

# **NATO Allied Command Transformation** **Operational Experimentation (OPEX)**



## **2020 Fact Sheet – NSHQ Comprehensive Defence Concept - UKR/GEO**

- Background:** As part of the Supreme Allied Commander Europe Comprehensive Defence Concept, NATO Special Operations Headquarters (NSHQ) are working with NATO Partner Nations in the development of aligned defence strategies. Within the Tailored Forward Presence (tFP) area of responsibility Ukraine and Georgia are currently receiving training via advisers and senior leaders. NSHQ wishes to *test* this training at Defence level using a *MATRIX* game event to be conducted at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst in November 2020 and attended at a three- and four-star level including the Chiefs of Defence. The event will take place over two days with Day 1 concentrating on special operation forces and Day 2 at defence and political leadership level. The event will be facilitated by a retired four-star commander.
- Mission:** Provide support to NSHQ to evaluate the success of partnership training evolutions in a controlled game-based scenario.
- Experiment Category:** Classic – Validation experiment
- Milestones:** Approval of Senior Facilitator – W/C 20 Jul 2020  
Draft Concept Matrix Game – Aug-Sep 2020  
Initial rehearsals – Oct 2020  
Refine Matrix Game – Oct 2020  
Train staff and facilitators – Nov 2020  
Experiment delivery – 19-20 Nov 2020
- Headquarters:** NATO Allied Command Transformation  
Joint Force Development Directorate  
Operational Experimentation Branch
- OPEX:** OPEX is the intersection between Operators and Innovation. OPEX plans, designs, conducts, and analyses experiments in support of new concepts and capabilities development. Visit [www.act.nato.int/opex-pressroom](http://www.act.nato.int/opex-pressroom) for more information, or visit us online at the CDE365 Website located on [NATO's Transformation Network](#).
- OPEX Point of Contact:** LTC Michael Atkinson, [Michael.atkinson@act.nato.int](mailto:Michael.atkinson@act.nato.int), +1-757-747-4155
- NATO HQ STRATCOM:** This experiment aligns under the 2020 NATO Communications Strategy pillar of *NATO Strengthens and NATO Protects*.
- NATO ACT STRATCOM:** This experiment contributes to SACT's 2020 Objective #1 – *Support NATO's operations, increase interoperability and readiness*, and Objective #3 – *Preserve the edge of NATO's Military Instrument of Power over our potential adversaries*.

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