

Successful ‘Countering Hybrid Threats’ experiment in Estonia - ACT

Written by ACT PAO
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NATO Allied Command Transformation last Friday successfully concluded the Countering Hybrid Threats – Experiment (CHT-E) in Tallinn, Estonia.

The experiment was conducted to examine the utility and feasibility of the [Military Contribution to the Countering Hybrid Threats Concept](#)

. It also focused on NATO’s support role in a wider context of a Comprehensive Approach in addressing hybrid threats in a steady state, security environment. Attending were representatives from Industry, European Think Tanks, Governmental Organizations (GOs), Non- Governmental Organizations (NGOs), and European international organizations as well as NATO Headquarters and SHAPE.

The complex environment of Hybrid Threats was examined through three different “lenses”. The first “lens” dealt with cyber, technology and economic threats – followed by the second “lens” on stabilization, conflict prevention and partnership. The final “lens” examined the Global Commons and Resource security.

During the experiment, Supreme Allied Commander Transformation, French Air Force General Stephane Abrial, directed the conduct of a subsequent event to continue to develop and build upon ideas that will support the Defense and Deterrence Posture Review and other areas of focus that will lead up to the 2012 NATO Summit.

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Abrial stated: "Unforeseen NATO Operations in Libya remind us of a historical string of 'strategic surprises'- central in assessing Hybrid Threats." He went on to say that hybrid threats are linked to "...the versatility of threats and a lack of strategic predictability."

The Estonian Minister of Defense, H.E. Mart Laar and Chief of Defense, Lieutenant General Ants Laaneots, and Abrial, were briefed by Norwegian Armed Forces Brigadier General Roy Hunstok, the program director, and four other senior advisors (Hon. Mary Beth Long, Sir Mike Aaronson, General Sverre Diesen and General Yves de Kermabon) on the three important topics.



The first topic was the strong desire for the non-military and non-NATO participants to continue working together with NATO towards the future security challenges in the hybrid environment.

The second topic discussed concerned the further exploration of NATO's role as a supporter in the pre-conflict environment, shifting from territorial defense to prevention, deterrence and capacity building.

Finally, they discussed the need for NATO to develop further relationships and open communication channels with stakeholders.