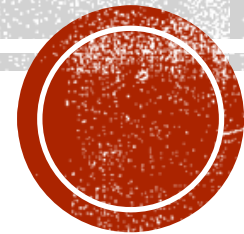


NATO'S STRATEGIC CONCEPT: DEFENCE AND DETERRENCE PRIORITIES AND RESPONSES



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WHERE ARE WE FROM?



WHO ARE WE?



THE SECURITY ENVIRONMENT TODAY: DETERRENCE AND DEFENCE

Adapting to new 'sub-threshold' threats:

- A rapidly-changing technological environment has spawned new forms of warfare: cyber, 'grey-zone' and hybrid activities.

A tipping point:

- Disruptive technologies, the proliferation of WMD and expansion of unregulated information spaces have changed today's security environment;
- Defence and deterrence are more difficult against hostile actors who employ new methods to exploit NATO's vulnerabilities.

Challenging the status-quo:

- Russian resurgence and the rise of China.



THE SECURITY ENVIRONMENT OVER THE NEXT 10 YEARS

Structural change is empowering state agency:

- Resurgent powers become new patrons resulting in the increased bargaining capacity of all states.

Increasingly complex security nexus:

- Natural disasters, technology (AI, cyber, conventional, energy), human-security, supply chains.

Emerging security geographies and landscapes:

- Changing resource distribution will incentivise conflict resulting in greater destabilization.



AN UPCOMING DECADE OF THREATS AND CHALLENGES

Hybrid warfare threat from Russia/China:

- Moscow and Beijing's increasing influence in global economics and technology, combined with aggressive policies on border-integrity issues, poses a serious security threat to NATO.

Climate change and resources:

- Access to natural resources will become increasingly limited. NATO must maintain good relations with the owners/distributors of such resources as an added security measure for its own territories and operational effectiveness.

Space as a new frontier:

- The increasing militarisation of space creates a new arena for conflict. NATO must protect its infrastructure in space to maintain operational security and interconnectivity on Earth.



SECURITY THREATS AND CHALLENGES TO BE PRIORITISED IN THE UPDATED STRATEGIC CONCEPT

Collective defence and deterrence:

- Traditional - navigating individual and distinct relationships with state actors and developing state-based issues, border disputes;
- Non-traditional – terrorism and human security.

Strategic dominance of technology:

- R&D, push for retention of technological supremacy by providing platforms for sharing of technological innovation across the Alliance.

Interdependent relationships:

- Energy, technology and trade. NATO's role is to be aware and resilient to possible threats and whomever exploits them.



A NEW TOOLKIT FOR DEALING WITH SECURITY CHALLENGES

Unity of purpose:

- Broader political consultation and coordination to promote effective collective defence and cooperative security;
- ‘Sense and sensibility’ – promoting intra-allied diplomacy and shared political commitment among allies and partners.

Cooperative research and funding:

- Expand initiatives such as the Innovation Fund and DIANA, underpinned by common funding, to ensure NATO maintains its technological edge.

Specialised response mechanisms:

- There is a need to identify, define and establish responses to new forms of conflict within NATO strategy and doctrine to deter aggression and mitigate risk.



FURTHER DEFENCE AND DETERRENCE CONSIDERATIONS

Relationships and information operations:

- External - redefining roles and partnerships with other international organisations (such as UN and EU), as well as strengthening partnerships with non-member states;
- Internal - integration and cooperation between allies, sharing of information and technological advancements.

An ongoing requirement for nuclear deterrence

Prevention, mitigation, transformation

