Supreme
Allied
Commander
Transformation

Introduction
to NATO Centres of Excellence

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COE History and MC-Guidance

- 14 May 03 MC 324/1 “The NATO Military Command Structure”
- 04 Dec 03 MCM-236-03 “MC Concept for COEs”
- 11 Jun 04 IMSM-0416-04 “NATO COE Accreditation Criteria”
- 17 May 04 MC 58/1 “Terms of Reference for SACT”
- 01 Jun 05 First COE endorsed by NAC (JAPCC)
Current COE Status

1. Joint Air Power Centre (JAPCC / DEU)
2. Defence Against Terrorism (DAT / TUR)
3. Naval Mine Warfare (NMW / BEL&NLD)
4. Combined Joint Operations from the Sea (CJOS / USA)
5. Civil – Military Cooperation (CIMIC / NLD&DEU)
6. Cold Weather Operations (CWO / NOR)
7. Joint Chemical Biological Radiological and Nuclear (JCBRN / CZE)
8. Analysis and Simulation Centre for Air Operation (CASPOA / FRA)
9. Command & Control (C2 / NLD)
10. Cooperative Cyber Defence (CCD / EST)
11. Operations in Confined and Shallow Waters (CSW / DEU)
12. Military Engineering (MILENG / DEU)
13. Military Medicine (MILMED / HUN)
14. Human Intelligence (HUMINT / ROU)
15. Counter – Improvised Explosive Devices (C-IED / ESP)
16. Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD / SVK)
17. Modelling & Simulation (M&S / ITA)
18. Energy Security (ENSEC / LTU)
19. Military Police (MP / POL)
20. Strategic Communications (STRATCOM / LAT)
21. Crisis Management and Disaster Response (CMDR / BGR)
22. Mountain Warfare (MW / SVN)
23. Stability Policing (SP / ITA)
24. Counter Intelligence (CI / POL&SVK)

24 ACCREDITED COEs
What are NATO Centres of Excellence (COE)

A COE is a nationally or multi-nationally sponsored entity, which offers recognised expertise and experience to the benefit of the Alliance, especially in support of Transformation.

“A COE is not part of the NATO Command Structure but, forms part of the wider framework supporting NATO Command Arrangements”

It provides opportunities to:

- Enhance education and training;
- Assist in doctrine development;
- Test and validate concepts through experimentation;
- Support analysis and lessons learned processes.
COE Support to NATO

Transformation

- Education & Training
- Analysis/Lessons Learned
- Concept Development & Experimentation
- Doctrine Development & Standards

Centres of Excellence

ACT - Improving today, Shaping tomorrow, Bridging the two
COE C2 Arrangements

• No direct C2 arrangements between the Framework Nation and the COE
• The COE is governed solely by the COE Steering Committee.
  – Permanent Chairmanship of the Framework Nation (no voting right!)
  – One voting representative from each Sponsoring Nation, who is duly prepared and empowered by its Nation to take decisions on its behalf.
  – Framework Nation is a Sponsoring Nation!
• COE Director reports ONLY to the Steering Committee.
• Functional relationship between HQ SACT and the COE.
• HQ SACT is responsible (on behalf of NATO) for providing the NATO Requests for Support to COEs.
COE Funding

• Sponsoring and Contributing Nations fund the COE activities.

• Cost share formula is agreed when COE is established.

• Current contribution to operational budget in most COEs is around 20-25K Euro per officer per year.

• No Cost to NATO = No Direct NATO Common Funding.
COE Manning

• Sponsoring Nations voluntarily man the COEs.
• Each Sponsoring Nation permanently fills at least one position allotted to it in the COE Manning Table.
• Additional positions allotted for the SN may be filled using methods other than permanent.
• Nations not to populate a COE at expense of NATO billets in the NATO Command Structure.
• Voluntary manning/participation of Contributing Partners is encouraged.
• 24 Accredited COEs with approximately 1120 posts.
COE Outreach

• COEs are encouraged to develop relationships with NATO Agencies, NATO Schools, Non-NATO Nations and external entities (IO, GO, NGO, industry and academia etc.).

• COEs are a versatile “outreach tool” for NATO – They should be integral parts of NATO WGs etc.

• COEs are encouraged to work in “Communities of Interest” (COI) with other COEs, partners etc.

• Other Partner involvement is encouraged.
COE Support

• A COE can provide support to ANYONE, if the Steering Committee agrees.
• Sponsoring Nations are encouraged to submit requests for support to the COE.
• A COE should provide Support to Transformation and Operations.
• Support to NATO is given priority in accordance with the Functional MOU.
Sponsoring Nation (SN)

Framework Nation is also an SN

To become an SN - YOU MUST:

• Be a NATO Country;
• Send at least one person to the COE (full time);
• Pay your share of the COE Budget (each year);
• Send national representation to SC meetings (NOT the Staff member);
• Be a participant to both MOUs;
• Use the COE for the benefit of your nation!
Summary – A COE is…

• An independent International Military Organisation, and a NATO Body.

• NOT under the Command and Control of either NATO or the Sponsoring Nations directly – They can be “asked” NOT TASKED.

• Funded entirely by the Framework Nation and other Sponsoring Nations.

• Supported by Contributing Partners.

• Coordinated by ACT for the benefit of NATO.
Questions

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