



AMO.CZ

JUNE 2017

BACKGROUND REPORT | MODEL VISEGRAD PLUS GERMANY | 03

# Implementation of the NATO Warsaw Summit commitments

František Novotný



PRAGUE STUDENT SUMMIT | [WWW.STUDENTSUMMIT.CZ](http://WWW.STUDENTSUMMIT.CZ)



The summit of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization that took place in Warsaw in July 2016 was a symbolic one. As the host city formerly gave name to the rival organization of the Eastern bloc, this summit showed that the Central European countries, not only of the Visegrad Group, are now well-integrated into the Western institutions and can, when the time is right, influence the actions of the whole Alliance.<sup>1</sup>

Barring the symbolic level, the most important task of the summit was to review the progress the Alliance had made from the previous one in Wales, 2014, which had directly reacted to the changed security environment in Europe, mainly due to the Russian aggression against Ukraine.<sup>2</sup>

Still, the summit in Warsaw was also important in several ways in itself, as the allies have decided to further build on the Wales's Summit decisions and take new measures and commitments in other areas.<sup>3</sup>

This paper should, in the first part, briefly introduce you to what were the measures taken in Warsaw and how they were implemented during the past year. The second part will then summarize what the countries of the Visegrad Group say and do about the discussed topics.

## 1 Decisions taken

Before we proceed, it is important to note that the full Warsaw Summit Communiqué, with its 139 paragraphs, includes much more than what could possibly be covered here. Therefore, it is highly advised already at the start to research further and read the Communiqué itself.

The decisions taken in Warsaw were mainly concerned with the threats from the East and the South which correspond primarily to the dangers posed by Russia and Da'esh (the so-called Islamic State). Apart from this, it is also important to mention the relationship and cooperation with the European Union, which was another significant point on the agenda of the summit.<sup>4</sup>

### 1.1 Enhanced Forward Presence (EFP)

In relation to the threats from the East, the Alliance decided to reassure its allies in the Baltics – Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania – and Poland with stationing 4 multinational battalion-sized battlegroups in the four countries under the name “NATO Enhanced Forward Presence”. The battlegroups will report to a new multinational division headquarters based on the existing Polish 16th Mechanised Division in Elblag which will in turn answer to the NATO Multinational Corps HQ Northeast in Szczecin.<sup>5</sup>

It was decided that the United States, Germany, Canada and the United Kingdom will serve as the “framework nations” in each of the countries and that the contributions will be made on a rotational basis. No NATO country will thus set up

---

<sup>1</sup> KUFČÁK, Jakub. Varšavský summit NATO: Kontrola po dvouleté cestě z Walesu. AMO. September 2016. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: [https://www.amo.cz/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/AMO\\_Varsavsky-summit-NATO\\_kontrola-po-dvoulete-ceste-z-Walesu.pdf](https://www.amo.cz/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/AMO_Varsavsky-summit-NATO_kontrola-po-dvoulete-ceste-z-Walesu.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> FRIIS, Karsten. NATO and Collective Defence in the 21st Century : An Assessment of the Warsaw Summit. Abingdon, Oxon : Routledge, 2017.

<sup>4</sup> STAVRIDIS, James. The NATO Summit's Winners and Losers. Foreign Policy. July 11, 2016. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: <http://foreignpolicy.com/2016/07/11/the-nato-summits-winners-and-losers/>

<sup>5</sup> LAPO, Amanda. NATO's Enhanced Forward Presence: reassurance and deterrence. IISS: Military Balance Blog. February 20, 2017. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: <http://www.iiss.org/en/militarybalanceblog/blogsections/2017-edcc/february-7849/natos-enhanced-forward-presence-d261>



a permanent base in the Baltics.<sup>6</sup> Since then, other allies have joined and the plan has been developed in more detail. We will cover this later in the text.

It is also worth mentioning that the allies have decided to increase their presence in the South East of Europe, specifically in the Black Sea region, calling this focus the Tailored Forward Presence.<sup>7</sup>

## 1.2 Fight against Da'esh

Another key problem for NATO is terrorism, today most visibly represented by the terrorist group Da'esh. Already in 2016, all 28 members of the Alliance were members of the "Global Coalition to Counter ISIL", even though NATO as an organization was not.<sup>8</sup> (This has changed at the recent summit in Brussels.)<sup>9</sup>

In this context, NATO has been supporting the Iraqi government in its fight and training the Iraqi forces, taking up on the training mission during the first decade of the century. In Warsaw, the allies have decided to increase the support and that NATO armies will now be training the Iraqi forces in the territory of Iraq itself.<sup>10</sup> NATO will also provide the Global Coalition with AWACS airplanes in order to monitor the airspace above the battleground with Da'esh.<sup>11</sup>

Apart from that, NATO has deepened its partnership with Jordan<sup>12</sup> and offered support to the Government of National Accord in Libya.<sup>13</sup>

## 1.3 Cooperation with the EU

When it comes to the inter-organizational cooperation between NATO and the EU, the Warsaw Summit is considered a breakthrough. However, this is mainly because the level of cooperation before the summit was quite low.<sup>14</sup>

At the start of the summit, NATO's Secretary General Stoltenberg, President of the European Council Tusk, and President of the European Commission Juncker signed a joint declaration which "outlines a series of actions the two organisations intend to take together in concrete areas, including countering hybrid threats, enhancing resilience, defence capacity building, cyber defence, maritime security, and exercises."<sup>15</sup>

At the same time, NATO has decided to transform its "Mediterranean Operation Active Endeavour" to a new "Operation Sea Guardian". This operation will

---

<sup>6</sup> NATO. Readiness Action Plan (para. 35-42). Warsaw Summit Communiqué. July 9, 2016. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: [http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official\\_texts\\_133169.htm#rap](http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official_texts_133169.htm#rap)

<sup>7</sup> NATO. Boosting NATO's presence in the east and southeast. March 15, 2017. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: [http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics\\_136388.htm?selectedLocale=en](http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_136388.htm?selectedLocale=en)

<sup>8</sup> NATO. Countering threat of ISIL/Da'esh terrorism (para. 7-8). Warsaw Summit Communiqué. July 9, 2016. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at:

[http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official\\_texts\\_133169.htm#daesh](http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official_texts_133169.htm#daesh)

<sup>9</sup> NATO. NATO leaders agree to do more to fight terrorism and ensure fairer burden sharing. May 25, 2017. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at:

[http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/news\\_144154.htm?selectedLocale=en](http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/news_144154.htm?selectedLocale=en)

<sup>10</sup> NATO. Partnership with Iraq (para. 94-95). Warsaw Summit Communiqué. July 9, 2016. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: [http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official\\_texts\\_133169.htm#iraq](http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official_texts_133169.htm#iraq)

<sup>11</sup> NATO. NATO AWACS support to Global Coalition to Counter ISIL (para. 96). Warsaw Summit Communiqué. July 9, 2016. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at:

[http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official\\_texts\\_133169.htm#isil](http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official_texts_133169.htm#isil)

<sup>12</sup> NATO. Partnership with Jordan (para. 106). Warsaw Summit Communiqué. July 9, 2016. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: [http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official\\_texts\\_133169.htm#jordan](http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official_texts_133169.htm#jordan)

<sup>13</sup> NATO. NATO assistance to Libya (para. 97). Warsaw Summit Communiqué. July 9, 2016. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: [http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official\\_texts\\_133169.htm#libya](http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official_texts_133169.htm#libya)

<sup>14</sup> DEMPSEY, Judy. NATO and the EU Agree to End Their Rivalry. Carnegie Europe. July 8, 2016. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: <http://carnegieeurope.eu/strategieurope/?fa=64045>

<sup>15</sup> NATO. NATO-EU relations (para. 121-126). Warsaw Summit Communiqué. July 9, 2016. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: [http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official\\_texts\\_133169.htm#eu](http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official_texts_133169.htm#eu)



stand ready to support EU's Operation Sophia<sup>16</sup> whose core tasks are to "identify, capture, and dispose of vessels used or suspected of being used by smugglers and traffickers"<sup>17</sup> for illegal migration. Therefore, NATO and the EU have found an opportunity for a specific practical cooperation.

## 1.4 Implementation

Already at the summit in Warsaw, the allies indicated that more specific decisions would be taken before and during the meetings of the Ministers of Defence and of Foreign Affairs in October and December 2016 respectively.<sup>18</sup> Two more ministerial meetings then took place during the spring 2017. And finally, in May, the heads of states/governments met at a smaller summit in Brussels.

Implementation of the Warsaw decisions has been going on as well all throughout the year up to today, mainly during regular meetings at the level of permanent representatives. This section will thus present you with the progress the Alliance has made since the summit in Warsaw regarding the topics already discussed.

## 1.5 Enhanced Forward Presence

The troops to be stationed in the Baltics have started to arrive in January 2017.<sup>19</sup> Before that, more details of the deployments had been decided. In Estonia, French troops have joined the UK's which serves as the framework nation in the town of Tapa, and in 2018, Denmark will follow. Approximately 1100 soldiers are now in Estonia as part of this mission.

In Latvia, Albania, Italy, Poland, Slovenia and Spain joined Canada at the base in Ādaži. Again, approximately 1150 soldiers from these countries are part of the deployment.

The base in Rukla, Lithuania hosts Germany as the framework nation along with Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg and Norway. Next year, Croatia, the Czech Republic and France will join. There are currently approximately 1050 soldiers.

Finally, in Orzysz, Poland, the US soldiers cooperate with the Romanian and British ones and together they make the largest deployment with approximately 1300 soldiers.

In each of the countries, there is always one partner unit from the host nation's army designated to cooperate with the NATO deployments.<sup>20</sup> All battlegroups are under NATO command.<sup>21</sup>

---

<sup>16</sup> NATO. NATO launches new Operation Sea Guardian. November 9, 2016. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: [http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/news\\_137427.htm](http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/news_137427.htm)

<sup>17</sup> TARDY, Thierry. Operation Sophia: Tackling the refugee crisis with military means. European Union Institute for Security Studies. September 2015. [cit. 9.6.2017]. ISBN 978-92-9198-286-8. Available at: [http://www.iss.europa.eu/uploads/media/Brief\\_30\\_Operation\\_Sophia.pdf](http://www.iss.europa.eu/uploads/media/Brief_30_Operation_Sophia.pdf)

<sup>18</sup> STOLTENBERG, Jens. Doorset statement. NATO. December 6, 2016. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: [http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/opinions\\_138727.htm?selectedLocale=en](http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/opinions_138727.htm?selectedLocale=en)

<sup>19</sup> BATCHELOR, Tom. US Special Forces deployed at Russian border to defend Baltic states 'scared to death' by Vladimir Putin. The Independent. January 4, 2017. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/us-special-forces-russia-border-lithuania-latvia-estonia-putin-scared-to-death-a7509736.html>

<sup>20</sup> NATO. Infographics: NATO's Enhanced Forward Presence. May 2017. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: [http://www.nato.int/nato\\_static\\_fl2014/assets/pdf/pdf\\_2017\\_06/20170601\\_170601-efp-infographic.pdf](http://www.nato.int/nato_static_fl2014/assets/pdf/pdf_2017_06/20170601_170601-efp-infographic.pdf)

<sup>21</sup> NATO. Boosting NATO's presence in the east and southeast. March 15, 2017. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: [http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics\\_136388.htm?selectedLocale=en](http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_136388.htm?selectedLocale=en)



Figure 1: Summary of the deployments to the Baltics and Poland, as of March 2017<sup>22</sup>



## 1.6 Fight against Da'esh

The AWACS airplanes, which are able to monitor the airspace above the ground, flew their first mission in connection with the fight against Da'esh in October 2016. They use the Forward Operating Base in Konya, Turkey and fly only above the Turkish ground or the international waters.

As stated above, at the summit in Brussels in May 2017, it was agreed that NATO as an organization would become a member of the Global Coalition. In practice, this means that for example, the AWACS airplanes will now have an expanded role and will coordinate coalition aircrafts and their movements during their missions.

The training mission provided by NATO to the Iraqi soldiers is rather “modest, but scalable”, as the Secretary General Stoltenberg characterized it. Exactly ten NATO officers train permanently in Iraq, while small teams will rotate into the country for specific training programmes.<sup>23</sup>

## 1.7 Cooperation with the EU

In terms of the deepening cooperation between NATO and the European Union, a lot of progress has been made throughout the year. The biggest step came during the December's Ministers of Foreign Affairs meeting. The allies have agreed upon a statement on the implementation of the joint declaration from Warsaw which includes more than 40 specific measures on the enhancement of the cooperation between the two organizations.<sup>24</sup>

The Operation Sea Guardian was launched on November 9, 2016 and will work together with the Operation Sophia of the European Union in the Mediterranean. It focuses on three core missions: maritime situational awareness, counter-terrorism and regional capacity building.<sup>25</sup>

<sup>22</sup> NATO. Enhanced Forward presence - Map. March 14, 2017. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: [http://www.nato.int/nato\\_static\\_fl2014/assets/pdf/pdf\\_2017\\_03/20170315\\_170314-eFP-map.pdf](http://www.nato.int/nato_static_fl2014/assets/pdf/pdf_2017_03/20170315_170314-eFP-map.pdf)

<sup>23</sup> RUDAW. NATO's in-country training program of Iraqi soldiers set to begin. February 4, 2017. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: <http://www.rudaw.net/english/middleeast/iraq/040220171>

<sup>24</sup> NATO. Statement on the implementation of the Joint Declaration signed by the President of the European Council, the President of the European Commission, and the Secretary General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. December 6, 2016. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: [http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official\\_texts\\_138829.htm](http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official_texts_138829.htm)

<sup>25</sup> NATO Allied Maritime Command. NATO Operation Sea Guardian Patrols Western Mediterranean. June 8, 2017. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: <http://www.mc.nato.int/media-centre/news/2017/nato-operation-sea-guardian-patrols-western-mediterranean.aspx>



## 2 Positions of the V4 and Germany

### 2.1 Czech Republic

As mentioned above, the Czech soldiers will be active in the Baltics. About 250 of them, a mechanized company, will be stationed in Lithuania under the German lead. Moreover, one mortar platoon of a maximum 40 soldiers will serve under Canadian lead in Latvia. These soldiers should be deployed from the start of January (Lithuania) and May (Latvia) 2018 until the end of January 2019 in both cases.<sup>26</sup>

The Czech Republic supports a stronger role of NATO in the fight against terrorism and considers the threat of terrorism critical.<sup>27</sup> It is active in the training of Iraqi officers in their fight against Da'esh and has previously contributed with almost 50.000 EUR to the counter-IED (improvised explosive devices) training of the Iraqis.<sup>28</sup>

The Czechs also support deeper European defence integration which should lead to a stronger European pillar of the Alliance.<sup>29</sup> The Czech Republic believes that the EU should focus on the missions stabilizing its surroundings while the territorial defence should be dealt with by the Alliance.<sup>30</sup> Yet besides mentioning the evolution of the concept of the European Battlegroups (EU BG), concrete Czech priorities are lacking.

### 2.2 Germany

The battlegroup stationed in Lithuania will be led by 450 German troops. They will mainly include one armoured infantry battalion in armoured fighting vehicles complemented with main battle tanks and self-propelled artillery.<sup>31</sup>

In the fight against Da'esh, Germany has contributed extensively with tornado reconnaissance jets, a naval frigate and 1,200 soldiers in the region.<sup>32</sup> Germany also participates in the international training mission for security forces in the Iraqi Kurdistan Region and supports the Kurdistan Regional Government with military equipment in its fight.<sup>33</sup>

---

<sup>26</sup> České noviny. Vláda podpořila nasazení českých vojáků v Pobaltí. May 10, 2017. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: <http://www.ceskenoviny.cz/zpravy/vlada-podporila-nasazeni-ceskych-vojaku-v-pobalti/1483449>

<sup>27</sup> Stálá delegace ČR při NATO v Bruselu. Ministr Zaorálek na zasedání ministrů zahraničí NATO. April 3, 2017. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: [http://www.mzv.cz/nato.brussels/cz/aktualni\\_temata/ministr\\_zaoralek\\_na\\_zasedani\\_ministru.html](http://www.mzv.cz/nato.brussels/cz/aktualni_temata/ministr_zaoralek_na_zasedani_ministru.html)

<sup>28</sup> Stálá delegace ČR při NATO v Bruselu. V Bagdádu byl úspěšně dokončen výcvik iráckých pyrotechniků v likvidaci improvizovaných výbušných zařízení. April 3, 2017. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: [http://www.mzv.cz/nato.brussels/cz/aktualni\\_temata/v\\_bagdadu\\_byl\\_uspesne\\_dokoncen\\_vycvik.html](http://www.mzv.cz/nato.brussels/cz/aktualni_temata/v_bagdadu_byl_uspesne_dokoncen_vycvik.html)

<sup>29</sup> MZV ČR. Ministr Zaorálek na DESCOP 2017: Posilování evropské obrany musí pokračovat. May 9, 2017. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: [http://www.mzv.cz/jnp/cz/udalosti\\_a\\_media/tiskove\\_zpravy/x2017\\_06\\_09\\_ministr\\_zaoralek\\_na\\_descop\\_2017.html](http://www.mzv.cz/jnp/cz/udalosti_a_media/tiskove_zpravy/x2017_06_09_ministr_zaoralek_na_descop_2017.html)

<sup>30</sup> MO ČR. Přední evropští politici jednali v Praze o posilování evropské obrany. May 9, 2017. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: <http://www.mocr.army.cz/informacni-servis/zpravodajstvi/predni-evropsti-politici-jednali-v-praze-o-posilovani-evropske-obrany-134402/>

<sup>31</sup> NATO. Factsheet: NATO's Enhanced Forward Presence. May, 2017. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: [http://www.nato.int/nato\\_static\\_fl2014/assets/pdf/pdf\\_2017\\_05/1705-factsheet-efp.pdf](http://www.nato.int/nato_static_fl2014/assets/pdf/pdf_2017_05/1705-factsheet-efp.pdf)

<sup>32</sup> BBC. Syria conflict: German MPs vote for anti-IS military mission. December 4, 2015. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-35002733>

<sup>33</sup> German Federal Foreign Office. Iraq: Reconstruction assistance, humanitarian aid and further support measures in the current crisis. April 2017. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: [http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Aussenpolitik/Laender/Laenderinfos/01-Nodes/Irak\\_node.html](http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Aussenpolitik/Laender/Laenderinfos/01-Nodes/Irak_node.html)



Germany takes a special responsibility in the enhancement of the European pillar of the Alliance and thus a better cooperation between the EU and NATO. A key principle in the interlinking of European armies is the framework nations concept, which was effectively put to use in the already mentioned Enhanced Forward Presence. The end goal should be a pan-European capability planning coordinated at the transatlantic level.<sup>34</sup>

Finally, Germany also participates actively in the Operation Sea Guardian with about 650 soldiers serving until the end of 2017.<sup>35</sup>

## 2.3 Hungary

In the spirit of solidarity, Hungary supports the reinforcement of the allied presence in the Baltics and Poland.<sup>36</sup>

Hungary contributes with nearly 150 troops to the coalition-led operations in Iraq. In addition to making military contributions, Hungary earlier offered to send 250 tons of ammunition to the Kurdish Peshmerga forces and to provide treatment and rehabilitation for wounded Peshmergas.<sup>37</sup>

According to Hungary, the situation in the South of Europe is becoming increasingly unstable and the immigration pressure could easily increase in the future.<sup>38</sup> Therefore, NATO should assume a greater role in countering the immigration crisis by devoting more navy capabilities in the Aegean Sea and the Mediterranean. NATO should also take part in the global struggle against organised terrorism.<sup>39</sup>

Hungary believes that heave cooperation between NATO and the European Union is required to guarantee European security.<sup>40</sup> Hungary stresses the need for inter-governmental cooperation, with the V4 being an excellent example.

## 2.4 Poland

Poland (as a main driver of the EFP deployments) of course welcomes and supports the EFP deployments on its soil. Along with that, the Polish army is sending 160

---

<sup>34</sup> The German Federal Government. White Paper 2016 on German Security Policy and the Future of the Bundeswehr. June 2016. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: <https://www.bmvg.de/resource/resource/UIRvcjZYSW1RcEVHaUd4cklzQU4yNWFvejhLbjVYnR1OCt3ZlU1No9FVU15TVFNvks2WW1ZemswZlInVWZ5VUIGL2RKVGJYY1pqWIZkYTikZFFvRVZkdXI3aWdCdZrZbmRRUW1iUk1UZm8g/2016%20White%20Paper.pdf>

<sup>35</sup> The German Federal Foreign Office. Germany participates in new NATO maritime operation Sea Guardian. September 30, 2016. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: [https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Aussenpolitik/Friedenspolitik/NATO/Aktuelles/160930\\_Sea\\_Guardian.html](https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Aussenpolitik/Friedenspolitik/NATO/Aktuelles/160930_Sea_Guardian.html)

<sup>36</sup> Hungarian Ministry of Defence. NATO paves way for Warsaw summit. June 16, 2016. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: <http://www.kormany.hu/en/ministry-of-defence/news/nato-paves-way-for-warsaw-summit>

<sup>37</sup> Hungarian Ministry of Defence. Campaign of the Global Coalition to Counter ISIL reduces migration pressure and terrorist threat in Europe. July 21, 2016. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: <http://www.kormany.hu/en/ministry-of-defence/news/campaign-of-the-global-coalition-to-counter-isil-reduces-migration-pressure-and-terrorist-threat-in-europe>

<sup>38</sup> Hungarian Cabinet Office of the Prime Minister/MTI. The situation in Europe's southern neighbourhood is becoming increasingly unstable. April 4, 2017. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: <http://www.kormany.hu/en/ministry-of-foreign-affairs-and-trade/news/the-situation-in-europe-s-southern-neighbourhood-is-becoming-increasingly-unstable>

<sup>39</sup> Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade/MTI. NATO to assume greater role in countering immigration crisis. December 7, 2016. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: <http://www.kormany.hu/en/ministry-of-foreign-affairs-and-trade/news/nato-to-assume-greater-role-in-countering-immigration-crisis>

<sup>40</sup> Hungarian Ministry of Defence/MTI. Minister of Defence discusses security of European Union in Malta. April 27, 2017. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: <http://www.kormany.hu/en/ministry-of-defence/news/minister-of-defence-discusses-security-of-european-union-in-malta>



troops (tank company and support elements) to Latvia to serve under the Canadian leadership.<sup>41</sup>

In an effort to fight Da'esh, Poland has decided to send two military contingents, to Iraq and Kuwait as part of the Global Coalition.<sup>42</sup> Moreover, Polish guided-missile frigate *Kościuszko* will be patrolling the Aegean Sea in an effort to reduce human trafficking and the inflow of migrants to Europe.<sup>43</sup>

Poland considers a closer cooperation between NATO and the EU a necessity, while a European army is, for the time being, out of question.<sup>44</sup> Poland wishes for the V<sub>4</sub> to become a strong Central and Eastern European lobby within the EU and NATO to influence the decisions in these organizations.<sup>45</sup>

## 2.5 Slovakia

Slovakia is currently not a part of the Enhanced Forward Presence in the Baltics. Nevertheless, during the first half of this year, about 150 Slovak soldiers took part in a 3-month-long exercise in Latvia as part of its V<sub>4</sub> activities.<sup>46</sup>

Recently, Slovakia has decided that in 2018, it will keep these 150 soldiers in Latvia and they will join the Canadian leadership and will become a part of the EFP.<sup>47</sup>

In the fight against Da'esh, Slovakia helps in the form of humanitarian aid (14 million EUR in the past two years) and is ready to provide its experience with training of counter-mine and other military experts.

Slovakia supports further development of cooperation between the EU and NATO. The Slovak government believes that there are many more opportunities for collaboration and it will make sure that they are used to their full potential.<sup>48</sup>

## 3 Conclusion

NATO's summit in Warsaw was an important step on the way to effective collective defence of the transatlantic area. More steps need to be taken, however, and the countries of the Visegrad Group have a chance to assume a more appropriate role in order to bolster the security of NATO by cooperating and finding common ground. Key issues that should be discussed in relation to NATO thus remain:

<sup>41</sup> NATO. Factsheet: NATO's Enhanced Forward Presence. May, 2017. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: [http://www.nato.int/nato\\_static\\_fl2014/assets/pdf/pdf\\_2017\\_05/1705-factsheet-efp.pdf](http://www.nato.int/nato_static_fl2014/assets/pdf/pdf_2017_05/1705-factsheet-efp.pdf)

<sup>42</sup> Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Poland. Foreign minister attends Washington meeting of the Global Coalition to Counter ISIL. July 20, 2016. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: [http://www.msz.gov.pl/en/news/foreign\\_minister\\_attends\\_washington\\_meeting\\_of\\_the\\_global\\_coalition\\_to\\_counter\\_isil](http://www.msz.gov.pl/en/news/foreign_minister_attends_washington_meeting_of_the_global_coalition_to_counter_isil)

<sup>43</sup> Radio Poland. Poland joins NATO mission in Aegean Sea. May 31, 2016. [cit. 27.6.2017] Available at: <http://www.thenews.pl/1/10/Artykul/254937,Poland-joins-NATO-mission-in-Aegean-Sea>

<sup>44</sup> Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Poland. Minister Witold Waszczykowski discusses EU cooperation with NATO. November 21, 2016. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: [http://www.msz.gov.pl/en/news/minister\\_witold\\_waszczykowski\\_discusses\\_eu\\_cooperation\\_with\\_nato](http://www.msz.gov.pl/en/news/minister_witold_waszczykowski_discusses_eu_cooperation_with_nato)

<sup>45</sup> Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Poland. #GoodYear at MFA: Minister Waszczykowski sums up past year in Polish foreign policy. November 17, 2016. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: [http://www.msz.gov.pl/en/news/o\\_goodyear\\_at\\_mfa\\_minister\\_waszczykowski\\_sums\\_up\\_past\\_year\\_in\\_polish\\_foreign\\_policy](http://www.msz.gov.pl/en/news/o_goodyear_at_mfa_minister_waszczykowski_sums_up_past_year_in_polish_foreign_policy)

<sup>46</sup> Ministerstvo Zahraničných Vecí a Európskych Záležitostí Slovenskej Republiky. SR a východní členovia NATO v Bukurešti o posilňovaní východného krídla. November 11, 2016. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: [https://www.mzv.sk/aktuality/detail/-/asset\\_publisher/lw1ppvnScIPx/content/sr-a-vychodni-clenovia-nato-v-bukuresti-o-posilnovani-vychodneho-kridla/10182](https://www.mzv.sk/aktuality/detail/-/asset_publisher/lw1ppvnScIPx/content/sr-a-vychodni-clenovia-nato-v-bukuresti-o-posilnovani-vychodneho-kridla/10182)

<sup>47</sup> TÓDA, Mirek. Už to nebude obyčajné cvičenie. Nová slovenská jednotka v Lotyšsku bude môcť aj bojovať. Denník N. May 25, 2017. [cit. 27.6.2017] Available at: <https://dennikn.sk/775261/uz-to-nebude-obycajne-cvicenie-nova-slovenska-jednotka-v-lotyssku-bude-moct-aj-bojovat/>

<sup>48</sup> MZV SR. SR a spojenci v Bruseli o ďalšom smerovaní NATO. December 12, 2016. [cit. 9.6.2017]. Available at: [https://www.mzv.sk/aktuality/detail/-/asset\\_publisher/lw1ppvnScIPx/content/sr-a-spojenci-v-bruseli-o-dalsom-smerovani-nato/10182](https://www.mzv.sk/aktuality/detail/-/asset_publisher/lw1ppvnScIPx/content/sr-a-spojenci-v-bruseli-o-dalsom-smerovani-nato/10182)





- the security of the Eastern flank of the Alliance, currently represented mainly by the Enhanced Forward Presence (should the V<sub>4</sub> countries aspire to lead the battalions?),
- the fight against Da'esh, which NATO is now directly a part of (and could potentially assume an even greater role),
- and the cooperation between the two “Western” international organizations, NATO and the EU, which is now most clearly visible in the seas of the Mediterranean.



## Model Visegrad plus Germany

Model Visegrad plus Germany is a MUN-type simulation organized in the format of summer school simulates the negotiation of the Visegrad Group plus Germany. University students from those countries and Germany participate in a whole week-long, thoroughly prepared educational programme.



[www.studentsummit.cz](http://www.studentsummit.cz)



[www.facebook.com/studentsummit](https://www.facebook.com/studentsummit)



[summit@amo.cz](mailto:summit@amo.cz)



[www.twitter.com/studentsummit](https://www.twitter.com/studentsummit)



[www.instagram.com/praguestudentsummit](https://www.instagram.com/praguestudentsummit)



[www.youtube.com/studentsummitcz](https://www.youtube.com/studentsummitcz)

---

## Association for International Affairs (AMO)

AMO is a non-governmental not-for-profit organization founded in 1997 in Prague to promote research and education in the field of international relations. This leading Czech foreign policy think-tank owes no allegiance to any political party or to any ideology. It aims to encourage pro-active approach to foreign policy issues; provide impartial analysis of international affairs; and facilitate an open space for informed discussion.



+420 224 813 460



[www.facebook.com/AMO.cz](https://www.facebook.com/AMO.cz)



[www.amo.cz](http://www.amo.cz)



[www.twitter.com/amo\\_cz](https://www.twitter.com/amo_cz)



[info@amo.cz](mailto:info@amo.cz)



[www.linkedin.com/company/amocz](https://www.linkedin.com/company/amocz)



Žitná 608/27, 110 00 Praha 1



[www.youtube.com/AMOCz](https://www.youtube.com/AMOCz)

---

## František Novotný

František Novotný is an associate of Association for International Affairs and a member of the Prague Student Summit organizational team.



Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
of the Czech Republic

