



Observatory

NATO News & Opinion Clips

Promoting a more transparent and accountable NATO

No.36 – October 2012

Welcome to NATO Watch's monthly *Observatory*: the only online publication dedicated entirely to news and independent commentary on NATO policy-making and operational activities. The clips are drawn from a wide range of subscriptions, feeds and alerts covering a substantial part of the major English language newspapers and other periodicals worldwide. If you are short on time – go straight to the recommended reading, marked ♠♠

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NATO Watch Editorial:

Merger between BAE and EADS: the holy grail of smart defence or another non-flying circus?

Writing in the *Financial Times*, the French defence analyst François Heisbourg, [describes the proposed merger between EADS and BAE](#) as “a holy grail, deeply desired and long in coming”. The view from London, [Berlin](#) and Washington (and [Paris](#), for that matter) is more mixed. At Westminster, [some MPs are questioning the wisdom](#) of handing over the ‘British defence industry’ to ‘foreign control’, especially given the Pentagon’s less than enthusiastic relationship with EADS, the Franco-German aerospace firm.

Of course, BAE Systems can’t be called ‘a national British champion’. While the ‘B’ in its name did once stand for ‘British’ and the company remains headquartered in London, BAE Systems today is a global company that assembles weapon systems from components that are manufactured all over the world. And no defence company has [worked harder to become American than BAE Systems](#), which currently [employs](#) more US (around 38,000) than British personnel (35,000).

The crux of the matter is the extent to which the UK continues to prefer to cede or share some defence and security sovereignty with American rather than European allies. This shared sovereignty is a fact of life at policy, operational and defence industrial levels, despite the bombastic and overtly nationalistic rhetoric emanating from British ministers and defence officials. Will this be the moment when the UK decisively turns away from its ‘special’ security relationship with the US and adopts a more European outlook?

The proposed merger is certainly in keeping with NATO’s new [Smart Defence](#) initiative which encourages members to cooperate in developing and maintaining military capabilities. The alliance approved an initial package of multinational projects at its Chicago summit in May. Similarly, the EU has long sought to foster more European cross-national cooperation on defence projects. EU defence ministers agreed in November 2011 to pool resources in 11 defence fields ranging from mid-air refuelling to field hospitals. At the industrial level it is looking for companies to cooperate to plug holes left by declining military budgets, eliminate wasteful duplication and create a European aerospace giant to rival Boeing. To

this end, [according to SIPRI](#), the merged entity would become the world’s largest arms and military services company.

But we have been here before. In the 1990s there was a bold plan to combine many of Europe’s largest defence and aerospace companies into a colossus capable of competing with American rivals. It was British Aerospace—the forerunner to BAE Systems—that opted out of the plan, sold most of its civil aerospace side to the newly formed European group EADS (which went on to pursue an Airbus-driven strategy) and opted instead to focus on the US military market.

The current plan is to create a dual-listed company in which the two firms keep their separate stock market listings but pool all of their operational businesses and run them as one. The companies have combined sales of £55 billion, with products ranging from Airbus commercial planes to Typhoon warplanes and nuclear-powered submarines. The Pentagon is likely to insist that its most sensitive contracts are ring-fenced and run by security-cleared Americans, as

is currently the case for BAE’s existing US-based work.

(Eurofighter Typhoon Engine – photo credit: night flier/ flickr)

An even bigger hurdle is likely to come from US politicians reluctant to sanction contracts going to a firm that has foreign government shareholders, as is presently the case with EADS. Thus, for the

merger to go ahead, several key constituencies will need to be convinced, including the shareholders of both firms and regulatory authorities in Brussels and [Washington](#).

The merger (or even the chatter of merger) may also lead to additional European defence consolidation, especially among some of the other major players left outside of the deal, such as Thales of France and Finmeccanica of Italy. However, given the emerging down cycles in both the airliner and defence sectors, it is disappointing that this defensive corporate response is not being matched by an imaginative government led diversification strategy.

While the limited synergies between BAE and EADS may prevent large-scale merger-related redundancies, the long-term downward trend in hi-tech defence employment appears set to continue. In Britain, for example, overall defence employment was around 500,000 in the early 1990s and stands at less than 300,000 today (with



only about half this number directly employed in the defence industry supply chain).

Why not look to redirect some of this highly skilled pool of engineers, technicians and scientists towards meeting the real security challenge of this century: climate change? Europe and America need to rapidly construct post-carbon economies, with the objective of zero emissions through renewable energy, energy efficiency programmes and the recycling of materials. A coordinated defence diversification strategy could help utilise sufficient resources towards socially-useful 'green' production on an international scale. However, Smart Defence and diversification challenge old habits and vested interests, so a concerted effort will be needed to move them both from emerging status to centre stage.

Guest Articles:

UN General Assembly Dialogue on the Responsibility to Protect: Timely and decisive response

By The International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect

The last edition of the *Observatory* included a piece that asked an important question of the NATO Secretary-General – [What will NATO contribute to the R2P dialogue at the UN General Assembly?](#) Although NATO did not participate (the regional body has also not participated in past dialogues), fifty-six Member States representing all regions of the world, one regional arrangement, and two civil society organizations spoke in this annual forum in the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA). The dialogue, held on 5 September 2012 and the fourth such meeting on the Responsibility to Protect (RtoP, R2P), was based on the [Report of the Secretary-General on the Responsibility to Protect: Timely and decisive response](#) and addressed the measures available to international, regional, national and civil society actors under the 'third pillar' of the norm.

The three-pillar framework for the Responsibility to Protect was established by UN Secretary-General (UNSG) Mr. Ban Ki-moon in his 2009 Report [Implementing Responsibility to Protect](#). The first pillar identifies the State as the primary bearer of the responsibility to protect populations from mass atrocities, and the second pillar

establishes the responsibility of the international community to assist States in meeting their protection obligations. Should a state be unable or unwilling to prevent RtoP crimes, the third pillar articulates the responsibility of the international community, to take collective action in a timely and decisive manner, on a case-by-case basis, and in accordance with the UN Charter. It was this third pillar, and the broad range of tools available within it, which was the focus of the GA dialogue.

The dialogue began with remarks by President of the General Assembly (PGA) H.E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser; UNSG [Mr. Ban Ki-moon](#); and Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide [Mr. Adama Dieng](#). The PGA began the meeting by reminding participants that in discussing the implementation of RtoP, "the role of the UN is not to supplant or replace the State in meeting its legal obligation to protect...So, the international response is intended to reinforce, not undermine, national sovereignty."

As in past dialogues, a panel of experts spoke before the GA, reflecting on the implementation of the third pillar through various lenses. Panelists were asked to address a variety of topics, including the range of tools available to protect populations; partners for operationalizing the norm; and lessons learned from past experiences in implementing RtoP.



(Soldiers from the Cambodian National Peacekeeping Platoon, Cambodian army, tackle a protester for taking a guard hostage during stimulation training exercise – photo credit: DVIDSHUB/ flickr)

The panel was followed by an interactive dialogue during which Member States from the Global North and South, one regional organization, the [International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect \(ICRtoP\)](#) and the [Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect](#) spoke. During the session, participants reaffirmed that the Responsibility to Protect is grounded in the prevention of the horrific crimes of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity. Most participants agreed that RtoP, as agreed to at the 2005 World Summit, achieved widespread acceptance and could not be renegotiated, underscoring the importance of RtoP's narrowly defined scope. There was also large-scale agreement that RtoP crimes, in their very nature, threaten international peace and security. Delegations lauded the sentiment expressed in the Secretary-General's Report that, since there are no situations in which states do

not have a Responsibility to Protect, it is never a question of whether RtoP applies, but how best to implement the norm.

As the importance of prevention was a point of consensus, so was the understanding that, should such efforts fail, timely and decisive response is necessary to protect populations. Delegations highlighted the range of measures under the third pillar, including non-coercive tools - such as fact-finding and commissions of inquiry, preventive diplomacy, mediation and good offices - that can be considered ahead of more coercive measures - such as referrals to the International Criminal Court, sanctions and arms embargoes and military force.

Member States also raised concerns, and warned against the selective implementation of the norm. Although not all interventions directly cited NATO, several statements raised concern with tactical issues, criticizing the way that UN Security Council (UNSC) [Resolution 1973](#) was implemented to protect populations in Libya. Some Member States, such as [Venezuela](#), accused NATO of going well beyond the UNSC mandate and placed blame on the organization for muddying the “*traits of good intentions and dignity*” of RtoP. Other statements, however, reflected on the necessity of both the Resolution and NATO’s actions to protect the Libyan people under threat of mass atrocities by the Gaddafi regime. The [United Kingdom](#) declared that “*the UN Security Council-mandated action taken by NATO was necessary, legal and morally right. By taking prompt action, the UN Security Council and NATO saved tens of thousands of people from becoming victims of crimes against humanity and war crimes.*”

Still others stated their concern that RtoP not be used as a tool for regime change, and discussed the potential consequences of arming civilians in order to prevent or respond to the imminent threat of RtoP crimes. Nonetheless, many Member States agreed with the [Secretary-General](#) that while concerns regarding the implementation of response measures should be addressed, “fears of [the Responsibility to Protect’s] possible misuse should not inhibit us in the face of incitement and grave violence.”

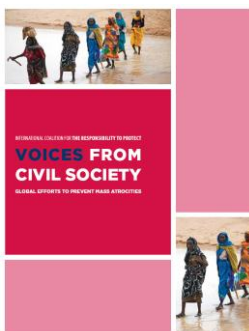
Particular emphasis was also placed on the role of the UNSC in operationalizing RtoP. Comments raised by [Singapore](#) were echoed in multiple interventions, recalling the recently proposed [resolution](#) by the “Small 5” (S5) countries, which included a call for Permanent Members to refrain from exercising veto power in cases of RtoP crimes. Several Member States also insisted on the need for increased assessment and monitoring of UNSC Resolutions, particularly in

cases where military measures are authorized. In this regard, many interventions welcomed the [Brazilian](#) initiative of ‘[responsibility while protecting](#)’ (RwP), noting that the points outlined in RwP can assist with ensuring proportionality and accountability.

Ever present throughout the day’s discussions was the ongoing crisis in Syria and the commission of RtoP crimes against the state’s populations. Several Member States called for cooperation and collaboration amongst governments, and particularly within the UNSC, to bring an immediate end to the bloodshed. In discussing the ongoing violence, multiple interventions reflected on the role of the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council and High Commissioner for Human Rights and regional organizations in condemning the atrocities being committed and calling for further action to protect populations.

Also mentioned was the potential role of civil society in advancing the Responsibility to Protect, as well as the question of how Member States can enhance partnerships and collaboration with civil society. In addition, some interventions highlighted initiatives at the national and regional levels to enhance timely and decisive response, including the national focal points initiative which calls for the designation of a senior government official for RtoP within each capital.

For more information about the Responsibility to Protect, including developments at the national, regional and international levels as well as the work of civil society throughout the world in advancing the norm, please visit the ICRtoP’s website at www.responsibilitytoprotect.org, and the Coalition’s blog at www.icrtopblog.org.



Understanding the Complexity of the Changing Global Security Environment: A Review of the NATO Military Committee Meeting in Sibiu, Romania

By Dr. Liviu Muresan Executive President, Eurisc Foundation, Romania

Between the 14-16 September the city of Sibiu in Romania played host for the first meeting of the NATO Military Committee since the March 2012 Chicago Summit. This was also the first time that such a meeting has taken place in Romania. The Conference reunited the Chiefs of Defence (CHOD) from the 28 NATO member countries, headed by General Knud Bartels, the Committee Chairman. Representing Romania was

Lieutenant General Ștefan Dănilă, who hosted the Conference as Romania's CHOD.

A guest of honour for the opening ceremony was the Romanian Minister of Defence, Corneliu Dobrițoiu. Special guests included Ambassador Stephen Evans, NATO's Assistant Secretary General for Operations, and Lieutenant General Arne Bård Dalhaug, Commandant of NATO's Defence College in Rome. Another important presence was that of Admiral James Stavridis, the Supreme Allied Commander of Operations, and General John Allen, Commander of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), who briefed participants on the situation and outlook in Afghanistan.

The development of operations in Afghanistan was one of the main topics of discussion for the CHOD. The focus of NATO attention and resources has been on providing security for the population, while building-up a numerous, professional and well-equipped Afghan Army that can take over responsibility from the NATO forces as they complete their withdrawal by 2014.

The signs in that regard are positive. The Afghan security forces will, shortly, reach 352.000 trained individuals and will be able to provide security for 75% of the country's population. Currently, 80% of insurgency attacks are concentrated in 20% of the area of the country, mainly in response to the ISAF presence and activities.

Admiral James Stavridis expressed NATO's commitment, over the next 27 months, to provide valuable training and support for the strengthening of the Afghan Army and for building its confidence, so that, by the end of 2014, they will be capable of providing security over the entirety of Afghanistan's territory and population.

The Supreme Commander emphasised that an effort of this calibre was going to run into setbacks and that there are still numerous battles to be hard-fought. However, the Afghans have made tremendous effort, both militarily and from a state building perspective, and Admiral Stavridis expressed his confidence that they will be able to assume the shifting burden of providing Afghanistan's security. While this does mark an end for the ISAF and NATO military operations in Afghanistan, Admiral Stavridis confirmed NATO's commitment towards providing support, such as training, for the Afghan Army even after the Allied forces have been withdrawn.

Another important topic was the reiteration of NATO's commitment towards maintaining peace in the West Balkans, especially Kosovo, where NATO's KFOR contingent is located. The participants, however, expressed their belief that a lasting peace and sustainable nation building can only be achieved through an underlying system of dialogue and credible commitments. In the absence of a durable political solution, NATO efforts in Kosovo will be jeopardised by future outbreaks of unrest.

NATO itself constituted the subject of discussion, as the Chicago Summit provided an impetus for a transformation and reformation of NATO's structure and strategy. Smart Defence and the Connected Forces Initiative were part of the Defence Package put forward by the Chicago Summit, as part of the wider focus on transforming NATO. Smart Defence focuses on improving the efficiency and quality of NATO equipment even while members are cutting back their military expenditures. It is the answer to the environment of austerity and aims to use cooperation to offer members economies of scale, avoidance of costs and capabilities that they

would not have gained on their own, in research and development, production, maintenance, logistic support, training, weapon stockpiling, and even multinational forces. It also encourages specialization of countries and reduces waste through the elimination of parallel efforts in the same area.

(NATO CHODs in Sibiu – photo

credit: NATO)

The Connected Forces Initiative aims to maintain the interoperability gains made by NATO forces during its operations, even as those operations are coming to a close and the operational tempo will be reduced. To do so, it will utilise three inter-related elements: expanded education and training, increased exercises and better use of technology.

General Stéphane Abrial, the current Supreme Allied Commander Transformation, and also General Jean-Paul Paloméros, his successor, took note of the results of the discussions and will prepare an Implementation Plan for the Defence Package which will be present at the NATO Defence Ministers Meeting in Brussels, between the 9-10 October.

Coupled with the discussions related to NATO's transformation stages, including the structural revision of the International Military Staff (IMS), the Military Committee's executive body, came the



election of a new Director General for the IMS to replace General Jorgen Bornemann. The new Director, Aviation General Sir Christopher Harper from the United Kingdom, will be installed in his office in 2013.

Aside from these notable points, the discussions were focused on achieving a better understanding of the complexities of the changing global security environment. Potential risks and the evolution of trends were all submitted for the consideration of the CHOD, and the 28 army heads left, after a productive exchange of ideas.

I'm still wondering who shot JR.

NATO Secretary General, Anders Fogh Rasmussen, [speech](#) in Springfield, Illinois, 21 September

Sketch:

Former Springfield nuclear power plant employee in running for NATO top job. Do'h!

Nowhere Man for NATO Watch

Springfield, Illinois, USA — Rumour has it that the real reason for Anders Fogh Rasmussen's [visit to Springfield](#) was not to find out who shot JR but to discuss international affairs with a leading candidate to be the next NATO Secretary General. While NATO officials have been tight lipped about who this might be, I can exclusively reveal that there is growing backing among several influential US Republicans for a former employee of the Springfield Nuclear Power Plant.

One senior official, linked to the Mitt Romney camp, speaking slowly, anonymously and off-the record said this person, whom he would only refer to by his initials, HS, "has all the right characteristics to be the best possible Secretary

General of the alliance in years that are expected to be difficult and full of challenges". His candidacy is expected to be officially presented at a NATO Defence Ministers meeting in Brussels later this month.

At a [meeting of NATO ambassadors in September](#), the current Secretary General asked for an extension of his mandate, which expires in July 2013. Rasmussen's term is likely to be extended by a year, allowing him to see through NATO's withdrawal of combat troops from Afghanistan and giving him a chance to put his name forward for one of the top EU jobs in 2014.

Officials are then looking for HS to take over Rasmussen's position. His appointment would need unanimous backing from all 28 NATO member states. A decision—in which the US administration is expected to have the biggest say—is not expected soon. But as one of the "top 25 most influential people of the past 25 years" (*USA Today*), HS would have a natural affinity with US troops. *The Sunday Times* agrees, thundering the following ringing endorsement: "every age needs its great, consoling failure, its lovable, pretension-free mediocrity. And we have ours in HS".

In an exclusive interview for NATO Watch, HS said "All my life I've had one dream, to achieve my many goals". He stressed that he was looking forward to chowing down on gourmet pizza, cheesecake and root beer with US forces returning from Saigonistan. He added, "I want to share something with you: The three little sentences that will get you through life as NATO Secretary General. Number 1: Cover for me. Number 2: Oh, good idea, Mr President! Number 3: It was like that when I got here". Almost as an afterthought, HS added, "Can you get Duff beer in Brussels?".

News, Commentary and Reports:

Afghanistan-Pakistan:

News

(photo credit: Stitch/flickr)

[Nato withdrawal from Afghanistan could come early, says Rasmussen](#), *The Guardian*, 1 October - Anders Fogh Rasmussen admits 'green on blue' attacks have hit morale, and raises prospect of pullout before 2014

[NATO-led forces resume most joint Afghan operations](#), *Reuters*, 1 October



[Nato troops among 20 dead in suicide bomb attack in Afghanistan](#), *The Telegraph*, 1 October - a suicide bomber on a motorcycle killed at least 20 people and wounded scores more when he detonated his explosives as a joint Nato and police patrol passed through a busy square

[80% of Afghanistan free of violence: NATO general](#), *AFP*, 30 September

[Insider attacks threaten NATO mission in Afghanistan](#), *Deutsche Welle*, 28 September

[The Afghan Surge Was A Dismal Failure And These NATO Charts Prove It](#), *Business Insider*, 28 September

[As Nato troops pull out, Kabul has the task of rebuilding society](#), *The Guardian*, 27 September - foreign-led reconstruction teams want to preserve progress in Afghanistan but may have failed to establish an 'invisible' legacy

[Chinese halt at flagship mine imperils Afghan future](#), *Reuters*, 27 September

[Insight: In U.S. soldier's death, a window into Afghan insider killings](#), *Reuters*, 27 September

[Afghanistan: Joint Missions Rise Again](#), *New York Times*, 27 September

[Training Afghan Allies, With Guard Firmly Up](#), *New York Times*, 25 September

[Taliban release video purporting to show insurgents planning recent attack on NATO base](#), *Washington Post*, 24 September

[NATO's Senior Civilian Representative in Afghanistan - final press conference](#), NATO Watch News Brief, 24 September

[So long, pal](#), *The Economist*, 22 September - the suspension of joint patrols is a blow for NATO's aims and for the Afghan army

[Extending NATO presence in Afghanistan needs Security Council approval – Churkin](#), *Russia Today*, 21 September

[Imran Khan leads Gandhian non-violent resistance in Pakistan](#), *NATO Watch News Brief*, 20 September

[UK, Denmark propose NATO meeting on preventing insider attacks from Afghan forces](#), *Washington Post*, 20 September

[Press briefing with NATO Senior Civilian Representative in Afghanistan](#), NATO News, 19 September - Ambassador Simon Gass briefed the press for the last time in his capacity as NATO Senior Civilian Representative in Afghanistan. Looking back at his 18-months tenure, he focused on achievements made in taking forward the transition process and increasing the capacity of Afghanistan's national security forces

[What lies behind Afghanistan's insider attacks?](#) *BBC News*, 18 September

[Afghanistan War: NATO Changes War Plan](#), *Huffington Post*, 18 September

[Rasmussen: Nato strategy in Afghanistan 'remains same'](#), *BBC News*, 18 September

[Secretary General stresses commitment to Afghan strategy](#), NATO News, 18 September - NATO is fully committed to its strategy in Afghanistan despite recent challenges, Rasmussen told journalists in Brussels



[Nato Afghan strategy in disarray after joint ground operations suspended](#), *The Guardian*, 18 September - Joint patrols halted until further notice after collapse in trust over number of US and NATO soldiers killed in 'insider attacks'

[Audacious Raid on NATO Base Shows Taliban's Reach](#), *New York Times*, 16 September - the assault on one of the best-defended posts in Afghanistan was troubling because the attackers were able to penetrate the base, killing two and causing more than \$200 million in damage

(Landing zone security, Farah province, 26 September – photo credit: US Army/ flickr)

[Afghanistan: Nato strategy at risk from 'insider threat'](#), *The Guardian*, 16 September - the rising number of 'green on blue' attacks are undermining the west's plan for an orderly withdrawal from Afghanistan

[Nato express regret after airstrike kills civilians](#), *The Independent*, 16 September

[Nato airstrike 'kills eight women and girls' in Afghanistan](#), *The Guardian*, 16 September - seven victims in hospital as villagers take bodies to provincial governor's office after women gathering firewood are hit

[Six Nato troops killed by Afghan allies hours after Taliban attack airbase](#), *The Guardian*, 16 September - soldiers from 3rd Battalion Yorkshire Regiment among those who died during violent weekend in Helmand

[Western support for Afghanistan war collapsing, survey shows](#), *The Guardian*, 12 September - large majorities in Europe and US favour withdrawal or troop reduction, according to transatlantic trends survey. Large majorities – 75% of Europeans and 68% of Americans – support either withdrawal or an immediate troop reduction, according to the annual transatlantic trends survey conducted by the German Marshall Fund

[Afghanistan: Kabul Suicide Bomber Kills Skateboard Kids in Nato HQ Attack](#), *International Business Times*, 11 September - four young students and volunteers at Skateistan, set up to empower Afghani children, killed by suicide attack in Kabul

[NATO: Airstrike Kills Senior Afghan Taliban Leaders](#), *Voice of America* (blog), 11 September

[NATO Chief Aims to Curb Assaults](#), *Wall Street Journal*, 10 September

[Records Missing on Afghan Army Fuel Costs](#), *New York Times*, 10 September - US government investigators discover that more than four years of financial records covering about \$475 million worth of fuel purchases for the Afghan National Army may have been shredded, raising concerns about potential fraud

[NATO chief on handover of Bagram prison](#), *Al Jazeera/You Tube*, 10 September

[Afghanistan: US hands over controversial Bagram jail](#), *BBC News*, 10 September

[Culture guides to tackle Afghan insider attacks on NATO soldiers](#), *Herald Sun*, 10 September

[Kabul-Kandahar highway is a symbol of what's gone wrong in Afghanistan](#), Ben Farmer, *The Telegraph*, 9 September - It was built at massive expense as a symbol of success for the new Afghanistan, but instead the Kabul-Kandahar road has become a highway of death that shows what has gone wrong

[After high-profile attacks on American and NATO troops, US designates Pakistan-based Haqqani network as terrorists](#), *New York Daily News*, 7 September

[Staying the course in Afghanistan](#), NATO News, 6 September - a group of Afghan junior diplomats visited NATO HQ

[Allen: Insider attacks demand coordinated NATO-Afghan response](#), *Stars and Stripes* (blog), 6 September

[NATO tackles "insider attacks" with push for empathy, understanding](#), *CBS News*, 6 September

[ISAF addresses the threat from insider attacks](#), NATO News, 6 September

[Statement of ISAF commander Gen. John Allen on insider attacks](#), ISAF Release, 6 September

[U.S. to Retain Role as a Jailer in Afghanistan](#), *New York Times*, 5 September

Commentary and Reports

[From the ground up. Women's roles in local peacebuilding in Afghanistan, Liberia, Nepal, Pakistan and Sierra Leone](#), ActionAid, Institute of Development Studies and WomanKind, September 2012 - this report looks at the role of women in local peacebuilding initiatives, finding that women are more likely than men to adopt a broad definition of peace which includes the household level and focuses on the attainment of individual rights and freedoms such as education, healthcare and freedom from violence

[The U.S. Surge and Afghan local Governance](#), Frances Z. Brown, United States Institute of Peace, *Special Report* 316, September 2012 - this report focuses on both the US military's localized governance, reconstruction, and development projects and US civilian stabilization programmes in Afghanistan from 2009-12. Based on interviews with nearly sixty Afghan and international respondents in Kabul, Kandahar, Nangarhar, and Washington, it finds that the surge has not met its transformative objectives due to three US assumptions that proved unrealistic. It also examines the impact on local governance that can be applied toward Afghanistan's upcoming transition



actionaid WOMANKIND

You do not persuade people that you can turn bullshit into chocolate by constantly praising your progress in dealing with its color and the texture. You do it by showing them you can deal with its smell and its taste.

Anthony H. Cordesman, [Six Conditions for an Effective Transfer of Power in Afghanistan](#), Center for Strategic and International Studies, 21 September

[Waiting for the Taliban in Afghanistan](#), Gilles Dorronsoro, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, *Carnegie Papers*, September 2012 - the withdrawal of international forces from Afghanistan will leave the country worse than it was before 2001 in some respects and there is no clear plan for the future

[Green-on-blue attacks derail NATO tactics for mentoring Afghan security forces](#), *NATO Watch Comment*, 20 September

[Lessons from Afghanistan's History for the Current Transition and Beyond](#), William Byrd, *Special Report No.314*, United States Institute of Peace, September 2012

[NATO's Shift in Afghanistan](#), Binoy Kampmark, *CounterPunch*, 19 September

NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen, [video blog](#), 'Change of NATO Civilian Representative in Kabul', 19 September

[Afghanistan: normal service will resume shortly](#), *The Guardian* editorial, 18 September - the decision to suspend joint operations strikes at the heart of the exit strategy

[A gloomy look at post-NATO Afghanistan](#), David Bosco, *Foreign Policy (blog)*, 14 September

[The NATO Mission in Afghanistan Post-2014: The Transformation Decade](#), NATO Defense College Conference, Rome, 13-15 June 2012, *NATO Defense College Conference Report*, September 2012

[How to win in Afghanistan: A lesson in nation building](#), Louis DeAnda, *DefenceIQ*, 11 September

[Winning Hearts and Minds in Uruzgan Province](#), Paul Fishstein, *Briefing Note* - Tufts University, September 2012 - research in Uruzgan suggests that insecurity is largely the result of the failure of governance, which has exacerbated traditional tribal rivalries

[Taliban Perspectives on Reconciliation](#), Michael Semple et al, Royal United Services Institute, *Briefing Paper*, September 2012

[Afghan police reform should be about more than protecting soldiers](#), Heather Barr, *The Guardian*, 7 September - attacks on NATO soldiers triggered action against the Afghan Local Police, yet abuses against civilians have been ignored

[The Haqqani Network: A Foreign Terrorist Organization](#), Jeffrey Dressler, Institute for the Study of War, Backgrounder, 5 September



♦♦ [Afghanistan's Base Bonanza - Total Tops Iraq at That War's Height](#), Nick Turse, *TomDispatch.com*, 4 September

[A slightly different approach: Norwegian non-military collaboration with Afghanistan](#), Arne Strand. *NOREF Policy Brief*, Norwegian Peacebuilding Resource Centre, August 2012

[Infantry Battalion Operations in Afghanistan: Lessons from 1st Battalion, 6th Marines \(1/6\)](#), Marine Corps Center for Lessons Learned, August 2012 *Newsletter*, Volume 8, Issue 8,

♦♦ [What the Western media doesn't say about green on blue attacks in Afghanistan](#), Louis DeAnda, *DefenceIQ*, 28 August

(A new graduate pledges dedication to his country after receiving his certificate at the Afghan Advanced Border Management Course transfer ceremony on 24 September, Afghan National Police Central Training Centre, Kabul – photo credit: US State Department/ flickr)

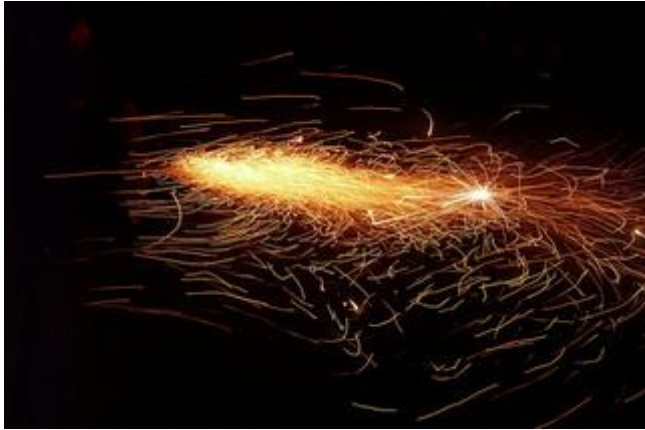
Arab protests (and the implications for NATO's Mediterranean Dialogue and Istanbul Cooperation Initiative):

[NATO Now Focused on Arab Spring Effects – ACB President](#), *Novinite.com*, 25 September

[Terror and Teargas on the Streets of Bahrain - The Revolution Will Not Be Televised \(in the U.S. at Least\)](#), Jen Marlowe, *TomDispatch.com*, 18 September

Arms Control:

[NATO sponsors project to help reduce terrorism risk in Mauritania](#), NATO News, 28 August - Mauritania has seen its share of conflict over the years. Its volatile history has left the country with a large stock of Man-Portable Air Defence Systems (MANPADS), shoulder launched surface-to-air missiles, and obsolete munitions that could pose a security risk to the country and to the safety of the public. A NATO Trust Fund project is now working to destroy these stockpiles and prevent them from falling into the hands of terrorists



Cyber Security:

[Cyberwar on Iran more widespread than first thought, say researchers](#), *The Guardian*, 21 September - study of Flame malware used in Middle East and north Africa reveals programmers probably had national backing (flame-texture-5 – photo credit: designshard/ flickr)

[NATO think tank looks to international law to define cyber war](#), *FierceGovernmentIT*, 9 September

[Tallinn Manual on the International Law Applicable to Cyber Warfare](#), Prepared by the International Group of Experts at the Invitation of the NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence, 2013 (Draft)

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[Anthrax vaccine bid for Nato by Cardiff University](#), *BBC News*, 20 September - scientists from Cardiff University are leading a NATO project to try to develop a vaccine for anthrax to help in the fight against bioterrorism

[Big questions about BAE-EADS tie-up](#), *Financial Times*, 20 September

[US, Allies Wrestle With Intel Sharing Problems Exposed In Libya Ops](#), Sydney J. Freedberg Jr. *AoL Defense*, 20 September

[Some EU states may no longer afford air forces-general](#), *Reuters*, 19 September

[RPT-BAE-EADS merger would advance Europe's military goals](#), *Reuters*, 17 September

[NATO Transformation Chief Encourages 'Smart Defense' Strategy](#), American Forces Press Service, 17 September

[A third quest for the holy grail of defence](#), François Heisbourg, *Financial Times*, 16 September - seen from Paris, a merger between EADS and BAE is a holy grail, deeply desired and long in coming

[NATO after Chicago: Struggling for Capabilities, Enlarge or Regionalize?](#) NATO News, 15 September - introductory remarks by the Deputy Secretary General of NATO, Amb. Alexander Vershbow at the 7th annual Riga Conference

[GA-ASI Demonstrates NATO Interoperability of Predator-class ISR Aircraft Systems at Unified Vision 2012](#), *defpro.news*, 13 September

[Quest for a European defence champion](#), *Financial Times*, 13 September

[Surprise change of course for BAE](#), *Financial Times* Editorial, 12 September

[EADS and BAE in defence tie-up talks](#), *Financial Times*, 12 September

[ILA: NATO AGS on course for 2015 flight debut](#), *Flight Global*, 12 September

[Press briefing](#) by General Stéphane Abrial, Supreme Allied Commander Transformation (SACT), NATO News, 12 September

[Military Capabilities: From Pooling & Sharing to a Permanent and Structured Approach](#), Sven Biscop and Jo Coelmont, *Security Policy Brief* 37, Egmont – Royal Institute for International Relations, September 2012

[Burn, Baby, Burn](#), David Isenburg, *Huffington Post*, 4 September – discusses the various lawsuits against private contractor KBR for operating burn pits in Iraq and Afghanistan

Drones (also see country section on UK below):

[U.S. Unease Over Drone Strikes](#), *Wall Street Journal*, 26 September - although Pakistani officials publicly denounce the US drone campaign in the tribal regions as a violation of national sovereignty, the US government interprets the Pakistani intelligence agency's lack of response to a monthly memo informing them of the general locations of planned drone strikes as tacit consent for the program

[Study Finds U.S. Drone Strikes in Pakistan Miss Militant Targets and "Terrorize" Civilians](#), *Democracy Now*, 26 September

[The Dark Side of Drones Big Brother in Germany's Skies](#), *Der Spiegel*, 26 September

[Drones: the west's new terror campaign](#), Clive Stafford Smith, *The Guardian*, 25 September - the CIA's Predator drones are bringing to Pakistan the same horror that Hitler's doodlebugs inflicted on London

[Drone attacks in Pakistan are counterproductive, says report](#), *The Guardian*, 25 September - US academics' report says drones kill large numbers of civilians and increase recruitment by militant groups

♣♣ [Drone warfare's deadly civilian toll: a very personal view](#), James Jeffrey, *The Guardian*, 19 September - I was minutes from ordering a drone strike on a Taliban insurgent – until I realised I was watching an Afghan child at play

♣♣ [U.S. Tactics Threaten NATO](#), Tom Parker, *The National Interest*, 17 September

[Commission wants drones flying in European skies by 2016](#), *Statewatch*, 14 September

[Europe to open skies to drones by 2016 says Commission document](#), *Drone Wars UK*, 7 September

[Obama's five rules for covert drone strikes](#), Chris Woods, *The Bureau of Investigative Journalism*, 6 September

[What's Not Wrong With Drones?](#) Rosa Brooks, *Foreign Policy*, 5 September - the wildly overblown case against remote-controlled war



(anti-NYPD phone booth takeover, 17 September – photo credit: jasonpeppink/ flickr)

[Boeing Looks To Get into F-16 Sustainment Business Market](#), *Defense News*, 31 August

[The Role of Autonomy in DoD Systems](#), US Defense Science Board, July 2012 (released September 2012) – report calls on the DoD to focus on increasing the autonomy of drones and other unmanned military systems, because currently "autonomy technology is being underutilized". "Autonomy" in this context does not mean "computers making independent decisions and taking uncontrolled action", but refers to the automation of a particular function within programmed limits. The report also offers an extended discussion of conflict scenarios in which the enemy employs its own autonomous systems against US forces. The authors describe China's "alarming" investment in unmanned systems, and encourage particular attention to the relatively neglected topic of the vulnerability of unmanned systems. The report says that "Today nineteen analysts are required per UAV orbit [i.e. per 24 hour operational cycle]. With the advent of Gorgon Stare, ARGUS, and other Broad Area Sensors, up to 2,000 analysts will be required per orbit."

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[Partners Across the Asia-Pacific: NATO Reinforces U.S. Shift to East](#), Rick Rozoff, *Op Ed News*, 25 September

[NATO Global Hub](#), Richard Weitz, *ISN (blog)*, 13 September

[NATO and the South Caucasus: Closer to war than peace?](#) Nigel Chamberlain and Ian Davis, *NATO Watch Briefing No.25*, 11 September

[The Globalization of NATO: The Roadmap to "Post 9/11 Madness"](#), David Swanson, *Global Research*, 10 September - Review of "The Globalization of NATO" by Mahdi Darius Nazemroaya



New NATO LibGuide on '[NATO and the Balkans](#)' - provides research resources selected by the NATO Multimedia Library staff and publicly available on the Internet

Armenia

[NATO chief accuses Azerbaijan of harming peace efforts](#), *Reuters*, 7 September

[Opening remarks](#) by NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen at the joint press conference with the President of Armenia, Mr. Serzh Sargsyan, 6 September

[Speech](#) by NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen at the Yerevan State University in Yerevan, Armenia, 6 September

[NATO Secretary General commends strong partnership with Armenia](#), NATO News, 6 September - Anders Fogh Rasmussen said the Alliance wants to forge an even closer partnership with Armenia during his first visit to the country

[Youth protest NATO Secretary General at Yerevan State University](#), *Information-Analytic Agency NEWS.am*, 6 September

[NATO dives into tense Caucasus](#), *Hurriyet Daily News*, 6 September - the NATO chief starts a Caucasus tour amid tension between Baku and Yerevan over the pardon of Safarov

[NATO Chief Visiting Armenia Amid Tensions](#), *Radio Free Europe/ Radio Liberty*, 5 September

Azerbaijan

[NATO-Azerbaijan ties discussed at NATO Int'l School of Azerbaijan](#), *News.Az*, 1 October

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[Speech](#) by NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen at the Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy, in Baku, Azerbaijan, 7 September

[NATO Secretary General commends strong security cooperation with Azerbaijan](#), NATO News, 7 September - Anders Fogh Rasmussen commended Azerbaijan for its progress in defence reforms and called for closer security cooperation during his first visit to the country

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[Georgia's Leader-in-Waiting Pledges to Work with Russia, NATO](#), *RIA Novosti*, 2 October

[Georgia Hosts NATO Disaster Relief Drills](#), *RIA Novosti*, 24 September

[NATO drills in aftermath of natural disasters to begin in Georgia](#), *Trend.Az*, 23 September

[Experts discuss mainstreaming gender perspectives in Georgia](#), NATO News, 20 September - experts on Women, Peace and Security from NATO, UN, EU and the Gender Equality Council of the Georgian Parliament met in Tbilisi for a two-day meeting on 17-18 September

[NATO ambassadors visit Georgia](#), *messenger.ge*, 14 September

[NATO hawkishly welcomes Georgia with open arms](#), *Pravda*, 12 September

[Georgia to Hold NATO Exercises This Year](#), *The Journal of Turkish Weekly*, 11 September

[A Crucial Election in Georgia](#), Thomas de Waal, *Commentary*, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, 11 September

[Russia wary as Georgia cozies up to NATO](#), *Russia Today*, 10 September

[NATO Secretary General praises Georgia's progress toward NATO in visit to Tbilisi](#), NATO News, 6 September - Anders Fogh Rasmussen praised Georgia for its strong commitment to NATO and to democratic reforms during a visit to the country. "Georgia is a special partner for NATO and a model of commitment," he said after talks with President Mikheil Saakashvili in Tbilisi. The Secretary General also addressed the Annual Session of the Georgian Ambassadors (photo credit: NATO)



[Four FMs, NATO Chief, U.S. Senators to Visit Georgia](#), *Civil Georgia*, 4 September

Israel

[NATO's European commander told U.S. Congress: Threats to Israel have declined in past year](#), *Haaretz*, 5 September - Israel is actually safer than it was previously, in part because of the uprising in Syria, U.S. Navy Admiral James Stavridis told Congress this spring

Malta

[Should we join NATO?](#) Michael Asciak, *Malta Independent Online*, 9 September

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[Official: Too early to talk about NATO](#), *B92*, 1 October - Serbia is ready to use all the opportunities offered by the Partnership for Peace program, but it is too early to talk about the country's accession to NATO

[Serbia, NATO work to enhance co-operation, regional benefits](#), *Southeast European Times*, 24 September

South Korea

[NATO and the Republic of Korea Sign New Partnership Programme](#), *NATO News*, 20 September



Ukraine

[NATO 'highly appreciates' cooperation with Ukraine](#), *Kyiv Post*, 7 September

[Chairman Military Committee welcomes Ukraine's offer to Operation Ocean Shield](#), *NATO News*, 7 September - Gen. Knud Bartels, Chairman of the NATO Military Committee, visited Ukraine from 5 to 7 September for a series of high level talks on Ukraine Defence reform and NATO-Ukraine operational cooperation (General Volodymyr Zamana, Chief of Defence, Ukraine, with General Knud Bartels – photo credit: NATO)

[Partnership of Ukraine and NATO is Held in a Spirit of Constructivism and Mutual Benefit](#), *defpro.news*, 6 September

UN

[NATO Secretary General Holds Talks with UN Counterpart Ban Ki-moon](#), *NATO News*, 27 September

[Speech in New York](#) on 'Why NATO matters for you', 27 September - by NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen at the City College of New York

[NATO Secretary General holds high-level meetings in New York](#), *NATO News*, 26 September - Anders Fogh Rasmussen continued high-level meetings at the United Nations General Assembly in New York. He met the Russian foreign minister Sergey Lavrov, with security cooperation at the top of the agenda

[Statement to the media](#) by NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen at the UN General Assembly, 25 September

[NATO Secretary General at the UN General Assembly](#), *NATO News*, 25 September

[NATO Secretary General Attends UN General Assembly in New York](#), *NATO News*, 25 September

[NATO and the United Nations](#), *NATO News*, 25 September - cooperating on maintaining international peace and security since the early 1990s (photo credit: NATO)



Exercises:

[Moray welcomes some of NATO's top fast jet pilots for two-week exercise](#), *STV*, 28 September

[AF Joins NATO Partners in Ramstein Rover](#), *military.com*, 13 September

[Consequence Management Exercise "GEORGIA - 2012"](#), *NATO Press Release*, 12 September - the Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre (EADRCC) will conduct the consequence management field exercise "Georgia - 2012" from 22 to 28 September 2012 around Tbilisi, the capital of Georgia

[Advice issued ahead of Nato's Exercise Joint Warrior](#), *BBC News*, 11 September

[NATO close air support exercise kicks off](#), *Stars and Stripes*, 4 September

Iraq:

[NATO Signs Cooperation Accord with Iraq](#), *defpro.news*, 25 September

[NATO, Iraq signs cooperation accord](#), *Kuwait News Agency*, 24 September

Kosovo:

[Nato cluster bomb kills Serbian deminer](#), *Oman Daily Observer*, 14 September

[Kosovo 'Supervised' Independence Ends](#), *Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty*, 11 September

[Setting Kosovo Free: Remaining Challenges](#), International Crisis Group, *Europe Report* N°218, 10 September

[West ends Kosovo supervision; NATO, EU stay on](#), *Reuters*, 10 September

[German general takes over Nato's Kosovo force](#), *Independent Online*, 7 September

Libya:

[Anders Fogh Rasmussen on NATO](#), *The Economist/ You Tube*, 1 October

[NATO worried by Libya armed groups, offers security help](#), *Reuters*, 28 September

♦♦ [Facing an inconvenient truth](#), Suhasini Haidar, *The Hindu*, 26 September - as the West helps rebels in Syria, it must pause to consider the lessons from Libya, where dubious forces armed by the US turned on it in a matter of months

[Unarmed people power drums Libya's jihadists out of Benghazi](#), Chris Stephen, *The Guardian*, 22 September - these were the incredible scenes in Benghazi as tens of thousands of ordinary citizens marched on the Islamic extremists in their compounds and drove them out with shouts, placards and sheer courage

[Divided We Stand: Libya's Enduring Conflicts](#), *Middle East/North Africa Report* N°130, International Crisis Group, 14 September - the violent death of the US ambassador and three of his colleagues is a stark reminder of the challenges Libya still faces and should serve as a wake-up call for the authorities to urgently fill the security vacuum

[Statement by the NATO Secretary General on the Benghazi attack](#), NATO Press Release, 12 September - "I strongly condemn the attack on the US mission in Benghazi which led to the tragic loss of four Americans, including the Ambassador".

[NATO and the World Bank to speak at The Libya Summit](#), *CPI Financial*, 12 September



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[Somali piracy to stay in retreat for now - NATO officer](#), *Reuters*, 12 September

[The shambles of so-called maritime security today](#), John Dalby, *DefenceIQ*, 6 September

(Royal Marines on Counter Piracy Operations Near Somalia – photo credit: UK MoD/ flickr)

Missile Defence:

[Russia Warns U.S. Against Deploying Final Phases of Missile Shield](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 1 October

[NATO Sees Room For Bargain With Russia on Missile Defense](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 28 September

Having removed him [Gadhafi], NATO had now adopted a responsibility that it shifted to a Libyan public unequipped to manage it. But more to the point, no allowance had been made for the possibility that what might emerge as the national will of Libya would be a movement that represented a threat to the principles and interests of the NATO members.

George Friedman, [From Gadhafi to Benghazi](#), *Stratfor*, 18 September

[Is NATO's European missile defence pointing at Iran or Russia?](#) Justin Stares, *Public Service Europe*, 28 September

[Turkish official: NATO missile system not against any specific country](#), *Kuwait News Service*, 27 September

[Did missile defence 'top the agenda' in a meeting between Lavrov and Rasmussen in New York?](#) *NATO Watch News Brief*, 27 September

[Benefits Seen in Canceling Planned U.S. ICBM Interceptors in Europe](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 25 September

[NATO Chief to Discuss Missile Defense With Russian Foreign Minister](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 21 September

[Still time for Russia-NATO missile defense negotiations - Foreign Ministry](#), *Russia Today*, 20 September

[Raytheon Receives \\$125M U.S. Contract to Enhance Radar in Alaska](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 13 September

[Expert Study Backs Call for Third U.S. Missile Interceptor Site](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 11 September

[We Need More European National Contributions to NATO Missile Defense](#), Ivo Daalder, NATO Source, 10 September

Ambassador Daalder's [Remarks on NATO Missile Defense](#), at the Missile Defense Conference, NATO Missile Defense From Rhetoric to Reality, 10 September

[Missile Defense Priorities Would Shift Under Romney](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 4 September



NATO Military Committee:

[Military Committee takes forward Chicago Summit decisions](#), NATO News, 15 September

[Air Marshal Sir Christopher Harper elected as new Director General IMS](#), NATO News, 15 September - Air Marshal Sir Christopher Harper (UK) was elected as the new Director General of the International Military Staff (DGIMS) at NATO HQ. The DGIMS is elected among his peers, the NATO Military Representatives, to head the Alliance's International Military Staff, for a term of 3 years. He will assume his new function in summer 2013

[NATO CHODs discuss NATO's post 2014 role in Afghanistan](#), NATO News, 15 September – the 28 NATO Chiefs of Defence (CHODS) based their discussions on Afghanistan upon the NATO Strategic Plan for Afghanistan (NSPA) which was endorsed by Heads of State and Government at the Chicago Summit in May. The Plan provides the foundation for the NATO-led post-ISAF engagement in the country

[Dempsey Arrives in Romania for NATO Talks](#), American Forces Press Service, US Department of Defense, 14 September

[NATO Military Committee holds conference in Sibiu over Sept. 14-16](#), *ACTmedia*, 13 September

[NATO Military Committee Conference, Sibiu, Romania, 14-16 September 2012](#), International Military Staff - Media Advisory, 13 September – NATO's Military Committee, the highest military decision-making forum, met in Chiefs of Defence (CHODs) session from 14-16 September, in Sibiu. The meeting of the 28 CHODs was hosted by Lieutenant General Ștefan Dănilă, Romanian CHOD, to discuss ongoing NATO operations and other key issues on NATO's agenda. This was the first Chiefs of Defence Staff meeting since the NATO Summit in Chicago, and the first time it was held in Romania

NATO-Russia Relations:

NATO-Russia Council Website re-launched: click [here](#)

[Address by NATO Deputy Secretary General Ambassador Alexander Vershbow to the International Conference "Russia-NATO: 15 years on the way to partnership" \(via VTC\)](#), NATO News, 27 September

[NATO Close to Russia Transit Base Deal - Spokesman](#), *RIA Novosti*, 26 September

[State Duma deputy: Russia-NATO relations will get new quality](#), *Russia Beyond the Headlines*, 25 September

[Russia Strategic Review: With NATO Expansion, New Ballistic Missiles Signal Shift in Moscow](#), Georgi Ivanov, *policymic.com*, 23 September

[Russian Bombers Traverse Arctic, Atlantic Waters](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 13 September

[Russia, NATO: balance of power](#), *The Voice of Russia*, 11 September – Russia and NATO remain two major global players in the sphere of security, according to Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Grushko

[NATO Demands Transparency of Russian Drills in Caucasus](#), *Prensa Latina*, 5 September

[Russia May Pursue Antimissile Tech Similar to U.S. Aegis System](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 4 September

Nuclear Weapons:

[Five Nations Believed to Hold Nonstrategic Nuclear Bombs, Experts Say](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 25 September

[European Nuclear Base Security Tightened Over Years, U.S. Brass Says](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 20 September

[Aging U.S. nuclear arsenal slated for costly and long-delayed modernization](#), Dana Priest, *Washington Post*, 16 September

[How can the new political landscape in The Netherlands affect the Dutch position on the tactical nukes on its soil?](#) Peter Paul, No Nukes (blog) – IKV Pax Christi, 14 September

[Germany Yet to Decide on Buying New Nuke-Ready Fighter Planes](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 14 September

[Seeking Kremlin Engagement, NATO Weighs Next Nuclear Posture Steps](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 13 September

[No German pledge on nuclear-capable aircraft modernization](#), Oliver Meier, *Arms Control Now*, 12 September



[A Tornado in a Teacup? Examining Germany's Alleged Nuclear Strike Aircraft Modernisation](#), Andrea Berger, *RUSI Analysis*, 7 September (German Tornado Fighters – photo credit: Bundeweher)

[A Steal at \\$10 Billion](#), Jeffrey Lewis, *Foreign Policy*, 5 September - the United States is building a nuclear bomb that costs more than its weight in solid gold. Why?

[Germany to Permit Modernization of Deployed U.S. Tactical Bombs](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 5 September

...the disarmament stalemate continues. The solution clearly lies in greater efforts by States to harmonize their actions to achieve common ends. Here are some specific actions that all States and civil society should pursue to break this impasse.....Stop deploying nuclear weapons on foreign soil, and retire such weapons

Ban Ki-moon, [The World is over-armed and peace is under-funded](#), 30 August

Reform:

[Paloméros Takes Reins of NATO Command in Norfolk](#), *defpro.news*, 1 October

[Exclusive with outgoing NATO commander](#), *WAVY.com*, 26 September - interview with the outgoing commander of NATO's Allied Command Transformation Headquarters, General Stephane Abrial

Responsibility to Protect (R2P):

[Building State Capacity to Prevent Atrocity Crimes: Implementing Pillars One and Two of the R2P Framework](#), David J. Simon, *The Stanley Foundation, Policy Brief*, September 2012

[Understanding and Forecasting Political Instability and Genocide for Early Warning](#), Charles R. Butcher, Benjamin E. Goldsmith, Dimitri Semenovitch, Arcot Sowmya, Australian Government – AusAID, Asia-Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect, The University of Sydney, The University of New South Wales, September 2012

[Responsibility while Protecting – the impact of a new initiative on RtoP](#), International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect, 14 September - the “responsibility while protecting” (RwP) concept and its potential influence on the development of the Responsibility to Protect norm (R2P) have been a source of ongoing discussion in recent months. RwP was first introduced by Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff as “responsibility in protecting” during her address to the UNGA in September 2011 and since then debate has continued, most recently at the fourth UNGA informal, interactive dialogue held on 5 September, with many commentators and scholars reflecting on how RwP will impact R2P and more importantly, the international response to future situations of genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity, and ethnic cleansing. This blog highlights the views of several civil society organizations

[UN General Assembly Dialogue on the Responsibility to Protect: Timely and decisive response](#), Brief Summary, International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect, September 2012

[R2P, Libya, and the myth of regime change](#), Tim Dunne, Lowy Interpreter, 5 September



Scottish Independence and NATO Membership:

[Nicola Sturgeon faces revolt over Nato stance, Scotland on Sunday](#), 30 September

[Would An Independent Scotland Join NATO?](#) Ciarán Carey, *theriskyshift.com* (blog), 27 September

[Swinney and Neil voice support for Nato U-turn before party showdown](#), *The Scotsman*, 25 September

[SNP should not formulate its Nato policy on the basis of opinion polls](#), *Herald Scotland*, letters, 18 September

(Yes Scotland's first annual Independence rally, Edinburgh, 22 September – photo credit: PhylB/ flickr)

[The SNP says it would kick Trident out of Scotland. But at what cost?](#) Ian Jack, *The Guardian*, 7 September - Faslane and its surrounds could be economically devastated if Trident were removed. Would an SNP government really be able to keep that promise?

[‘SNP’s Nato case is falling apart’, claims Nationalist MSP](#), *The Scotsman*, 7 September

[Westminster ‘could stop Scots joining Nato’](#), Lindsay McIntosh, *The Times*, 28 August 2012

Syria Crisis:

[Iran, U.N., NATO warn against ‘consequences’ of Syrian use of chemical weapons](#), *Al-Arabiya*, 2 October

[Syria chemical weapons ‘great concern’: NATO](#), *Daily Star*, 1 October

[History Repeats Itself as Tragedy](#), Tom Blanton, *Foreign Policy*, 21 September - the must-read secret Pentagon memo on Syria's 1982 massacre.

[No military intervention in Syria, says top NATO general](#), *The Daily Star*, 21 September

[Another Marine colonel: Time to get NATO more active on the Syrian situation](#), Thomas E. Ricks, *Foreign Policy*, 20 September

[Turkish Public Sours on Syrian Uprising](#), *New York Times*, 18 September

♠♠ [Work to make Assad a leader without an army](#), James Farwell and Rafal Rohozinski, *DefenceIQ*, 17 September

[Atrocities call for NATO intervention](#), *San Antonio Express* Editorial, 5 September

[Assad's Massacre Strategy](#), Hassan Hassan, *Foreign Policy*, 4

Our response ... would be massive and lightning fast.

Laurent Fabius, French Foreign Minister, threatening a harsh foreign retaliation should embattled Syrian dictator Bashar Assad decide to use his chemical weapons, [Global Security Newswire](#), 4 September

September - the Syrian leader believes that a campaign of mass murder will be his path to victory. Is he right?

Transatlantic Cooperation:

♠♠ [The Deputy Secretary General of NATO Responds to Your Questions](#), *atlantic-community.org*, 24 September - Ambassador Alexander Vershbow answers questions on a range of topics covering NATO's post-summit agenda, including Afghanistan, the conflict in Syria, relations with Russia, the operation in Libya, Smart Defence, missile defence, and NATO's role in the Caucasus

[Alliance Looks East: NATO's Pacific Future](#), Andrew Murray, *Atlantic Sentinel*, 23 September

[EU proposals for a European Army would destroy Nato and threaten the transatlantic alliance](#), Nile Gardiner, *The Telegraph*, 19 September

[Latest Transatlantic Trends report shows strong support for NATO](#), NATO News, 12 September

[Did Obama Really Abandon Central Europe?](#) Daria Wiktorja Dylla, *atlantic-community.org*, 5 September - Romney has attacked current US security policy for a missile defence plan unfavourable to NATO allies in Central Europe. Especially Poland may be in a vulnerable position without the external security balance provided by the US, but the removal of troops will be compensated for by the positioning of missiles. Thus, Poland has nothing to worry about, according to this analysis

[NATO: It's Lost its Meaning, Sense of Purpose; Will it Survive?](#) Michael Payne, *OpEdNews*, 6 September

Transparency and Accountability:

[Call for NATO running costs to be made public on 'International Right to Know Day' 10th Anniversary](#), NATO Watch Press Release, 28 September

[In U.N. Address, WikiLeaks' Julian Assange Urges Obama Admin to End "Regime of Secrecy"](#), *Democracy Now*, 27 September



Upcoming Events:

[Ground the Drones - Week of Action](#), UK-wide events, 6-13 October - around the globe opposition to drones is growing. In the UK, as part of 'International Keep Space for Peace', a second Drone Week of Action is being organised

NATO Defence Ministers Meeting, Brussels, 9-10 October

[Global Briefing 2012](#), The International Crisis Group, Brussels, 18-19 October - a high-level gathering examining urgent issues and solutions concerning major conflict flashpoints across the globe, including discussions with over thirty of ICG's field-based senior staff and Board members

Peace Building: The Civil Society Contribution - An International Symposium to Jumpstart the Edinburgh Peace Initiative, Edinburgh, 20-22 October

[Health, conflict and armed unmanned aerial vehicles: The way forward or a step too far?](#) Royal Society of Medicine, London, 30 October - this meeting will discuss the challenges presented by the increasing use of armed UAVs, and the rapid technological advances they represent, from a public health perspective

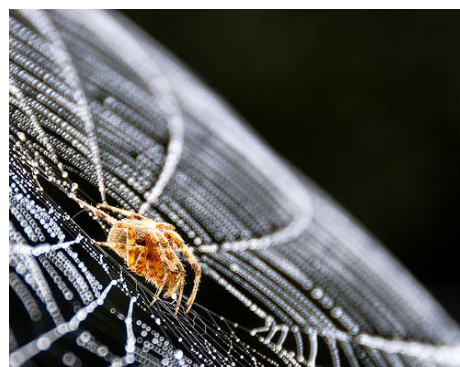
NATO Foreign Ministers Meeting, Brussels, 4-5 December

Security News from NATO Member States:

Albania

(photo credit: darkmatter/flickr)

[NATO Secretary General congratulates Albania for regional cooperation](#), NATO News, 18 September - Rasmussen met with the President of Albania Bujar Nishani at NATO HQ and thanked him for his country's contribution to the Alliance's collective defence and operations



Bulgaria

[Bulgaria, Romania Sign NATO Air Policing Agreement](#), *Novinite.com*, 4 September

Canada

[Myth-Buster: Slacker of Transatlantica](#), Kyle MacDonald, Atlantic Council of Canada, 26 September

[Canada's Abandonment of the Responsibility to Protect](#), Kyle Matthews, Centre for International Policy Studies, 20 September

[Canada Closes Tehran Embassy and Orders Iran Envoys to Leave](#), *New York Times*, 7 September

Czech Republic

[NATO days visited by 208,000](#), *Prague Daily Monitor*, 24 September

[Czech Republic Inks Deal With U.S. to Combat Atomic Material Trafficking](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 10 September

[The Baltic air policing mission changes command](#), NATO News, 1 September - Poland handed over command of NATO's air policing mission in the Baltics to the Czech Republic

Estonia

[Estonian Defence Minister: NATO and EU Need to Share Capabilities More](#), *defpro.news*, 24 September

[Estonia drops 2007 cyber attack investigation, focuses on future defences](#), Andrew Elwell, *DefenceIQ*, 10 September



France

[EADS and BAE merger must be re-examined, warns Lagardère](#), *The Guardian*, 1 October - EADS shareholder Lagardère calls on management to better take into account French investor interests ahead of tie-up

[France Warns of Forceful Reaction Should Syria Use Chemical Weapons](#), *Global Security Newswire*, 4 September

Germany

[Germany thinks more time needed for EADS/BAE talks](#), *Reuters*, 27 September

[Germany charges 2 alleged Russian spies accused of snooping on EU, NATO strategy](#), *Washington Post*, 27 September

[Berlin unhappiness over EADS grows](#), *Financial Times*, 24 September

[Breaching taboos: transformation of the German armed forces](#), Amina Abdullayeva, The Atlantic Council of Canada, 10 September

(Will the BAE-EADS merger have a soft landing? Eurofighter Typhoon nose landing gear – photo credit: night flier/ flickr)

Greece

[Fleas vs. Elephants](#), Endy D. Zemenides, Hellenic American Leadership Council (blog), 17 September

[Is Greece a security risk for NATO?](#) *Deutsche Welle*, 15 September

[Greece's Pampered Armed Forces Revisited](#), Judy Dempsey, Carnegie Europe, 7 September

[EU and NATO Look on at Greece's Pampered Armed Forces](#), Judy Dempsey, Carnegie Europe, 27 August

Italy

[High Court in Italy Backs Convictions for Rendition](#), *New York Times*, 19 September - Italy's supreme court upheld the convictions of 23 Americans in the 2003 abduction of an Egyptian cleric in Milan, making it the first case to successfully challenge the contentious American program of extraordinary rendition. The ruling opened the way for the extradition of the defendants, who were tried in absentia. But legal experts said it was unlikely the Italian government would initiate proceedings any time soon

[Italian ex-minister running for Nato top job](#), *Oman Daily Observer*, 16 September

[Dozens feared dead as boat sinks off Italy](#), *The Australian*, 8 September

[Italy, Nato search for 'missing' migrants](#), *Independent Online*, 7 September

Lithuania

[NATO Approves Funding for Constructions of Jet Fuel Storage Facility in Lithuania](#), *defpro.news*, 1 October

[New torture flights between Lithuania and secret CIA prisons in Afghanistan & Morocco revealed as European Parliament debates rendition report](#), Reprieve Press Release, 10 September

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Watchkeeper UAV and BAE Systems Taranis drone. Finally the UK has funded £120m of research within UK universities and British defence companies looking at unmanned systems. In addition to the £2bn already spent, in 2013 the UK is likely to begin committing funds to the Scavenger programme to develop a new armed medium altitude, long endurance (MALE) drone. The UK MoD estimates the Scavenger programme will cost £2bn over its lifetime.

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the present-day Republican Party (libertarians excepted) has never seen an oppressive power of the national security state it didn't want to bolster or grow. And it loves big government -- the bigger the better -- as long as we're talking about the military-industrial complex

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(Front runner for the next NATO Secretary General, confronting future security challenge – photo credit: >Rooners/ flickr)



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