

Joint Military Operations in the Urban Environment

The majority of the world's population now live in urban areas, and the trend towards urbanisation is continuing to rise. History has taught us that conflict and large-scale disasters often occur where people live. Consequently, if the majority of people are going to be living in urban environments, including cities and megacities, an increasing number of future military operations will take place in these environments. NATO therefore needs to prepare for such operations.

In early 2017, the NATO Military Committee (MC) was briefed on the conceptual study, which included results of the 2018 wargame. It tasked SACT with continuing the urbanisation project and developing a Capstone Concept for Joint Military Operations in the Urban Environment. Work in this field will continue in 2019 with the development of an Operating Concept for Multi-Domain Urban Operations as a follow-on project to which NATO C2COE subject matter experts will contribute.

For more information on the NATO C2COE activities related to the Operating Concept for Multi-Domain Urban Operations project, please contact our project officer, Major Frantisek Bartko (SVK SOF), +31(0) 610710847, [Send E-mail](#).

Strategic Foresight Analysis (SFA) and Framework for Future Alliance Operations (FFAO)

The NATO C2COE has for several years been actively involved in the efforts of Allied Command Transformation (ACT) to predict the future and envision the capability needs required in future NATO operations. This process has been divided into two closely related but separately handled work packages.

The first work package, the Strategic Foresight Analysis, is an iterative process which is updated regularly. It identifies future themes, trends and security implications for the Alliance. The SFA 2013 report was released as the first result of this process, and the SFA 2017 report was published at the end of 2017. A new revision cycle was launched in 2018. This cycle will continue in 2019 with the support of NATO subject matter experts.

The second work package, the Framework for Future Alliance Operations, is also an iterative process which is updated regularly. It builds on the SFA report, providing long-term input to the NATO Defence Planning Process and is aimed at anticipating what new capabilities, concepts, training and doctrine the Alliance may need in the future.

The NATO C2COE will continue to support ACT with two staff officers in the important process of creating and updating the SFA and FFAO reports.

More information on the SFA and FFAO process can be found on the [NATO Homepage](#) (click to open). For more information on the NATO C2COE activities related to the SFA and FFAO project, please contact our project officer, Major Frantisek Bartko (SVK SOF), +31(0) 610710847, [Send E-mail](#).

Support for SVK Armed Forces Training

The NATO Command and Control Centre of Excellence (C2COE) will provide subject matter experts to contribute to and support training and education events in 2019 in Slovakia in response to a request made by the Slovak armed forces.

The Peace Support Operations Training Unit/Training Battalion in Martin, Slovakia, will organise the training of Slovak armed forces personnel selected for positions in NATO/EU organisations.

The Armed Forces Academy of Milan Rastislav Stefanik in Liptovsky Mikulas, Slovakia, will organise senior command and staff officer courses. The career educational courses are designed for officers of the Slovak armed forces by the Lifelong Education Centre at the Armed Forces Academy. Graduates earn the qualifications necessary to achieve the ranks of lieutenant colonel and colonel.

NATO C2COE will support both training events organised by Peace Support Operation Training Unit and Armed Forces Academy of Milan Rastislav Stefanik with two C2 subject matter experts. The NATO C2COE subject matter experts will provide training focused on current C2 topics, the NATO command structure, information management and information knowledge management, and C2 processes at the operational level.

For more information on the NATO C2COE activities related to the support for SVK armed forces training, please contact our project officer, Major Frantisek Bartko (SVK SOF), +31(0) 610710847, [Send E-mail](#).

Trident Jupiter 2019 (TRJU19)

The NATO Command and Control Centre of Excellence (C2COE) will support HQ SHAPE J7 Evaluation Group in conducting a Joint Evaluation (JOINTEVAL) during the Trident Jupiter 2019 (TRJU19) exercise to assist COM JFC Brunssum in his preparation for the NRF HO standby period. The JOINTEVAL will examine processes, procedures, products, internal interactions and external coordination. The C2COE's involvement in TRJU19 will be limited to JFC Brunssum during both phases of the exercise.

The NATO C2COE has had a permanent presence in support of ACT-sponsored exercises since 2008. In recent years the C2COE's engagement in NRF exercises has shifted more to supporting the NATO Joint Warfare Centre (JWC) and SHAPE. By providing expertise and personnel to SHAPE J7 and JWC TT, we have the opportunity to stay current on how NATO's C2 directives and policies are implemented within JHQs at the operational level. Ultimately, it continues to be a beneficial support relationship for all entities. Furthermore, supporting these exercises will also be beneficial to our own internal research projects. This was the case in 2018 with respect to 'The Future of the Command Post' study.

For more information on the NATO C2COE activities related to the support for HQ SHAPE J7, please contact our project officer, Major Frantisek Bartko (SVK SOF), +31(0) 610710847, [Send E-mail](#).