

Comprehensive Assistance Package for Ukraine

At their meeting in Warsaw on 9 July 2016, the Heads of State and Government of the NATO-Ukraine Commission endorsed the Comprehensive Assistance Package (CAP) for Ukraine. The objective of the Package is to consolidate and enhance NATO's assistance for Ukraine. This will enable Ukraine to become more resilient, to better provide for its own security and to carry out essential reforms, in particular in the security and defence sector.

Background and objective

In 2014, Ukraine launched a comprehensive review of its security and defence sector, a process assisted by Allied advisors through the NATO Representation to Ukraine. In 2015 the new National Security Strategy was adopted, followed by a roadmap for defence reforms, the Strategic Defence Bulletin, in 2016. It is Ukraine's stated objective to reform its Armed Forces according to NATO standards and to achieve their interoperability with NATO forces by 2020. Assisting Ukraine in meeting this objective is one of the primary objectives of the Comprehensive Assistance Package.

From strategy to implementation

Through the NATO Representation to Ukraine as well as the Joint Working Group on Defence Reform, Allies will continue to provide strategic-level advice on defence and security sector reform and institution building. Key areas will include democratic oversight and civilian control of the security and defence sector and establishing effective and efficient defence and security structures. NATO and Ukraine will also address economic aspects of reforms in the Joint Working Group on Economic Security.

Furthermore, the CAP contains more than 40 targeted support measures in key areas. These measures are mutually reinforcing with the joint work at the strategic level and will enhance Ukraine's ability to better provide for its own security.

Tailored support measures

Capacity and institution building

Measures provided under the CAP aim at strengthening democratic oversight, including a strengthened role of Parliament and civil society, the promotion of security and defence institution reforms, the improvement of Ukraine's professional military education system as well as the enhancement of integrity and good governance in the Ukrainian defence and related security sector. NATO's leading capacity and capability building programmes for partners will work towards the objectives jointly set in this area, which are guided by common standards and principles applied within NATO. These include programmes managed by the NATO Representation to Ukraine, the Planning and Review Process, the Defence Education Enhancement Programme, the Building Integrity Programme and the Professional Development Programme. The Military Career Transition Trust Fund led by Norway will contribute to the development of an effective personnel management system in the Armed Forces of Ukraine. As part of military cooperation, activities will focus on the development of interoperability, education and training.

Command Control, Communications and Computers (C4)

NATO will assist Ukraine in re-organising and modernising its C4 structures and capabilities, as provided under Ukraine's Strategic Defence Bulletin. These activities aim to facilitate their interoperability with NATO to contribute to NATO-led exercises and operations, and to enhance Ukraine's ability to provide for its own defence and security. Projects developed under the C4 Trust Fund led by Canada, Germany and the United Kingdom will help implement set objectives. Through the Regional Airspace Security Programme (RASP), Ukraine's ability to handle air security incidents will be improved. Other projects are aimed at enhancing Ukraine's capabilities for secure command and control and situational awareness for its Armed Forces, including by facilitating sharing of knowledge and expertise between NATO and Ukraine.

Logistics and Standardization

The establishment of a coherent, coordinated and effective integrated logistics support system will be a key component of the reform of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. Under the CAP, strategic objectives formulated at the policy level will be furthered through the Partnership Goals of the Planning and Review Process and by projects under the Logistics and Standardization Trust Fund led by the Czech Republic, the Netherlands and Poland. Based on the findings of a strategic gap analysis conducted in the course of 2015, the Trust Fund will develop capability-driven initiatives in support of long-term developments, with a focus on the improvement of Ukraine's supply chain and standardization management capability.

Defence Technical Cooperation

Activities in this area include efforts focused on enhancing materiel interoperability between Ukraine and NATO as well as Ukraine's codification capability. Ongoing work under the Joint Working Group on Defence Technical Cooperation as well as a project under the Logistics and Standardization Trust Fund will contribute to the CAP in this area. In addition, the Joint Working Group on Defence Technical Cooperation works to provide advice on transformation of Ukraine's defence industry.

Cyber Defence

In 2016, Ukraine approved a new Cyber Security Strategy. NATO will provide support for its implementation and contribute to the development of Ukraine's defensive technical capabilities to counter cyber threats. As part of the CAP, the Cyber Defence Trust Fund led by Romania will contribute equipment and training to enhance Ukraine's capabilities to handle cyber security incidents.

Energy Security

As an important component of Ukraine's National Security Strategy, energy security will be addressed under the CAP with a focus on support to the protection of critical infrastructure through exchanging best practices, training and exercises. The NATO Energy Security Centre of Excellence in Vilnius, Lithuania will lead the implementation of relevant projects in this regard.

Medical Rehabilitation

The establishment of an effective medical support system for its forces based on Euro-Atlantic experience is a stated objective in Ukraine's Strategic Defence Bulletin. Support to this objective is being implemented under the CAP, notably in the field of Medical Rehabilitation services. Through the Medical Rehabilitation Trust Fund, NATO is assisting Ukraine in raising the standards and long terms sustainability of its medical rehabilitation services for wounded servicemen and women. With Bulgaria as lead nation, the Medical Rehabilitation Trust Fund focuses on direct medical support for servicemen and women to facilitate their rapid access to medical and psychological rehabilitation services, as well as capability development for Ukraine's medical rehabilitation institutions.

Counter-Improvised Explosive Devices, Explosive Ordnance Disposal and Demining

Ukraine faces threats from improvised explosive devices as well as unexploded ordnance. NATO has committed to assist in building capacity and capabilities to meet these challenges as part of the CAP. A designated Trust Fund on Counter-Improvised Explosive Devices and Explosive Ordnance Disposal will be launched to develop concrete activities in this area. In the area of humanitarian demining Ukraine is benefitting from a capacity building project under the Science for Peace and Security Programme. Legacy challenges stemming from military activities of the Soviet Army in Ukraine will continue to be addressed under the Trust Fund for the Destruction of Conventional Ammunition, Small Arms and Light Weapons and Antipersonnel Landmines under the leadership of the USA and the Trust Fund for the Disposal of Radioactive Sources from former Soviet Military Sites led by Germany.

Security-related science

NATO's Science for Peace and Security Programme, which has Ukraine as its major beneficiary, will contribute to activities under the CAP in this area. SPS activities in Ukraine address a wide variety of emerging security challenges such as counter-terrorism, advanced technologies, cyber defence energy security, and defence against chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) agents. As a flagship project under the CAP, Ukraine's capacity in the sphere of telemedicine and paramedicine will be developed.

Strategic Communications

The establishment and development of strategic communications capabilities of the Defence Forces is an objective of the Ukrainian authorities under Ukraine's Strategic Defence Bulletin and will be part of a national cross-government and inter-agency strategic communications system in support of Ukraine's security and defence policies. NATO will support capability development in this area benefiting government institutions as well as civil society including through implementation of the NATO-Ukraine Strategic Partnership Communications Roadmap.

Countering Hybrid Warfare

In view of the evolving threats stemming from methods of modern hybrid warfare, NATO and Ukraine have committed under the CAP to establish a platform for identifying lessons-learned from hybrid war in Ukraine.

Security Services Reform

The reform of the Security Service of Ukraine is provided for in the National Security Strategy. NATO will provide assistance to relevant reforms, with a particular attention to ensuring civilian democratic control.

Civil Emergency Planning

Under the CAP, NATO will assist the State Emergency Service of Ukraine in building capacity and capabilities in civil protection and humanitarian assistance, building on activities under the Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre (EADRCC).

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