Eleni Daniiloudi-Zielińska

Department of Command and Maritime Operations Naval Academy in Gdynia, Poland

Magdalena El Ghamari

Centre for Research on Social and Economic Risks Collegium Civitas, Warsaw, Poland

International Security and Defense

- The Example of NATO Operations

**Abstract** 

Today's crisis response operations carried out outside the country are located in the dynamic global environment. Their multinational character resulted in a revaluation of views on security and defense, in the context of the use and operation of the armed forces. A large number of crisis response operations also contributed to the number of entities involved in the military and non-military tasks. Changes in the global security environment, the interplay between policy and foreign countries mean that the strategy of the Armed Forces can not be equated only with the art of distribution and use of military means. What's more, there is no one correct way of planning activities of the Armed Forces operating in an alliance or a coalition of multinational operations. Globalization has imposed certain ways of conduct and respond to threats.

Keywords: NATO operations, military structure, North Atlantic Council

# Introduction

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) was formed in 1949 and so straddles the Cold War and the post-Cold War eras. Despite an important political dimension, during the first of these two periods it was NATO's standing as a military alliance (indeed, the Alliance) dedicated to the common defense that defined its purpose and activities. For forty years NATO was positioned to deter (and, if necessary, to fight) the conventional and nuclear forces gathered under the umbrella of the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact. The dissolution of the latter, followed in short order by the collapse of the Soviet Union, removed this preoccupation and pushed NATO toward a more uncertain trajectory of development. It has subsequently been involved in activities that were never foreseen in its founding treaty and for which it has often been ill prepared. The Alliance consequently has been characterized by a constant process of reform, strategic reorientation, and internal debate. Literature on the Alliance tends to reflect this historic break. Indeed, the step-change after 1991 has been so profound that much writing on the Alliance regards, for analytical purposes, the twenty years since then as entirely separate (Ucko 2010, p. 26).

NATO's Crisis response wars deals with the development of the security policy of NATO in the 1990's in the sense of Non-Article 5 crisis response operations. First, NATO's strategic concepts of 1991 and 1999 are compared. The differences in these concepts illustrate the change of fundamental objectives and means of the Alliance in the area of crisis response operations.

Operations based on the classical scene on three factors:

- the area;
- forces:
- time.

There is also information that serves as a decisive factor. However, their importance takes on an entirely new perception and meaning. These three components are seen as variables that exert influence on each other and are interdependent. It also appears that the time and information have become a driving force in the area of armed struggle asand all the activities of emergency response operations. And the strength began to give way to cooperation (synergy) in action, which somehow affected the area, which became a strict, specific and precise operation.

#### Law Basics

Due to the cooperation the civilian and military structures of NATO carries out crisis response operations. Each of these components have to fulfil the tasks which are issues in the area of conflict prevention and crisis response operations in particular.

The most important decision-making body in NATO is the North Atlantic Council – NAC. The North Atlantic Council is the principal political decision-making body within NATO. It brings together high-level representatives of each member country to discuss policy or operational questions requiring collective decisions. In sum, it provides a forum for wide-ranging consultation between members on all issues affecting their peace and security. Main committees and other representative military and civilian bodies of the NATO, which are involved both in preparing and planning activities in the area of operations (Ucko 2010, p. 26).

Each member nation is normally represented in the North Atlantic Council by an Ambassador or Permanent Representative supported by a national delegation composed of advisers and officials who represent their country on different NATO committees. The Council also meets at the level of Heads of State and Heads of Government or Ministers of Foreign Affairs, and from time to time by Foreign and Defense Ministers.

#### **NATO Secretaries General**

The General Secretary is a senior international statesman nominated by the member nations both as Chairman of the North Atlantic Council, Defense Planning Committee, Nuclear Planning Group and of other senior committees, and as Secretary General of NATO. He also acts as principal spokesman of the Organization, both in its external relations and in communications and contacts with member governments. The current NATO Secretary General is Jens Stoltenberg. The current NATO Deputy Secretary General is Rose Eilene Gottemoeller.

# Members of the Military Committee

The members of the Military Committee (Chiefs of Staff) are represented at NATO Headquarters on a permanent basis by senior officers acting as Military Representatives,

each supported by a national staff varying in size. The Military Representatives constitute the Military Committee in Permanent Session. The Chairman of the Military Committee is Sir Stuart Peach.

The Dean of the Military Committee is an honorary position held by a national Military Representative, rotating among member nations on a yearly basis in the order of the English alphabet.

# Principal Officials of the NATO International Staff

The work of the North Atlantic Council and its committees is supported by an International Staff. It comprises the Office of the Secretary General, five operational Divisions, the office of the Financial Controller and the Office of Management. The office of the Secretary General includes the Office of Information and Press, the Executive Secretary and the Office of Security. Each Division is headed by an Assistant Secretary General (Senior Officials). The current NATO Spokesperson is Oana Lungescu.

## Major NATO Commanders

The Major NATO Commanders are responsible for the development of defense plans for their respective areas, for the determination of force requirements and for the deployment and exercise of the forces under their command control.

The current Supreme Allied Commander, Europe (SACEUR) is General Curtis M. Scaparrotti. The current Deputy Supreme Allied Command, Europe (DSACEUR) is General Sir James Everard.

# Principal Officials of the NATO International Military Staff

The Military Committee is supported by an integrated International Military Staff (IMS) made up of military personnel seconded from national military establishments and supporting civilian personnel. The International Military Staff is headed by the Director of the International Military Staff, a 3-star flag officer. Divisions of the IMS are headed by Assistant Directors.

NATO civilian part of an executive body called the International Secretariat – International Staff. The main civil structures to ask. Directly involved in crisis response operations include:

- providing support to the Secretary-General, NAC and the Defence Planning Committee, at a time of major conflict situations;
- improve the proper procedures and organizational structures for dealing with crises;
- provide assistance and support PMSC in issues PfP peacekeeping operations;
- conceptual and technical assistance during the NATO peacekeeping operations and to assess their preparation and conduct;
- maintaining contacts with NATO and other international security structures at the time of occurrence of an emergency.

Crisis management is one of NATO's fundamental security tasks. It can involve military and non-military measures to respond to a threat, be it in a national or an international situation.

Non-Article 5 Crisis Response Operations categorizes crisis response operations at the following types:

- humanitarian operations;
- operations support to displaced and uprooted within national;
- Refugees and Displaced Persons and Refugee DPRE;
- peace support operations;
- assistance operations in disaster relief;
- exploration operations rescue SAR;
- operations support civilian personnel evacuation operations Non-Combatant;
- evacuation operations NEO;
- withdrawal operations;
- disadvantages of military support operations;
- Operations support of civil authorities;
- operations against irregular actions;
- Operations in support of sanctions and embargoes implemented;
- Maritime Interdiction Operations MIO;
- operations to ensure freedom of navigation and flight.

As we can see directory operations is wide range. NA5CRO operations are multifaceted and include political, military and civilian fields of activity. Are initiated and conducted in accordance with international law. Crisis management, conflict prevention and resolution as well as human rights and citizen show a irregular actions. In this broad range

of activities are covered by the support operations, which combine aspects of civil and military, as well as peacekeeping operations, which support other NATO combat operations. NA5CRO operations are interdependent network of operations that can be carried out as intensively as the operation of Article 5 – what more must be based on the same military capabilities as a collective defense operations.

NATO's defense policy is constantly changing. Experiments conducted with each action are documented and included are the following doctrines, which must be constantly modified and revised accordingly (Ucko 2010, p. 26).

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In view of this NATO document, The Military Concept for NATO Peace Support Operations (2011), introduced a new division operations. Much more concrete, which will refine the various operations. Peace support operations (PSO) mean the multifunctional operations conducted on the principle of impartiality, on the basis of the mandate of the UN / OSCE, involving: military, diplomatic and humanitarian activities in order to achieve long-term political settlement between the parties to the conflict or other conditions explicit in the mandate.

In addition, PSO peace support operations involving Polish Army soldiers, according to the classification include the following types of NATO activities / operations:

- conflict prevention;
- peacemaking;
- peacekeeping;
- peace enforcement;
- peace building;

• humanitarian operations.

Conflict prevention, is a catalog of different projects, which is based on Chapter VI of the United Nations Charter (2012, Chapter 4). These include a comprehensive range of activities, including:

- diplomatic;
- policies;
- military / defense;
- social;
- training;
- prevention.

Their task is to prevent the transformation of local / regional / national dispute in an armed conflict and its possible spread. Activities that are undertaken in this area, they contain elements such as:

- determination of the facts;
- consultations;
- warnings;
- inspections;
- · monitoring;
- observation.

Peacemaking is the parties to the conflict to cease hostilities, mainly through the use of peacekeeping and diplomatic. The operation covers diplomatic activities carried out since the start of the conflict until it is as quick as possible solutions. These activities may include:

- mediation and conciliation;
- mediation:
- exerting diplomatic pressure through isolation or sanctions;
- peacekeeping.

The objective of peacekeeping operations is through the intervention of an impartial third party, prepared and conducted by the international community committed to the operation of both the military component and the civilian complement to the political process solution to the conflict and support the restoration and maintenance of peace. Peacekeeping operation is conducted under Chapter VI of the UN Charter and it is based on the consent of all parties as to the purpose of participation in the multinational peacekeeping force that is monitoring and implementation of peace agreement.

In accordance with Article 33 of the Union Chapter in the dispute, the continuance of which is not likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security, should above all seek a solution through negotiation, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, judicial settlement, resort to the authorities or regional arrangements or by other means according to his choice (Davis 2010, p. 31).

Peace enforcement, peace enforcement or the action, which involves provision of Article 40–51, Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations (2012). Authorizes the use of military means to restore peace in the conflict zone. Peace enforcement operations may be conducted in case of conflict:

- interstate:
- procedure.

The purpose of peace enforcement operations is to stop the armed conflict through the use of military forces and force of peaceful resolution. This operation is a last resort solution to a crisis situation. Tasks resulting from the operation to force peace is above all: Protection of Human Rights. Peace Support Forces are observed for indirection and uphold:

- human and civil rights;
- genocide;
- · ethnic cleansing;
- disintegration of state institutions;
- create the conditions for a dignified life.

The decision to undertake a peace enforcement operation should be the result of a conscious political decision transformed into a clear and precise mandate of the UN for military competence ("The Economist" 2010, pp. 27-29).

Peace-building is distinct from other operations activity that takes place after the conflict. Includes activities:

- policies;
- social;
- military;
- economical.

The aim of surgery is to build peace, the solution causes the dispute, the conflict and in the end the crisis, so as to prevent or reduce the risk of re-occurrence. It is very important in this respect the cooperation at the level of civil – military. Therefore, the

main components of civil sentences will include: restoring normal living conditions, humanitarian aid, economic, social and civic. And the action is the civilian component: the creation of and security conditions for the operation of organizations, institutions and civilian agencies cooperating in the process of peace building. Moreover, the armed forces involved in the reform of local military forces, training in the disarmament and other tasks presented on the occasion of other types of peace support operations.

Humanitarian operations are aimed at assisting the civilian population in cases of human rights violations, natural disasters and epidemics. Humanitarian operations may be conducted either by the military component independently and in cooperation with specialized civilian organizations. They are conducted in situations where the authorities responsible for granting the aid are not able or not willing to give it.

These operations cover a wide spectrum of activities carried out in two types of humanitarian operations:

- humanitarian aid;
- assistance during natural disasters.

Peace support operations by AJP-3.4.1. are one part of the wider NATO crisis response operations. They are treated as other operations and emergency response tasks non-Article 5. Fall into the following types of surgery also:

- support for humanitarian operations;
- assistance in combating the effects of natural disasters;
- exploration operations;
- support and non-military evacuation operations;
- mining operations;
- first-aid operations to the public;
- enforcement of sanctions imposed by international organizations.

#### **NATO** operations

Iceland's "Peacetime Preparedness Needs". Since early 2008, following the withdrawal of US forces, NATO has maintained a mission entitled "Airborne surveillance and interception capabilities to meet Iceland's peacetime preparedness needs" (Cowan 2010, pp. 12-13).

As Iceland does not have its own national air force, NATO provides a periodic peacetime air defence presence to meet Iceland's needs. Given its unique geographical location, Allies, in conjunction with the Icelandic authorities, have agreed that the appropriate response is to maintain a periodic presence of NATO fighter aircraft based at Keflavik. The "peacetime preparedness" mission usually involves a deployment (typically of around three-four weeks, three times a year) of fighter aircraft from Allied nations. These aircraft are used to conduct air defence flying training missions, and also to provide the necessary degree of training of NATO and Icelandic support personnel to make sure that the Alliance could conduct a full-scale peacetime air-policing mission at the shortest possible notice if required by real world events.

At the beginning of each deployment, Allied aircraft, ground crews and fighter controllers demonstrate the capability to conduct air-policing activities throughout Icelandic airspace. This capability demonstration involves arming and disarming NATO aircraft before and, usually, after a quick-reaction training "scramble", which is conducted to exercise the air surveillance and control system, and other Icelandic support personnel from Keflavik ("The Economist" 2010, pp. 27-29).

The "peacetime preparedness mission" benefits both the deploying Allied nation and Iceland, as it ensures Icelandic ground and support staff have the necessary level of skill and preparedness to integrate effectively with Allied air forces. It benefits the nations who take part, as their pilots have the chance to train in a different and challenging environment. And it benefits the cohesion and resolution of the Alliance as a whole, since it shows NATO's clear determination to provide the appropriate level of security for all members, and ensures that there is a sufficient skills base to do so.

Since the mission began in 2008, the following Allies have taken part:

- 2008: France, USA;
- 2009: Denmark, Norway, USA;
- 2010: Denmark, Germany, USA;
- 2011: Canada, Norway, USA;
- 2012: Germany, USA, Portugal;
- 2013: Canada, Italy, USA;
- 2014: Norway, USA, Czech Republic;
- 2015: USA, Czech Republic, Denmark;
- 2016: USA, Norway, Czech Republic.

# Operation ALTHEA

The military operation ALTHEA in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) was launched on 2 December 2004 and has contributed to the maintenance of the safe and secure environment in BiH. The decision to launch Operation ALTHEA followed the decision by NATO to conclude its SFOR-operation and the adoption by the UN Security Council of resolution 1575 authorising the deployment of an EU Force (EUFOR) in BiH. In the framework of Operation ALTHEA, the EU initially deployed 7000 troops, to ensure continued compliance with the Dayton/Paris Agreement for peace in BiH and to contribute to a safe and secure environment in BiH. Operation ALTHEA is carried out with recourse to NATO assets and capabilities, under the "Berlin Plus" arrangements.

In light of the improving security situation, Operation ALTHEA has been reconfigured four times, most recently in September 2012. Operation ALTHEA continues to act in accordance with its peace enforcement mandate under Chapter VII of the UN Charter, as specified in the latest Resolution 2123 (2013).

The main objectives of Operation ALTHEA are:

- To provide capacity-building and training support to the AFBiH;
- To support BiH efforts to maintain the safe and secure environment in BiH;
- To provide support the overall EU comprehensive strategy for BiH.

Operation ALTHEA supports also the implementation of a number of residual tasks that have been transferred from the operation to local authorities by monitoring, advising and mentoring them, such as: countermines activities, military and civilian movement control of weapons, ammunition and explosive substances, as well as the management of weapons and ammunition storage sites (Nicaise 2010, pp. 47-49).

### EUFOR: Operation ALTHEA in BiH

As of 3 December 2012, EUFOR Commander is Major General Dieter Heidecker (Austria). His headquarters is based in Camp Butmir, Sarajevo. EUFOR Commander has 600 personnel under operational control. The Troop Contributing Nations are 17 EU Member States plus Albania, Chile, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Switzerland and Turkey.

EUFOR retains its presence throughout BiH through Liaison and Observation Teams (LOTs). The EUFOR manoeuvre unit – MultiNational Battalion (MNBN) also based in Camp Butmir Sarajevo – is made up of troops from Austria/Hungary and Turkey. EUFOR retains its capacity to react to security challenges throughout the country, and has a credible reserve force to draw upon, comprising at least four home-based companies plus the Operational Reserve Force Battalion (ORF).

As the EU-led military Operation ALTHEA functions under the "Berlin Plus" arrangements, the Operation Commander is General Sir Adrian John Bradshaw (UK) who is also Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Europe (DSACEUR) and assisted by the European Union Staff Group (EUSG) (Nicaise 2010, p. 26).

Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) as a whole provides the Operation Headquarters (OHQ), and the EUSG is the core, liaising with all SHAPE's Directorate's Branches. A close relationship with European External Action Service (EEAS) and European Union Military Staff (EUMS) is maintained by the EUSG, with recourse to all SHAPE's assets as OHQ when needed, in accordance with EU Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) ("The Economist" 2010, pp. 10).

European Union Command Element (EUCE), which is located at NATO Joint Force Command (JFC) at Naples, provides the necessary coordination for ensuring a Balkans regional approach and regarding the use of reserve, which are not covered under the "Berlin Plus" arrangements).

## Resolute Support (RS) Mission

On 31 December 2014, the ISAF mission ended and the NATO-led Resolute Support (RS) mission began. Resolute Support focuses on Training, Advising and Assisting ASI/ANSF development. On Dec. 31, 2014, the ISAF mission ended. The NATO-led Resolute Support Mission, the natural evolution of ISAF, began Jan. 1, 2015. This transition is more than a change of the mission name. It is the realization of 13 years of effort, culminating in an Afghan National Defense and Security Forces (ANDSF) and Afghan Security Institution (ASI) organization and structure that is taking on the challenge of supporting and defending its own nation (Nicaise 2010, p. 26-27).

With the transition of NATO support from a combat role to a train, advise, and assist mission, the number and type of participating forces will change. ISAF numbers

have significantly decreased as NATO allies and partners contributing to the new mission consolidate their efforts and physical presence into strategic locations and bases identified and detailed in the NATO Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) and Resolute Support plan. But even with a reduced presence, we are still here and supporting our Afghan allies.

Resolute Support focuses training, advising and assisting ASI/ANDSF development, focusing on eight key areas, called "Essential Functions" or EFs. They are:

- EF 1: Multi-year Budgeting and Execution of Programs;
- EF 2: Transparency, Accountability, and Oversight (prevent corruption);
- EF 3: Civilian Governance of the ASI (ANDSF as servants of the people);
- EF 4: Force Generation (recruit, train, and equip the force);
- EF 5: Sustainment (supply and maintenance);
- EF 6: Strategy and Policy Planning, Resourcing, and Execution (plan, resource campaigns);
- EF 7: Intelligence;
- EF 8: Strategic Communication.

These eight areas provide the framework and guidelines that will enable Afghanistan and its security forces to sustain their efforts and guide Afghanistan into a brighter future (Dursun-Özkanca 2010, pp. 25-38).

#### NATO Mission in Kosovo - KFOR

The Kosovo Force (KFOR) is a NATO-led international force responsible for establishing and maintaining security in Kosovo. This peace-enforcement force entered Kosovo on 12 June 1999 under a United Nations mandate, two days after the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 1244.

NATO HQ Sarajevo. NHQ Sarajevo provides advice to the Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) authorities on defence aspects of Security Sector Reform (SSR) including coordination of potential Partnership for Peace (PfP)-related activities and its integration into Euro-Atlantic structures.

NATO Headquarters Sarajevo has been almost 18 years since NATO first deployed 60,000 soldiers to Bosnia and Herzegovina in the immediate aftermath of the war.

In November 2004 the SFOR mission ended and NATO HQ Sarajevo came into being with a much smaller presence but with a mandate that was specifically focused on Defence Reform, an essential pre requisite for integration into European and international institutions, and a key element of national security. NATO has an enduring commitment to Bosnia Herzegovina.

The Stabilisation Force (SFOR) will deter hostilities and stabilise the peace, contribute to a secure environment by providing a continued military presence in the Area Of Responsibility (AOR), target and coordinate SFOR support to key areas including primary civil implementation organisations, and progress towards a lasting consolidation of peace, without further need for NATO-led forces in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

A secure environment adequate for the continued consolidation of the peace without further need for NATO-led military forces in Bosnia and Herzegovina. We must ensure that all parties adhere to the military requirements of the General Framework Agreement for Peace (GFAP) on a sustained basis. All parties demonstrate commitment to continue negotiations as a means to resolve political and military differences. Established civil structures are sufficiently mature to assume responsibilities to continue monitoring compliance with the GFAP. Conditions have been established for the safe continuation of ongoing nation-building activities. The SFOR Commanderss internt are:

- To maintain a safe and secure environment. To support the International Community in the performance of its mandates in the Multi-Year Road Map (MYRM)
  (The MYRM is a means of measuring progress in Bosnia and Herzegovina.);
- To continue to train and restructure the Armed Forces in Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- To respond immediately to counter anti-Dayton non-compliant groups and institutions;
- To provide flexible military presence focused on critical areas;
- The Main Effort is to focus on the Armed Forces in Bosnia and Herzegovina, return of Displaced Persons and Refugees, support of Law Enforcement and the Rule of Law;
- The "Dayton Peace Agreement".

The General Framework Agreement for Peace, sometimes referred to as the Dayton Peace Agreement, provides the political and legal framework for SFOR. Annex 1A

contains the agreement on the Military Aspects of the Peace Settlement. The goals of the agreement are:

- To Provide a safe and secure environment;
- To establish a unified, democratic Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- To rebuild the economy;
- To allow the return of displaced persons and refugees to their prewar homes.

On the 17 November 2014, NHQSa opened another in a series of workshops designed to assist the Ministry of Defence and the AFBiH in drafting regulations and discussing solutions to help the implementation of the regimental concept. An essential part of the agreement to build a single armed force in BiH, the regimental concept provides for combining professional military service with the fostering of constituent identity and cultural heritage.

## NATO HQ Skopje

Government authorities on military aspects of Security Sector Reform in order to contribute to further Euro-Atlantic integration and provide support to NATO-led operations Within the Balkans Joint Area of Operations.

NATO started its first mission in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia on 26 Aug 01 with "Operation Essential Harvest" – the aim to collect voluntarily surrendered weapons from insurgent ethnic Albanian rebels. The mission was very successful and together with the efforts of the International Community (IC) resulted in the cessation of hostilities between the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia regular forces and insurgents. The armed insurgency was a manifestation of discontent among the ethnic Albanian community and required more than disarmament. Consequently, the Ohrid Framework Agreement followed, which brought greater rights for the Albanian community and hopes of guaranteed peace for all the country.

On 26 Sep 01 NATO continued its commitment in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia by retaining its presence with a new mission named "AMBER FOX". The mandate was to provide additional security to IC monitors in the crisis areas whilst the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia authorities retained primary responsibility for security. This mission was an example of how the joint efforts of the IC and the local authorities could bring the country back from the brink of its civil war. As a result

of improved security in the country the mission was terminated on 15 Dec 02. Thereafter, in order to demonstrate its commitment and support, NATO, by invitation of the government started a new mission called "ALLIED HARMONY". This mission was to advise and assist the host nation authorities with the normalization process and contribute to the overall IC aim to bring confidence and stability to the region.

On 31 Mar 03 NATO handed over authority to the EU for "OPERATION CON-CORDIA". The core aim of this operation was, at the explicit request of the host nation government, to contribute further to a stable secure environment and to allow the implementation of the Ohrid Agreement. Initially expected to last for 6 months, it was agreed by the Security Council to extend it to Dec 03. CONCORDIA was part of the EU's overall commitment in assisting the efforts of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia government to move closer towards EU integration. It represented further tangible evidence of the development of the European security and defence policy and of the EU's contribution to the IC's efforts to promote stability and security.

NHQS was created in Apr 02 by the amalgamation of two HQs, namely KFOR REAR and AMBER FOX. The mission is to advise the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Government Authorities on military aspects of Security Sector Reform in order to contribute to further Euro-Atlantic Integration and provide support to NATO-led operations within the Balkans Joint Area of Operations.

As of April 1st 2012 the mission name is NATO LIAISON OFFICE SKOPJE which is more representative of its mission.

# MLO Belgrade Mission

The primary mission of the Military Liaison Office is to serve as a link with the military authorities of Serbia on the practical aspects of the implementation of the Transit Agreement between NATO and Serbia, which was signed on 18 July 2005. The purpose of this Transit Agreement is to improve the logistical flow to and between NATO's operations in the Western Balkans.

The office facilitates the implementation of Serbia's Partnership for Peace Programme with NATO and provide assistance to NATO's public diplomacy activities in the region.

MLO also supports the Serbia/NATO Defence Reform Group, which has been working since February 2006. The Defence Reform Group, which is co-chaired by Serbia and NATO, was established to provide advice and assistance to the Serbian authorities to enable them to reform and modernize Serbia's Armed Forces and to build a modern, affordable and democratically controlled defence structure in Serbia.

The NATO Military Liaison Office in Belgrade is a vital contact point between the Serbian Ministry of Defense and NATO since its establishment in December 2006. The office facilitates Serbian cooperation with NATO under the Partnership for Peace programme and supports Serbia's efforts in matters of defense sector reform through a joint Serbia-NATO Defense Reform Group.

The MLO also provides assistance to NATO's public diplomacy activities in the region, and serves as a link with the military authorities of Serbia on the practical aspects of the implementation of the Transit Agreement. Italian Brigadier General Cesare Marinelli is the Chief of the NATO MLO since February 2016.

NATO has been augmenting Turkey's defence capabilities since January 2013. In response to Turkey's request, NATO Foreign Ministers decided on 4 December 2012 that NATO would augment Turkey's air defence capabilities in order to defend the population and territory of Turkey against threats posed by missiles from across its border with Syria.

Allies have committed five PATRIOT batteries to augment Turkey's air defences. Germany and the United States have provided two batteries each since January 2013. Spain has provided one since January 2015. There are approximately 750 NATO troops supporting the Patriot deployment. The Netherlands provided two batteries from January 2013 until January 2015.

All PATRIOT batteries are under NATO command and plugged into NATO's air defence network. Command and control procedures have been agreed by all 28 Allies. NATO's Supreme Allied Commander, General Philip Breedlove, has operational command responsibility for the Patriot deployment. He has delegated responsibility to Allied Air Command, Ramstein, which is in charge of NATO's air defence, and to NATO military commanders on the ground. The first battery became operational under NATO command on 26 January, 2013. Patriot is a sophisticated ground-to-air guided missile defence system. For detailed information on how it works.

### Operation Sea Guardian

At the NATO Warsaw Summit in July 2016, NATO announced the transformation of our Active Endeavour counter-terrorism mission in the Mediterranean to a broader maritime security operation. The new operation is called Sea Guardian.

Operation Sea Guardian is a non-article 5 maritime security operation aimed at working with Mediterranean stakeholders to maintain maritime situational awareness, deter counter terrorism and enhance capacity building.

Some of the tasks conducted will include: supporting maritime situational awareness, upholding freedom of navigation, conducting interdiction tasks, maritime counter-terrorism, contributing to capacity building, countering proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and protecting critical infrastructure.

Operation Sea Guardian took place with participation with Allied Maritime Command Headquarters (MARCOM) in Northwood, United Kingdom.

Sea Guardian is a fusion of information to create a comprehensive picture of daily activities in the Mediterranean, and MARCOM will serve as the hub of maritime security information sharing for the Alliance. NATO will request forces from Allied nations to support this operation in various ways through active, standby, or associated support. Thus, the supporting numbers of ships, aircraft, personnel, and Allied operations centres will vary throughout the duration of the this operation.

During Focused operations various types of assets are deployed under NATO operational control to gather, develop and maintaining an accurate picture of daily activity in different parts of the Mediterranean Sea. The following units are operating in the Mediterranean directly for Operation Sea Guardian.

#### Conclusions

NATO is an active and leading contributor to peace and security on the international stage. It promotes democratic values and is committed to the peaceful resolution of disputes. However, if diplomatic efforts fail, it has the military capacity needed to undertake crisis management operations, alone or in cooperation with other countries and international organizations.

The environment of modern crisis response operations is multidimensional and multifaceted. Crisis response operations with the turn of the twentieth and twenty-first century were carried out on the border of civilization, the Euro – Asian and culturally homogeneous Arabic environment. Borderland civilization beneficial effects on intercultural communication based on your previous contacts, while the homogeneous environment makes it difficult to communicate because of their earlier absence. Communication with people from different civilizations is subject to risk misunderstanding or a mistake in understanding the interactions. Environment led crisis response operations affect the interaction between different cultures. Requires that the participants get acquainted with the operations culture, religion, language and customs in the region of its conduct. Determined by the environment of civilization operation requires the rejection of the ethnocentric attitudes of its participants to intercultural communication.

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