Information Day

NATO’s Counter-Terrorism Cooperation with Partners

Report

15 November 2016
Luns Theatre - NATO HQ
Final Report on
NATO’s Counter-Terrorism
Cooperation with Partners

15 November 2016,
NATO Headquarters Brussels

This important familiarization event, run by the Emerging Security Challenges Division’s Counter Terrorism section, set out the range of opportunities available to partners for collaboration with NATO in the field of counter-terrorism (CT). This was the second event of its kind, the first having been held in 2014.

Following a dynamic and thought-provoking opening session, the event covered CT-related options including information sharing, capacity building, scientific cooperation and specific capability development. Two partner nations gave first-hand accounts of CT cooperation with NATO.

Representatives of International Organisations spoke of their differing mandates and their activities which represent complementary opportunities for NATO’s partner nations.

The final interactive session put partners and NATO Points of Contact in touch. Individual nations are now encouraged to identify specific collaborative CT activities for inclusion in their cooperation programme with NATO.
Ambassador Ducaru opened the event by welcoming participants including the majority of NATO’s partner nations (29 of 41 having registered), many Allies and several international organisations. The turnout made this a good opportunity to enhance common understanding of opportunities available for CT cooperation, not only between the Alliance and its partners but more widely. He noted that terrorism, though lacking a universal definition, was a problem discussed throughout society and one that would persist whilst changing and mutating.

NATO’s political and military strengths can be brought to bear to good effect within the international CT field and the Ambassador reminded participants of NATO’s Article 5 operations in response to the 2001 attacks in the US and referred to the Global Anti-ISIL coalition in which all Allies and many partners are involved in some capacity. In his view, the sustained and solid underlying work by NATO, partners and the international community had a profound overall effect against terrorism and it was here that efforts should be consolidated.

The Ambassador highlighted the outcome of the 2016 Warsaw Summit and Allies’ intention to do more to counter the threat from terrorism through cooperating, through helping partners with their security and resilience, and through ‘Projecting Stability’ which included building the defence capacity of partners in response to a shared awareness of regional security challenges. He added that NATO Foreign Ministers had also pushed for increased assistance to be offered to partners facing instability to NATO’s South in the four key areas of CT, Countering Improvised Explosive Devices (C-IED), military border security and control of small arms and light weapons (SALW).

His stated aim for the day was to set out NATO’s CT mandate as clearly as possible; describe the diverse range of political and practical tools available to partners through the Alliance; and provide some options and examples of ways that NATO can work with partners, both as providers
and as recipients, to mutual benefit and to enlarge the area of stability on which all can rely. He also wanted to ensure participants understood what NATO does not do in the CT field and hence was delighted to welcome the United Nations (UN), the European Union (EU), the Organisations for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and Interpol who had agreed to brief on their mandates and their interface with NATO.

He noted that over half of NATO’s partners mention an interest in CT in their bilateral agreements with NATO and added that this number was likely to rise. He would wish each agreement that mentions CT cooperation to give detail as to how this could be taken forward. He thanked delegates from the Republic of Ireland and Iraq for agreeing to give personal impressions of cooperation on CT with NATO. He hoped that these examples would be helpful to those still considering how to engage.

Ambassador Ducaru thanked colleagues for their support, this went beyond NATO Headquarters staff to Centres of Excellence, NATO Intelligence Fusion Centre and NATO School Oberammergau. He welcomed the keynote speaker, Mr Richard Barrett, known to many for his work with UN sanctions on Al Qaida and Taliban and for his work on Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTF) through his vice presidency of the Soufan Group. In closing, he noted the organisers’ (CT section) decision to use the event as a showcase for Women in Peace and Security and invited Ambassador Marriet Schuurman to make a brief comment.
Ambassador Schuurman commended the female dominated event and hoped that it would set a new trend within NATO. All the talents from across society were needed to respond to complex security challenges and being inclusive brought resilience. The Ambassador referred to UNSCRs 1325 and 2242 and the need to put gender equality at the core of every security strategy including CT. Terrorism and extremism had different impacts on men, women, boys and girls in many contexts with women recognised as victims but also as agents of terrorism. She referred to the use of gender based violence to destroy local communities, as a terror tactic and as a spur to the recruitment and financing of terrorism. She highlighted the high numbers of women amongst the fighter flows to ISIL and commented that whilst ISIL is recruiting women more effectively than our national armies we still focus on deterring young men.

Speaking of NATO’s pledge at the UN to finance research on the role of gender in countering and preventing violent extremism she referred to a project between the US and Morocco under the Science for Peace and Security (SPS) programme on preventing the recruitment of women to ISIL. The findings would be published soon. Referring to the pillars of the NATO CT Policy Guidelines she linked gender analysis and early warning indicators to Awareness, gender expertise and improved gender balance to improved Capabilities and added gender and CT as a topic for Engagement with partners. In closing she reminded participants of the NATO Secretary General’s words “gender equality is not optional – it is fundamental. It allows us to respond better and smarter to the many complex security challenges we face today.”
Mr Barrett dismissed the idea of an existential threat from terrorist groups such as AQ, ISIL or PKK but described terrorism as a successful tactic, not to achieve stated terrorist goals but to undermine cohesion and societal values, including the very basis and principles of international security on which NATO was founded. CT was also a major drain on global society costing in the region of 90 billion USD worldwide in 2015 (according to figures from the 2016 Global Terrorism Index). Terrorism had seeped into our collective consciousness and influenced the way we look at each other. Although terrorism is a common enemy it has raised tensions and questions over collaboration and affected policy making in many fields. He felt that the international community needed to demonstrate adaptability, new strategies were needed but we should also be ready to discard them if they do not work. Terrorism is complex, its impact resonates beyond its destructive power and each fears he is next.

He moved on to look at the current situation in the United States where a Chicago Council survey before the election showed that 75% of Republicans viewed Islamic fundamentalism as a critical threat to their country. This compared with 57% in the population overall. Pew reported that some 40% of the US public believe that terrorists are better equipped now than they were in 2001 to mount a major attack – the highest level of public anxiety for 14 years. The incoming Republican government is likely to take a much harder line on CT than did its Democratic predecessor even though only 94 people have died from terrorist attacks in the USA over the last 15 years – and this compared with (underreported) deaths due to terrorism amounting to over 30,000 worldwide in 2015 alone, mainly in Muslim majority countries. It was reasonable to ask how much worse the situation would be if the US and its Allies had not reacted to 9/11 at all.

Mr Barrett noted that arriving at a decision to take collective action against terrorism was very hard. There would always be the grey area where an opposition group was labelled terrorist and the rights of a civilian population to use violence against foreign occupation were disputed.
There is no universally agreed definition of terrorism but it is an elastic concept ranging from localised violence to wide spread insurgency and as far as the proto-state of ISIL. At present what we witness is largely non-state but, given its effectiveness, we should expect state terrorism too if international tensions become greater.

The international trend is to look to the roots of terrorism, moving from paramilitary or military action upstream to prevent the threat materialising. CT relies on the police at home and the military abroad acting in response to intelligence leads. Improving education, governance, public security and the rule of law became central to CT and Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) and there is now a shift towards PVE which places the burden on community action - although a third of a CSIS survey continues to believe that military action is effective against violent extremism. Nations have not been noticeably successful in deterring right wing violence via community effort. Hopes are pinned on the Counter Narrative approach to undermine extreme ideologies but these always contain elements of truth so, even if pricked, their bubbles cannot be deflated completely. More important, perhaps, is to consider all actions taken by nations and organisations as serving both as narrative and counter narrative.

The speaker then moved to the controversial issue of migration. He asserted that refugees did not constitute a high threat or risk from terrorism. Few terrorists used migration routes but some migrants radicalised due to conditions upon arrival. Despite evidence to this effect there is antipathy towards migrants, for example in Poland, which has few migrants and almost no terrorists, 70% of the population surveyed by Pew in May 2016 believed that an influx of refugees increases the threat from terrorism. Most populations believe that action to counter violent extremism has been insufficient, many see military and economic action as the best option although most register that military efforts to date have not worked. Many would wish to see NATO strengthened to take on more of a CT role. Holding territory is not the indication of success or failure of a terrorist group. Ideologies will still appeal to those who lack opportunity, identity, a sense of belonging or who have been victims of discrimination and consider themselves to have failed, religion will continue to be seen as an attractive solution.

As ISIL begins to break up, foreign terrorist fighters are returning to their countries. One third of those from the EU are thought to have returned and many more have travelled to Turkey. Some will pose threats (and total surveillance upon return is impossible in our societies) but those who have never managed to travel are also ripe to be instrumentalised.

Mr Barrett used recent European attacks as an example showing that the security system works but that information is not always acted upon so cooperation must increase. Of those involved in the Paris and Brussels attacks at least 9 had been on domestic watchlists, 6 on international arrest warrants and 2 had been involved in a 2009 plot targeting the Bataclan, 12 had been stopped or even arrested at borders. There was much talk of a centralised database held somewhere like Interpol but any such initiative would have problems with trust, inclusion criteria and access. Even if NATO were to be made part of the database community the Alliance’s role as a forum for discussion would remain more important.

Syria and Iraq have encouraged terrorism but stability is unlikely to accompany the reassertion of dictatorship, further repression and chaos are more likely. NATO's role is not just in the field of military action against terrorist leadership; it should use its assistance programmes wisely and impose conditions that reflect regional understanding of the drivers of violent extremism. Turkey and partners in Asia could help with this. NATO should also seek to analyse the impact of military force on terrorist groups and be able to demonstrate NATO’s value at lower cost. Demonstrations of NATO’s resolve against Russia may not deter what happens in Syria and Ukraine and after nearly 15 years ISAF has not yet ensured that AQ and ISIL cannot find safe haven in Afghanistan. Perception is much stronger than reality in terrorism and military action cannot be the sole answer. Action must also be taken, as UN language has it, against the conditions conducive to terrorism. There are many lessons learned and more to learn. In the current political climate it is reasonable to focus on the security issues that matter most to the United States and terrorism, according to the polls, is one.
An Introduction to CT and NATO

This session provided an overview of the current terrorism landscape – recent threats, key areas of concern, and emerging trends and developments. This was followed by an account of counter-terrorism work at NATO, with a focus on cooperation with partners. It addressed the current policy and explained the Alliance’s overall approach to the fight against terrorism within the framework of cooperative security. Lastly the audience heard from partners already engaged with NATO on CT-relevant issues.

‘Today’s terrorism’

by Paulette Arnold,
Head of CT, NATO Intelligence Fusion Centre

Ms Arnold gave a general introduction to the terrorist threat and reminded participants of the 1998 US Embassy bombs, the attack on the MV Limburg, the 2001 9/11 attacks and the use of Anthrax the same year. She referred to the Global Terrorism Index’s evidence that 75% of all deaths from terrorism in 2014 took place in 5 countries. She noted that the job of law enforcement was difficult and getting harder; she pointed to the public availability of secure communications such as the use of ‘Telegram’, an application (‘app’) written to defeat Russian security service capabilities. When referring to the need to share information about the terrorist threat she recommended much increased sharing of general data on trends, case stories, tools that had been used to good effect in investigations, from where weapons etc. had been sourced, modus operandi e.g. of car attacks or the use of commercial drones. Sharing of this relatively unchallenging, unclassified data would be a great step forward.
‘CT at NATO: Aware, Capable and Engaging for Security’

by Dr Juliette Bird,
Head of CT, Emerging Security Challenges Division, NATO HQ

Dr Bird opened with a short history of CT at NATO and how military doctrine (MC 472 – the Military Concept for Defence against Terrorism) had to be written in 2001 to frame the two Article 5 operations Eagle Assist and Active Endeavour. A CT structure followed in 2010 and CT policy guidelines in 2012. Since then an Action Plan for implementation of the policy, a strategic training plan and an updated version of the Military Concept have been adopted to provide a solid policy basis for NATO’s CT work. She stressed the principles that Allies had given for NATO’s CT work – that it be legal, non-duplicative and in support of Allies’ CT work – and touched on the three pillars of the mandate: Awareness, Capabilities and Engagement.

Awareness is ensured through consultation, intelligence sharing and outreach; capabilities (particularly those for military and civilian-military use) are built through research, technical cooperation, best practice sharing, education, training and exercises as well as common experience gained through missions and operations; and engagement takes place with partners through the political frameworks of NATO (EAPC etc.) and through specific groupings (EOP etc.) and is formalised in individual agreements with NATO (IPCPs, PARP ANP etc.). Dr Bird also referred to the Defence Capacity Building Initiative which can provide intensified support to a few partners. Engagement with international organisations allows for cooperation and deconfliction to ensure the best use of their varied mandates.

Partners appear to list three priority areas in their individual agreements: political consultations including expert meetings and intelligence sharing, a wide spread of education and training opportunities and cooperation under the Science for Peace and Security programme. All of these would be discussed in more depth later in the day and illustrated with examples.

CT is an ‘everything and nothing’ topic as very few issues at NATO are labelled ‘CT’ but many can make a critical contribution to nations’ abilities to deal with terrorism – for instance defence and security sector reform, crisis management and planning, interoperability etc. – interoperability in terms of hardware and in exercised procedures add up to the ability to take part in an operation with a CT remit. She explained that today’s meeting was intended to increase understanding of the range of CT-relevant options for cooperation that are available through NATO.

Dr Bird cautioned that partners sometimes ask to cooperate on topics where NATO has no remit, such as financial aspects of terrorism and work to counter extremism and radicalisation – the latter is a largely domestic issue to avoid internal violence. Nations were best placed to work on this issue as NATO brings together Ministers of Defence and Foreign Affairs but not those areas most involved in the softer end of CT (interior, justice, social services etc.). Likewise, an attempt by NATO to counter a terrorist group’s narrative would be largely ignored. Intelligence sharing was not impossible for partners with NATO but it was difficult as individual Allies own the intelligence rather than NATO itself. Bilateral arrangements might be more effective for the exchange of ‘hot’ operational intelligence but there was value in NATO’s strategic analyses as a picture of the overall views of 28 (soon to be 29) Allies.

NATO’s Centres of Excellence are good hubs of expertise for partners and Allies alike to tap into. NATO itself can act as a platform to share expertise and best practice between Allies and partners. The CT section in NATO HQ exists to make NATO’s overall CT effort transparent and coherent, to provide advice and links to other parts of the organisation and to complement the Political Affairs Division’s interaction with partners on the specific topic of CT.
Speaking on a personal basis and drawing on his multinational experience in the field of Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) and Improvised Explosive Device Disposal (IEDD) within the Irish Defence Forces from 2007-2016, Colonel Dowling spoke of the CT-relevant national contributions of Ireland, especially in the NATO context including ISAF. NATO’s partner nation Ireland has, for several years, offered nationally conducted courses on EOD, IEDD, countering IEDs etc. to other nations since international and multi-agency cooperation and coordination are understood to save lives. Ireland has worked with Europol and its EOD network since 2009. In 2008 Ireland was, with the European Defence Agency (EDA) CIED project team, involved in setting guidelines for the development of national CIED capabilities and in the concept for, development of, and training support to, a Level 2 Theatre Exploitation Laboratory for deployment to ISAF. The multi-national CIED project was originally led by France but post-ISAF ‘JDEAL’ is led by The Netherlands. Other collaborative EDA CIED Project Team initiatives have been successfully delivered since.

Ireland has conducted several IEDD courses for military and police (civ-mil), and weapons intelligence team (WIT) and IEDD training courses for Allied Command Transformation. Four pre-operational training courses on IEDD in a high threat CIED environment were held in 2012-13. Ireland has strong links to the NATO Centres of Excellence for EOD and for CIED and very good and long-standing working relations with the Emerging Security Challenges Division.

In 2015 Ireland first ran a Counter Marauding Terrorist Attack Course involving a very wide range of professional first responders on academic, theoretical and operational aspects of coordinated preparation for responses to such threats. Single, twin and multiple shooter scenarios are dealt with, as are complex attacks similar to that seen in Mumbai. Coordination, both internally and externally, and the need for a unified multi-agency command and control structure and inter-service interoperability covering various aspects, including medical responses and public reassurance, are also covered. An advanced course (underway in Ireland as he spoke) is training an equal mix of experienced military and civilian first responders.

Ireland and Canada are currently working with the UN on an EOD manual for Peace Keeping Operations, and a companion handbook on IED mitigation (led by Pakistan and Australia), both due for delivery in 2017.

In closing Colonel Dowling referred to continuing gaps that had been identified in the CIED field – intelligence sharing, a failure to institutionalise CIED, some institutional barriers between international organisations – and noted that the overall aim of CIED must be to ‘save lives’, so focusing only on the process was not sufficient. Ireland will continue to assist national and international efforts to pro-actively enhance C-IED resilience and multi-agency cooperation and coordination.
Remarks by Brigadier General Sabah Saleh Saeed, Iraqi Military Representative at SHAPE

General Sabah made his brief intervention on a personal basis and spoke of the current situation in Mosul where Iraqi Security Forces, Peshmerga and popular mobilisation forces were fighting to retake the city from Daesh. The six month training package that NATO’s Defence Capacity Building Initiative had been able to put together provided CIED training in Jordan for over 100 experts. These were now involved in the battle of Mosul and were saving civilian and military lives. Likewise those benefiting from the medical training NATO was providing were also seeing action in Mosul and again were saving lives.

There are 7 areas of cooperation identified as priorities between NATO and Iraq and some of these will move from Jordan and elsewhere to be delivered in Iraq itself in 2017. Iraq is now thinking of the next phase. Its ambition is to work more effectively in the area of Civil-Military Cooperation (CIMIC) as this will be essential for the longer term. CIMIC training should be part of the next phase.

Iraq was keen to ensure a full exchange of information. Iraq had information to share from the two year-long occupation by Daesh which should be useful to NATO.

He finished by underlining that killing the Daesh fighters would not ensure the end of terrorism. He referred to the 1000 or so women who had been part of the Daesh regime, how could Iraq work with them against the persistent ideology of Daesh?
Awareness within the NATO forum and beyond

NATO aims to ensure shared awareness of the terrorist threat and vulnerabilities among Allies and partners. NATO’s CT role is part of the international UN-led effort. Other international organisations were asked to present their complementary mandates and the different specialist areas they offer. NATO then provided an overview of the opportunities available to partners particularly in the area of consultations and information sharing.

The International CT playing field

Remarks by Ms Elena Rigacci Hay, Terrorism Prevention Branch, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Ms Rigacci Hay provided an overview of international legal framework to prevent and combat terrorism. This includes the 19 international legal instruments related to terrorism - many of which were adopted under the auspices of the United Nations - and several United Nations Security Council and General Assembly resolutions, including the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. This legal framework is meant to promote action by States to prevent and CT and is the cornerstone for international cooperation in CT. Ms Rigacci Hay mentioned several resolutions, including UN Security Council Resolution 1373 (2001), which calls on United Nations Member States to take concrete measures to criminalize terrorism, including terrorism financing; deny safe haven; share information and cooperation in investigation, prosecution, extradition; and criminalize assistance to terrorism in domestic laws. The implementation of this resolution is monitored by the UN Counter Terrorism Committee, established at the same time. Ms. Rigacci Hay, spoke also about several other resolutions of the Security Council, including resolution 1267 (1999) and subsequent ones, resolution 1540 (2004) and subsequent ones, including resolution...
The United Nations Secretary-General’s Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism, launched earlier this year, provides important guidance for States for a comprehensive approach encompassing not only essential security-based counter-terrorism measures but also systematic preventive steps to address the underlying conditions that drive individuals to radicalize and join violent extremist groups.

The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, adopted in 2006 by the General Assembly is intended to be the centerpiece of the international community’s effort in CT. The implementation of the Strategy is monitored by the Counter Terrorism Implementation Task Force (UN CTITF), which also coordinates within the United Nations the activity of the 37 entities and INTERPOL through thematic working groups.

Assessment work within the United Nations is conducted by the Security Council’s Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Counter Terrorism Executive Directorate (CTC/ CTED), by carrying out country visits and monitoring progress on how countries implement resolutions.

Specifically within the UN Office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC) the Terrorism Prevention Branch is focused on capacity building for criminal justice officials and law enforcement officials and the provision of legal assistance. This is done with a view towards promoting the ratification of international instruments on countering/ preventing terrorism and harmonizing national legislation. The Branch offers capacity building assistance to assist the development of criminal justice and to law enforcement agencies through projects funded by donors.

Regarding the cooperation with the other international actors, regular staff talks, including with NATO, ensure complementarity in the conduct of each other's counterterrorism mandate. UNODC’s activities related to counterterrorism are developed in partnership, mindful of the strengths of other organizations. The Branch and NATO are exploring possible cooperation, including in relation to countering IEDs, CBRN defence, aiming to involve NATO specifically in areas where it can bring an added value through expertise and capacity building.

Remarks by Mrs Birgit Loeser,
CT division, EU External Action Service

Mrs Loeser introduced the EU CT Strategy, approved in 2005, fitting under the strategic commitment to prevent, protect, pursue and respond to terrorism. It aims to combat terrorism globally while respecting human rights. EU designated Gilles de Kerchove as the EU Counter Terrorism Coordinator to coordinate this work. EU regulations, directives and communications aim therefore to harmonize the European framework of countering terrorism but leave room for manoeuvre for the member states to implement these guidelines.

Within the area of police and justice cooperation, EU institutions such as FRONTEX, and EUROJUST play a key role, including the EUROPOL’s Internet Referral Unit who monitors propaganda online and encourages private companies to follow own regulations and ethics; EU maintains a Radicalization Awareness Network (RAN) connecting key groups of people involved in countering violent radicalization across the EU, including 3000 practitioners and a working group on Radicalization.

Representing the European External Action Service, Mrs Loeser described the EU focus on outreach to external parties, referring to dedicated CT political dialogues with selected partners and EU support to the CT global effort and multilateral engagement with a view to promoting the UN agenda. The EU is uniquely well equipped to support capacity building, by targeting the use of EU Commission funds in development projects, reinforcement of rule of law, security sector reform and legislation adaptation.
Following the significant change in 2015 (generated by the Charlie Hebdo attacks and the increasing realization of radicalization and terrorist phenomenon within Europe), additional decisions were adopted to focus EU’s work on the Middle East and North Africa as the immediate neighborhood and to facilitate outreach to the Arab world. The political dialogues with the MENA countries are now ‘upgraded and targeted’ with multiple stakeholders involved that strive to do solid assessments of capacity needs together with the recipient countries and to develop respective action plans with concrete practical EU assistance activities. An additional change in 2015 came with the realization of the increased internal/external nexus, particularly through the Foreign Terrorist Fighter links, terrorism financing, maritime routes, links to organized crime, aviation safety. To address the variety of threats and enabling networks, the work EU conducts to Counter Violent Extremism (CVE) is also multifaceted – though it is branded generally as part of the EU’s CT approach, it represents the softer approach encompassing a wider spectrum of actions targeted at good governance and socio-economic development projects.

Referring to the areas of cooperation between EU and NATO, Mrs Loeser reminded the audience that regular NATO EU staff talks take place as well as exchanges of views allowing organizations to de-conflict activities and identify possible domains of cooperation, such as in the field of critical infrastructure protection, aviation safety, maritime security, defence capacity building. This dialogue between staff is further enhanced through senior leadership briefing national committees, such as DASG ESCD Dr Jamie Shea’s presentation at COTER. Complementarity more than duplication was highlighted as the current state of coordination of EU CT projects, with EU funding a great number of the UN led projects.

Remarks by Mrs Irina Donciu,
Action against Terrorism Unit, Transnational Threats Department, OSCE

Mrs Donciu covered the OSCE CT-related mandate, highlighting the co-operation with partner international organizations, in support of promoting international standards at the regional level. OSCE supports participating States in the ratification process of the Universal Anti-terrorism Instruments (UATI), and promotes rule of law compliant criminal justice responses to terrorism and international co-operation in criminal matters related to terrorism. Based on its mandate, the OSCE has developed holistic CT programmes, including on developing the capacities of its participating States, upon request, and improving the cooperation and sharing of information among them. Built on a comprehensive concept of security, OSCE activities are complementary to those of NATO. OSCE efforts are articulated around 1. setting norms in the form of politically binding decisions, 2. Supporting implementation, through capacity building projects and 3. raising awareness through multilateral activities and focal point networks.

The threat of Violent Extremism and Radicalization that leads to Terrorism (VERLT) features prominently on the OSCE agenda and is addressed through an extensive body of commitments and recommendations for participating States. OSCE promotes a multi-dimensional and multi-stakeholder approach to countering VERLT, focusing on specific issues, such as the role of civil society in countering VERLT; gender and terrorism prevention; youth engagement; community policing and terrorism prevention. The communication campaign OSCE #UnitedCVE has had an unprecedented outreach of almost 16 million people since July 2015 when it was launched. It invites external stakeholders, especially civil society, to rally behind and contribute to it. The campaign is aimed at sending a unified message, reinforcing global consensus against violent extremism leading to terrorism. The OSCE also launched the “Leaders against Intolerance and Violent Extremism” (LIVE) capacity building initiative for civil society, aimed to empower youth, women, as well as religious and traditional leaders to speak up and take action at the local level against VERLT. Additionally, the OSCE supports participating States, upon request, to develop national Counter Terrorism Strategies and Action Plans aimed at countering VERLT.

Ms Donciu also described OSCE’s support to the participating States in the implementation of their commitments regarding traveler identification and document security, including through capacity-
building activities aimed at (i) increasing membership in ICAO Public Key Directory (PKD), (ii) increasing the use of Advanced Passenger Information (API), (iii) improving States’ ability to detect both imposters and forged / fraudulent travel documents, and (iv) improving State’s identity management systems.

Additional OSCE efforts are deployed in the field of facilitating the exchange of information on NNCEI protection; OSCE offers table-top trainings based on the OSCE Good Practices Guide on Non-Nuclear Critical Energy Infrastructure Protection from Terrorist Attacks. OSCE also has activities in the fields of countering Kidnapping for Ransom (KfR) and countering the use of internet for terrorist purposes. This includes the development of online expert forums, aimed at sharing best practices and latest responses to this threat, as well as by developing an e-learning thematic module. In the field of countering the financing of terrorism, OSCE, in co-operation with other international organizations, organizes trainings for representatives of state authorities and other activities aimed at assessing the threat, raising awareness on AML/CFT, and preventing the risk of abuse of Non-Profit Organizations for Terrorism Financing.

Remarks by Mr Mark Branchflower,
Police Forensics Sub Directorate, INTERPOL

Mr Branchflower focused his briefing on INTERPOL’s efforts to address the terrorist threat through increased use of biometric data. Increasing concern about the return of foreign terrorist fighters (FTF) from conflict zones requires enhanced information sharing via INTERPOL, particularly biometric data, to assist countries to identify and interdict these potential threats. Envisaged as a global tripwire, lack of biometric data creates a dangerous security gap. INTERPOL’s Strategic Plan for the use of biometric technologies is articulated around the pillars of identification, tracking, verification and linking and it is underpinned by a global presence and support structures.

Referring to the UNSCR 2178 on FTF, Mr Branchflower described INTERPOL’s assignment to support and encourage national, regional and international efforts to monitor and prevent FTF. To illustrate this role, he offered examples from Mali where INTERPOL’s use of forensic tools and services provided a temporary solution in lieu of the missing national capacities. He described the process of sharing and using data by INTERPOL member states, focusing on fingerprints and the AFIS gateway.

Countering Improvised Explosive Devices is another issue high on the INTERPOL agenda – Project Watchmaker is an international effort aiming to identify, locate and arrest known and suspected individuals involved in the manufacture or use of explosive devices. To highlight the input this programme depends on, Mr Branchflower mentioned that this effort was based on data provided by 36 nations/ entities and had generated 1386 INTERPOL notices.

Mr Branchflower concluded by stressing that coordination with EUROPOL and other international organizations was frequent, to ensure each organization brings a contribution according to its strengths and mandate and that programmatic funds are not duplicative.
As the Head of NATO Euro-Atlantic and Global Partnership, Mr Mackey outlined how NATO uses its partnership tools to help partners address the most pressing security challenges. Mr Mackey described NATO’s engagement with partners up the ladder of complexity and across the crisis spectrum, while focusing on tools and formats that are most relevant to the CT domain, in particular tools for capacity building and sharing of best practices. At the individual level, military activities with a CT dimension are included among the 2000 activities open for partner participation. De-confliction with the EU on individual activities is recurrent. At state level, NATO supports the implementation of reforms, including to ensure parliamentary control and oversight of armed forces, governmental reforms relevant for CT such as interagency coordination, or rooting out corruption. NATO’s contribution at regional level focuses on cooperation, in recognition that all threats are regional challenges that no state can address in isolation. Interoperability is a key aspect of NATO’s work - at both technical/ practical level, as well as political level, ensuring that inter-institutional communication is institutionalized.

Across the crisis spectrum, Mr Mackey defined three levels: non-crisis, pre-crisis and actual crisis. He highlighted that NATO has adequate tools to address all phases, ranging from increased focus of political attention and resources in order to prevent a crisis from emerging, de-confliction with other international organizations and partners, to stability operations and large training missions.
Capabilities

NATO promotes an effective response to terrorism through providing advice, assistance with planning, involvement in some capability development work and research projects as well as opportunities for training, education, and exercises. This session provided partners with an overview of the range of options available to them in this area.

‘Military Cooperation’
by Lt Colonel Jo Brain,
Cooperation and Security Division, International Military Staff, NATO HQ

This presentation focused on NATO’s strategic level military dialogue and cooperation with partners. Practical military cooperation with partner nations is vital for many areas from conventional warfighting capability to countering terrorism and to helping to create stable and secure countries abroad. Lt Col Brain stressed that NATO’s Strategic Concept requires a coherent set of deployable, interoperable and sustainable forces which are able to operate together and with partners in any environment. She underlined the importance of common NATO standards in particular as Allies and partners are increasingly likely to work alongside each other in multinational operations or during humanitarian relief efforts.

Lt Col Brain listed three main levels of military cooperation with partners: 1) consultation and dialogue, which includes NATO visits and military staff talks with the Defence departments and armed forces of a number of nations, 2) interoperability and 3) reforms and modernisation. Interoperability, defence reform and modernisation are key to translate political strategic guidance into practical, tangible effects. The main tools and activities used are: the Operational Capabilities Concept Evaluation and Feedback Programme which uses the lessons learned from NATO-led operations to improve the interoperability and reinforce the operational capabilities of partner
forces; the Partnership Cooperation Menu which lists and advertises NATO and national activities that directly support military cooperation; and Military Training and Exercises open to partners. Expert military advice can be provided on many topics including Special Operations Forces, Counter-IED, Women, Peace and Security, demining, public order, crisis management etc. Current cooperation efforts with Jordan, Georgia and Iraq are at different stages of development.

To conclude, Lt Col Brain stressed the need for a coherent approach, both internally and externally with other international organizations, and for long-term commitment. ‘Softer’ areas of military cooperation are not without challenges and, to succeed, a long term and holistic view must be taken when embarking upon a project – it is not enough to provide advice and training in the short term and expect it to morph into an enduring defence capability.

‘Capabilities’
by Elena Beganu,
CT Section, Emerging Security Challenges Division, NATO HQ

Building on NATO’s mandate in Counter Terrorism, Mrs Beganu focused on the second pillar, i.e. capability development. NATO has acquired much valuable expertise in countering non-conventional threats and in responding to terrorism. NATO’s Defence against Terrorism Programme of Work (DAT PoW) contributes to enhancing the Alliance’s ability to prevent, deter and respond to terrorism by identifying initiatives to strengthen Alliance capabilities. The programme focuses on Allied urgent operational needs and priority shortfall areas and delivers innovative technologies and methods that address asymmetric threats in an efficient way. This may include cooperation with selected partners. The programme’s focus has been enlarged to provide more comprehensive support to capability development and to respond to emerging security challenges. The programme can include elements of doctrine and concept development, testing of upcoming technologies, military utility assessments, simulation and modelling, training activities, prototype development or enhancement, and trials and exercises.

DAT PoW focuses on the Alliance’s most critical needs under 3 capability umbrellas:
- Incident Management;
- Force Protection/ Survivability;
- Network Engagement.

DAT PoW is unique in that Allies drive the programme by submitting project proposals. Each initiative is brought forward by an individual Lead Nation or Lead Body thus leveraging the capacities of governments, industries and science and research establishments, and thereby accelerating the development and fielding of counter-measures.

Continued relevance of the programme is ensured as NATO transitions from operations to contingency readiness by supporting key strands of work within the Alliance; addressing new requirements, e.g. the Readiness Action Plan/ Very High Readiness Task Force (VJTF); taking stock of lessons identified in operations; and fostering interoperability through exercises and trainings.

In recognition of the contribution that partners bring to global efforts against terrorism and through their understanding of the threat, certain DAT POW initiatives are open to selected partners on a case by case basis: Non-Lethal Capabilities (NLC); Countering improvised explosive devices (C-IED); Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD); Route Clearance; Harbour Protection; Joint Intelligence Surveillance Reconnaissance (JISR); Special Operations Forces (SOF); Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear (CBRN) defence.
This presentation focused on the work of the NATO Centre of Excellence for Defence Against Terrorism (COE-DAT). Col Joyce began by presenting a general overview of the twenty-three NATO accredited Centres of Excellence (COEs), their locations, and various focus areas such as Human Intelligence or Military Engineering. These COEs offer expertise and experience to the benefit of the Alliance, especially in support of transformation. COEs are not part of the NATO Command Structure but are nationally or multinationally sponsored entities. The mission of the COE-DAT is to provide key decision-makers with realistic solutions to terrorism and CT challenges, in order to transform NATO and nations of interest to meet potential and future security challenges. The Centre offers a range of activities to include courses and workshops, SPS funded activities, and research in areas such as terrorist use of cyberspace, crisis management for mitigating the risks of terrorism and defence against suicide bombing. It cooperates with NATO, EU and OSCE training units and several academies and institutions. Col Joyce concluded by outlining the basic steps partner nations can take to become more involved in the Centre’s activities with an emphasis on areas of common interest in 2017 and beyond, such as workshops on CT capacity building and countering violent extremism and courses on operational planning for CT and the link between terrorism and the media.

Lt Col Bigot’s presentation focused on the role and function of the NATO School in Oberammergau (NSO) and what CT relevant courses the school can provide. He presented the newly created Hybrid, Influence, Effects Department (HIED) with a portfolio of courses that will combine disciplines such as NATO Strategic Communications and Civil-Military Planning with hybrid and irregular disciplines such as the Defence Against Terrorism (DAT) course. The DAT course provides participants with an overview of the global and regional threats of terrorism, including its various forms, resources, means and tools as well as global, regional and national efforts in combating terrorism, and explains the NATO Counter-Terrorism Policy and Doctrine. The NSO cooperates with the COE-DAT, sharing their Defence Against Terrorism curricula to address different audiences and to maximise outreach.

This presentation focused on what NATO is doing to enhance resilience through civil preparedness. NATO being a military Alliance, efforts have centred first and foremost on military capabilities but on their own these are not sufficient to meet the challenges of a new security environment. This is particularly the case for threats against “soft” civilian targets, such as critical infrastructure or civilian populations, and thus is highly relevant to counter-terrorism.

Clare highlighted the importance of the seven baseline requirements for national resilience to which NATO leaders committed with the “Warsaw Summit Commitment to Enhance Resilience”: 1) assured continuity of government and critical government services, 2) resilient energy supplies, 3) ability to deal effectively with uncontrolled movement of people, 4) resilient food and water resources, 5) ability to deal with mass casualties, 6) resilient civil communications systems and 7) resilient civil transportation systems. They represent the level of resilience that each Ally is expected to meet so that the core functions of continuity of government, continuity of essential
services to the population and civil support to the military are at all times maintained, even in the most demanding of scenarios. Nations can request tailored support from the ‘Resilience Advisory Support Team’ (a team of pre-identified resilience experts which trains together) or a comprehensive review of national civil preparedness “Crisis Response Measures”. Robust civil preparedness scenarios are built into NATO military exercises, such as the annual strategic CMX, to train for crisis situations.

Although NATO is working on resilience primarily to meet its collective defence obligations, the Alliance is ready to share this work with partners through all partnership frameworks. NATO views cooperation on resilience as a two-way street, from which both NATO and partner security can benefit.

‘SPS: A funding option for tailored cooperation’

by Dr Deniz Beten,
Science for Peace and Security Programme (SPS),
Emerging Security Challenges Division, NATO HQ

The NATO SPS Programme promotes security-related practical cooperation to address emerging security challenges, including terrorism which counted for 23% of all new SPS activities approved in 2015. In her presentation Dr Beten focused on the key achievements to partnership goals made by practical cooperation under the SPS Programme.

Being a unique partnership programme within NATO, SPS connects scientists, experts, and officials from Allied and partner countries and provides funding, expert advice and support in the form of workshops, training courses, or multi-year research and development projects. Coordination with other NATO bodies, agencies, divisions and delegations is of vital importance for the successful implementation of the programme. The SPS Programme also consults with and draws on the expertise of NATO Centres of Excellence, such as the Defence Against Terrorism Centre of Excellence.

SPS cooperation on Counter-Terrorism (CT) is a priority for many NATO partner countries (from all existing frameworks). This interest is reflected in projects such as ‘Stand-off Detection of Explosives’ (STANDEX), a completed, multinational SPS flagship effort to identify suicide bombers in mass transit environments in real-time. A follow-on project is currently under development. Multi-year projects cover a wide range of topics: in order to respond to a critical capability gap and to an immediate Iraqi priority area a multi-year SPS project providing C-IED capability and training and specialist equipment to selected Iraqi security forces was launched in early 2016 as part of the Defence Capacity Building package for Iraq. In 2015-16 another project examined the transition from military interventions to long-term CT policies in three conflicts and the effectiveness of the resulting policies was analysed.

Another SPS tool used to implement NATO partnership goals is the Advanced Research Workshop (ARW) which can address a variety of CT topics. An ARW on ‘Addressing Female Migration to ISIS’ to conduct an evidence-based review of the reasons why women consider joining ISIS was held in 2016. The Advanced Training Course (ATC) is another flexible tool which can help to ensure a common approach to the fight against terrorism. SPS supports tailor-made CT training courses in partner countries which have identified CT as a priority area. Recent SPS training courses were held on the Terrorist Use of Cyberspace, in Azerbaijan, and on CT, in Uzbekistan.

Overall, SPS CT projects focus on capacity building, respond to partner’s needs, strengthen scientific excellence and have been adapted to match NATO strategic objectives and partnership priorities, such as efforts to Project Stability.
In his concluding speech Dr Shea looked at the outcomes of the day and underlined that terrorism will remain a challenge in the future. He warned of the danger of an exclusionist society as fertile ground for radicalization and highlighted three key takeaways:

- Terrorism is resilient: it mutates, adapts and arises phoenix-like from the flames.
- Terrorist propaganda works: Counter-narrative efforts still have a long way to go.
- There is a perception gap: 55% of the French are frightened of having a public life due to the threat of terrorism. Likewise in the US the fear of terrorism is greater than the fear of being shot although the danger of becoming a victim of a terrorist attack is vastly smaller.

Dr Shea’s closing remarks provided some final guidance on NATO’s Counter-Terrorism (CT) work with partners. He highlighted the importance of the feedback from Ireland and Iraq and underlined the essential nature of a two-way dialogue. NATO supports partners but depends on their capabilities. As Ireland demonstrated, partner assets can and are made available through NATO. Strong cooperation is also necessary so that NATO can learn from partners’ experiences. Sharing views strengthens both sides and perhaps the new Intelligence Division would be able to contribute. Complementarity with International Organizations is essential to address global terrorism and Dr Shea was delighted to have received confirmation of their strong willingness to cooperate.

NATO is evolving and its focus has shifted back to collective defence, however, it is not revisiting the past. The South is as important as the East for the Alliance and NATO activities in the region attract attention. The military is part of the solution but a more comprehensive approach is needed.
Projecting stability is a multi-pronged effort but NATO is short of resources and to be successful it needs partnerships. Dr Shea encouraged partners to fill their Individual Partnership Cooperation Programmes with life and with detailed ideas of how they wish to cooperate with NATO on CT.

To conclude, Dr Shea invited partners to the final interactive session to learn more about practical tools including science, technology, and capability development that address CT issues. He encouraged partners to take advantage of the contacts and expertise on offer. He emphasized the importance of continuing to talk and encouraged active follow up after the event.

Tools for Cooperation

NATO is developing new, cutting-edge technologies and capabilities to protect troops and civilians against terrorist attacks. The aim of DAT POW is to prevent non-conventional attacks, such as attacks with improvised explosive devices (IEDs), and mitigate other challenges, such as attacks on critical infrastructure. Most projects focus on finding solutions that can be fielded in the short term. The programme meets critical military requirements and addresses Alliance shortfalls. Some activities are open to cooperation with partners.

Point of Contact: Francoise Perret or Elena Beganu, Counter-Terrorism Section, ESC Division, NATO

The NATO SPS Programme promotes security-related practical cooperation and dialogue to address security challenges of mutual concern, including terrorism. As a partnership programme it connects scientists, experts, and officials from Allied and Partner countries to work together to address these challenges. The SPS Programme provides funding, expert advice and support by engaging in collaborative, security-relevant activities in the form of workshops, training courses, or multi-year research and development projects.

Point of Contact: Dr. Deniz Beten, Head Science for Peace & Security (SPS) Programme, ESC Division, NATO

The Defence Education Enhancement Programme (DEEP) is an innovative multi-national education initiative that is designed to assist Partner and other nations to build capacity through defence education reform. DEEP connects senior educators from NATO nations with their counterparts from partner countries with the objective of enhancing educational curricula and learning methods. The programme has relevance to combating terrorism through work on education and training.

Point of Contact: Jean d’Andurain, PASP Division, NATO

National authorities are primarily responsible for protecting their population and critical infrastructure against the consequences of terrorist attacks, CBRN incidents and natural disasters. NATO Civil Preparedness can assist nations by providing non-binding advice and act as a forum to exchange best practices and lessons learned to improve preparedness and national resilience. NATO Civil Preparedness has developed ‘Guidelines for first response to a CBRN
incident’ and organises ‘International Courses for Trainers of First Responders to CBRN Incidents’. The Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre (EADRCC) coordinates responses to national requests for assistance following natural and man-made disasters, including terrorist acts involving CBRN agents.

Point of Contact: Khan Jahier, OPS Division, NATO

The Planning and Review Process (PARP) aims to promote the development of forces and capabilities by partners who are best able to cooperate alongside NATO Allies in crisis response operations and other activities to promote security and stability. It provides a structured approach for enhancing interoperability and capabilities of partner forces that could be made available to the Alliance for multinational training, exercises and operations. The PARP also serves as a planning tool to guide and measure progress in defence and military transformation and modernisation efforts. Work through PARP can help partners capture and realise their counter-terrorism aspirations.

Point of Contact: Andrew Cullen, PARP Coordinator, DPP Division, NATO

The Defence and Related Security Capacity Building (DCB) Initiative was launched in September 2014 at the NATO Summit in Wales. The DCB Initiative reinforces NATO’s commitment to partners and helps project stability by providing support to nations requesting defence capacity assistance from NATO. It can include various types of support, ranging from strategic advice on defence and security sector reform and institution building, to development of local forces through education and training, or advice and assistance in specialised areas such as logistics or cyber defence etc. The initiative is demand driven and tailored to the needs of the recipient nation by providing support which reinforces and exceeds what is offered through other existing programmes. DCB packages have been launched for Georgia, Iraq, Jordan and the Republic of Moldova, and NATO stands ready to provide advisory support to Libya should a request be made. The packages are implemented with the generous contributions of Allies and partners, who have provided advisors, trainers and coordinators to work with the recipient countries, and funded projects. A DCB Trust Fund was also established for this purpose.

Point of Contact: Bora Onen, Head of DCB Cell, DPP Division, NATO

The STO plans and delivers a programme of work (PoW) that covers a broad spectrum of defence and security related S&T. The PoW contributes to capability development, supports threat mitigation, and provides advice to decision makers. The STO welcomes participants and contributors from Allied and Partner Nations, coming from government, industry, or academia. In pursuing this mission, the STO positions S&T to the strategic advantage of Nations and NATO, thereby supporting the core tasks of the Alliance.

Point of Contact: Nico Pos, Science and Technology Organization, NATO
The Weapons of Mass Destruction Non-Proliferation Centre is structurally embedded in the Emerging Security Challenges (ESC) Division at NATO and combines in its work the knowledge of national CBRN defence experts as well as of personnel from NATO’s International Staff. Core parts of the Centre’s work are to improve coordination of WMD-related activities, strengthen dialogue and common understanding of WMD issues among Allies, and to enhance consultations on non-proliferation. The centre also assesses WMD risks and threats and supports defence efforts to improve the Alliance’s preparedness to respond to the risks of WMD and their delivery systems.

Point of Contact: **Stephan Jacobsen**, WMDC, ESC Division, NATO

NATO and its partners are taking action to support the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 and related resolutions. This Resolution recognises the disproportionate impact that war and conflicts have on women and children, and highlights the fact that women have been historically left out of peace processes and stabilisation efforts. The implementation of UNSCR 1325 and related Resolutions cuts across various divisions and governing bodies within NATO Headquarters, as well as in the Strategic Commands. The current Action Plan for the implementation of the NATO Policy calls for Allies and partners to integrate a gender perspective into policies, activities, and efforts, including counter-terrorism work.

Point of Contact: **Maria Schuurman**, NATO SG Representative for Women, Peace and Security, NATO

The NATO School conducts education and training to support current and developing NATO operations, strategy, policy, doctrine and procedures. Primarily focused on individual training, the NSO also supports many aspects of collective training, exercises, experimentation and operations. Education and training is centred on operational art while offering Mobile Education and Training Teams, web-based Advanced Distributed Learning and resident courses and seminars. NSO offers the ‘NATO Defence Against Terrorism Course’ and a series of courses dealing with emerging security challenges such as ‘Asymmetric Warfare’, ‘Counter Insurgency Intelligence Preparation of the Battlefield’, and the future ‘Introduction to NATO Special Operations Forces’. The purpose of these courses are to provide the individual the capabilities to understand the dynamically-linked security threats that face the Alliance, be prepared to provide policy inputs and to comfortably perform in complex and ambiguous security environments.

Point of Contact: **Col. Timothy Dreifke**, Senior National Representative, NATO School Oberammergau

NATO COEs are nationally or multi-nationally funded institutions that train and educate leaders and specialists from NATO member and partner countries, assist in doctrine development, identify lessons learned, improve interoperability and capabilities, and test and validate concepts through experimentation. They offer recognized expertise and experience that is of benefit to the Alliance and support the transformation of NATO. Coordinated by Allied Command Transformation (ACT) in Norfolk, Virginia in the United States, COEs are considered to be international military organizations. Currently, there are 21 COEs and the following are useful for partners looking to enhance practical cooperation on counter-terrorism:
Based in Ankara, Turkey, the Defence Against Terrorism (DAT) COE provides key decision-makers with realistic solutions to terrorism and CT challenges, in order to transform NATO and Nations of interest to meet future security challenges. This transformation is focused on NATO’s three declared core tasks and executed through our Programme of Work with emphasis on education and training, doctrine and concept development, and contributions to the analysis and lessons learned process.

Point of Contact: **Col. Terrence Joyce**, USAF, Deputy Director/US SNR, NATO COE-DAT (Ankara, Turkey)

Based in Madrid, Spain, the principal aim of this COE is to provide integrated subject matter expertise, to support NATO, its partners and the international community in the fight against Improvised Explosive Devices (IED). In particular, the centre works to increase the security of deployed Allied National forces and to reduce the threats from IEDs used by terrorists. The Long Term Vision of the CIED-COE is to provide an enduring platform to enhance cooperation between military, civilian, international organizations and industry to reduce the threat of IED attacks and to combat the IED as a weapon of strategic influence. The COE does this by serving as an interagency coordination hub, provision of Attack the Network (AtN) / C-IED courses, serving as the CIED Lessons Learned manager, partnering with appropriate technology firms and contributing to doctrine, concepts and contingency planning for future full spectrum NATO operations. In addition to this, the C-IED COE assists NATO by coordinating and providing Subject Matter Expertise to Counter IED related Defense Capacity Building projects.

Point of Contact: **Col. Michael David Evans**, Deputy Director, NATO C-IED COE, Madrid, Spain

Based in Trenčín, Slovakia, the Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) COE provides expertise in the field of explosive ordnance disposal for NATO and partner countries. It supports NATO operations in the field of explosive ordnance disposal by improving interoperability and cooperation between NATO member countries, partner countries, international organizations and the NATO command structure.

Point of contact: **Colonel Lubomir Mrvan**, Director, NATO EOD COE

Based in Vyškov, Czech Republic, the Joint Chemical, Biological, Radiation and Nuclear (JCBRN) Defence COE develops defence doctrines, standards and knowledge with the goal of improving interoperability and capabilities. It also provides education and training opportunities, assists and advises NATO, Sponsoring Nations and other international organizations and institutions in the area of CBRN defence. In addition to developing and circulating lessons learned, JCBRN also trains and certifies the CBRN Defence Task Force of the NATO Response Force. Since 2015 it supported SHAPE / Allied Command Operation by providing CBRN Reach-back.

Point of contact: **Colonel Volker Quante**, (GS) DEU A, Deputy Director, JCBRN Defence COE
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