

NATO and its Military Structure

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) was established in 1949 as a alliance of collective defence. (The Warsaw Treaty Organization - WTO was established 1955). As the first NATO Secretary General Lord Ismay said NATO has the task in Europe to keep America in, to keep Russia out and Germany down. The first members were the USA, Canada, United Kingdom, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, France, Portugal, Italy, Spain, Norway, Denmark, Iceland, Greece, Turkey, West Germany. After the end of the WTO in 1991 Hungary, Czech Republic, Poland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Bulgaria, and Romania became members. Albania and Croatia joined in April 2009. An additional 22 countries participate in NATO's "Partnership for Peace", with 15 other countries involved in institutionalized dialogue programs. Due to the SIPRI report from 2010 the combined military spending of all NATO members constitutes over 70% of the world's military spending.

After the end of the WTO it became evident that the NATO is not a alliance of collective defence but a alliance of global intervention. Wars were organized:

1992-1995 against Bosnia and Herzegovina,
1999 against Yugoslavia
2003 against Afghanistan,
2007 against Somalia
2008 against "pirates" at the Horn of Africa
2011 against Libya

The USA will put their military focus to the Pacific region. But with the help of NATO its military power in Europe is tremendous. As you can see in the following graphics all important positions are held by US Generals, who command the US and the NATO forces (see especially to SHAPE, SACEUR and AJHQ Naples).

NATO is in permanent transition. The move of the Joint Headquarters for the army from Heidelberg to **Izmir (Turkey)** shows very clearly what countries are on the list for the next wars.

Ramstein (Germany) will be the center of all allied air force and anti-missile-actions, **Naples (Italy)** for all maritime actions. **Rheindalen (Germany)** is the center for the rapidly deployable corps (NATO Reaction Force). So also in the future war will emerge from German ground every day.

Every country which permanently hosts foreign troops in big numbers is not independent. Every country which supports military actions which have no mandate by the United Nations is violating international law and is committing war crimes. The justifications "humanitarian intervention", "war on terror" and "responsibility to protect" were invented to evade the renunciation of violence written in the Charter of the United Nations.

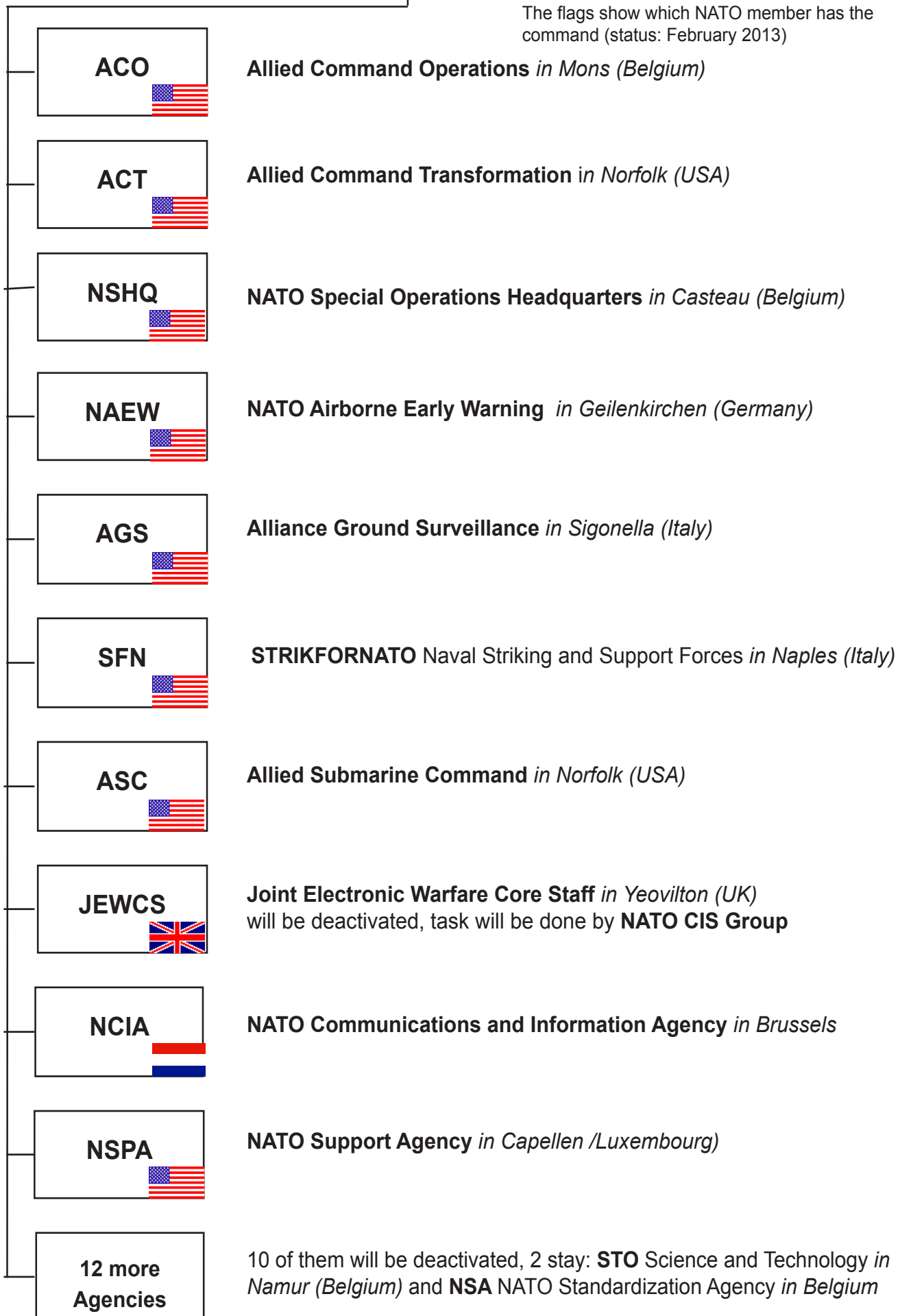
The structure of the NATO is very complicated (see www.nato.int). There you find the civilian structure with 43 entities, the military structure with 63 entities and organisations and agencies with 67 entities. The military influence reaches far into our society. The danger is very big that by their military interventions the NATO prepares the ground for new terror organisations and failed states. Democracy and human rights can not be created by bombs. The worst terror is states' terror. The danger that the NATO is becoming a terror organisation is very big. Durable political and humanitarian solutions are only possible by nonviolent means.

NATO military structure



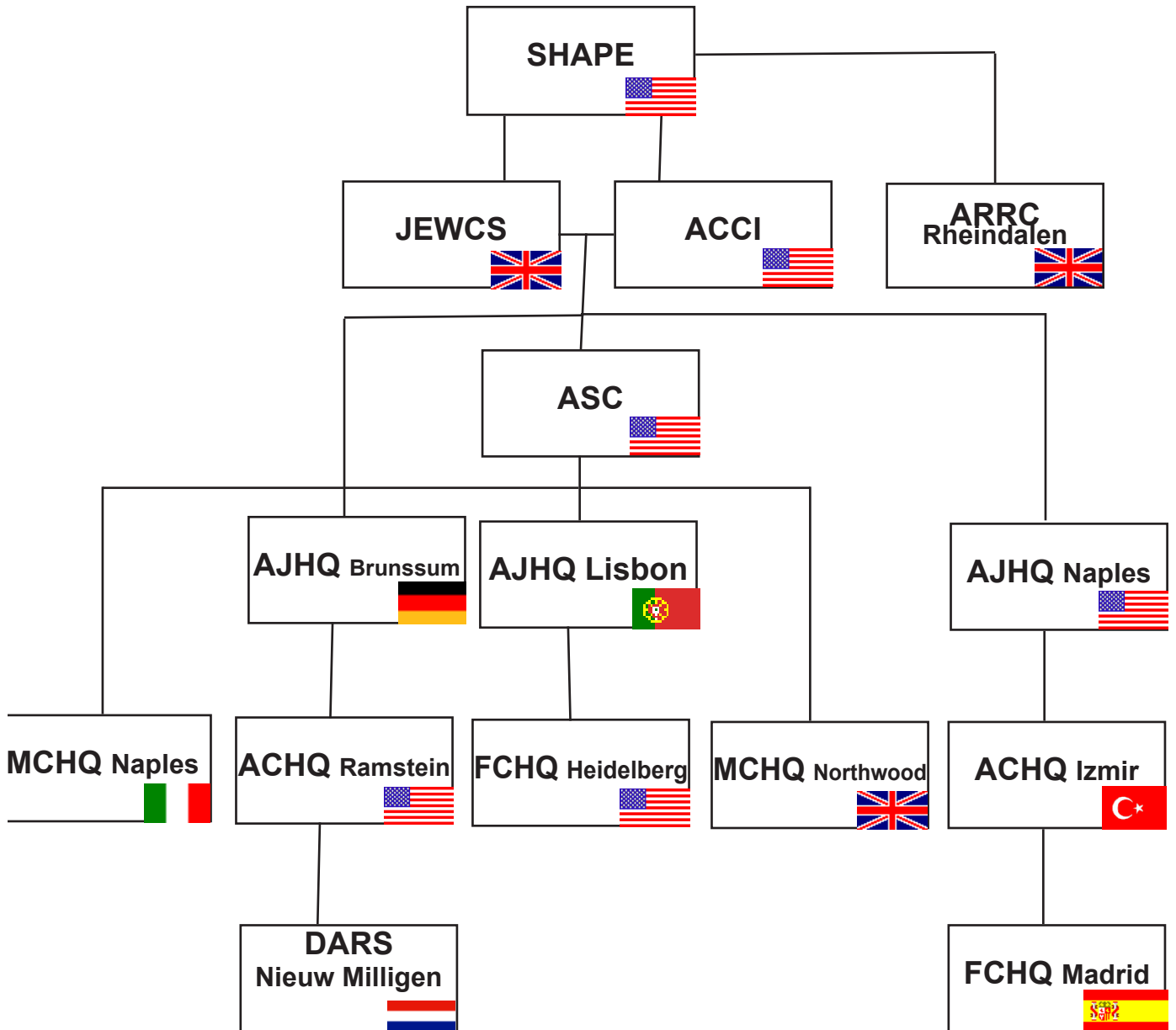
Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe

The flags show which NATO member has the command (status: February 2013)



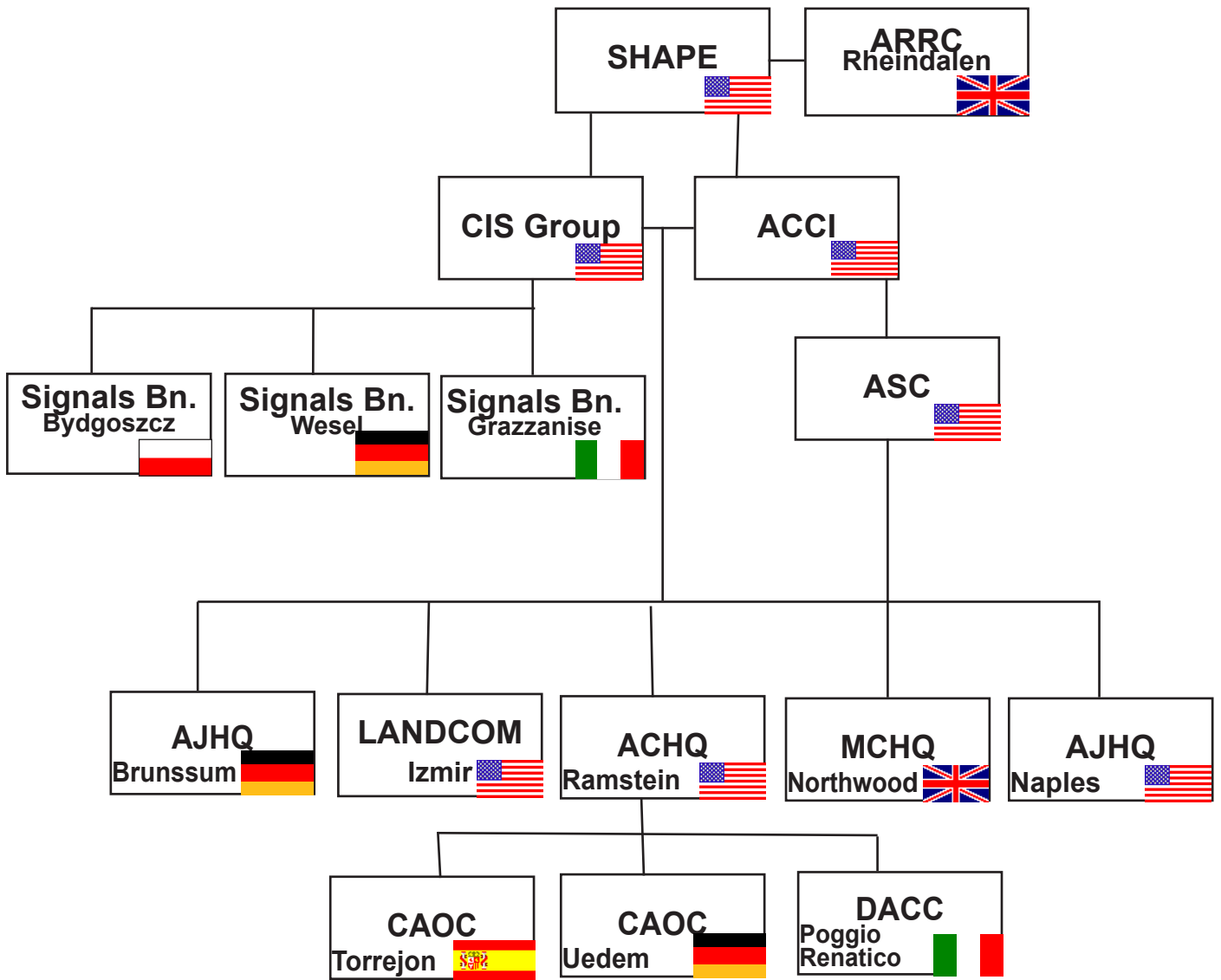
Structure of Allied Command Operations (ACO)

status March 2012



Structure of Allied Command Operations (ACO)

future status 2015



HQAARRC



**Headquarters Allied Rapid
Reaction Corps Rheindalen
(NATO Resonse Forces NRF)**

EUROCORPS



Headquarters in Strasbourg (France)

MNCNE



Multinational Corps Northeast in Szczecin (Poland)

NRDC ITA



Headquarters Rapid Deployable Italian Corps in Milan (Italy)

NRDC TR



**Headquarters Rapid Deployable Turkish Corps
in Istanbul (Turkey)**

1 GE/NL



**Headquarters Rapid Deployable German-Netherlands Corps
in Münster (Germany)**

NRDC-ES



**Headquarters Rapid Deployable Spanish Corps
in Valencia (Spain)**

HQ RRC FRA



**Headquarters Rapid Deployable French Corps
in Lille (France)**

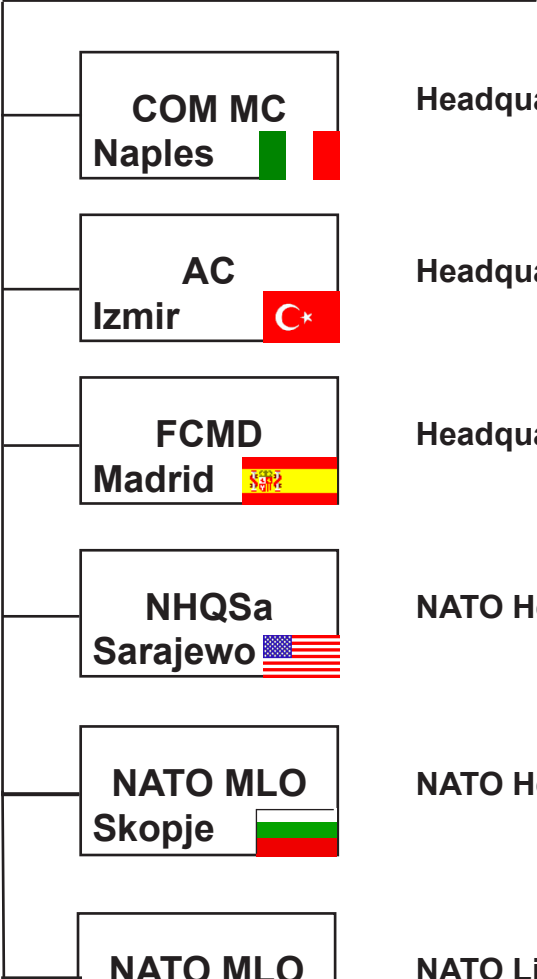
NRDC GR



**Headquarters Rapid Deployable Greek Corps
in Thessaloniki (Greece)**



**Allied Joint Headquarters
Naples (Italy) & Sixth US-fleet**



Headquarters Allied Maritime Command Naples (Italy)



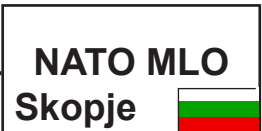
Headquarters Allied Command Izmir (Turkey)



Headquarters Allied Force Command Madrid (Spain)



NATO Headquarters Sarajewo (Bosnia & Herzogowina)



NATO Headquarters Skopje Liaison Office (Macedonia)



NATO Liaison Office Belgrade (Serbia)

Glossary of the military structure of NATO A-Z

(only small selection to understand the graphics)

ACCI

Allied Command Counter Intelligence, NATO's counter intelligence unit. ACCI's mission is to detect, deter, and neutralize the threat of terrorism, espionage, sabotage, and subversion directed against NATO.

(source: http://www.nato.int/kfor/chronicle/2007/chronicle_08/chronicle_08.pdf)

ACHQ Izmir

Former Air Command Headquarters Izmir in Izmir (Turkey). Izmir plays a key role in the new NATO command structure, see **LANDCOM HQ**. The only Allied Air Command is in the future **ACHQ Ramstein**.

ACHQ Ramstein

Air Command Headquarters Ramstein in Ramstein (Germany), is always led by a US-general. Ramstein Air Base is the hub for all NATO air missions and missile defense programs. Under the new NATO command structure ACHQ Ramstein will also command:

- **CAOC Torrejon**, deployable Combined Air Operations Centres (CAOC) in Torrejon, Spain and
- **CAOC Uedem** in Uedem, Germany, and
- **DACC Poggio Renatico**, deployable Air Control Centre/ Recognized Air Picture Production Centre/ Sensor Fusion Post (DACCC) in Poggio Renatico, Italy.

ACO

Allied Command Operations, one of the two strategic NATO headquarters, responsible for all NATO military operations. After the NATO transformation (2013-2015) ACO commands 22 headquarters in most of the 28 NATO member countries, inclusive the 6 NATO Rapid Deployable Corps and the NATO Airborne Early Warning Force. Chief commander is **SACEUR**, always a 4 star US-general or -admiral.

ACT

Allied Command Transformation, (see also **HQ SACT**) ACT is always commanded by a US-general. ACT is one of the two strategic NATO headquarters, responsible for transformation of NATO forces and capabilities, using new concepts such as the NATO Response Force **NRF** and research by the Centers of Excellence (see **COEs**) and new doctrines in order to improve the alliance's military effectiveness.

AGENCIES

Before the reform there are 14 agencies, after only 4. The reform will be accomplished 2014. The agencies are:

- **NC3A** NATO Consultation, Command and Control Agency in Belgium
- **NACMA** NATO Air Command and Control System Management Agency in Belgium
- **NCSA** NATO communication and Information System Service Agency in Belgium
- **NAGSMA** NATO Alliance Ground Surveillance Management Agency in Belgium
- **BICES** NATO Battlefield Information, Collection and Exploitation System Agency in Belgium
- **NSA** remains (see below)
- **CEPMA** Central Europe Pipeline Management Agency in France, now **NSPA**
- **RTA** Research & Technology Agency in France, now **STO**

- **NAHEMA** NATO Helicopter Management Agency in Aix-en-Provence (France)
- **NAPMA** NATO Airborne Early Warning and Control Programme Agency in Belgium
- **NETMA** NATO Eurofighter and Tornado Management Agency in Germany
- **NAMA**, NATO Airlift Management Agency in Capellen, Luxembourg, now **NSPA**
- **NAMSA** NATO Maintenance and Supply Agency in Luxembourg, now **NSPA**
- **NAMEADSMA** NATO Medium Extended Air Defence System Agency in the USA

The new 4 AGENCIES are

- **NCIA** Communication & Information Agency with a headquarters in Brussels, Mons (Belgium) and The Hague (Netherlands) will provide general NATO-wide IT services, procurement and support in a number of areas such as Command and Control Systems, Tactical and Strategic Communications and Cyber Defence Systems. The Agency is led by a General Manager and overseen by a governing body of participating nations on an Agency Supervisory Board.

(source: http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/topics_69332.htm) and http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/topics_66470.htm?selectedLocale=en

- **NSPA** NATO Support Agency in Capellen (Luxembourg)
- **STO** Science and Technology Organization, Chief scientist is now General Albert Husniaux in Namur (Belgium)
- **NSA** NATO Standardization Agency in Belgium, different from NSA, National Security Agency of the USA, which is the military secret service, in Germany the NSA runs the NSA/CSS Representative Europe office (NCEUR)) in the Patch Barracks in Stuttgart-Vaihingen.

AGS

Alliance Ground Surveillance, NATO plans to acquire an AGS- system that will give commanders a comprehensive picture of the situation on the ground. NATO's operation to protect civilians in Libya showed how important such a capability is. A group of Allies intends to acquire five unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) and the associated command and control base stations. NATO will then operate and maintain them on behalf of all 28 Allies. The AGS system is expected to be acquired by 13 Allies (Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Germany, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Norway, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and the United States), and then will be made available to the Alliance in the 2015-2017 timeframe. The main operating base for AGS will be located at Sigonella Air Base in Italy, which will serve a dual purpose as a NATO Joint Intelligence, Surveillance & Reconnaissance (JISR) deployment base and data exploitation and training centre...Just as NATO's Airborne Early Warning & Control (NAEW&C) aircraft – also known as AWACS – monitor Alliance airspace, AGS will be able to observe what is happening on the earth's surface, providing situational awareness before, during and, if needed, after NATO operations."

(source: http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/topics_48892.htm)

AJHQ Brunssum

Allied Joint Headquarters in Brunssum (Netherlands) led by a German general

AJHQ Lisbon

Allied Joint Headquarters Lisbon was deactivated in December 2012.

AJHQ Naples

Allied Joint Headquarters Naples (Italy) is always commanded by a US-admiral. He

is also the commander of the **Sixth US-fleet**. AJHQ Naples will be more important than before, because under its command are now also:

- **COM MC Naples, Headquarters Allied Maritime Command Naples**
- **AC Izmir** (Turkey), Headquarters Allied Command
- **FCMD** Madrid(Spain), Headquarters Allied Force Command
- **NHQSa** (Bosnia and Herzogowina), NATO Headquarters Sarajewo
- **NHQSsk Skopje** (Macedonia), NATO Headquarters Skopje, now only a NATO Liaison Office, commanded by colonel from Bulgaria
- **NATO MILO Sarajewo** NATO Liaison Office, commanded by a US-general.
- **NATO MILO Belgrade** NATO Liaison Office, commanded by an Italian general

ASC

Allied Submarine Command, based in Norfolk (USA). The commander of this NATO naval unit is also the commander of the US Atlantic fleet (COMSUBLANT), which has 40 submarines and 15.000 sailors.

COEs

Centres of Excellence (COEs) are nationally or multi-nationally funded institutions that train and educate leaders and specialists from NATO member and partner countries, assist in doctrine development, identify lessons learned, improve interoperability, and capabilities and test and validate concepts through experimentation. They offer recognized expertise and experience that is of benefit to the Alliance and support the transformation of NATO, while avoiding the duplication of assets, resources and capabilities already present within the NATO command structure. There are 15 COEs:

- Centre for Analysis and Simulation for the Preparation of Air Operations (Limonest/France)
- Civil Military Cooperation (Twente/Netherlands)
- Cold Weather Operations (Tverlandet/Norway)
- Combined Joint Operations from the Sea (deactivated now part of US-fleet command)
- Command and Control (Utrecht/Netherlands)
- Cooperative Cyber Defence (Tallin/Estonia)
- Counter Improvised Explosive Devices (Madrid/Spain)
- Defence Against Terrorism (Ankara/Turkey)
- Energy Security (Vilnius/Lithuania)
- Explosive Ordnance Disposal (Bratislava/Slovakia)
- Human Intelligence (Romania)
- Joint Air Power Competence Centre (see **JAPCC**)
- Joint Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Defence (Vyskov/Czech Republic)
- Military Engineering (Ingolstadt/Germany)
- Military Medical (Budapest/Hungary)
- Modelling and Simulation (??)
- Naval Mine Warfare (Oostende/Belgium)
- Operations in Confined and Shallow Waters (Kiel/Germany)

CIS

The **NCSA, NATO Communication and Information Systems Services Agency**, is a service provider to its and national customers. NCSA is providing communication and information systems (CIS) services in support of war or military exercises. NCSA supports also NATO's ten major headquarters in Europe, North

America, and Asia.

Additionally, there will be a NATO CIS Group based in Mons, Belgium that will provide deployable communications and information systems support for ACO. The NATO CIS Group is responsible for the provision, exercises planning and control of all deployable CIS capabilities. It will be supported by three NATO **Signals Battalions** located at **Wesel**, Germany, **Grazzanise**, Italy, and **Bydgoszcz**, Poland; these three will be complemented by various smaller elements (Deployable CIS modules) elsewhere.

See also **JAPCC**

DARS

Deployable Air Command System, formerly in Nieuw Milligen (Netherlands), will be changed. The new deployable air command and control center detached from the CAOCs will also have air command functions. The deployable air control system, recognized air picture production center, and sensor fusion post. It will move to a new deployable air operations center in Poggio Renatico providing air command and real time control of fighters like that being provided over Libya.

FCHQ Heidelberg

Force Command Heidelberg

will be closed in 2013. The HQ moves to **LANDCOM HQ Izmir** (Turkey).

HQ SACT

Headquarters Supreme Allied Commander Transformation in Norfolk (USA)

HQ ARRC Rheindalen

Headquarters Allied Rapid Reaction Corps in Rheindalen (Germany), led by an UK-general. HQ ARRC is also the commander of the NATO ISAF in Afghanistan.

- **EUROCORPS**, Headquarters in Strasbourg (France)
- **MNC NE Szczecin**, Multinational Corps Northeast Szczecin (Poland)
- **NRDC ITA**, Headquarters Rapid Deployable Italian Corps in Milan (Italy)
- **NRDC-TR**, Headquarters Rapid Deployable Turkish Corps in Istanbul (Turkey)
- **1 GE/NL Corps**, Headquarters Rapid Deployable German-Netherlands Corps in Münster (Germany)
- **NRDC-ES**, Headquarters Rapid Deployable Spanish Corps in Valencia (Spain)
- **HQ RRC-FRA**, Headquarters Rapid Deployable French Corps in Lille (France)
- **NRDC-GR**, Headquarters Rapid Deployable Greek Corps in Thessaloniki (Greece), was upgraded in January 2013 from "Deployable Corps" to "Rapid Deployable Corps".

JALLC

Joint Analysis and Lessons Learned Centre in Lisbon (Portugal)

"NATO's Lead Agent for Joint Analysis". The JALLC is also responsible for producing the NATO Joint Analysis Handbook and the NATO Lessons Learned Handbook, for hosting the NATO Lessons Learned Conference and for organizing the NATO Lessons Learned Staff Officers Course "From our roots as an organization steeped in maritime exercise analysis, the JALLC has transformed to support NATO's expanding role in global crisis response operations. With the success of Operation UNIFIED PROTECTOR (OUP) in Libya and the continued commitment to security and reconstruction efforts in Afghanistan, 2011 was a momentous year for NATO." (source: <http://www.jallc.nato.int/>). Commander is a Danish general.

JAPPC

(Joint Air Power Competence Centre)

The Mission of JAPCC is to be NATO's catalyst for the improvement and transformation of Joint Air and Space Power; delivering effective solutions through independent thought & analysis. The JAPCC, as a team of multinational experts, is to provide key decision makers effective solutions to Air and Space Power challenges, in order to safeguard NATO and the Nations' interests. At the head of JAPCC is a 4-Star US Director (also COMUSAFE) based at Ramstein Airbase. The JAPCC is led by a 3-Star Director (*in Germany in Kalkar. He is also the commander of the German Air Force in combat.*)

(source: www.japcc.de)

JEWCS

Joint Electronic Warfare Core Staff

NATO JEWCS was formed in July 2006 from the former Multi-Service Electronic Warfare Support Group (MEWSG), the NATO Emitter Data Base (NEDB) staff and other EW personnel. EW. Its mission was to provide a realistic hostile electromagnetic environment in which NATO forces can conduct training, and exercise their units in all aspects of warfare. Initially based at MEWSG Land Detachment, Anzio, Italy from 1993, these have moved to Yeovilton (Royal Navy, UK). (source: <http://www.jewcs.nato.int/Org.htm>).

In the new NATO structure this task will be done by the **NATO CIS Group**

JFTC

Joint Force Training Centre in Bydgoszcz (Poland). JFTC focuses on the conduct of joint tactical training for interoperability and provides support to the NATO Response Force (NRF) joint and component commanders in the training and exercising of the NRF. In February 2013 the commander is from the Slovak Army, next to him a general from Poland and a general from the Czech Republic.

JWC

Joint Warfare Centre in Stavanger (Norway). "**JWC is the premier training establishment of the NATO Alliance:** The Joint Warfare Centre provides the best training support possible for the collective training and certification of NATO's joint operational and component level Headquarters. JWC plays a crucial role in training NATO members for ISAF duty as well as developing the capabilities and structures of the NATO Response Force (NRF). The aim is to ensure continued readiness of the NATO Command Structure (NCS) and NATO Force Structure (NFS)." (source: <http://www.jwc.nato.int/others/training>).

JWC is commanded by a French general, chief of staff is a US-general.(status: February 2013)

LANDCOM Izmir

"LANDCOM was created through the North Atlantic Council to ensure the interoperability of NATO land forces, and placed directly under the Supreme Allied Commander Europe to be the leading voice on land issues within the Alliance. Lt Gen Frederick Hodges, the new commander, told Stars and Stripes that a `..major focus for his headquarters will be to ensure that the tactical lessons learned during a decade of fighting in Afghanistan aren't lost.'" The tasks from **Allied Force Command Heidelberg** in Germany and **Force Command Madrid** in Spain, will be taken over by LANDCOM Izmir as part of NATO's transformation. (source: wikipedia)

MCHQ Naples

Maritime Command Headquarters in Naples (Italy). Naples is much more important in the new NATO command structure, see **AJHQ Naples**.

MCHQ Northwood

Maritime Command Headquarters Northwood, is a military headquarters facility of the British Armed Forces in Eastbury, Hertfordshire, England, adjacent to the London suburb of Northwood. It is home to three command and control functions of the British armed forces and NATO); Permanent Joint Headquarters, Commander in Chief Fleet and the NATO Regional Command, Command Component Maritime.

NAEW

NATO Airborne Early Warning Force, at NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen (Germany), always led by a US-general. Geilenkirchen is the home base for the AWACS-fleet ("NATO E-3A Component, NATO's Flagship Fleet. The E-3A Component is NATO's first integrated, multi-national flying unit, providing rapid deployability, airborne surveillance, command, control and communication for NATO operations."), source: www.e3a.nato.int

NSO

NATO School in Oberammergau (Germany), "NATO School: Global Leader in Multinational Military Education and Individual Training." The NSO works on "NATO POLICY ADVISING" and organizes "International Conferences, Association Meetings and Defence Symposiums."

(source: <https://www.natoschool.nato.int/index.asp>)

Boss is a US-colonel.

NMIOTC

NATO Maritime Interdiction Operational Training Center in Souda Naval Base on the island Crete (Greece). "To conduct the combined training necessary for NATO forces to better execute surface, sub-surface, aerial surveillance, and special operations activities in support of Maritime Interdiction Operations (MIO)" source: (source: http://www.hellenicnavy.gr/hosted/nmiotc/index_en.html#general/mission_roles_en.htm)

(MIOs) are naval operations, that aim to delay, disrupt, or destroy enemy forces or supplies en route to the battle area before they do any harm against friendly forces, especially by boarding. NMIOTC is commanded by a Greek admiral.

NPO

NATO Procurement Organization

A NATO Procurement organisation has also been created with the aim of providing a framework for end-to-end management of multinational armaments acquisition programmes, such as Smart Defence projects, new major programmes or elements of existing procurement programmes.

The Organization will draw from the experience of current multinational procurement agencies such as the NATO Eurofighter and Tornado Management Agency (NETMA), NATO Helicopter Management Agency (NAHEMA), NATO Alliance Ground Surveillance Management Agency (NAGSMA), NATO Medium Extended Air Defense System Management Agency (NAMEADSMA), and NATO Airborne Early Warning Programme Management Agency (NAPMA), which will continue to exist until the Agency's mission is fulfilled or participating nations decide to integrate into the new Organisation.

NSHQ

NATO Special Operations Headquarters in Casteau (Belgium). NSHQ commander is a

US-general.

, "The NATO Special Operations Headquarters (NSHQ) is the centrepiece of the NATO SOF Transformation Initiative (NSTI). It provides focused Special Operations advice to the SACEUR and the NATO Chain of Command and provides on a collaborative, inter-dependent platform to enhance the Alliance SOF network. Through the NSHQ, NATO is transforming the current NATO SOF capability, i.e. leader education and development, doctrine, training and planning, information systems and infrastructure. The NSHQ Director, as member of SACEUR Special Staff, provides advice on Special Operations. According to this primary and essential function the NSHQ will enable and support NATO Special Operations Forces across the Alliance and provide the focal point for NATO Special Operations expertise to SACEUR and ACO. " (source: <http://www.nshq.nato.int/NSHQ/>)

NATO decided to implement this plan after a specific analysis of the lessons learned across multiple theaters, with the aim of expanding the NATO SOF community while enhancing its interoperability and capabilities. These aspects are fundamental to generate combined and joint units capable of conducting all Special Operations missions in support of the NATO Allied Command for Operations.

NSPA

"NATO Support Agency (NSPA), with headquarters in Capellen, Luxembourg, delivers in-service support, maintenance and logistics support for weapons systems, while also providing operational logistics and other services for nations and the Alliance as a whole. The NSPA is headed by a General Manager and governed by an Agency Supervisory Board representing participating nations. "

source: http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/topics_66470.htm?selectedLocale=en

NSTO

NATO Science and Technology Organisation Along side the new agencies NSTO"has been stood up including a Programme Office for Collaborative Science and Technology and a Centre for Maritime Research and Experimentation. The STO is headed by a Chief Scientist, based in Brussels, who serves as a NATO-wide senior scientific adviser. The current NATO Standardization Agency **NSA** will continue and be reviewed by spring 2014."

source: http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/topics_66470.htm?selectedLocale=en

NURC

NATO Undersea Research Centre in La Spezia (Italy). NATO Research Centre for maritime innovation, is one of three research and technology organizations in NATO and it conducts research, especially detection of enemy ships, but also oil spill recognition and geo positioning.

SACEUR

Supreme Allied Commander Europe
is always a 4 star US-general or admiral

SFN

see STRIKFORNATO

SHAPE

Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe, located in Mons (Belgium).

The command structure includes the Command Group, the Directorates and the Special Staff. At the top of the SHAPE structure are the posts of Supreme Allied Commander Europe (**SACEUR**) supported by the Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Europe (**DSACEUR**) and the Chief of Staff (**COS**); all are 4 Star Generals. SACEUR's position is always assigned to the United States of America, while DSACEUR and COS posts are now permanently assigned to the United Kingdom and the Federal Republic of Germany respectively. SACEUR is also the commander of the US European Command (**USEUCOM**) with its Headquarters located in Stuttgart, Germany. The DSCAEUR is also the European Operational Commander once EU avails herself of NATO assets and capabilities under arrangements known as the "Berlin Plus Agreement".

STRIKFORNATO

Naval Striking and Support Forces in Naples (Italy) is always led by an US-general, who is also the commander of the 6th US-fleet. STRIKFORNATO "is NATO's premier Maritime Battlestaff and the Alliance's primary link for integrating US Maritime Forces into NATO operations. Managed by a Memorandum of Understanding comprising of 11 Nations, STRIKFORNATO is a **rapidly deployable, Maritime Headquarters** that provides scalable command and control across the full spectrum of Alliance fundamental security tasks." (source: <http://www.sfn.nato.int/>). The other Standing Naval Forces for the Atlantic **STANAFORLANT**; for the Mediterranean **STANAFORMED** and for the Channel **STANAFORCHAN** will be dissolved.