



#WEARENATO



NATO Allied Maritime Command

# MARCOM

AT A GLANCE





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# NATO Allied Maritime Command

Providing 360° Deterrence and Defence at Sea, with a forward looking approach



**Vice Admiral Mike Utley CB OBE  
Commander,  
Allied Maritime Command**

Allied Maritime Command (MARCOM) is the central command of all NATO's standing maritime forces, ranging from our four permanent Task Groups, to submarines and maritime aircraft. Through command of NATO forces and coordination with Allied navies, we ensure NATO maintains its operational superiority at sea, working to protect the Alliance.

We work alongside our counterparts in Land Command, Air Command, and the three Joint Force Commands to ensure NATO is ready to anticipate threats and respond to any situation in any environment. Together, we implement Deterrence and Defence in the Euro-Atlantic Area (DDA). The commander of MARCOM is the principal maritime advisor to the Supreme Allied Commander Europe (SACEUR) and the Theatre Maritime Component Command for the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE).

As the maritime hub of the Alliance, we ensure cohesion and deliver effects across the area of responsibility (AOR). Our Maritime Operations Centre (MOC) links into our Allies' national MOCs, synchronizing information across the maritime domain. Our exercises build and develop Alliance unity, and integrate emerging technologies to ensure NATO remains at the cutting edge. Our NATO Shipping Centre keeps a strong link with the international shipping community, on which the global economy depends, making sure our activities are relevant and useful to your security and stability every day in the real world.

MARCOM is eternally vigilant, helping secure our world at sea. Allied navies and Allied Maritime Command are #StrongerTogether.

**Vice Admiral Mike Utley CB OBE**

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## Allied Maritime Command - Special Advisors

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### AMPHIBIOUS ADVISOR

The Amphibious Advisor is a part of the Command Group (CG) and is the principal HQ MARCOM subject-matter expert (SME) on Amphibious Warfare operations. They contribute and lead the development, review, and implementation of amphibious concept, doctrine, plans and publications both inside HQ MARCOM and with higher and adjacent NATO HQs and other NATO organizations. They coordinate amphibious working groups to provide information to the MARCOM CG and NATO's Amphibious Leaders Expeditionary Symposium (NALES) Delivery Board on amphibious-related matters and provide expertise on amphibious matters to various working groups on policy and concepts, as required. They also provide advice to Commander, MARCOM and other staff members on proper employment and utilization of amphibious forces in order to achieve effects in support of a maritime campaign.

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### LEGAD/GENAD

The Office of the Legal Advisor (OLA) and Gender Advisor is responsible for providing accurate, relevant and timely legal and gender-perspective advice, on all aspects of NATO operations and missions, to MARCOM Commander and HQ MARCOM Staff. Such advice will include areas such as The Law of Armed Conflict, International Law of the Sea, International Human Rights Law, and Treaty Law. Furthermore, the OLA will provide advice to Maritime Operational Planning Groups and Targeting Boards, as well as assistance to the ROE Officer in ROE profile compilation and explanation. In addition, the OLA will disseminate legal and gender training throughout MARCOM HQ and the wider NATO infrastructure.

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### MEDAD/ACOS NMED

The Command Medical Advisor (MEDAD), with the support of the Naval Medical Division (NMED), is part of the command group and is responsible for providing medical advice to the commander. The MEDAD ensures the commander and staff are aware of the medical implications and risks their actions and decisions might have, as well as any health-related issues affecting the force or an operation. The MEDAD has direct access to the commander to ensure that all health and medical support-related matters requiring the commander's attention, decision, or action can be addressed in a timely fashion and are based on specialist professional advice.



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## POLAD

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### POLITICAL ADVISOR

The Political Advisor (POLAD) plays a special role in MARCOM Operations, advising on the politico-military effects of operational decision-making and liaising with other NATO and national stakeholders to promote MARCOM operational objectives.

The Office of the Political Advisor provides the Commander and wider Command Group with the relevant Politico-Military advice on all matters that could impact the Maritime Domain. It advises the Command Group and Headquarters on politico-military and diplomatic issues that affect the planning and conduct of operations and the day to day management of both operational and framework roles of the HQ. The POLAD is the interface with political, diplomatic, non-governmental, and other civilian organizations, and liaises with national representatives staffs on reciprocal visits.

As a key member of the Command Group, the POLAD participates in all major policy and planning initiatives, providing information and advice on a wide range of politico-military issues in direct support of Command policy formulation and decision-making. He/She coordinates policy matters concerning the HQ MARCOM that require political input with Maritime Command senior staff and liaison officers, as well as staff from ACO Headquarters, International Organizations (IOs) and Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs), as well as governmental and embassy staffs as required.



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### SPECIAL FORCES ADVISOR

As part of the CG, the Special Operations Forces Advisor (SOFAD) provides expertise and advice to Commander, MARCOM on all Special Warfare issues. The SOFAD is responsible for staffing and coordination between MARCOM branches and other NATO stakeholders. They promote and develop maritime SOF events within MARCOM's scope and promote the maritime domain (MARDOM) within the Allied SOF community. While conveying numerous crucial stakes and challenges for the security of the Alliance, the MARDOM is also a unique and exceptionally suitable place for SOF to take early, discreet, and decisive advantage of contested areas at or from the sea, especially during crises.

## NATO Allied Maritime Command – the NATO Maritime Hub

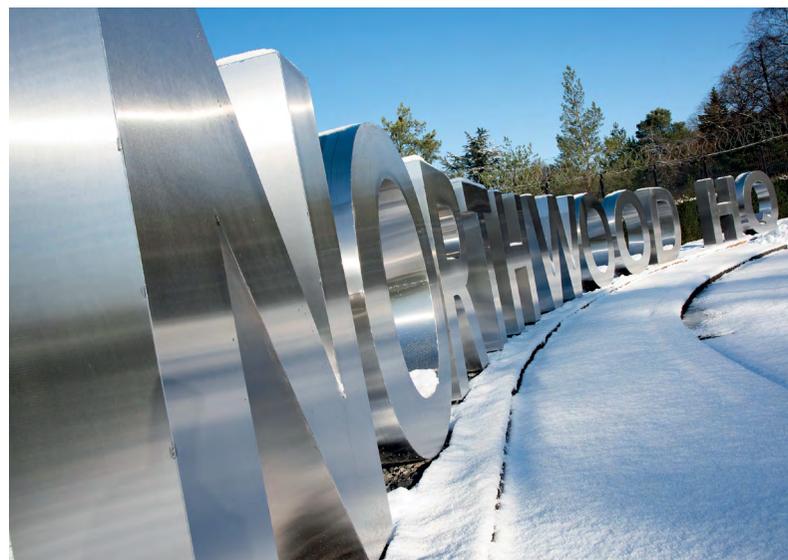
NATO Allied Maritime Command (MARCOM) is the central command of all NATO maritime forces and Commander, MARCOM is the principal maritime advisor to the Supreme Allied Commander, Europe (SACEUR).

As the Maritime Theatre Component Command, MARCOM operates under NATO's Allied Command Operations (ACO) Commander – SACEUR.

Located in Northwood, United Kingdom, MARCOM is a multinational headquarters manned by over 400 officers, petty officers, and civilians from 25 NATO countries. MARCOM also includes representatives from Georgia, Japan, and Israel as NATO partner nations.

Under direction of the Commander, three admirals or commodores command NATO maritime forces.

- Commander, Surface Forces NATO coordinates the overall operational effort. In peacetime, they are the commander of the Standing NATO Naval Forces. Through the NATO Shipping Centre they directly liaise with the commercial shipping community and maritime security agencies.
- Commander, Submarines NATO commands submarines under NATO operational control.
- Commander, Maritime Air NATO commands the activities of maritime patrol aircraft under NATO operational control.
- Commander, CTF Baltic exercises tactical control of Standing Naval Forces under the operational control of Allied Maritime Command (MARCOM). This multinational headquarters, based at the German Navy Command in Rostock, will bolster NATO's readiness in the Baltic Sea and enhance the Alliance's regional plans.



## Standing Naval Forces



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## Command and Control Elements

Command and control elements comprise individuals from national navies assigned to NATO positions for a set period of time.



# Standing NATO Maritime Groups



Commander MARCOM, through COMSURFNATO, commands at least four very-high readiness maritime groups that comprise NATO's integrated maritime force and are open to partner nations' contributions. Under full NATO operational command, these groups are assigned a variety of tasks ranging from deterrent offshore/undersea critical infrastructure security enhancement, maritime situational awareness and operational missions.



These battle groups demonstrate their high level of proficiency in NATO and national exercises. The standing NATO maritime groups provide a viable, combat-ready maritime force to achieve immediate operational effects in peacetime and through crisis and conflict. They demonstrate the Alliance's resolve while fostering solidarity, as well as enhancing the Alliance's relations with partner nations through common training events. The standing maritime groups, supported by Allied and partner nations are a flexible force, always ready to act to operational needs.



## Operation Sea Guardian (OSG)

Activated following the approval of the North Atlantic Council (NAC) Execution Directive on 25 October 2016, Operation Sea Guardian includes a wide range of Maritime Security Operation tasks in accordance with the NATO Concept.

### Operation Sea Guardian (OSG) – Providing Security in the Mediterranean Sea

Operation Sea Guardian is NATO's maritime security operation in the Mediterranean. It is a collaborative, year-round maritime security operation designed to maintain Maritime Security Awareness (MSA), deter and counter-terrorism activity, and build capacity and interoperability among NATO Allies and partners. In addition to the daily MSA activities, OSG has been conducting focused patrols in specific areas of interest in the Mediterranean Sea.

Operation Sea Guardian is a non-article 5 operation and was launched in November 2016 and succeeded Operation Active Endeavour. It aims to establish maritime situational awareness, support counter-terrorism efforts, including through the hailing (and potentially boarding) of suspect vessels, and contribute to capacity-building with partners.

Every year, Operation Sea Guardian conducts six focused patrols in specific areas of interest in the Mediterranean. These patrols use surface, sub-surface and air assets, including the NATO Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Force (NISRF), to gather, develop and increased the understanding of patterns of life, in different parts of the Area of Responsibility (AOR). Operation Sea Guardian also allows non-NATO countries to contribute as operational partners.

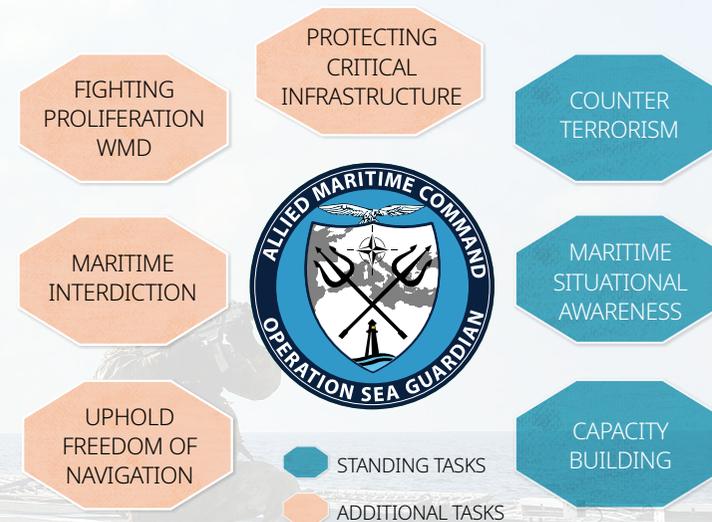
Operation Sea Guardian performs three maritime security operation (MSO) tasks:

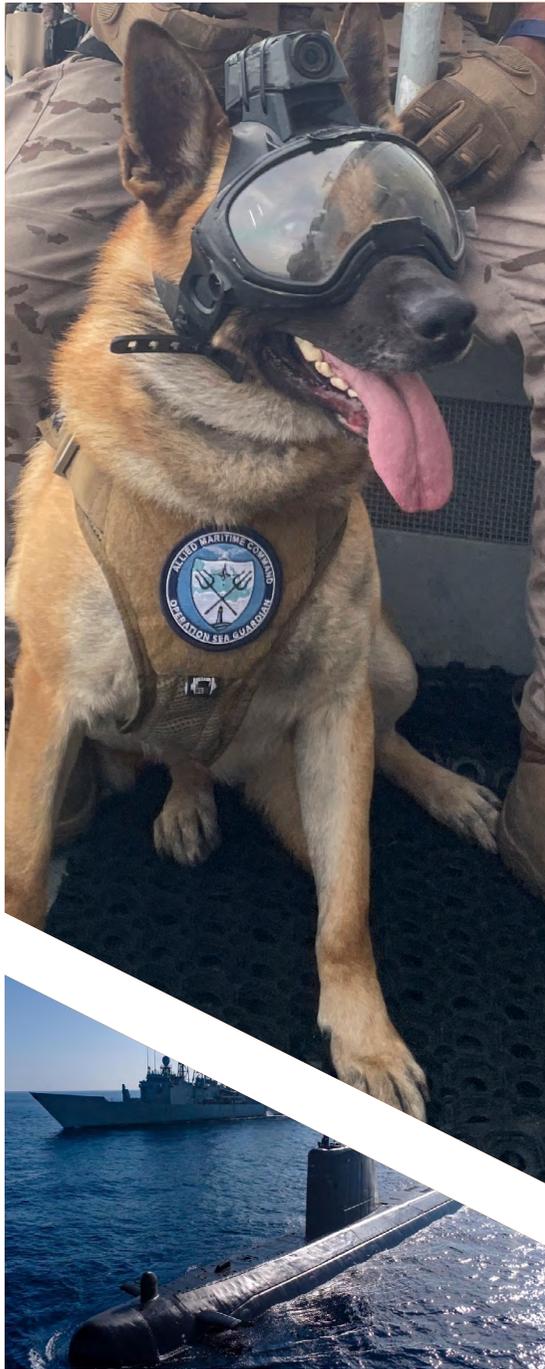
Support Maritime Situational Awareness: the focus is on information-sharing between Allies and with civilian agencies, to enhance the NATO Recognised Maritime Picture (RMP);

Support Maritime Counter-terrorism: this involves the planning and conduction of a range of operations to deter, disrupt, defend and protect against maritime-based terrorist activities. Essentially, these operations aim to deny terrorists access to designated areas and contain threats through the use of force;

Contribute to Maritime Security Capacity Building: NATO aims to contribute to the international community's efforts in developing maritime security with both military and non-military authorities.

If agreed by the North Atlantic Council, Operation Sea Guardian can perform four additional MSO tasks: Uphold Freedom of Navigation; Conduct Maritime Interdiction; Fight the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction and Protect Critical Infrastructure.





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## Maritime Situational Awareness (MSA)

Alliance collaboration to enhance our effectiveness in understanding the maritime environment.

Monitoring and analysing maritime activity is a core task for national and NATO naval forces and headquarters. MARCOM works to enhance the MSA understanding for Allied Command Operations (ACO) and all Allies in the maritime domain. A shared operational picture and practiced interoperability leads to better indications and warnings, providing strategic anticipation of threats for all members of the Alliance.

Maritime surveillance provides greater maritime awareness, increased safety at sea, and reduces the risk of mistakes or miscalculation. Alliance collaboration on MSA improves common understanding of the maritime environment, strengthens maritime security and reduces redundancy of effort. This activity highlights NATO's embodiment of cooperation and our commitment to maintaining freedom of navigation under international law for all nations.

Alliance Collaboration on MSA improves common understanding of the MARITIME environment and reduces redundancy of efforts



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## Aegean Activity – increasing security of the Alliance

As a result of the NATO Defence Ministers' decision, NATO is providing support to assist with the consequences of the humanitarian crisis in the Aegean Sea.

In February 2016, on the request of Germany, Greece and Türkiye, NATO decided to join international efforts in dealing with this crisis.

NATO is contributing to international efforts to stem illegal trafficking and illegal migration in the Aegean Sea through intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance.

To this end, NATO is cooperating with the European Union's border management agency FRONTEX, in full compliance with international law.



## The NATO Shipping Centre



NATO's primary point of contact and hub for the maritime commercial community and for interaction between the shipping industry and naval forces, and host for the NATO Maritime Centre for the Security of Critical Undersea Infrastructure (NMCSCUI).

The NATO Shipping Centre deploys the instruments of Naval Cooperation and Guidance for Shipping (NCAGS) and Allied Worldwide Navigational Information System (AWNIS) to de-conflict military operations and commercial activities at sea. The NATO Shipping Centre's mission is to contribute to maritime security and freedom of navigation. In its capacity as mediator between naval operators and merchant traffic, the NATO Shipping Centre is your direct broker for maritime security.



## Critical Undersea Infrastructure (CUI)

The core team for the Maritime Centre for the Security of Critical Undersea Infrastructure has been established and contributed to MARCOM's support provided to Allies.

NATO Maritime Centre for the Security of Critical Undersea Infrastructure (NMCSCUI) supports Allies in their national responsibility for the security of respective critical undersea infrastructure (CUI).

It provides CUI-related situational awareness in the maritime domain and assists in the identification and mitigation of strategic vulnerabilities. It serves as a platform for operational-level information exchange among the CUI-Network "community of trust" in order to deter, defend, and optimize potential response against the coercive use of energy and other hybrid tactics by state and non-state actors.



# Maritime Enterprise

Working with other commands to ensure success of missions in all domains

JFCBS – Joint Force Command Brunssum

JFCNP – Joint Force Command Naples

JFCNF – Joint Force Command Norfolk

AIRCOM – NATO Air Command

LANDCOM – NATO Land Command

SFN – Strike Force NATO

CTF – Commander Task Force

NSHQ – NATO Special Operations Headquarters

JWC – Joint Warfare Centre

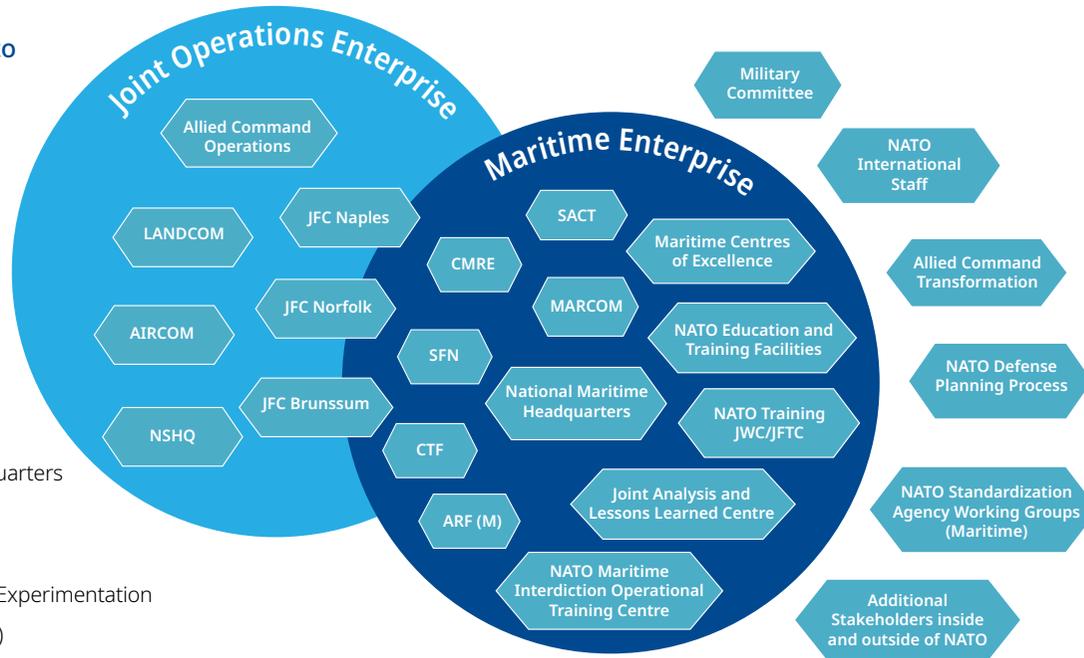
JFTC – Joint Force Training Centre

CMRE – Centre For Maritime Research & Experimentation

ARF (M) – Allied Reaction Force (Maritime)

SACT – Supreme Allied Command Transformation

MARSEC COE – Maritime Security Centre of Excellence



MARCOM is committed to building relationships to unify the Maritime Enterprise, including stakeholders invested in NATO's maritime activities. These bodies advocate for the maritime domain and develop doctrines and concepts. MARCOM, Naval Striking and Support Forces NATO (SFN) and the NATO Commander, Task Forces (CTFs) make up the core of the Maritime Enterprise.

The other NATO component and joint commands, along with Allied Command Operations (ACO), work with the Maritime Enterprise to integrate maritime activities into larger operations. The larger NATO community of interest includes the Military Committee (MC), Allied Command Transformation (ACT) and subordinate commands, Centres of Excellence (COEs), the NATO Defence Planning Process (NDPP), NATO Training and Research Centres, and National Maritime Headquarters.

## MARCOM as a Warfighting HQ

Optimising MARCOM to effectively meet future threats.

MARCOM is NATO's Maritime Operational Warfighting Headquarters, delivering the command, control and coordination required in the current and future security environment as described in the Concept for Deterrence and Defence of the Euro-Atlantic Area (DDA).

As the DDA drives changes within Allied Command Operations, MARCOM has optimised its structure to perform its required roles, functions and responsibilities delivering 360-degree maritime focused awareness and connectivity while planning, coordinating and conducting the full spectrum of maritime missions, operations and activities.

MARCOM supports SHAPE and the three Joint Force Commands (JFC) as the Maritime Theatre Component Command (MTCC) and Combined Forces Maritime Component Command (CFMCC) and is prepared to act as the Maritime Component Command (MCC) through peacetime, crisis and conflict.





## Combined Force Maritime Component Command (CFMCC)

MARCOM is the central command HQ of NATO's maritime forces and the Maritime hub of the Alliance.

As Combined Force Maritime Component Command, Commander, MARCOM commands, coordinates and synchronises maritime operations across the NATO area of responsibility. MARCOM commands NATO maritime forces at sea, including the Standing Naval Groups and Standing Mine Countermeasures Groups, as well as submarines and maritime aircraft. In addition to the command role, MARCOM also coordinates operations in the maritime domain with Allied and Partner navies, as well as other NATO commands.



# Deterrence and Defence in the Euro-Atlantic Area (DDA)

## Safeguarding Freedom and Security of Allies

NATO deters adversaries from spreading destabilization, widening disorder or accruing decisive military advantage against the Alliance that would affect Allies' security. The DDA Concept provides a framework to ensure collective defense and prevent destabilization.

In peacetime, the DDA Concept articulates how NATO will conduct Peacetime Vigilance Activities such as exercises, patrolling, collecting information, monitoring, surveying, intelligence reconnaissance and overflights, and how it will use those activities to ensure readiness, develop situational awareness, and deter adversaries.

MARCOM leads NATO's maritime activities on a daily basis to deliver Strategic and Joint level objectives and effects.

This activity sets the conditions for rapid transition to crisis or conflict, if necessary, and ensures a robust defensive posture for the Alliance.

NATO's DDA Concept is underpinned by a series of integrated plans, in which Strategic Plans are supported by Domain/Functional Plans and geographic Regional Plans. These plans are connected to Allied National Plans from every member of the Alliance, providing a cohesive and united framework for NATO operations.



## Our People



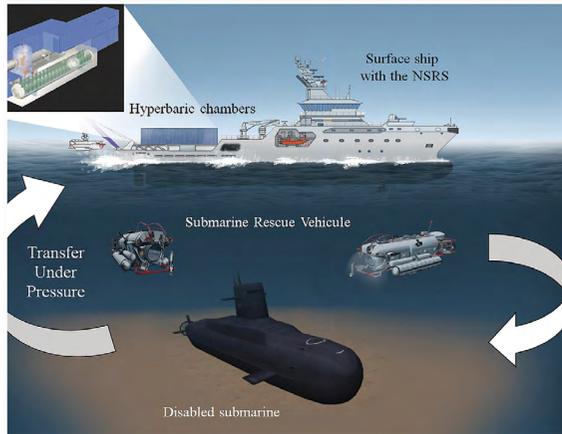
# Submarine Rescue – Making the sea safer



## What is ISMERLO?

International Submarine Escape and Rescue Liaison Office (ISMERLO) is an international hub for information and coordination on submarine rescue and was created in response to the sinking and loss of all sailors aboard the Russian submarine Kursk in 2000. ISMERLO has dedicated personnel who lead a continuous effort to maintain and improve global rescue capability.

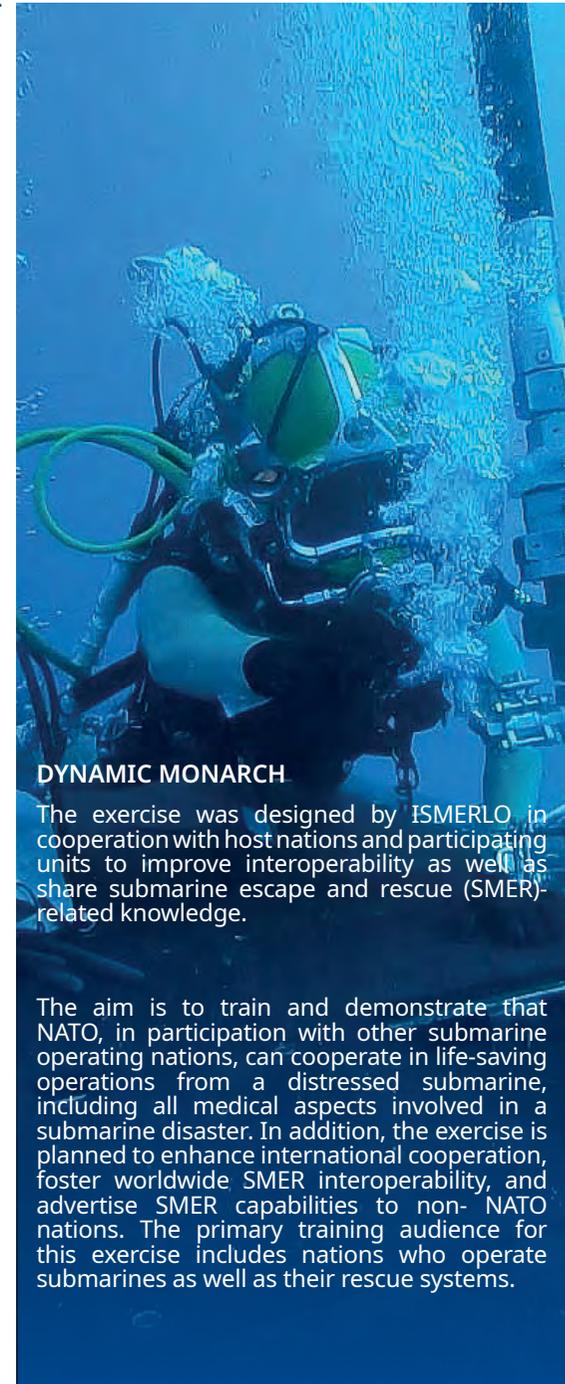
ISMERLO maintains the official website [www.ismerlo.org](http://www.ismerlo.org), which provides access information databases essential to submarine search and rescue efforts and serves as a hub for command and control functions in submarine rescue operations. ISMERLO reaches out to all submarine operating nations, not only NATO nations, to improve global submarine rescue capabilities. ISMERLO supported Indonesia both locally and remotely on 21 April 2021 during the tragic loss of their submarine KRI Nanggala.



## ISMERLO

- Supports approximately 40 nations
- Provides continuous effort to maintain and improve global capability
- Provides a worldwide coordination capability to monitor the availability of submarine escape and rescue (SMER)
- Fosters interoperability and facilitates the certification of submarine rescue systems, submarine interfaces and SMER-related equipment
- Can assist with SMER experts around the world
- Coordinates the mobilization of worldwide rescue elements
- Supports exercise evaluation and training events around the globe
- Facilitates a clear rescue picture for decision makers by tracking event development and providing recommendations

**Principal focus:** Minimizing the Time to First Rescue (TTFR).



## DYNAMIC MONARCH

The exercise was designed by ISMERLO in cooperation with host nations and participating units to improve interoperability as well as share submarine escape and rescue (SMER)-related knowledge.

The aim is to train and demonstrate that NATO, in participation with other submarine operating nations, can cooperate in life-saving operations from a distressed submarine, including all medical aspects involved in a submarine disaster. In addition, the exercise is planned to enhance international cooperation, foster worldwide SMER interoperability, and advertise SMER capabilities to non-NATO nations. The primary training audience for this exercise includes nations who operate submarines as well as their rescue systems.

## CWIX Exercise

The Coalition Warrior Interoperability eXploration, eXperimentation, eXamination eXercise (CWIX) is an annual Military Committee-approved event designed to foster continuous improvement in interoperability for the Alliance. Allied Command Transformation provides direction and management of the programme, while MARCOM as the maritime focus area lead and Partner Nations sponsor, ensures interoperability of capabilities with specific objectives defined by MARCOM and the respective nations.

The CWIX programme focuses primarily on testing and improving the interoperability of NATO and National C4I systems, with particular emphasis on supporting multi-domain operations, NATO, Digital transformation, and entities that would be employed within a Allied Reaction Force (ARF), which includes the Standing Naval Forces or Combined Joint Task Force CJFT). In addition to bilateral technical testing, CWIX provides a venue to conduct technical testing of fielded, developmental, and experimental systems in the context of a coalition scenario. CWIX runs concurrently with several national venues that share a common testing network.



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## Dynamic Series Exercises

These exercises are MARCOM-led exercises. MARCOM assets, such as the maritime groups, also participate in various Allied and partner nation-led exercises throughout the year. Visit the Media Centre at <https://mc.nato.int/media-centre> or MARCOM's social media platforms (listed on the back cover) for more information and exercise coverage.

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### ASW PLAYBOOK MERLIN

ASW Playbook Activity MERLIN is a MARCOM-led ASW interoperability training activity in the Baltic Sea designed to enhance high-end NATO ASW capabilities. ASW Playbook Activity MERLIN 2024 will demonstrate interoperability in the maritime domain, assure Allied publics on maritime security and cooperation, and deter adversaries.

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### DYNAMIC GUARD

DYNAMIC GUARD is a NATO Electronic Warfare (EW) and Anti-Ship Missile Defense (ASMD) Live Exercise (LIVEX) designed to provide tactical training for the Standing Naval Forces (SNF), primarily Standing NATO Maritime Groups, and NATO national units in order to maintain required levels of proficiency in EW and ASDM. It is held twice a year with the first iteration in the Northern Area (Norwegian Sea) to train SNMG1 units; and second iteration in the Southern Area (Mediterranean Sea), to train SNMG2 units. The exercise is led by MARCOM Headquarters and is supported by the NATO Joint Electronic Warfare Core Staff (JEWCS).

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### DYNAMIC MANTA AND DYNAMIC MONGOOSE

DYNAMIC MANTA and DYNAMIC MONGOOSE are annual MARCOM-led LIVEXs designed to exercise submarine warfare and anti-submarine warfighting (ASW) capabilities for submarines, ASW surface units, and maritime aircraft. DYNAMIC MANTA is held in the Mediterranean Sea and DYNAMIC MONGOOSE is held in the North Atlantic Ocean.



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### DYNAMIC MARINER

DYNAMIC MARINER is a MARCOM LIVEX designed to exercise and train Maritime HQs and Forces of the Allied Reaction Force (ARF), validate their interoperability at tactical level, and serve as the certification venue for Maritime Forces designated as ARF Maritime Component Command. The exercise supports the ARF certification plan, improves NATO Maritime Forces' interoperability, and implements the newest NATO concepts and doctrines. Training incorporates all aspects and areas of maritime operations including ASW, ASuW, AAW, MCM, maritime security operations, and amphibious operations.

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### DYNAMIC MASTER

DYNAMIC MASTER is a biennial Naval cooperation and Guidance for Shipping (NCAGS) and Allied Worldwide Navigational System (AWNIS) exercise designed to exercise NCAGS/AWNIS personnel in the NATO Shipping Center within MARCOM and at Deployed NCAGS Elements located close to commercial ports in all NCAGS/AWNIS tactics, techniques, and procedures in order to train personnel for current and future maritime operations.

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## Dynamic Series Exercises

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### DYNAMIC MASTERMIND

DYNAMIC MASTERMIND is an annual combined workshop and vignette-based table-top exercise (TTX) at the Maritime Component Command (MCC). It provides operational-level focus on Theatre Anti-Submarine Warfare (TASW). The aim is to maintain proper coordination and liaison to enhance maritime situational awareness (MSA) in the underwater domain in the NATO's maritime AOR.

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### DYNAMIC MERCY

DYNAMIC MERCY is an annual Search and Rescue (SAR) LIVEX. The exercise is based on peacetime and synthetic SAR scenarios using essential cross-region cooperation and interaction between military and civilian Rescue Coordination Centers and mobile SAR units. The two-week exercise is held alternately in the Atlantic Ocean or the Baltic Sea.

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### DYNAMIC MESSENGER

DYNAMIC MESSENGER is an operational experimentation exercise coordinated between several stakeholders. It is led by MARCOM and Allied Command Transformation (ACT). The exercise is designed as a biennial live exercise to test, exercise and experiment the use of all unmanned systems able to support maritime operations (designated as Maritime Uncrewed Systems – MUS).

The aim of DYNAMIC MESSENGER is to promote operational integration of MUS into NATO operations in an effort to join the NATO operational community, industry and academia. MUS capabilities, once operationally integrated, sometimes in a manned-unmanned set up, may support a broad span of maritime operations such as mine warfare, harbor protection and force protection, maritime security operations, amphibious operations and anti-Submarine warfare with significant operational, safety and logistical gains.

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### DYNAMIC MINOTAUR

DYNAMIC MINOTAUR is a command-post exercise conducted in the years when DYNAMIC MONARCH is not conducted to exercise the ability of NATO, in participation with other submarine-operating nations, to co-operate in life-saving operations from a distressed submarine.

### DYNAMIC MIRAGE

DYNAMIC MIRAGE aims to train the command and operations teams of Allied national naval units, in either national simulators or on board their units in port, in specific warfare areas and warfighting scenarios at the Task Group level using Live Virtual Synthetic Training and Distributed Synthetic Training (LVC-T and DST).

This exercise aims to demonstrate and enhance the capability to connect national simulators and ships for virtual/synthetic training, improve interoperability, and identify capability requirements for LVC-T/DST in the NATO maritime domain.

Dynamic Mirage raises awareness about LVC-T/DST and promotes NATO-wide future distributed training.

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### DYNAMIC MOVE

DYNAMIC MOVE is a bi-annual, tactical-level command post/computer-assisted exercise (CPX/CAX) focused on naval mine countermeasures (NMCM) training.

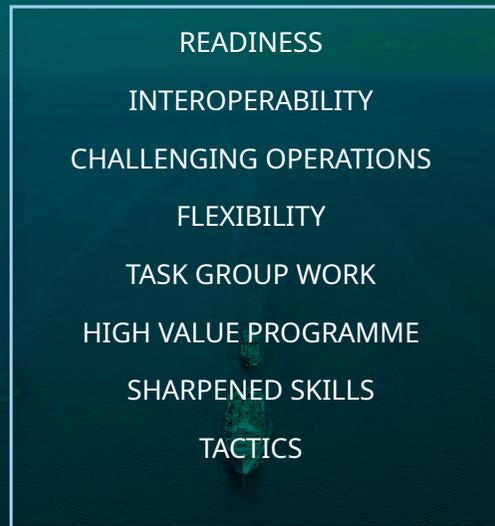
The aim is to exercise naval mine countermeasures (NMCM) tactics and procedures to enhance MCM staffs' ability to conduct operations during non-Article 5 Crisis Response Operations (NA5CRO).

Each year, the first iteration is conducted at the Belgian Naval Academy in Ostend, Belgium, during the first semester while the second iteration is conducted in La Spezia Naval Base, Italy, during the second semester.



# Bringing Value to Allied Navies

- Participation with NATO Maritime Forces offers an experience unavailable elsewhere
- The longer a ship stays under NATO operational control, the more experience for the ship and crew
- Participation today builds future capacity and capability



## MARCOM Maritime Partnership

NATO seeks to contribute to the efforts of the international community in projecting stability and strengthening security outside NATO territory. To do so, the Alliance has developed a network of partnerships with non-member countries from the Euro-Atlantic area, the Mediterranean and the Gulf region, and other partners across the globe. NATO pursues dialogue and practical cooperation with these nations on a wide range of political and security-related issues. NATO's partnerships are beneficial to all involved and contribute to improved security for the broader international community.

MARCOM's Military Cooperation Branch is responsible for implementing NATO strategic guidance for partners, and executing partnership activities in the maritime domain. Through those

activities, MARCOM strengthens relationships, enhances military cooperation, and builds interoperability between Allied and Partner nations.

The Military Cooperation Branch engages with multiple partners in dynamic and different ways, and each Partner relationship is uniquely built according to the Partner's ambition, desires, and capabilities. MARCOM assists Partner Nations in developing maritime capacity building through training, evaluation, and certification of naval units for integration into NATO operations. MARCOM builds on these initiatives through key leader engagements, port visits by NATO naval forces, information sharing, and continuous dialogue.



# MARCOM – The Way Ahead

In the future, MARCOM will be a fully enabled Maritime Theatre Component Command that:

- Delivers DETERRENCE and ASSURANCE through DOA whilst generating the ability to instantly switch to DEFEND
- Maintains excellence in the delivery of deterrence, crisis response and operations
- Further strengthens MARCOM's partnerships and deepens our relationship with the other domain commands
- Helps drive NATO forward by implementing the "Deterrence and Defence of the Euro-Atlantic Area" (DDA) concept and leads initiatives such as NMSCUI
- Contributes fully to NATO's future warfighting capability through the War-fighting Capstone Concept and high- tech exercises, such as Dynamic Messenger
- Fully explores and exploits MARCOM's Strategic Communication potential, by delivering the right messages to the right audiences at the right time



**“ We are the Maritime Operational Headquarters, a deterrent in peacetime, yet always ready to fight and win. ”**

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**Allied Maritime Command**

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