

**Part I: Global Defence Spending**

1. **Australia: Future Defence Budget**
2. **Croatia: Equipping the National Armed Forces**
3. **Republic of Korea: Current & Future Defence Budget**
4. **Lithuanian Defence Budget**
5. **Epicos “Industrial Cooperation and Offset Projects”**
6. **Design and development of special machines and equipments for the aerospace industry**
7. **Rugged mission data recording system for monitoring and debriefing applications in modern digital ground forces**

**Part II: Epicos Events**

1. **DEFSEC ATLANTIC 2015 - THE CANADIAN DEFENCE SECURITY AND AEROSPACE EXHIBITION ATLANTIC, September 8 - 10, Halifax, Nova Scotia, CANADA**
2. **Combat Helicopter 2015, November 17-19, Prague, Czech Republic**
3. **4th Edition Middle East Homeland Security Summit, 06-08 October, Amman, Jordan**
4. **Military Airlift & Rapid Reaction Operations 2015, 1-2 December, Sevilla, Spain**
5. **Airborne ISR 2015, 26-27 October, London, United Kingdom**

## Australia: Future Defence Budget



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Defence**

The Australian government is determined to support a defence budget which will ensure that the armed forces will be able to deliver their core capabilities. For 2015-16 budget, the government has reaffirmed this commitment and will progressively grow the defence budget of 2% of GDP within a decade. The Australian government will provide its defence with \$31.9 billion in 2015-16 and \$132.6 billion over the forward estimates. This is an increase of \$9.9 billion over the forward estimates when compared to the 2014-15 budget and represents record expenditure on defence.

Furthermore, it is worth mentioning that over the past 12 months the Government has committed more than \$5 billion to new defence capabilities including:

- Two additional Boeing C-17A Globemaster III aircraft to bolster the Royal Australian Air Force's existing fleet of six strategic lift aircraft
- The new Helicopter Aircrew Training System - a fully integrated modern training environment preparing aircrew for the new generation of advanced combat helicopters
- State-of-the-art Special Forces vehicles being assembled in Australia.

Additionally, in 2015-16 budget, the Government will provide defence with an additional \$752.7 million in 2015-16 and \$802.4 million for carrying out international operations/missions. This will increase total Operations funding to \$910.7 million in 2015-16 and \$1,071.8 million over the Forward Estimates as follows:

- Operation Highroad (Afghanistan - NATO led mission) - \$115.1 million in 2015-16 and \$134.4 million over the Forward Estimates;
- Operation Slipper (Afghanistan) - \$121.9 million in 2015-16 and \$225.8 million over the Forward Estimates;
- Operation Manitou (Maritime Operations including counter-piracy in the Middle East Region) - \$43.2 million in 2015-16 and \$45.9 million over the Forward Estimates;
- Operation Accordion (Middle East Region) - \$191.0 million in 2015-16 and \$193.0 million over the Forward Estimates;
- Operation Okra (Iraq) - \$390.8 million in 2015-16 and \$418.3 million over the Forward Estimates; and
- Operation Resolute (Coastal Surveillance Operations) - \$48.7 million in 2015-16 and \$54.4 million over the Forward Estimates.

Kyriazis Vasileios,  
Epicos Newsletter Head Editor

## Croatia: Equipping the National Armed Forces



Throughout the years Croatian authorities are trying to further modernize the national armed forces and to align them with the developments in the international scene. The fact that Croatia is a full member of NATO since April 1, 2009, has definitely helped the country develop its national armed forces as the fulfillment of obligations resulting from NATO membership put before

Croatian armed forces (CAF) have redefined their missions and tasks and gave them a detailed “roadmap” for achieving the modernization developments required.

For the following years, CAF has planned a series of armament modernization. Regarding infantry weapons for the period 2015-2024 the following projects/programs will be carried out:

- A total of 48 tanks will be retained in operational use in the Armed Forces and they will be subjected to revision process; one Tank Company will be modernized;
- End of equipping and phasing into operational use of the APC Patria with other weapon and military systems (anti-armor system, remote weapon station of 30 mm, communication equipment);
- Maintenance and modernization of the infantry combat vehicle BVP M-80, including modernization with new anti-armor systems;
- Equipping with new mobile anti-armor system.
- Equipping with Man Portable Short Range Air Defense System (MANPADS).
- Further development of the Engineer branch and phasing in of the mines with self-destruction or self-deactivation, the system of distance mine planting, the system of quick opening of passages in mine fields and replacement of the launching systems for quick bridging over and floating bridges systems;
- Equipping with engineer assets and equipment for general and combat support and explosive ordnance disposal (EOD).



Regarding the Navy, for the period 2015-2024 the following projects/programs will be carried out:

- Equipping with Coastal Patrol Boat;
- Equipping with Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV);
- Equipping with Anti-Ship Missile System.

Regarding the Air Force and Air Defense, for the period 2015-2024 the following projects/programs will be carried out:

- By the end of the year 2016 decision will be made regarding retaining or abandoning Autonomous Protection of the Air Space;
- Equipping with Air Defense system of mid-range.

Kyriazis Vasileios,  
Epicos Newsletter Head Editor

*Republic of Korea: Current & Future Defence Budget*



**Ministry of National Defense**  
Republic of Korea

The Republic of Korea (ROK) is deliberately trying to raise the efficiency of national defense organization and management in order to match the

standards of the changing security environment and future warfare requirements. Therefore, it is critical for the MoD to secure an adequate budget amount for national defence in order to ensure that the abovementioned goals will be reached. Nevertheless, the ratio of the defense budget to the ROK's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) as well as to the entire government budget, is decreasing. Since 2014, the defense budget accounted for 2.38% of GDP is declining by 1% and the government budget of 14.4% is declining by 0.3%.

This trend is going to change as the projection in the years to come is displayed in the table below. More specifically, the budget allocated during the 2015-2019 Mid-term Defense Program amounts to \$222.9 trillion won (approximately \$196 million dollars), reflecting an increase of 5.6% for force operation, an increase of 10.6% for force improvement, and an increase of 7.2% for the total defense budget on average for the mid-term period.

**Mid-term Defense Program Budget Breakdown**

**Unit: Trillion won, %**

Category	2014	Projections for the Years					Total
		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	
Defence Budget (Increase Rate)	35.7 (3.5)	38.5 (7.9)	41.5 (7.8)	44.6 (7.4)	47.6 (6.7)	50.6 (6.3)	222.9 (7.2)
Force Operating Costs (Increase Rate) (Share)	25.2 (3.6) (70.6)	26.8 (6.3) (69.5)	28.4 (6.1) (68.4)	30.1 (5.9) (67.4)	31.6 (5.1) (66.4)	33.2 (4.9) (65.6)	150.1 (5.6) (67.3)
Force Improvement Budget (Increase Rate) (Share)	10.5 (3.3) (29.4)	11.7 (11.8) (30.5)	13.1 (11.5) (31.6)	14.5 (10.9) (32.6)	16 (10) (33.6)	17.4 (9) (34.4)	72.8 (10.6) (32.7)

In order to enhance its capabilities the country is planning to procure during the 2015-2019 period the following: for the land forces, efforts will be made to enhance the ROK military's surveillance, reconnaissance, and command and control capabilities, and improve its maneuver and precision strike capabilities while acquiring the essential forces required to enhance the combat power of field units. Regarding the naval forces it is expected that efforts will be made to strengthen the capabilities for protecting sea lines of communication (SLOC). Additionally amphibious operations will be acquired.

The Republic of Korea is deliberately trying to enhance the national armed forces and the ambitious acquisition program for the period 2011-2015 that was announced clearly illustrates it.

Kyriazis Vasileios,  
Epicos Newsletter Head Editor

## Lithuanian Defence Budget



**The Lithuanian defence policy is mainly guided**

**by the assumption that the** capabilities of its Armed Forces are developed so as to serve national defence needs and to ensure the implementation of international commitments. Therefore, the country's defence policy is an integral part of the National Security Policy aimed at the development (formation) of the international security environment at the same time contributing to the international stability

and peace, and formation of the national defence capability to ensure both - deterrence from an armed attack, and reliable defence in case of armed aggression. In line with these priorities, Lithuania is planning to spend €425 million Euros for defence in 2015.

According to official estimations the €425 million Euros will be distributed as following:

- ✓ For personnel – EUR €195.8m (46.1 %)
- ✓ For assets maintenance – EUR €92.9 m (21.8 %)
- ✓ For participation in multinational operations (PMO) – EUR €57.2 m (6.2 %)
- ✓ For weapons and military equipment – EUR €45.7 m (10.8 %)
- ✓ For investment and other acquisitions – EUR €71.2 m (16.7 %)
- ✓ For military pensions –EUR €9.6 m (2.3 %)
- ✓ Emergency stocks – EUR €1.4 m (0.3 %)
- ✓ For subsidizing municipalities – EUR €0.5 m (0.1 %)

The main priority of the draft defence budget in 2015 is to focus on modernization projects of the Lithuanian Armed Forces concerning:

- ✓ Enhancement of combat power of the Lithuanian Armed Forces;
- ✓ Development of combat support capabilities of the Lithuanian Armed Forces;
- ✓ Development of combat training of the Lithuanian Armed Forces and Host Nation Support capabilities.

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...

[For Further Information Press Here](#)

### Design and development of special machines and equipments for the aerospace industry



A company with extensive experience in the manufacturing of structures and equipment for the aeronautical sector is proposing the collaboration with a Prime contractor for the design and development of special machines and equipment that can be used in the manufacturing and/or maintenance process in the aerospace industry.

[For Further Information Contact our ICO Department](#)

Mail at: [g-menexis@epicos.com](mailto:g-menexis@epicos.com)

### Rugged mission data recording system for monitoring and debriefing applications in modern digital ground forces



A company with vast experience in industrial rugged computers development and production and video signal processing, is proposing the development of a new rugged mission data recording system to be used in several network centric battlefield applications providing continuous monitoring (multiple video and audio signals) and training (e.g. debriefing) applications. The recording system will interface with vehicle vectronics collecting and storing video and audio from crew members and various sensors providing advanced debriefing capabilities.

[For Further Information Contact our ICO Department](#)

Mail at: [g-menexis@epicos.com](mailto:g-menexis@epicos.com)

## Epicos Events



### **DEFSEC ATLANTIC 2015 - THE CANADIAN DEFENCE SECURITY AND AEROSPACE EXHIBITION ATLANTIC, September 8 - 10, Halifax, Nova Scotia, CANADA**

DEFSEC Atlantic 2015 will take place on Wednesday, September 9 and Thursday, September 10, with the Opening Reception on the evening of Tuesday, September 8.

DEFSEC Atlantic is making some major improvements to the show for this year, based on participant feedback and to improve the show experience.

The floorplan is changing to accommodate the addition of meals back into the exhibition hall.

The new floorplan will allow for:

- Larger audiences to view the popular presentations by government and industry
- Separation of the meeting space and exhibition areas
- Better management of access control and set-up of the space

All attendees of the event, regardless of pass type, will now have access to the meals and receptions served on-site. Including meals with the booth and registration fees will reduce administration and allow exhibitors and delegates to continue to network on-site during meal times.

For more information please [press here](#)

### **Combat Helicopter 2015, November 17-19, Prague, Czech Republic**

Combat Helicopter is the premier international gathering for armed forces and industry

The recent use of rotary assets during operations has identified the need for each platform to provide a multitude of capabilities for each individual mission. Original platform requirements have often been disregarded in order to achieve mission success on the modern battlefield. Combat Helicopter provides the tri-services community with the unique opportunity to gain a clear understanding of future requirements and capabilities for next generation, multi-role rotary platforms.

Key Focus Areas:

- Attack and Specialist Platforms (CSAR, SF, MEDEVAC)
- Utility and Troop Transportation



- ISTAR
- Unmanned Systems
- Survivability
- Multi-role Requirements and Platforms
- Weapon and Self Defence Systems
- Airworthiness

For more information please [press here](#)

#### **4th Edition Middle East Homeland Security Summit, 06-08 October, Amman, Jordan**

The summit will gather some of the top internal security officials, counter-terrorism experts, drug-enforcement officials, border protection officials, law makers etc, to share their first-hand experiences on the evolving security challenges in the Gulf region.

[For more information please press here](#)

#### **Military Airlift & Rapid Reaction Operations 2015, 1-2 December, Sevilla, Spain**

SMI's 16th Annual conference on Military Airlift & Rapid Reaction Operations is the largest bespoke military airlift conference in Europe. The two-day conference will provide updates on national systems, operations and future requirements as well as the growth in sharing and pooling of assets to satisfy national and regional requirements. These topics will be addressed by the major militaries and the multinational commands, and whilst the focus is mainly on airlift for military operations, there is also section dedicated to military airlift in humanitarian responses.

Key speakers include:

- Brigadier General Enrique J. Biosca Vazquez, Head of Plans and Policy Division, Spanish Air Force
- Brigadier General Dionigi Maria Loria, Director, Logistics Directorate, European Union Military Staff
- Colonel Trevor Nitz, Commander, NATO Heavy Airlift Wing
- Colonel Karsten Jensen, Commander Air Transport Wing, Royal Danish Air Force
- Colonel Reinhard Krell, Director, Movement Coordination Centre Europe
- Group Captain Andrew Killey, Assistant Head Defence Supply Chain Operations and Movements (DSCOM) - Defence Movements Team Leader, Royal Air Force

- Senior Representative, AMCC, NATO SHAPE
- Senior Representative, European Air Transport Command
- Nicholas Hue, A400M Programme Manager, OCCAR-EA
- Rudolf Muller, Deputy Director and Chief, Emergency Services Branch, United Nations
- Laurent Defrance, Policy Officer, European Response Coordination Centre, European Commission
- Didier Vernet, Head of A400M Product Marketing, Airbus Military
- Colin Sage, Director, International C3 & ISR Programs, ViaSat, Inc

Don't miss the exclusive opportunity to attend the site visit to Airbus Military Facility

Event sponsors: Airbus Defence and Space, JBTC, National Air Cargo, TLD Group and Viasat

Event website: [www.military-airlift.com](http://www.military-airlift.com)

Contact Frederick Agbolety for more information: +44 (0) 20 7827 6070 / [fagbolety@smi-online.co.uk](mailto:fagbolety@smi-online.co.uk)

### **Airborne ISR 2015, 26-27 October, London, United Kingdom**

The increased use and investment in airborne ISR capability is a trend that has swept across both established and emerging militaries on a global scale. By providing accurate and timely intelligence, situational awareness is enhanced and force multiplied. So as to gain further insight into this dynamic area of operations, it is with great pleasure that we invite you to attend Airborne ISR 2015, taking place from the 26th - 27th October in London.

Airborne ISR 2015 aims to cover a variety of key areas, ranging from well-established NATO programmes such as the JISR, to the independent efforts of member states. Additionally, the effective integration of ISR assets, individual and joint training programmes, minimisation of operational costs and the emergence of cutting edge technology shall all feature heavily.

The 2015 expert speaker line-up features:

- Air Commodore Paddy Teakle, Deputy Commander and Chief of Staff NAEW&C Force Command, NATO
- Brigadier David Evans, ACOS IS, Information Superiority, Royal Navy, UK
- Colonel Laura Ryan, Director of Policy, Plans and Assessments, 25th Air Force, United States
- Colonel John McCurdy, Director of Research, United States Air Force Academy
- Squadron Leader Rob Farrant, Sentinel Requirements Manager, Air Command Capability Branch, RAF, UK

- Lieutenant Colonel Jan "Muezli" Ruedisueli, Commander of 306th Squadron, Royal Netherlands Air Force
- Mr Rob Munday, Unified Vision 2014 Assessment Director, NATO
- Dr James Wood, Fellow, Cyber and Information Systems Division, DSTL, UK
- Mr Rob Murray, Head of ISR, Defence Investment Division, NATO

To see the full list of speakers download a brochure at [www.airborne-isr.net](http://www.airborne-isr.net)

#### Benefits of attending

- Hear an insider up-date on NATO's overarching and influential programmes, such as the Allied Ground Surveillance (AGS) programme and the Airborne Early Warning and Control System (AWACS)
- Have the opportunity to hear from and bench mark against strategic partners, an account of their independent efforts to develop and enhance their airborne ISR capabilities
- An ideal forum for the advancement of interoperability and co-operation amongst airborne ISR assets and the opportunity to gain an insight into the industry's fluid and ever advancing technological improvements

In addition don't miss the interactive post-conference workshop on:

#### Holistic ISR - How to Train

Workshop Leader: Ewan Stockbridge, CEO, IamISR

#### Event details

For more information and to register visit: [www.airborne-isr.net](http://www.airborne-isr.net)

Book by 30th September to receive £100 discount

For more information contact: James Hitchen on: +44 (0) 20 7827 6054 or [jhitchen@smi-online.co.uk](mailto:jhitchen@smi-online.co.uk)