of a meeting of the UK All Party Parliamentary Group on Drones, held on 15 May 2013. Read the full version [here](#)

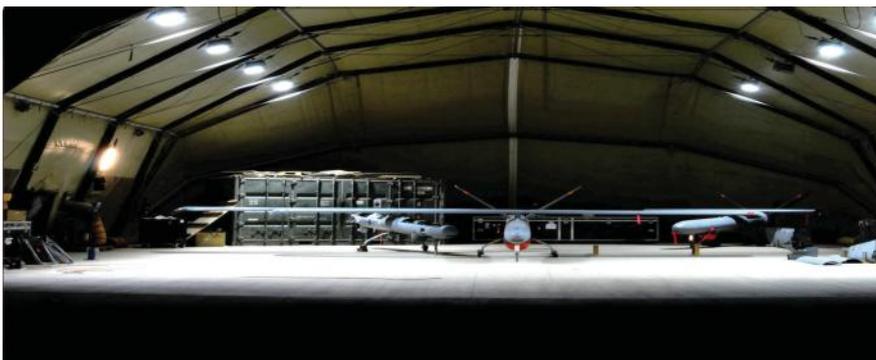
... the estimated current number of casualties from drone strikes is in excess of 3,000; the result of approximately 420 strikes.

...research indicates that between 15 and 17 UK citizens had so far been killed in US covert airstrikes. This was the highest number of victims from any Western country; followed by Germany and the United States.

...the issue of intelligence sharing between states for the purposes of drone strikes. The German government has banned intelligence sharing with the US, where such information might lead to the targeted killing of their citizens, as they believed EU law was clear that this was not allowed.

... the practice of the UK government setting citizens up for assassination was not new and has been seen previously in Northern Ireland; for example, in the sharing of information with Loyalists, as highlighted in the recent Da Silva Report.

The discussion concluded with a consideration of the proliferation of drone technology and the impact this was having on the nature of modern warfare.



Enlargement and Partnerships:

[Keeping Focus: Why NATO should be careful in Latin America](#), Diana Rivera, *The Atlantic Council of Canada*, 13 June

[Is patience with NATO wearing thin in Western Balkans?](#) *Public Service Europe*, 11 June

[NATO, Asian countries together at the Shangri-La Dialogue](#), *NATO News*, 3 June—the Chairman of NATO's Military Committee, General Knud Bartels, attended the 12th International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) Asia Security Summit "The Shangri-La Dialogue 2013" in Singapore from 31 May to 2 June

'NATO's door remains open', NATO Secretary General's [video blog](#), 24 May

Azerbaijan

[Azerbaijan, NATO discuss cooperation and Nagorno-Karabakh conflict](#), *News.Az*, 31 May

[Azerbaijan: We Want Neither NATO Nor CSTO -- For Now](#), *EurasiaNet*, 26 May

[Azerbaijan's security minister meets senior NATO official](#), *Azer News*, 24 May

[Conference on security highlights Azerbaijan's role as NATO partner](#), *Azer News*, 22 May

Brazil

[The NATO Defense College in Brazil - 8 May: Europe Day Conference "A Secure Europe in a Multipolar World"](#), *NATO News*, 22 May (photo credit: NATO)



[The NATO Defense College in Brazil - 9 May: Roundtable Meeting on Brazil and the Euro-Atlantic Area](#), *NATO News*, 21 May

Colombia

[The Craziest Idea for NATO Expansion Yet](#), Daniel Larison, *The American Conservative*, 13 June

[Why Colombia Needs to Partner with](#)

[NATO \(El Tiempo, Colombia\)](#), *World-MeetsUS*, 12 June

[Colombia good fit for NATO](#), Carlos Montaner, *Miami Herald*, 10 June

[Bolivia Requests UNASUR Meeting over Colombia-NATO Links](#), *Escambray*, 7 June

[NATO Rules Out Colombia Membership](#), *Defense News*, 4 June

[Colombia minister rules out NATO membership despite president's suggestion it's possible](#), *Washington Post*, 4 June

[Colombia heads toward NATO membership](#), *New Straits Times*, 2 June

Cyprus

[Our View: Without a Cyprus settlement it will be difficult to exploit our hydrocarbons](#), *Cyprus Mail*, 10 May

Finland

[President: NATO door not closing](#), *YLE News*, 18 June

[Finns wary of following Sweden into NATO, survey says](#), *Alaska Dispatch*, 16 June

[Finnish PM seeks public debate about country's NATO membership](#), *The Turkish Weekly*, 27 May

Georgia

[Georgia closes 2 bases in Afghanistan after bomb attacks kill 10 but its troops will stay](#), *Washington Post*, 13 June

[NATO Week raises awareness of Georgia's path to integration](#), *NATO News*, 12 June—the annual NATO Week in Georgia was launched on 3 June. The opening ceremony was followed by a seminar involving representatives from three Western Balkans countries that, like Georgia, aspire to NATO membership. In parallel, a two-day event briefed Georgian journalists about NATO's current policies and agenda. Other events involving school children, students, and representatives of civil society and local and national media took place across the country

[NATO Defense Ministers Reaffirm Support For Georgia's Reform Efforts](#), *RTT News*, 5 June

[NATO Watching Georgia Border Situation 'With Interest'](#), *RIA Novosti*, 5 June

[NATO Disturbed by S.Ossetia Border Fences](#), *RIA Novosti*, 3 June

[Is Ivanishvili Getting Georgia Closer](#)

[To NATO Than Saakashvili?](#) *EurasiaNet*, 28 May

[Georgia Looking Better for NATO](#), Michael Cesire, *The National Interest*, 24 May

Ireland

[Ireland: NATO or Neutrality](#), Emily Simonin, *The Atlantic Council of Canada*, 13 June

[Neutrality debate: 'Cold War relic NATO should be shut down'](#), *An Phoblacht*, 15 May

Israel

[NATO and the Israel connection](#), Neville Teller, *Jerusalem Post*, 5 June

Moldova

[Rasmussen: NATO Open To Closer Ties With Moldova](#), *RTT News*, 15 June

[NATO Secretary General: Alliance open to closer ties with Moldova](#), *NATO News*, 14 June—NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen told Moldova's Prime Minister that the Alliance stood ready to develop closer ties during talks at NATO HQ

[Expanding scientific cooperation with Moldova](#), *NATO News*, 13 June—Moldovan scientists shared experiences and discussed opportunities for future cooperation under the NATO Science for Peace and Security Programme 'Information Days' in Chisinau on 5 and 6 June.

Montenegro

[Opinion formers from Montenegro visit NATO](#), *NATO News*, 21 May—Representatives of Montenegrin civil society visited NATO HQ in Brussels and Allied Command Operations in Mons, Belgium, on 14 and 15 May. The visit provided an opportunity to discuss NATO's current agenda and its relations with Montenegro, which is a candidate for NATO membership

Sweden

[Extend Sweden's Afghan mission past Nato's: Bildt](#), *The Local.se*, 13 May

[Swedish angst as Russia mocks its supertroopers](#), *Financial Times*, 9 May

Ukraine

[Yanukovich signs decree on Ukraine-NATO annual cooperation programs](#), *Kyiv Post*, 12 June

Uzbekistan

[NATO To Open Liaison Office In Uzbekistan](#), *EurasiaNet*, 26 May

Environmental Security:

♣♣ [Ecology Lessons From the Cold War](#), Jacob Darwin Hamblin, *New York Times*, 29 May

Exercises:

[Eagle Lion 2013: a NATO exercise in all but name?](#) NATO Watch News Brief, 13 June

NATO Starts Security Drills in the Baltics, *RIA Novosti*, 3 June

Kosovo:

[Kosovo: 'Freedom Day' marks arrival of NATO troops](#), *ANSAmед*, 12 June

Libya:

[NATO returns to Libya but not in a combat role](#), NATO Watch Comment, 13 June

[Libya Doesn't Need More Militias](#), Frederic Wehrey, *New York Times*, 10 June

[NATO to Send Team to Libya to Assess Security Aid](#), *New York Times*, 4 June

[NATO to send expert mission to Libya](#), *Boston.com*, 4 June

[NATO to send expert team to Libya to assess aid request](#), NATO News, 4 June—NATO Secretary General said ahead of the start of the NATO Defence Ministerial that Allied nations have decided to send an expert-level delegation to Libya to identify areas where NATO can provide assistance. "Last week the Libyan government requested NATO's advice in the security field. We have already moved fast to respond," Rasmussen said

[U.S., NATO allies to consider Libya military training mission](#), *Washington Post*, 3 June

[NATO To Discuss Libya Training, Afghanistan](#), *NPR*, 3 June

[NATO to discuss training Libyan security forces: U.S. official](#), *Reuters*, 3 June

[Libyan Prime Minister Visits NATO Headquarters](#), *RTT News*, 27 May

[Libyan Prime Minister visits NATO](#) ,

Maritime Security:

[NATO action rescues Indian ship](#), *Times of Oman*, 8 June

[14 Indian sailors safe as EU, NATO ships thwart pirate attack](#), *Zee News*, 7 June

For further info on issues related to maritime security, including sea piracy as well as maritime terrorism, see the NATO Lib guide [here](#)



NATO News, 27 May—NATO Secretary General told Libya's Prime Minister Ali Zeidan that the Alliance was proud of the role NATO played to protect the Libyan people and to fulfill the historic mandate of the UN Security Council. Stressing NATO's expertise in the reform of security and defence sectors, especially when it comes to institutional education and training, Mr Fogh Rasmussen told the Prime Minister: "We stand ready to help the Libyan government in these areas, where you need us and where we can add value." The Secretary General said, "I am confident we can develop our relationship to help build the new Libya, as a safe and secure country."

[When Libyans Die From NATO Air-strikes, It's Not Benghazi](#), Peter Hart, *FAIR blog*, 10 May

Mali:

[Mali's Challenges Post-French Intervention](#), Anouar Boukhars, CEIP, 23 May—The Malian army is still weak and disorganized, and the African forces deployed to secure the north face a number of challenges. Islamist militants retain a significant ability to be a major nuisance for stability operations, reconstruction and peace-building

Missile Defence:

[NATO Deputy Secretary General's enthusiasm for missile defence is undiminished, despite Russian opposition](#), NATO Watch News Brief, 17 June

[Why Russia won't deal on NATO missile defence](#), Yousaf Butt, *Reuters*, 17 June

[NATO and Missile Defence](#), Speech by NATO Deputy Secretary General Ambassador Alexander Vershbow at the 2013 RUSI Missile Defence Conference, London, 12 June

[U.S. Antimissile Tech's Effectiveness Remains in Doubt: Report](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 24 May

[Russian deputies, NATO to discuss European missile defence](#), *Russia Beyond the Headlines*, 20 May

[U.S. Destroys Fake Ballistic Missile in Test](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 16 May

[Obama Reportedly Offers Putin Deal on Sharing of Antimissile Data](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 16 May

[GAO Cites Risky Antimissile Procurement Practices](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 13 May



(A Standard Missile (SM 2) is fired from the Royal Australian Navy guided-missile frigate HMAS Sydney (FFG 3) during a live-fire exercise near the Pacific Missile Range off the coast of Hawaii. Sydney was on a Mid Pacific (MIDPAC) deployment to test and evaluate the Anti-Ship Missile Defence (ASMD) upgrade. Photo credit: Royal Australian Navy/ flickr)

NATO Defence Chiefs Meeting:



169th NATO Chiefs of Defence meeting

Brussels | 14 - 15 May 2013

[NATO military commanders get together to decide how to advise political leaders](#), NATO Watch Briefing Paper No.36, 20 May

[NATO Chiefs of Defence discuss Afghanistan, Partnerships and Transformation](#), NATO News, 16 May—NATO Chiefs of Defence reaffirmed their commitment to support the ISAF Commander over the next 19 months, which will be crucial in determining the outcome of the mission. The Military Committee also discussed opportunities to deepen military-to-military cooperation with NATO Partners. Delving into transformation, they expressed support for ongoing and future initiatives, particularly Smart Defence and the Connected

Forces, to achieve best value for money while building on lessons learned from operations (photo credit: NATO)

[NATO Chiefs of Defence Meeting - Closing remarks - Q&A Session](#), NATO TV channel/ You Tube, 15 May

[169th NATO Chiefs of Defence meeting](#), NATO News, 14 May—NATO and Partners' Chiefs of Defence gathered at NATO HQ on 14-15 May for the second Military Committee in Chiefs of Defence format of 2013. General Knud Bartels, Chairman of the Military Committee, chaired the discussions on NATO Transformation, Afghanistan post-2014, Kosovo and Special Partnerships. General Philip Breedlove, new Supreme Allied Commander,

Europe (as of 13 May) and General Jean-Paul Paloméros, Supreme Allied Commander, Transformation supported sessions with their insights

[NATO Defense Chiefs Meet to Discuss Afghanistan, More](#), US Department of Defense, 14 May



NATO Defence Ministers Meeting:

[Defence Ministers Meeting - June 2013: Keeping NATO 'Capable'](#), NATO Watch Briefing Paper No.37, 12 June

[NATO Defense Chiefs Discuss Post-2014 Afghan Mission, Georgia](#), Radio Free Europe/ Radio Liberty, 5 June

[NATO Defence Ministers endorse concept for new post-2014 mission in Afghanistan](#), NATO News, 5 June—NATO Defence Ministers endorsed the detailed concept for the new NATO-led mission to train, advise and assist the Afghan security forces after 2014. "That concept will guide our military experts as they finalise the plan in the course of the coming months," said NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmus-

sen (photo credit: NATO)

[Defence Ministers reaffirm NATO support for Georgia's reform efforts](#), NATO News, 5 June—NATO Defence Ministers met with their Georgian counterpart Irakli Alasania in the NATO-Georgia Commission and discussed Georgia's reform plans and further opportunities for cooperation. Ministers also thanked Georgia, the biggest non-NATO contributor to ISAF, for the significant contribution to NATO-led operations

[Defence Ministers make progress on cyber protection](#), NATO News, 4 June—in their first-ever meeting dedicated to cyber defence, NATO Defence Ministers agreed that the Alliance's cyber-defence capability should be fully operational by the autumn, extending protection to all the networks owned and operated by

the Allies

[Cyber Defence, Afghanistan tops NATO June Ministerial Agenda](#), NATO News, 4 June—NATO Defence Ministers held a first round-table discussion dedicated to cyber defence at their two-day June ministerial talks. The mission in Afghanistan, capabilities and a meeting of the NATO-Georgia Commission also featured on the ministerial agenda



NATO Parliamentary Assembly—Spring Session, Luxembourg 17-20 May 2013:

[NATO MPs to visit Israel to examine weapons R&D](#), Jerusalem Post, 19 May

[NATO not to become global organization: NATO PA president](#), Xinhua, 18 May

[MKs to talk Iran, Syria at NATO assembly](#), Jerusalem Post, 16 May

[Question and answer session following the speech by](#) NATO Secretary

General at the joint meeting of the North Atlantic Council and NATO Parliamentary Assembly in Luxembourg

Session News:

20 May 2013 - NATO faces long, costly commitment to Afghan military

20 May 2013 - Economic Crisis an Opportunity for NATO

19 May 2013, NATO Urged to Help Mali's Military

19 May 2013 - Georgian Politicians Urged

to Enhance Cohabitation

19 May 2013 - Legislators debate strategic impact of shale revolution

18 May 2013 - EU Invites NATO to Boost Cyber Co-operation

18 May 2013 - NATO urged to build on ties with Asia-Pacific nations

18 May 2013 - Parliamentarians from NATO countries debate Syrian conflict

17 May 2013 - NATO Allies Urged to Shortlist Key Defence Needs

15 May 2013 - NATO PA Spring Session and joint meeting with the North Atlantic Council kicks off in Luxembourg

13 May 2013 - NATO PA President and Special Rapporteur on Sahel conclude visit to Mali

NATO-Russia Relations:

[NATO, Russian Commanders In Gulf Of Aden Hold Talks](#), *RTT News*, 12 June

[NATO expansion in Nordics would force Russian response -Medvedev](#), *Reuters*, 4 June

[Russian Emergency Minister Visits NATO Headquarters](#), *RTT News*, 31 May

[NATO, Russia to hold joint drills, exchange experience in tackling emergency situations](#), *Russia Beyond the Headlines*, 31 May

[NATO and Russia committed to boost cooperation on civil emergency planning](#), *NATO News*, 31 May—NATO and Russia committed to boosting their cooperation on civil emergency planning and disaster preparedness during a meeting held on 31 May between NATO Deputy Secretary General Ambassador Alexander Vershbow and Vladimir Puchkov, Russian Minister for Civil Defence, Emergency Situations and Disaster Relief

[Russia, NATO to Hold Joint Black Sea Drills](#), *RIA Novosti*, 28 May

[Need for New Thinking in Russia-NATO Relations](#), Richard Weitz, *World Politics Review*, 28 May

[Russian parliamentarians meet top officials at NATO Headquarters](#), *NATO News*, 27 May—Members of the Russian State Duma and Federation Council talked to senior NATO officials about NATO's current agenda and its relations with Russia during a visit to NATO HQ on 21 May. The parliamentarians, who are members of the Russian delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, had just attended the spring session of the NPA in Luxembourg

[Mixed messages at Moscow Security Conference](#), *Blouin News*, 25 May

[CSTO, NATO may resume effort to set up common European security system](#), *The Journal of Turkish Weekly*, 22 May

[Russia and NATO to debate security issues at Moscow conference](#), *The Journal of Turkish Weekly*, 22 May

[Cooperation with NATO essential - senior Russian official](#), *Russia Beyond the Headlines*, 18 May

[NATO Expansion And Russia: You're Not Paranoid If They Really Are Out To Get You](#), Mark Adomanis, *Forbes*, 18 May

[Sandia National Laboratories hosts NATO visitors](#), *Sandia Labs News Release*, 10 May—NATO delegates toured Sandia National Laboratories during a three-day visit highlighting the labs' programs that support extended deterrence to US allies, as well as broader national security programs ranging from homeland security to preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction

[U.N. Disarmament Chief Calls for NATO to Study Eliminating Nukes](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 10 May

[Strong-Armed Tactics](#), Alexander Golts, *The Moscow Times*, 5 May

[Enacting the Prague Vision](#)—Joint letter from parliamentarians of NATO countries to US President Obama on the occasion of the 4th anniversary of his 2009 Prague speech, Prague, 4 April - the letter was co-signed by 39 parliamentarians from 11 NATO countries - Belgium, Canada, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Norway, Slovakia and United Kingdom

[Disarm, dismantle and make a profit](#), IKV Pax Christi, April 2013—debates are ongoing in nuclear armed arsenals. The full life cycle costs of nuclear weapons are rarely considered in debates. This paper provides a cost-benefit analysis of nuclear modernisation versus nuclear disarmament. It looks at the materials that put the nuclear in nuclear weapons, and examines costs associated with getting these materials out of bombs, out of military stockpiles, and into the commercial nuclear market. The study comes to a clear conclusion: when one examines the math and the potential profits to be made, the choice is obvious: disarm, down-blend and make a profit.

Nuclear Weapons:

[Obama has plans to cut U.S. Nuclear Arsenal, if Russia Reciprocates](#), *New York Times*, 18 June

[One-time Leaders May Face Charges for Discussing Dutch-Based Nukes](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 14 June

[Nukes in Europe: Secrecy Under Siege](#), Hans Kristensen, *FAS Strategic Security Blog*, 13 June

[The end of ambiguity, the beginning of transparency?](#) *NATO Watch Comment*, 13 June

[US nuclear bombs 'based in Netherlands' - ex-Dutch PM Lubbers](#), *BBC News*, 10 June

♦♦ [The nuclear bomb we don't need](#), Steve Andreasen, *LA Times*, 6 June—the American B61 is a massively expensive investment that provides no real military capability and no real deterrence in today's Europe

[Throwing Money at Nukes](#), *New York Times Editorial*, 26 May

♦♦ [1983: The Most Dangerous Year of the Cold War](#), *History News Network*,

17 May

[NATO delegation visits nuclear weapons laboratory in New Mexico: so what about a Strategic Concept on nuclear disarmament?](#) *NATO Watch Comment*, 15 May

[Confidence-building on tactical nuclear weapons: What's on the table?](#) Anne Finger and Oliver Meier, *Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy*, May 2013

[NATO's Nuclear Guardians: Why NATO's bureaucracy is unable to initiate change to, or support reform of, Alliance nuclear policy](#), Edmond (Ted) E. Seay III, *ACA, BASIC, IFSH*, May 2013

[The Role of Arms Control, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation in Today's Security Policy](#), Remarks by Ambassador Rolf Nikel, German Commissioner for Arms Control and Disarmament, Annual NATO-Conference on WMD Arms Control, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation, May 2013



Responsibility to Protect (R2P):

[US DOD Releases Doctrine on Mass Atrocity Response Operations](#), NATO Watch News Brief, 18 June

[Stop Mass Atrocities: Advancing EU Cooperation with Other International Organizations](#), Edited by Luis Peral and Nicoletta Pirozzi, IAI Research Paper, Edizioni Nuova Cultera, EU Institute for Security Studies, Istituto Affari Internazionali, April 2013

Scottish Independence and NATO:

[Scottish independence: Trident is 'ticket to Nato'](#), *The Scotsman*, 14 June

Syria Crisis:

[U.S. Mulls Bombing Syrian Chem Sites: Report](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 19 June

[Syria no-fly zone not on NATO's agenda: U.S. envoy](#), *Reuters*, 17 June

[Iran to send 4,000 troops to aid President Assad forces in Syria](#), Robert Fisk, *The Independent*, 16 June—US urges UK and France to join in supplying arms to Syrian rebels as MPs fear that UK will be drawn into growing conflict

[White House: Syria Has Used Chemical Weapons](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 14 June

[NATO: chemical arms use in Syria breaks international law](#), *Reuters*, 14 June

[NATO Head 'Concerned' by Syrian Chemical Weapons Use](#), *RIA Novosti*, 14 June

[The U.S. has 5,000 troops in Syria's backyard](#), John Reed, *Foreign Policy*, 10 June

[\(How\) Can NATO Respond to the Syrian Crisis?](#) Samantha Black, The Atlantic Council of Canada, 7 June

[Obama's Red Lines Hold Up; Syrian CW Claims Do Not](#), Jean Pascal Zanders, atlantic-community.org, 7 June—evidence of chemical warfare simply does not hold up. Obama's red line is not wavering. Western democracies cannot afford another Curveball. If transatlantic leaders believe that

[The 1983 War Scare](#)

Soviet "Huffing and Puffing?" "Crying Wolf?" "Rattling Pots and Pans?" or "A Real Worry That We Could Come into Conflict through Miscalculation?"

Largest On-Line Set of Primary Sources on "The Last Paroxysm" of the Cold War Suggests ... Both

National Security Archive Electronic Briefing Book No. 426

PART 1 OF 3 POSTINGS

Posted – May 16, 2013

Edited by Nate Jones

Assisted by Lauren Harper

With Document Contributions from Svetlana Savranskaya

80,000 dead in the civil war are insufficient to justify military intervention under humanitarian law, then why would a few fatalities from (supposed) chemical weapons sway the international community? Is it perhaps that "80,000" is already a "statistic," while politicians are looking for a "tragedy"?

[The Syrian Civil War: Chemical Weapons Assessment](#), Can Kasapoğlu and F. Doruk Ergun, EDAM Discussion Paper Series 2013/7, 6 June

[Hagel, NATO ministers discuss Syria chemical weapons but no alliance action expected](#), *Washington Post*, 5 June

[U.S. Considers Deploying Patriots to Jordan](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 3 June

[NATO head says political option best for Syria](#), *CNN*, 31 May

[NATO Secretary General rejects western military role in Syria](#), *CBS News*, 31 May

[Obama Directs Military to Prepare Plans for No-Fly-Zone in Syria: Officials](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 29 May

[Syria: Arms Sans Frontières](#), *The Guardian* editorial, 28 May—it is no exaggeration to say that the Syrian conflict could spill over a region extending from the Straits of Hormuz to the Mediterranean

[Ankara and Washington Need an Ambitious Approach to Syria](#), Sinan Ülgen, Carnegie Europe, 16 May

♣♣ [The Hard Realities of Syria](#), James Farwell and Rafal Rohozinski, *DefenseIQ*, 15 May

[Can Russia and the West End Syria's Chaos?](#) Marc Pierini, Carnegie Article, 14 May

[Interview: NATO Supreme Allied Commander on Syria and Soft Power](#), *The Atlantic*, 9 May

As we widen our aperture from counterinsurgency against opponents with a limited range of capabilities in Iraq and Afghanistan to full-spectrum decisive action operations against threats with some high and asymmetric capabilities across the globe, we are training to detect and mitigate chemical and biological weapons threats. While we could theoretically secure such stockpiles, we would need other specialists to come in and accomplish the destruction of these stockpiles.

Maj. Gen. John W. Nicholson Jr., commander of the US 82nd Airborne Division, cited in [Washington Post](#), 19 June 2013

Transatlantic Cooperation:

[Strengthening IMS-EUMS complementarity](#), NATO News, 11 June—NATO International Military Staff (IMS) and European Union Military Staff (EUMS) Directors convened at NATO HQ for the first high-level military conference of 2013

[Lisbon Treaty: A Healthy Redundancy to NATO](#), Kathy Liu, The Atlantic Council of Canada, 7 June

[EU Defense Integration: Undermining NATO, Transatlantic Relations, and Europe's Security](#), Luke Coffey, Heritage Foundation, 6 June

[US support for NATO's Response Force, from afar](#), NATO Watch News Brief, 1 June

[US Army Creates NATO Rapid-Deployment Forces](#), military.com, 29 May

[Withdrawing US Forces from Europe Weakens America](#), Luke Coffey, *Eurasia Review*, 25 May

[And what will Europe do? The European Council and Military Strategy](#), Sven Biscop, *Security Policy Brief* 46, Egmont Royal Institute for International Affairs, May 2013—important decisions on Europe's military capabilities are expected from the December 2013 European Council. But why? What do Europeans actually want to do with their capabilities?

[NATO Stresses Continuity as Breedlove Succeeds Stavridis](#), US DoD, 13 May

[Breedlove Takes Charge Of European Command](#), *Eurasia Review*, 12 May

Parliamentary Update No. 30, ISIS Europe, [Delegation for relations with the NATO Parliamentary Assembly](#), 7 May 2013—Exchange of views with experts on 'Defence capabilities – EU and NATO perspective ahead of the December Council' in view of the NATO PA Spring Session in Luxembourg City, 17-20 May 2013

Transparency & Accountability:

[Open Society, Others Issue Principles on Security, RTI](#), NATO Watch News Brief, 15 June

[The Making of a Global Security State—The Five Uncontrollable Urges of a Secrecy-Surveillance World](#), Tom Engelhardt, *TomDispatch.com*, 16 June

[Automatic for the People](#), Rosa Brooks, *Foreign Policy*, 30 May—How to end Obama's culture of secrecy in just a few lines of code.

[Freedom Begins at Home](#), Suzanne Nossel, *Foreign Policy*, 23 May—how can the Obama administration credibly promote freedom of speech abroad while restricting it in the United States?

Upcoming Events:

[Redrawing the Security Map](#), International Conference, Palais d'Egmont, Brussels, 27 June—SecDef is an annual high-level conference organised by the Security & Defence Agenda, the European Company for Strategic Intelligence and the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung. It gathers several hundred senior decision-makers from EU institutions, NATO, national governments, industry, civil society and the media



Security News from NATO Member States:

Albania

[Albania hosts for NATO Air Traffic Management Committee meeting](#), *Balkans.com*, 30 May

Czech Republic

[NATO expects Czechs to meet commitments amid current crisis](#), *Prague Daily Monitor*, 17 June

Estonia

[Estonia completes military drills with NATO allies](#), *RIA Novosti*, 26 May

France

[The French White Paper on Defence and National Security](#), Jean-Marie Collin, *BASIC Blog*, 14 May

Germany

[Defense ministry was aware of Euro Hawk doubts](#), *Deutsche Welle*, 22 May

[Drone use raises ethical questions in Germany](#), *Deutsche Welle*, 18 May

Norway

[Norway becomes first NATO country to draft women into military](#), *Reuters*, 14 June

[NATO's Secretary General meets with Prime Minister](#), *Norway Post*, 9 May

Poland

[NATO Chief Praises Poland's Contributions To Afghan, Kosovo Missions](#), *RTT News*, 6 June

'Poland—A staunch Ally', [video blog](#) by NATO Secretary General, 6 June

[Poland set for biggest-ever increase in military spending](#), *Financial Times*, 19 May

Romania

[Geopolitical Journey: The Search for Belonging and Ballistic Missile Defense in Romania](#), George Friedman, *Stratfor*, 29 May

[Romanian president, NATO SG Rasmussen put to test rumors about Romanian candidate for NATO chief seat](#), *Romania-insider.com*, 27 May

[NATO's Rasmussen: Romania has a strong position inside NATO](#), *ACTmedia*, 24 May

[Joint Press Conference: NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen and President of Romania Traian Băsescu](#), NATO News/ *You Tube*, 24 May

[Aurescu: We dismiss idea we do not need missile shield; I can agree it has symbolical value too](#), *ACTmedia*, 20 May

Turkey

[How Democratic Is Turkey?](#) Steven Cook and Michael Koplou, *Foreign Policy*, 3 June—Not as democratic as Washington thinks it is

[Erdogan's Dilemma](#), Sinan Ülgen, *Foreign Policy*, 2 June

[Turkey's Violent Protests in Context](#), *Stratfor*, 2 June

[Turkey as a regional foreign policy actor](#), Marc Pierini, *Hurriyet Daily News*, 13 May

[Turkey blames Syria over Reyhanli bombings](#), *The Guardian*, 12 May—nine Turks arrested but foreign minister Ahmet Davutoglu says Assad regime was behind blasts in which 46 people died

[Car Bombings Kill Dozens in Center of Turkish Town Near the Syrian Border](#), *New York Times*, 11 May

United Kingdom

[Afghanistan war has cost Britain more than £37bn, new book claims](#), *The Guardian*, 30 May—Frank Ledwidge, author of *Investment in Blood*, says failing, bloody campaign has cost £2,000 per UK household

[Lib Dems' scaled-down Trident plan 'risks thousands of jobs'](#), *Financial Times*, 29 May

[Trident UK's best option, says review](#), *Financial Times*, 27 May

[Hans Blix urges Britain to relinquish Trident nuclear programme](#), *The Guardian*, 26 May

United States

[The Terror Diaspora—The U.S. Military and the Unraveling of Africa](#), Nick Turse, *TomDispatch.com*, 18 June

[The role of NATO in today's world](#), Mary Curtin, *Minneapolis Star Tribune*, 15 June

♣♣ [Ivo Daalder, US Permanent Representative to NATO](#), *BBC World Service—Hardtalk*, 14 June—He's European by birth; an American citizen by choice. But are those two outlooks becoming increasingly hard to reconcile? There's tension over US surveillance that could affect Europeans; and a division in NATO between what one US defence secretary calls those who pay – principally the Americans – and those who enjoy the benefits – the Europeans. As Ivo Daalder ends his term, does he think it's time for this 64-year-old veteran security organisation to be pensioned off?

♣♣ [How Dystopian Secrecy Contributes to Clueless Wars](#), Chase Madar, *TomDispatch.com*, 11 June—Bradley Manning Has Done More for US Security than SEAL Team 6

[Thursday Inbox: Is it appropriate to send a retired general to be ambassador to USNATO?](#) *diplopondit.net*, 6 June

[2014 NATO Summit announced during discussions in Washington](#), NATO Watch News Brief, 3 June

[NATO Secretary General holds talks with President Obama](#), NATO News, 1 June

'Discussing NATO's future with President Obama', NATO Secretary General's [video blog](#), 31 May

[NATO Secretary General meets senior US officials](#), NATO News, 31 May—NATO Secretary General met the US Secretary of State John Kerry, National Security Advisor Tom Donilon and other senior US officials in Washington D.C. They discussed a range of issues on NATO's agenda, including transition in Afghanistan, regional developments and emerging challenges

[Naming Our Nameless War - How Many Years Will It Be?](#) Andrew J. Bacevich, *TomDispatch.com*, 28 May

[Nuclear Arsenal Subject to Pentagon Cuts, But New Subs May Escape Ax](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 24 May

[White House adviser on Afghanistan nominated as new US envoy to NATO](#), *Stars and Stripes*, 24 May

["That Woman Is Worth Paying Attention To": Medea Benjamin Explains Why She Disrupted Obama's Speech](#), *Democracy Now*, 24 May

[Pivoting From a War Footing, Obama Acts to Curtail Drones](#), *New York Times*, 23 May—in a counterterrorism speech at Washington's National Defense University, President Obama declared that "America is at a crossroads" and sought to redefine and narrow the scope of the country's war with al Qaeda and its affiliates. Parts of this realignment include curtailing the use of drones in countries with which the US is not at war, recommitting to closing the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, seeking new limits on the president's wartime power and returning the CIA to a more traditional spy agency. The latter will require a significant culture and generational shift after more than a decade of counterterrorism work and targeted killing

[How America Became a Third World Country 2013-2023](#), Mattea Kramer and Jo Comerford, *TomDispatch.com*, 21 May

[Where Has All the Money Gone?](#) David Vine, *TomDisaptch.com*, 14 May—How Contractors Raked in \$385 Billion to Build and Support Bases Abroad since 2001

An Army official told the [WSJ](#), 10 May: "It is almost like the Army needs a therapist...go lie down in a dark room and think about what does the nation expect of me and how am I going to do that?"

Continued from p.2

independent from the Afghan Taliban and are fighting for the implementation of Sharia Law in Pakistan. We will continue to fight against the drone attacks, and Pakistan army and government, who are under US influence".

[Jonathan Beale](#), BBC correspondent in Kabul, reports:

President Karzai clearly feels a sense of anger and betrayal over the way the US made that announcement. His thought there would be a commitment from the Taliban to engage with the Afghan government, to recognise the constitution and to renounce violence. None of those promises were made. Hopes that these talks with the Taliban will go very far must be fading fast. Without the involvement of the Afghan government there is no peace process. Already tense relations with the US and President Karzai have reached a new low with the suspension of the negotiations of the Bilateral Security Agreement. On top of that the Taliban have given no indication that the fighting will end - carrying out an attack on the US military base in Bagram within hours of what was supposed to be an 'important first step' towards reconciliation.

President Karzai delivered a speech on ['Afghanistan, the US and the Islamic World'](#) at the 10th US-Islamic World Forum in Doha on 9 June. He spoke positively of the changes brought about in his country by the post 9/11 arrival of US and NATO forces but "the other side of the story, the war on terror as it began in 2001 and as it moved forward till today has not been a happy one, has not been a happy story for us in Afghanistan or the region".

He added that "the West as led by the United States needs to explain itself to the Muslim world", particularly what the objectives of the 'war on terrorism' are, while recognising its failures as well as its achievements. He concluded that "is much that we the Muslims have to correct in our own societies and governments" but that there is much work to do through the "good intentions [of] our Western friends and [of] the United States that today they are not looking to the Muslim world from the perspective of the colonial era".

In his closing press conference at the NATO Defence Ministers meeting on 5 June, [Secretary General Rasmussen](#) said there had been "a productive discussion on our mission in Afghanistan" and that the next step was taken by endorsing the detailed

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concept of the non-combat mission in Afghanistan referred to as 'Resolute Support'. A US official told the [Washington Post](#) that if a security deal is not signed by Presidents Obama and Karzai, the US and NATO would have to pull all troops out of Afghanistan [by the end of 2014](#) and that "such a move would call into question the long-term viability of the US-trained and funded Afghan security forces".

This has also been called into question by the US House of



This is the most astounding and the most astoundingly disturbing hearing that I've been to since I've been here. You guys have essentially rewritten the Constitution here today

Angus King, US Senator (I-Maine), questioning the position taken by the DoD that the military has the right to go after terrorists in any country that is failing to target them, cited by [Global Security Newswire](#), 17 May 2013

Representatives voting overwhelmingly to end the war in Afghanistan. An amendment to the 2014 US National Defense Authorization Act, which passed 305-121, removes from the bill language supporting a continued US presence in Afghanistan, and instead suggests that no troops should remain after 2014 without a clear congressional authorization.

It was a decision, however, that received virtually no coverage in US mainstream media. And yet we sometimes wonder why the Executive branches of some NATO governments seemingly ride roughshod over the legislative branches when it comes to decisions to go to war in distant lands.



Killing innocent people for an idea, whether on London's streets or over Pakistan, is always wrong

Shaker Aamer, the last British resident held in Guantanamo Bay. Article dictated to his lawyer on 10 June 2013 and published in [The Guardian](#)

End word:

National Security Secrecy and the Right to Know

Steven Aftergood, [SECURITY NEWS](#) from the FAS Project on Government Secrecy, Volume 2013, Issue No. 55: June 13, 2013

While almost everyone would agree that national security secrecy has a role to play in an open society, such secrecy must be carefully circumscribed if robust public access to government information is to be preserved. A set of principles that open societies around the world can use to help guide and limit the application of secrecy was published this week.

The new [Principles on National Security and the Right to Know](#) were generated by an international group of scholars, government officials, activists and others convened by the Open Society Justice Initiative in an attempt to define a global consensus on national security secrecy and to aid legislators and citizens around the world who may be new to the subject.

The Principles present guidance on specific types of information that the drafters believe may legitimately be withheld from disclosure on national security grounds (e.g. current war plans), as well as categories of information that should not be withheld

on national security grounds "in any circumstances" (e.g. information on gross violations of human rights).

The [Principles](#) are the product of an international initiative, and they are not the same as US policy writ large. In fact, some of the Principles are inconsistent with current US government practice.

Thus, one principle would preclude the use of secret interpretations of law in the conduct of intelligence surveillance. "The overall legal framework concerning surveillance of all kinds, as well as the procedures to be followed for authorizing surveillance, selecting targets of surveillance, and using, sharing, storing, and destroying intercepted material, should be accessible to the public." (Principle 10E).

Another principle would provide strong protection to persons who publicly disclose government wrongdoing involving classified information, under certain specified conditions. (Principle 40).

The tools of transparency can be used to attack an open society-- by infringing on personal privacy, by violating confidentiality in the exercise of religious freedom or free association, or by making sensitive military or intelligence data available to violent fundamentalist adversaries. But in [a briefing paper](#), the drafters of the Principles disavow such actions.

"The aim of the Principles is not absolute or radical transparency. The Principles, in keeping with international law, recognize that the right of access to information may be limited by other

important interests including international relations, public order, public health and safety, law enforcement, future provision of free and open advice, effective policy formulation, economic interests of the state, personal privacy and commercial confidentiality."

The Principles were developed in response to a wave of global interest in open government, the drafters said.

"In 1989, only 13 countries had access to information laws on their books. As of June 2013, 94 countries have such laws, granting the right of access to information, at least in theory, to more than 5.2 billion people in all parts of the world. People in these countries are, many for the first time, grappling with how to keep information confidential pursuant to law rather than by culture or executive discretion."

It is the drafters' hope that "the Principles will influence the development and reform of laws and policies in countries that aspire to comply, and to be seen by the international community to comply, with international law."

"As societies deal with the continuing conflict between the right to know and claims of national security, as well as how to evaluate acts of whistleblowers, these Principles will provide a compelling guide grounded in experience and a deep commitment to the values of open society," [said](#) Morton Halperin, senior advisor to the Open Society Foundations.