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Slovak Republic: Defence Budget and Doctrine



The Slovak Republic can be ranged among the countries with limited military power, seen from the global and the European perspective. Therefore, the country aims at developing its future in cooperation with countries of the international organizations (European Union, NATO, the Central European Free Trade Agreement and the European Free Trade Association) which participates. Under this context the Slovak defence budget reached

€748.445.344 (Euros) for 2013. The majority of these funds €269.377.207 (Euros) were allocated to: wages, salaries, service incomes and other personal payments - whereas €1.038.000 (Euros) were issued for capital expenditure.

According to SIPRI (Stockholm International Peace Research Institute) during the period 2008-2012 the Slovak republic procured a Light transport ac L-410 Turbolet from the Czech Republic. The purchased was signed in 2008 whereas the delivery was carried out in 2010. Additionally, the country procured from Russia 150 Igla/SA-18 Grouse Portable SAMs. The order was signed the same year with that of the L-410 Turbolet (2008) and deliveries were carried out in 2009 and 2010.

The country's armed forces are trying to provide security for the citizens and to guarantee defence for the state. Additionally, they actively participate in international missions for promoting peace and stability in the world, prevention of conflicts and settling of crisis situations according to the international law and confidence building measures. The purpose of this preventive policy is to avoid thwarting the security interests of the Slovak Republic, which include averting of an armed conflict from its territory.



Finally, it is worth mentioning that the country is deliberately trying to harmonize/realize its basic defence policy goal in accordance with its Euro-Atlantic orientation, as the NATO and EU membership of the country has considerably changed its security position, and provided qualitatively new conditions for realization of its security interests. Slovakia has become an integral part of the Euro-Atlantic security community and thus it has gained treaty-bound security guarantees. At the same time, it has become a security guarantor to its allies.

Kyriazis Vasileios,
Epicos Newsletter Head Editor

The Norwegian Defence Budget for 2014



The Norwegian defence budget proposal for 2014, amounts to a total of 43,008 billion NOK. This actually constitutes the largest per capita defence budget among European NATO allies and is among the 10 largest defence budgets in Europe. The budget is considerably increased compared to the previous year, as there is an actual of 519 million NOK. This is mainly achieved through a redistribution of resources

from a reduced presence in Afghanistan. Additionally, it is worth mentioning that the budget for defence procurements amounts to 10, 932 billion NOK, or about 25% of the total budget.

Regarding the operations and maintenance budgets of the Army, Navy, Air Force and Home Guard a real increase of 118 million NOK is predicted to take place in 2014. If we add to this amount the efficiency gains the "real" increase is predicted to reach 227 million NOK.

As it is already mentioned the budget for defence procurements is kept at a high level. Further analysing this we can highlight the fact that 8,874 billion NOK is proposed to be allocated to materiel investment in 2014, or about 21% of the total defence budget. The majority will be spent to already on-going projects and in continuing the modernization of the army by investing in new and modern equipment, including the F-35 fighter aircraft. Additionally, in the budget proposal for 2014, the Parliament is asked to approve the procurement of another (6) aircraft for planned delivery in 2018, in addition to the (10) aircraft already approved for procurement.



A domain which further funds will be allocated is this of the national cyber security, as the budget of the National Security Authority will further increase by 20,2 million NOK.

Finally, Norwegian authorities are estimating that the restructuring and reduction of the Norwegian military presence in Afghanistan, finalized within 2014, will free up another 338 million NOK. This amount will be redistributed to areas targeted in the long-term plan.

In the proposed defence budget for 2014, the government continues to give considerable priority to the Norwegian Armed Forces. The goal of the budget is primarily to maintain a sustainable balance between resources, assignments and future ambitions continues to be at the heart of the Norwegian defence transformation.

Kyriazis Vasileios,
Epicos Newsletter Head Editor

Denmark: Defence Budget and Future Developments for the Period 2010-2015



DENMARK



The total budget for 2012 for the Ministry of Defence in the 2012 Finance Act is DKK 23.2 billion. This amount will be progressively diminished and as of 2017 the defence must save 2.7 billion DKK annually in order to contribute to the coherence of the public finances. The annual defence expenditure will be reduced by 2.5 billion DKK in 2015, 2.6 billion in 2016, and 2.7 billion as of 2017. This is done by initiating streamlining measures already from 2013, and at the same time creating financial latitude for development initiatives. It is possible, though, to streamline the defence without having to slim down its ability to solve the operative core tasks.

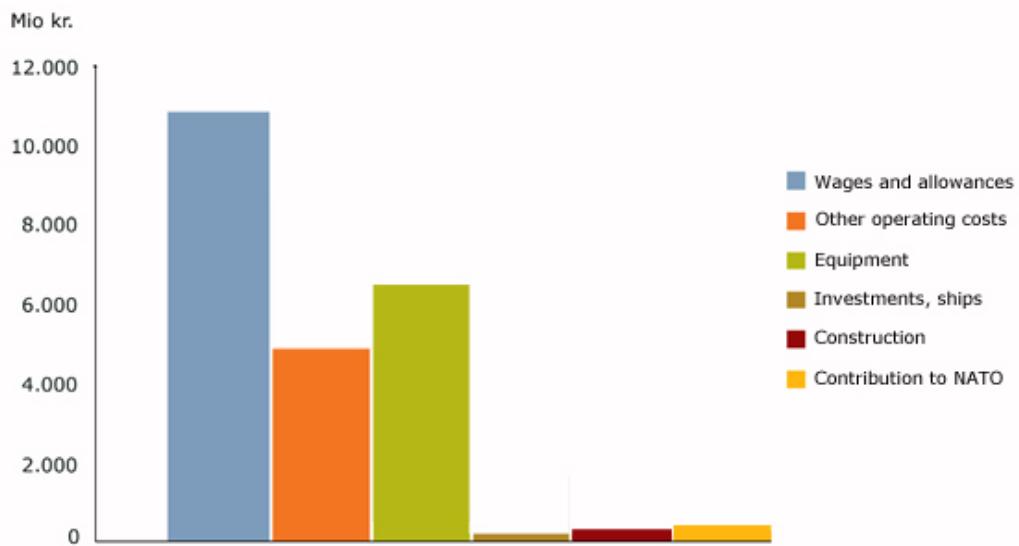
In the table below you can preview an overview of the Danish Defence expenditure for the period 2010-2015.

Organisation	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Ministry of Defence	159,3	149,1	173,8	173,3	172,9	172,7
Defence Internal Audit	10,9	8,5	10,9	10,9	10,9	10,9
Reserve of budget regulation	-	-	-132,4	-263,6	-263,6	-2.263,6
Defence Command Denmark, including procurement and construction	20.149,4	20.874,8	21.268,4	21.271,6	21.271,8	20.644,4
Home Guard Command	463,6	482,0	498,6	495,4	495,3	495,3
Defence Intelligence Service	564,9	558,4	574,2	574,2	565,9	571,5
Maritime Safety Administration	274,8	276,0	-	-	-	-
Emergency Management Agency	532,7	521,6	507,3	504,8	494,0	494,1
Conscientious Objectors Administration	11,6	-	-	-	-	-

In order to slim down the defence expenditure, the Danish authorities have abolished administrations such as the “Conscientious Objectors Administration” and the “Maritime Safety Administration”. The first administration has been abolished since 31 December 2010 and its tasks have been transferred to the Defence Personnel Service pertaining to the Defence Command. The second administration has been abolished as an independent authority by Royal decree of 3rd October 2011 and its activities have been transferred to other ministries and administrations.

For the year 2012, the Ministry of defence budget was divided into the following categories: wages and allowances, equipment, investment and ships, construction, contribution to NATO and other operating costs. As it is depicted in the diagram below the majority of the

funds have been allocated to wages and allowances, whereas the category investment and ships absorbed the smallest amount of funds.



Nowadays, the operations that the Danish armed forces are taking part are different from the ones in the past. New tactical threats, greater intensity of missions, larger number of international operations and their big distance from Denmark, as well as the wide dispersal of the contingents within the specific mission areas are some of the new challenges the Danish Armed Forces are facing. Nevertheless, the Danish authorities have agreed that the defence must also contribute to the rationalization of the public sector and thus budget reductions must be made. It is essential that the budget reductions are made in such a way which Denmark still retains effective armed forces ready to fulfill their mission.

Kyriazis Vasileios,
Epicos Newsletter Head Editor

Czech Defence Procurements



The primary mission of the Czech army is to ensure the military defence of the country against aggression and to meet commitments derived from international obligations and treaties of the Czech Republic on collective defence. In order to achieve this, the country's authorities allocated for the year 2012, (3,206.5)

million Czech Crowns. With this amount they purchased a variety of defence equipment. Spain has a leading role in the Czech armament imports. Apart from the European country, other important countries that export arms to Czech Republic, for the period 2008-2012, are Austria, USA, Italy, Canada, Germany and Norway. Spanish armament imports are rather limited in their geographical preference as the majority of the first seven countries that export arms to the county, based on the amount of funds allocated, are European.

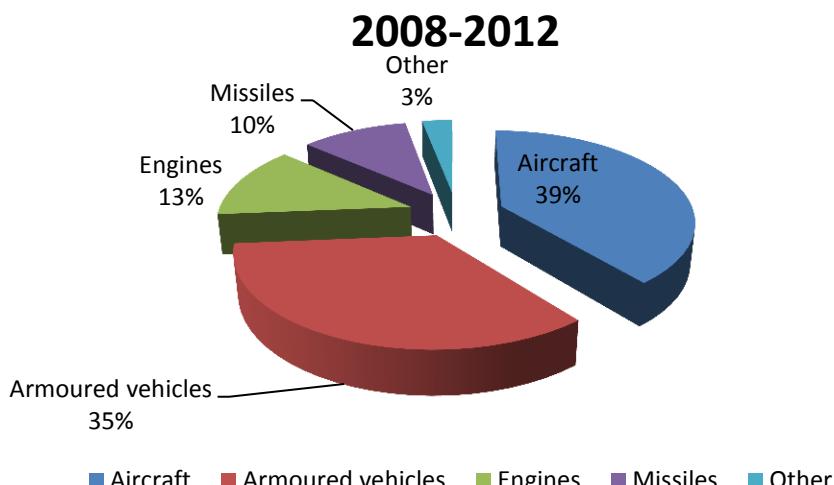
Imports (expressed in US\$ m. at constant 1990 prices)

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Total
Austria		5	8	9	8	29
Canada				8		8
Germany	5					5
Italy	3		2	3	5	12
Norway	1		1	1	2	4
Spain				52		52
USA	14	1	2	3	2	23

Source: SIPRI Publications, Arms Transfers Database

Aircraft were the predominant area of imports for the period 2008-2012 with a total amount of 52 US\$ m. at constant (1990) prices. The 2nd most important sector is that of armored vehicles with 46 US\$ m. at constant (1990) prices whereas other areas such as engines, and missiles follow.

Arms Imports to Czech Republic by category, 2008-2012



Spain is in the first place of arm exports to Czech Republic mainly due to the fact that the country's Army procured (4) C-295 transport aircraft for a total amount of 3.5 billion Czech Crowns. The procurement included an offset deal of 100-300% of the total funds spent.

Kyriazis Vasileios,

Epicos Newsletter Head Editor

Austrian Defence Procurements



Austrian defence budget is shrinking. It is indicative that in 2008 the total military expenditure of the country according to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), was 3759 million US dollars in constant 2011 prices whereas in 2012, reached 3411 million US dollars, delineating a sharp fall. In the period 2008-2012, Austria imported its defence equipment from only three countries,

Germany, Israel and Italy. Germany played an extremely important role in the defence Austrian imports which actually degrades the importance of the imports from Italy and Israel. It is indicative that Austria spent 526 million US dollars at constant (1990) prices, in procuring defence equipment from Italy, Israel and Germany. From this amount, 500 million were spent for German made equipment.

Imports (expressed in US\$ m. at constant 1990 prices)

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Total
Germany	200	300				500
Israel		0-1	2	2	2	7
Italy		1	5	7	7	20
Total	200	301	7	9	9	526

Source: SIPRI Publications, Arms Transfers Database

Aircraft were the predominant area of imports for the period 2008-2012 with a total amount of 500 US\$ m. at constant (1990) prices. The 2nd most important sector is that of the armored vehicles with 20 US\$ m.

In 2009, Austria procured (150) AV turrets form Italy. The purchase reached 25 million dollars and deliveries were concluded in 2012. Austria will use these in order to equip (150) M-65E LMV APVs procured from Italy in 2008. The total amount of the procurement will reach 104 million Euros and deliveries will be concluded within 2013.

In order to further cut the national defence budget, Austria is currently debating the option of joint air policing with Germany, Slovenia, Slovakia and Switzerland. This is though a highly debatable issue that is rather "challenging" Austria's neutrality. In other domains pooling and sharing options has been already established. For example, joint training schemes are already established with Germany, especially regarding mountain infantry training, Eurofighter training (technicians and Pilots), flight control and aerial photo analysis.

Kyriazis Vasileios,

Epicos Newsletter Head Editor

Epicos "Industrial Cooperation and Offset Projects"



Epicos "Industrial Cooperation and Offset Projects" provides a unique set of online tools enabling the structure, identification and implementation of comprehensive Offsets programs, through a searchable database. By introducing different offset projects and ideas proposed by local A&D industry it ensures the optimum cost for Prime Contractors and reassures that the priorities of local industry are fully met...

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Design and manufacturing of customized injected parts for military applications

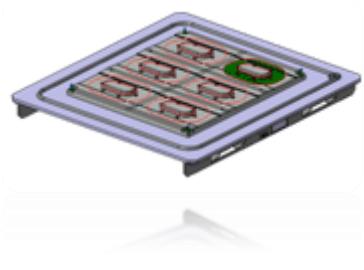


A company with long standing experience in the design, development and manufacturing of injected parts is willing to expand its activities in the direction of design and manufacturing of customized injected parts for military applications.

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Design and development of precision tools for composite and plastic parts manufacturing for defence applications



equipment.

A company providing Engineering Design Services, as well as complete Project Management services (turn-key projects) for the aerospace and automotive markets is proposing, in the frame of an offset program, collaboration with Aerospace and Defense Primes or lower tier companies for the development of precision tools for manufacturing composite and plastic material parts. These parts will be subassemblies or lower level parts for defense

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Epicos- Amazon**The Security and Defence Policy in the European Union, by Jolyon Howorth**

The European Union is shaping a new political notion that of a common European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP). The author of this book is trying to present a full assessment of the historical, political and systemic reasons behind the rise of the aforementioned policy. The author argues that the key issues involved - the challenges of defining a more balanced partnership between the two sides of the Atlantic and of transforming the EU from a civilian power into a new type of crisis management actor - are the most significant since the creation of NATO and the EU at the end of World War 2.

European Defence Policy: Beyond the Nation State, by Frédéric Mérand

State formation in Western Europe was a constant process of centralized capital and means of coercion away of smaller units thus a process of creating strong and centralized national states. Nowadays, this process has been altered as states are willing to delegate a part of their power and national coercion to a hyper national level, the European Union. Therefore, the aforementioned situation has altered the way we think about the state in the 21st century. This book is trying to delineate the creation of the European Union's Security and Defence Policy one of the European politics that has altered our perception of the state.

Epicos Newsroom**Armed Forces of the Slovak Republic: Participation in International Missions**

**MINISTRY OF DEFENSE
SLOVAK REPUBLIC**

Slovak Republic has been integrated in the Western multinational organizations, such as NATO and EU. Therefore, is deliberately trying to delineate key doctrines of its armed

forces for the strategic command level according to the NATO standards. Main reason is that the Slovak armed forces must be ready to operate alongside with other NATO forces in international missions. Slovak Republic has already participated in international missions such as the following UNAVEM, UNPROFOR, UNOMIL, UNOMUR, UNAMIR, SFOR, OSCE Observer Mission, OSCE Verification Mission, KFOR, UNGCI, UNMEE, UNMISSET, Mission Enduring Freedom, SFOR, Operation CONCORDIA, UNAMSIL, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, AMIS II and UNDOF Peacekeeping Mission.

The country participated in the NATO–SFOR (Stabilization Forces) in Bosnia and Herzegovina. A significant benefit accrued from the participation of the country's army in the operation SFOR lies in the fact that this was the first deployment of the air force unit to the peacekeeping operation thanks to which the entire Air Force gained valuable experience in operational planning for sending out the troops and activities of their units in the peace support operations.

Additionally, for the period 2003–2007 the country participated in the Operation Iraqi Freedom. On June 19th, 2003 the National Council of the country endorsed the participation of the Engineer Unit of the Armed Forces of the Slovak Republic in the Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Furthermore, the armed forces participated in the Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan for the period 2002-2005. The first part of the experts in maintenance and restoration of airports flew to Afghanistan on August 19th, 2002. The main task of the engineers was to restore the airport near the town of Bagram. In direct cooperation with American and Italian troops they participated in the reconstruction and re-building of take-off and landing areas. The Slovak camp was part of the international military base which lay at the airport. The troops of the Armed Forces of the Slovak Republic, with few exceptions, worked with equipment they brought from the home country. Under the resolution of the National Council of the Slovak Republic No. 2004 of December 14th, 2005 and by prior arrangements with NATO, the 40-member unit was relocated from the US-led coalition operation Enduring Freedom to the NATO-led operation ISAF and united with the engineer-mine clearance unit, already engaged in the operation, into the multifunctional engineer company of the Kabul Multinational Brigade.



Norwegian Defence Industry: Capabilities and Future Developments

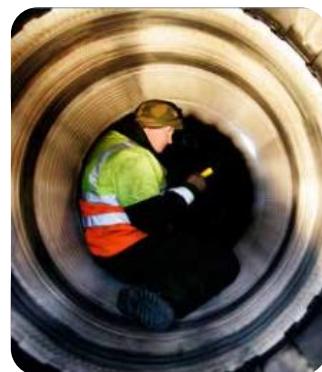


The Norwegian defence industry is consisted of approximately 120 heterogeneous companies. From these companies only a small amount is large and multi-competence and can be fairly characterized as systems integrators in sense that they deliver complete weapon systems or platforms. The remaining companies of the Norwegian defence industry are instead small/medium sized or they are part of larger civilian companies and which they have formed a military department as a spinoff of their main business line. These companies can be described as specialized suppliers, in the sense that they produce specialized components.

Although the indigenous industry is rather limited compared to the defence industries in other European countries, it has a wide span of technological competencies and a broad portfolio of products. The products are ranging from tactical communications and crypto solutions to ammunitions and military explosives, as well as tents and protective suits to components for aircrafts, vehicles, vessels and submarines.

Additionally, it is worth mentioning that Norwegian defence companies export the majority of their production as they receive on average about half of their revenues from foreign clients.

Norwegian authorities are deliberately trying to enhance the capabilities of the Norwegian companies through the realization of a wide variety of innovation and internationalization related support programs, directed primarily towards small and medium sized (specialized suppliers) companies. One of the “pillars” through which this is achieved is the implementation of the defence industrial policy. The Norwegian MOD, supports the defence industry primarily through acquisition - related R&D support programs and export stimulating offset agreements, which often benefit companies with a broad technological competency base.



Kyriazis Vasileios,
Epicos Newsletter Head Editor

Danish Defence Forces, New Challenges



FORSVARSMINISTERIET
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE



The operational needs of modern armies are constantly changing. Therefore, armies must continue to modernize and adapt to future tasks. In accordance with this, the Danish authorities

have as main priority to ensure an efficient, up-to-date army, while at the same time is geared to meet new challenges in the Arctic and in the cyber area, among others. Denmark will continue to have a well-equipped and well-trained defence forces, prepared for participation in international missions, whenever it is needed.

In conclusion, three are the main challenges which the Danish defence forces will face: the development in the Arctic, meet new challenges in the cyber area and, adapt to the new environment that will be created when the armed forces will be pulling out from Afghanistan (by the end of 2014).

Regarding the development in the Artic, a joint services' Arctic Command has already been established in Nuuk. Several other things have been already planned such as the procurement of new ship-based helicopters and a new inspection vessel and the carry out of tests with drones and surveillance satellites.



After the events of 9/11 the term "Homeland Security" obtained a new and different perspective. From safeguarding the security of the nation's interior against possible enemy actions during a conflict, has transformed to the protection of the every-day social activities and the national transport, power, communication and health infrastructure, and finally the nation's natural resources. Under this context the responsible authorities for the implementation of Homeland Security has a different reality to face. Cyber and Data Security is one of the most important and sensitive domains of homeland security. Identifying this new reality the Danish authorities decided that a military capacity should be established, which will be able to carry out defensive and offensive military operations in cyberspace.

When Denmark pulls out its battle units from Afghanistan towards the end of 2014, the army will need to adapt to the new challenges and to be prepared for fast deployment, while at the same time maintaining the ability to carry out longer missions.

Kyriazis Vasileios,
Epicos Newsletter Head Editor

International Missions of Czech Armed Forces



Czech Republic participates in international missions since 1990. It was on 23rd of September, 1990 when the Federal Assembly of the Parliament of the (former) Czech and Slovak Federal Republic made the decision to send a Czechoslovak Chemical Unit to the Persian Gulf region in order to join the anti-Iraqi U.S.-led coalition force set to free the State of Kuwait. Based on that decision, the Czechoslovak military sent 200 soldiers-volunteers to Saudi Arabia during December 11 - 14, 1990. Since then the country has been participating in several international missions, amongst others to NATO's ISAF Operation in Afghanistan, to NATO's Operation "Joint Enterprise" in Kosovo and to the EU's Operation - EU-NAVFOR - "ATALANTA" in Somalia.

Czech Republic operates in the Afghanistan mission with the following contingents:

ACR Task Force ISAF: The Czech Armed Forces Task Force in ISAF operation is an organizational unit, whose commander directly commands Czech units deployed at the Kabul International Airport and administratively controls the rest of Czech units serving elsewhere in Afghanistan on ISAF operation.

Military Advisory Team in Logar and in Wardak: the main task of the contingent is to advise command staff and personnel of the Afghan National Army in order to provide professional growth in command and planning procedures.

Additionally, the Armed Forces of the Czech Republic have participated in the NATO's Operation "Joint Enterprise" in Kosovo since 1999, originally with a reconnaissance company followed by a mechanized unit.

The country's armed forces also participate in the EUNAVFOR Anti-Piracy Operation mission in Somalia. The first group of three Czech military officers joined the Operation Headquarters in Northwood in April 2010 and at the end of July 2010 it was replaced by the second group. The third group served in Northwood from February to August 2011, and the fourth is now on duty.

On June 9th, 2010 the armed forces of Czech Republic returned to Bosnia and Herzegovina participating in the European Union mission. Currently there are two personnel from the Czech Republic which will focus initially on providing training and capacity building support to the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina.



Additionally, the county's armed forces participate in the European Union Training Mission (EU TM) in Mali. The primary mission of 34 Czech soldiers, who moved to Bamako during March 14 – 16, 2013, is to contribute to training of Malian Army and equip its units with Czech small arms and generators. The Czech participation in the mission is planned for 15 months and the size of the unit can be increased up to 50 soldiers.

Three military officers of the Armed Forces of the Czech Republic have been serving in the Sinai since November 2009, supervising the 1979 Treaty of Peace between Egypt and Israel. The Czech staff officers serve at the following positions: Assistant Chief of Staff (Lieutenant Colonel), Deputy Force Protection Information Officer (Major) and Force Engineering Staff Officer (Captain) at the El Gorah base (MFO North Camp) in the north of the Sinai, some 20 kilometers from the shore of the Mediterranean Sea.

Finally, Czech Republic has deployed military observers in several missions. There are five Czech military observers in the following missions at present:

- 3 in DR Congo (MONUSCO)
- 1 in Kosovo (UNMIK)
- 1 in Afghanistan (UNAMA)

Kyriazis Vasileios,
Epicos Newsletter Head Editor

Austrian Armed Forces in International Missions

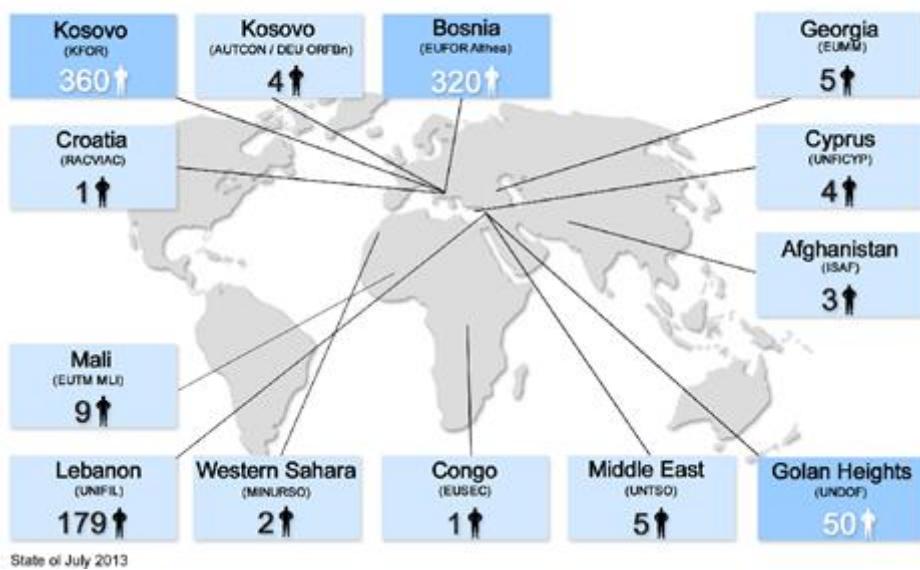


AUSTRIAN ARMED FORCES

Since 1960, more than 90,000 Austrian troops and civilian helpers have been participating in more than (50) international peace support and humanitarian missions. The foreign development of the Austrian troops highlights the geopolitical priorities of the country, regarding international missions and results from its security, political and economic considerations. At present, Austria's geographic priorities are: Western Balkans and Middle East.

Currently the Austrian troops are participating in international missions such as EUFOR "ALTHEA" in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The mission's scope is to stabilise the military aspects of the Dayton peace agreement and to provide a permanent military presence in order to prevent a renewed threat to peace. Austria had in July 2013, (320) troops in this mission. Additionally, (360) Austrian troops participate in KFOR a NATO-led military mission in Kosovo.

Foreign Deployments of the Austrian Armed Forces



Austria also has troops deployed outside Europe. Namely the Austrian troops are deployed in the UNIFIL mission, in Lebanon. Following the July/August 2006 crisis, the Council enhanced the force of the mission and decided that in addition to the original mandate, it would, among other things, monitor the cessation of hostilities; accompany and support the Lebanese armed forces as they deploy throughout the south Lebanon; and extend its assistance to help ensure humanitarian access to civilian populations and the voluntary and safe return of displaced persons. Currently (as of July 2013) there are (179) Austrian troops deployed in this mission.

The country also participates in the AUSBATT/UNDOF mission to the Golan Heights, Syria, since 1974. Currently in this mission there are (50) Austrian troops. Finally there are troops deployed in Georgia, Afghanistan, Congo and Western Sahara.

Over the last years, international operations have become a priority task for the armed forces of all European countries. Austria could not be an exception. Austrian troops participate in several missions in Europe and Middle East enhancing the international presence of the country.

Kyriazis Vasileios,
Epicos Newsletter Head Editor