

OCAI

A dedicated HQ SACT team is responsible for supporting FFCI. This team consists of the Office for Collaboration with Academia and Industry (OCAI) and representatives from The Office of the Legal Advisor, the Budget and Finance Office (primarily Purchasing and Contracting), ACT Office of Security and ACT Chief Information Office (and if requested by other functional areas). The team facilitates the initiation of collaborative activities between HQ SACT and Academia or HQ SACT and Industry, located in NATO nations. FFCI is also supported by a robust strategic communications/public affairs engagement approach, aligning FFCI interactions with ACT communications strategies.

- ▶ Within HQ SACT, OCAI is the main point of entry for all Industry's and Academia's requests.
- ▶ OCAI coordinates collaboration proposals and welcomes suggestions from industrial and academic partners. OCAI is tasked with **identifying the appropriate actors** to investigate and potentially pursue collaborative activities, both within ACT and externally.



Generic information on FFCI and regular update on FFCI projects an opportunities can be found on:

<https://www.act.nato.int/our-work/network-community/framework-for-collaborative-interaction-ffci/>



Or contact the office for Collaboration with Academia and Industry (OCAI) directly:



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FFCI

Framework For Collaborative Interaction



Leveraging Industry & Academia's **Expertise** and NATO ACT Experience for Mutual Benefit

ACT and Collaboration with Industry & Academia

- Allied Command Transformation (ACT) is NATO's Strategic Warfare Development Command. ACT contributes to preserving the peace, security and territorial integrity of Alliance member states by leading the strategic warfare development of military structures, forces, capabilities and doctrines. HQ SACT, consistent with this mission, identifies and promotes the capabilities that are needed to meet future operational needs of the Alliance.
- HQ SACT develops concepts leading to the establishment of national military capabilities and provides military advice for the development of the NATO Defence Planning Process – the principal vehicle for the alignment of capability efforts. HQ SACT manages Common-Funded Capability Programmes and delivers management information to Nations for their decisions on critical communication and information services infrastructure and complex capabilities. This includes areas, where technology and knowledge advances fast and interaction with Academia and Industry is imperative. It is in this light that HQ SACT has developed the **Framework For Collaborative Interaction (FFCI)** to support collaborative interaction with Academia and Industry.

What is FFCI?

The primary aim of the Framework For Collaborative Interaction (FFCI) is to facilitate collaborative interaction, in a non-procurement effort, between HQ SACT and academic institutions as well as industry, located in NATO nations. The interaction leverages the expertise each party brings to the collaboration and thus informs Alliance warfare and capability development efforts.



BENEFIT

For each of the collaborative activities, HQ SACT and industry/academia should both contribute to and benefit from the collaboration. Actions that involve NATO procurement lie outside FFCI. Click "Benefits" below to read more on the benefits of the FFCI framework.



PRINCIPLES

HQ SACT's interaction with Academia and Industry is subject to NATO and ACT regulations, to include principles that prevent the preferential treatment. Click "Principles" below to read more on the FFCI principles.



METHODS

Collaboration between HQ SACT and Academia & Industry can take place at different levels of commitment. Click "Methods" below to read more on the different methods of interacting through the FFCI framework.

FFCI Principles

TRANSPARENCY

Openly advertised projects and collaborative procedures.

NON-DISCRIMINATION PRINCIPLE

Companies, universities and think tanks wishing to collaborate with HQ SACT should be treated objectively and without discrimination. Mutual benefit to both parties & protection of intellectual property rights.

FAIRNESS AND OPENNESS

Must be maintained for potential follow-on procurement competition. No bias, no disadvantage.

"COSTS LIE WHERE THEY FALL."

Each of the parties to the collaboration remain responsible for their own costs, and HQ SACT funding is limited to meet HQ SACT participation in the specific FFCI activity.

