



Allied Joint Force Command Headquarters Brunssum

Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum is one of two operational-level joint military Headquarters in NATO – the other being JFC Naples. Leveraging the inherent strength of multinational diversity our task is to enable military forces to accomplish assigned missions. We do this as part of the NATO family.

- Our work includes the facilitation of everything from humanitarian relief to security assistance and military cooperation.
- We are tasked to plan for a broad spectrum of anticipated crises based on an analysis of worldwide events.
- We are responsible for the provision of mission enabling capabilities; examples include contracting, logistic support and mission-specific training.
- We work in a multinational environment which brings added value to our outputs.
- Our Headquarters is located in the most southern part of the Netherlands.

General Riccardo Marchiò,
Italian Army,
Commander HQ JFC Brunssum



Resolute Support

The legal framework for the Resolute Support Mission (RSM) is provided by a Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA), which was signed in Kabul on 30 September 2014; it was subsequently ratified by the Afghan Parliament on 27 November 2014. The SOFA defines the terms and conditions under which NATO forces are deployed in Afghanistan as part of Resolute Support, as well as the activities that they are set to carry out under this agreement. Approximately 13,000 personnel from both NATO and partner nations are deployed in support of the mission. The mission operates with one central hub (in Kabul/Bagram) and four spokes in Mazar-e Sharif, Herat, Kandahar and Jalalabad

Key functions include:

- Supporting planning, programming and budgeting;
- Assuring transparency, accountability and oversight;
- Supporting adherence to the principles of rule of law and good governance;
- Supporting the establishment and sustainment of such processes as force generation, recruiting, training, managing and developing personnel



enhanced Forward Presence

NATO has enhanced its forward presence in the eastern part of the Alliance, with four multinational battlegroups in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland, on a rotational basis. These battlegroups, led by the United Kingdom, Canada, Germany and the United States respectively, are robust, multinational, and combat-ready, also demonstrating the strength of the transatlantic bond.

Their presence makes clear that an attack on one Ally will be considered an attack on the whole Alliance. These forces form part of the biggest reinforcement of NATO's collective defence in a generation, alongside NATO's tailored presence in the Black Sea region.



NATO Response Force (NRF)

The NATO Response Force (NRF) is a high readiness, technologically advanced force comprising Land, Air, Sea and Special Forces units, capable of being deployed quickly on operations wherever needed. In addition to its operational role, the NRF provides a vehicle to demonstrate operational readiness and act as a 'testbed' for Alliance Transformation. It can be used in the implementation of NATO's Connected Forces Initiative (CFI) as a platform for greater cooperation in education and training, increased exercise tempo and better use of technology.

The NRF is certified by NATO to perform a wide variety of tasks including:

- Immediate collective defence response capability, prior to arrival of other forces;
- Crisis management & peace support operations;
- Disaster relief and the protection of critical infrastructure.

Initial-entry operations are conducted jointly as part of a larger force to facilitate the arrival of follow-on forces.



Role

HQs JFC Brunssum's Level of Ambition is the concurrent execution of one Major Joint Operation and two Smaller Joint Operations. JFC HQs Brunssum continually analyses global events so that it is ready to react quickly if assigned a mission. Once the North Atlantic Council authorises a mission and Supreme Commander Europe allocates that mission to a JFC detailed planning commences. Utilising a deployable joint staff, Commander JFC Brunssum then exercises command and control over assigned subordinate commands. The range of potential tasks covers all operations from Crisis Response and Stabilization to Collective Defence. Collective Defence remains a fundamental principle of the Alliance. The founding members agreed an attack on one would be considered an attack on all of them...

The Insignia of JFC HQs Brunssum

The insignia was selected in 1999 by the Commanders in Chief Allied Forces Central Europe and Allied Forces North-West Europe as a winning design in a crest competition held in 1998. When JFC HQs Brunssum was formed it was decided not to change the crest.

Symbolic Meaning

The green shield denotes that JFC HQs Brunssum is a multi-service headquarters. The tower was derived from the historical tower of Aachen, once the capital of Charlemagne's Empire. It represents the spirit of non-aggression of the Alliance and denotes its purely defensive origin. Charlemagne's sword was chosen to depict the unity of JFC Brunssum land forces and their readiness to act if required. The astral crown was taken from the former AFNORTHWEST crest and is an ancient European symbol for supremacy. It represents the JFC Brunssum air forces and their commitment to serve. The Viking ship, which was also derived from the former AFNORTH-WEST crest, symbolises the skilful Nordic Seafarers and their effective military tactics. It reflects the considerable maritime dimension of JFC Brunssum.



History

As a result of the French decision, in 1966, to remove their forces from the military structure of NATO but remain politically engaged, the Alliance had to relocate its headquarters' based in France. As a result, Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (now Allied Command Operations) moved from Paris to Mons and Allied Forces Central Europe (AFCENT) moved from the Palace of Fontainebleau to the site of the former Hendrik coal mine in Brunssum, Emma coal mine in Hoensbroek and the Tapijn barracks in Maastricht. The official inauguration of AFCENT took place 01 June 1967. With the fall of the Berlin Wall the political and security situation in Europe changed fundamentally. The security stance adjusted from one of confrontation to a desire for cooperation. Regional Headquarters Allied Forces North Europe (RHQ AFNORTH) was formed, in Brunssum, on 3 March 2000. As a consequence of the events in 2001, NATO's regional security focus gave way to a much broader lens that monitors evolving crises on a global scale. Subsequently, AFNORTH and AFCENT merged and JFC HQs Brunssum was inaugurated on 14 July 2004.

Economics

JFC HQs Brunssum, in collaboration with Industriebank LIOF and the Chamber of Commerce of Southern Limburg, commissioned an economic impact study of the NATO base in Brunssum. The study concluded that personnel working on the Brunssum site spend approximately 150 million Euros annually in the Limburg region. In addition, the JFC Brunssum HQs has an annual local 'goods and services' spend of circa 21 million Euros and indirectly creates over 1100 jobs. JFC Brunssum is considered a major regional economic stakeholder.

