

# Defence and Diplomacy

## Towards 21<sup>st</sup> Century Foreign and Security Policy

We live in a highly interconnected world marked by on-going, far-reaching, and consequential transformations - changes that are occurring both gradually and abruptly, on different levels and in multiple spheres. Because today's Security Challenges are manifold with intricate, interwoven and interdependent patterns, it's not enough only to understand visible threats like terrorism, proliferation of WMD and WME<sup>1</sup>, cyber-attacks, access to resources, globalisation, weak and failed states, climate change, and demographics. We must also understand the sources of these conflicts, which derive from technology, competing ideologies and worldviews, economic crises and under-financing of the security sector.



Defence and Diplomacy are great examples of **Complementary Instruments**. Both are important instruments in the hand of a State that are used to achieve a country's goals. Together, they are part of a nation's Security Policy and can be applied worldwide to avoid, manage or solve **Crises** and **War** (open conflicts). Defence Officials and Diplomats have to try to persuade their leadership (decision-makers like politicians and the population) what price a country has to pay for conflict prevention, preparedness and deployment in case of a crisis. Statistics say the investment in prevention and preparedness is far more effective than investing the same amount on money for reconstruction. Decision makers have to understand this coherence and in accordance to that, they should make long term investments in resilience.

**NATIONAL SECURITY POLICY** may explain the relationship of a country to the world. The Elements of National Security correlate closely to the concept of the elements of National Power. Authorities differ in their choice of Nation Security Elements. Besides the military aspect of security, the aspects of diplomacy or politics; society; environment; energy and natural resources; and economics are common (\*). **National security** is a concept that a government (authority), along with its parliament, non-state private actors and systems of states (e.g. International Organizations), should **protect** the state and its citizens against all kind of "national" crises through a variety of **power projections** (\*) to possess **elements of security** (economic, energy, environment, etc.). **Political security** is an important component and it is about the stability of the social order and it specifically addresses threats to sovereignty. Authorities shall ensure political stability.

A number of factors have essentially been identified as the **complex interdependence**, such as the empowerment of public opinion, the revolution in the means of mass communication, the flow of

<sup>1</sup> Weapons of Mass destruction (WMD) and Weapons of Mass Effects (WME)

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ideas and information through electronic means, and prominently the phenomenon called cultural globalisation. These and **new threats** are getting increasingly important.

Today, security threats involve **conventional foes** such as other nation-states, but also **non-conventional foes** such as violent non-state actors, narcotic cartels, multinational corporations and non-governmental organizations; some authorities include natural disasters and events causing severe environmental damage in this category. States are also dealing with **transnational** security threats or **trans-sovereign** problems. They move across borders and cannot be solved by any one country alone, f. ex. climate change or transnational terrorism. They are more difficult to deal with and to resolve, than national crisis. Their resolution requires multinational cooperation.

**DIPLOMACY** is the art and practice of conducting negotiations between representatives of states (authorities). It usually refers to international diplomacy, the conduct of international relations through the intercession of professional diplomats with regard to a full range of topical issues. Diplomacy consists of **advocacy** and **negotiation** skills with the aim of **agreeing on a solution**.



International treaties are usually negotiated by diplomats prior to endorsement by national politicians. To oppose/encounter **new threats**, the twilight zone between traditional instruments and new instruments is a real challenge. Traditional diplomacy cannot thrive in the 21<sup>st</sup> century due to two factors: an increase in both the number of actors and the value of transparency, provoked by the inclusion of non-state actors and digitalisation.

Therefore, foreign policy has become a **multilateral** venture. Most vitally, diplomats must be able to negotiate coalitions with stakeholders<sup>2</sup> from various backgrounds. **Changing requirements** means that in negotiations, the diplomat must now be comfortable working across a much broader range of cultural expectations and areas of expertise. Additionally, an increase in the **value of transparency** in the modern age means that diplomats can no longer conduct closed door negotiations without the expectation that their outcomes can go unjustified. Particularly with the availability of information increasing globally with the advent of the internet, diplomats must now respond to heightened public demand for information sharing and transparency in their dealings. The greatest challenge in this respect will be the delicate balance that must be struck between these demands, as well as the diplomat ensuring that public information is used appropriately to inform the public about various issues.

To advocate the foreign affairs **interests** of a State abroad, a Government sends a diplomatic mission to another country. The term "diplomats" may also cover diplomatic services, consular services and foreign ministry officials. All concepts of diplomacy must be integrated into the economic, legal, political, historical and even geographical, social and cultural course.

In international relations, the traditional methods of coercion through the use of force, called **Hard Power** are still valid. During negotiations, hard power (or command power) involves **pressure** or threats as leverage. Hard power lies at the command Hegemon end of the spectrum of behaviours and describes a nation's ability to coerce or induce another nation to perform a course of action (in which that entity would not have acted otherwise). In international relations, hard power describes the use of coercion and/or military strength and/or economic incentives/sanctions to **influence other actors' behaviour**.

However, another more subtle art of persuasion and effective influence is **Soft Power**. It contrasts with hard power: Soft power is the **ability to attract and co-opt**. Diplomats may use economic and military might to make **others follow your will**, such as the reduction of trade barriers, the offer of an

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<sup>2</sup> Hocking et al 2012: 51

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alliance or the promise of military protection. The currency of soft power is **culture, values and trust** towards a peaceful resolution of a conflict.

**DEFENCE** is complementary to other tools; it protects a nation's own interests from attacks, danger or harm. To achieve political objectives, **National Power** may use Armed Forces - beside other elements of security. To deflect such attack(s), communities (villages, regions, states, alliances, etc.) invest in Military, Police and Civil Defence which they deploy as means and capabilities when needed. Military assets are deployed on land, in the air, on the sea and in cyberspace.



**Military security** is traditionally the earliest recognised form of national security. Military security implies the capability of a nation to **defend** itself, and/or **deter** military aggression. Alternatively, military security implies the capability of a nation to enforce its policy choices by use of military force. The term "military security" may be considered a condition that results from the establishment and maintenance of protective measures that ensure a state of inviolability from hostile acts or influences.

This can be done through **military power** which consists of **coercive diplomacy, war, and alliances** using threats and force with the aim of coercion, deterrence, and protection. Alternatively economic power which relies on aid, bribes and economic sanctions can be used in order to induce and coerce.

An **Armed Force** is authorized to use lethal force and weapons to support the interests of the state. It typically consists of an Army, Navy, Airforce and Cyber. The **task** of an Armed Force is usually defined as **defence** of the state, and its citizens, and the prosecution of war against another state. The military may also have additional sanctioned and non-sanctioned functions within a society, including, the promotion of a political agenda, protecting corporate economic interests, internal population control, construction, emergency services, social ceremonies, and guarding important areas.

**Military Experts** (e.g. Defence Attachés, DA) are getting involved in different forms of diplomacy. They must understand when security risk occurs and deliver assessments on such aspects. When a crisis occurs, DA's are also of great importance in the Crisis Management Cell of their Embassy.

For Military Officers involved in Foreign Security Policy, diplomacy implies a multilateral approach must be taken when designing defence strategies. National security now encompasses many elements of foreign, military, and economic policies and thus requires a new way of thinking. What is more, the Military Officer (e.g. DA) must consider all of these simultaneously, when appropriate. It follows that the DA must be considerate of all of these aspects, and be flexible to meet the demands of Ambassadors and peers.

Another aspect is **Defence Diplomacy (DD)**, which complements military operations (in parallel):

- **before** an open conflict takes place, DD shall prevent a crisis through/by Negotiations, Verification and Arms Control
- **during** a military operation, DD shall reduce the duration of employment of hard power, the suffering of the civil society and destruction of the infrastructure
- **after** an open conflict, DD shall support Nation Building, which includes a Security Sector Reform (SSR), Capacity building, Rule of Law, Disarmament/Demobilisation and Reintegration (DD&R) of militarised units

When it comes to peace and security, one says; 'preparing is better than curing'. To be able to manage risks and stabilize deterring security situations, decision makers and leaders should already

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know each other prior to the crisis, establishing a common ground. Therefore **institutional cooperation** is a key aspect in Defence and Diplomacy.

## Institutional Cooperation

The successful management of current and future security developments is a huge and complex enterprise. Actors from **different origins** are all implicated and as such require up-to-date, analysed information allowing them to form sound decisions. Subsequently, this group of representatives need to work together to pre-empt and counter security challenges. Such groups include representatives from international organisations, non-governmental organisations, leaders from the private sector and senior government officials working in an international environment (diplomats, military attaches and civil servants).

The GCSP provides a **focal point**, bringing together those actors to discuss critical situations, sharing information and experience and gaining fresh insight from internal and external experts, case studies and exercises.

These events take place in several different locations across the globe, such as at the GCSP in Geneva, providing **institutional cooperation** where it is greatly beneficial.

### Academic partners

- Austria: Austrian National Defence Academy (Landesverteidigungakademie) in Vienna
- Bosnia and Herzegovina: Peace Support Operations Training Centre (PSOTC) in Sarajevo
- France: École de Guerre
- Germany: German General Staff Collge (Führungsakademie der Bundeswehr) in Hamburg
- Germany: Federal Academy for Security Policy (Bundesakademie für Sicherheitspolitik) in Berlin
- Germany: German Leadership Development and Civic Education Center (Zentrum Innere Führung) in Koblenz
- Germany: German Armed Forces University München (Universität der Bundeswehr München)
- Jordan: Royal Jordanian National Defense College (RJNDC) in Amman
- Jordan: Jordan Institute of Diplomacy in Amman
- NATO: NATO Defence College in Italy/Rome
- NATO/PfP: Partnership Training and Education Centres (PTEC) in 30 different locations (global)
- Sénégal : Centre des Hautes Études de Défense (CHEDS) à Dakar
- Sri Lanka: General Sir John Kotelawala Defense University (KDU) in Colombo
- Sri Lanka: Bandaranaike International Diplomatic Training Institute (BIDI) in Colombo
- Switzerland: Swiss Foreign Affairs Department (FDFA) in Berne
- Switzerland: Swiss Defence Department (DDPS) and the Swiss Armed Forces in Berne
- Switzerland: Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF) in Geneva
- Switzerland: Geneva centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) in Geneva

## Contributions of the Defence and Diplomacy Cluster



Defence and Diplomacy is located at the **junction** between **foreign** and **defence ministries**. To promote peace, security and international stability, Military Experts, Diplomats and Executives from the private sector must improve their Collaboration towards a comprehensive and inclusive approach.

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The Defence and Diplomacy Cluster contribute to **secure, stabilise**, and create a prosperous international and regional **Environment**. It helps building and maintaining trust between Armed Forces and States. Defence and Diplomacy is located at the junction between foreign and defence ministries. To promote peace, security and international stability, military experts and diplomats must **improve their Collaboration**. This observation is not only **relevant** for crises and disaster-ridden areas, but also for more stable governments.

Military experts and diplomats must be able to deal with ambiguities and dilemmas, learn from failures as well as success, as well as design and implement complex international security policies. They must master **critical thinking**, creativity, problem-solving skills, and possess a solid knowledge of today's multi-layered security environment. To meet these needs, the Defence and Diplomacy Cluster offers therefore numerous **Training** for Officers, Diplomats and Senior Officials involved in Foreign and Security Policy matters:

- **Defence and Diplomacy for business-customers** (D&D 4B) as part of the institutional cooperation: Seminars with Business Partners, Institutes (public and private) or Ministries to discuss a relevant topic.

*Course lengths, contents and editions are variable according to the needs of the partner organisation / Tailor made training, on demand / Geneva or other location*

- **Annual Senior Officers Seminar for Flag Officers** (ASOS). High ranking officers discuss and share their opinions with high level experts on selected "global hot topics"- a unique opportunity for professional development and networking. Active since 2007, this course is funded by the Swiss Government and conducted in cooperation with the Partnership for Peace (PfP).

*3 days / Annual / Geneva*

- **Bespoke Seminars for Defence or Diplomacy Institutions** (for example: Defence Universities, Armed Forces Colleges, Diplomatic Institutes or Schools). Military and civilian personnel receive training on topics such as World Politics, Leadership, and Cooperation in complex environments. These courses offer a unique opportunity for mutual understanding, cultural exchange, and networking, with Participants and representatives from various Organisations in Geneva (UNHCR, UN OCHA, ICRC, MSF, UNOG, Military, Diplomats, etc.).

*On demand / Geneva or other locations*

- **Defence Attaché (DA) Courses** for Military Officers, Diplomats and Senior Defence Officials

- **Orientation Courses** (1 week) have been offered for more than a decade. They provide Defence Officials with a strong basis for their future professional challenges in a multinational environment. These courses are part of a wider strategic cooperation between the Swiss Armed Forces and the GCSP. Currently, the GCSP delivers those courses at the following **Locations**: Sarajevo (*Western Balkans* with representatives from NATO-countries, PfP, MD and ICI), Dakar (*Western and Central Africa*, incl. Maghreb), Addis Ababa (*East and Central Africa*) Amman (*Middle East* with representatives from NATO, PfP and MD countries), and Colombo (*South/South-East Asia*). A *Global Course* is conducted in Geneva. Each year, around 180 participants from more than 60 countries attend those courses. There are two levels of courses:

**Basic Courses**, participants are *newly appointed* Defence Officials or Defence Official in their first year in function.

*4-6 days / Annual / Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ethiopia, Jordan, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Switzerland*

**Advanced Courses**, participants are Defence Officials with more than one year of professional *experience* in a diplomatic function. The aim of the advanced course is to share knowledge and experiences, discuss defence policy issues, and assess future trends and challenges. These courses are part of a wider strategic cooperation between the Swiss Armed Forces and the GCSP.

*Pilot course in preparation: app. 3 days / on request / first course 2017 /Ethiopia*

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- **Tailor-made training Courses** (3 weeks) at *basic* or *advanced* level. They provide Defence Officials with a strong basis for their future professional challenges in a national or multinational environment.  
*3 weeks / On demand / Geneva or other location*
- **Colloquiums for Heads of national Defence Attaché (DA) Offices** aim to share expertise and experiences on DA related topics, such as tasks and missions, selection and training, deployment, redeployment, the DA network, and future challenges.  
*1-3 days / On demand / Geneva or other location*
- **Exercises and simulations.**  
*Course lengths, contents and editions are variable according to the needs of the partner organisation / Tailor made training, on demand / Geneva or other location*
- **D&D modules/electives in courses delivered by other Cluster.** *On request*

## Interested - does this apply to you?

Progress is connected with independent thinking: **“It is not by muscle, speed, or physical dexterity that great things are achieved, but by reflection, force of character, and judgment”**

*Marcus Tullius Cicero (Roman philosopher, statesman, lawyer, political theorist, and Roman constitutionalist)*

On-going advanced education is a must for all personnel in an executive position. If you wish to get free access to GCSPs courses you are invited to consult our [webpage](#) or contact our [staff](#).

## Summary

The landscape of 21<sup>st</sup> Century defence policy is characterised by high levels global interconnections. Thus, Diplomats and Defence Experts must exercise multidimensional awareness and interdisciplinary knowledge. In order to develop effective future security strategies, the Defence and Diplomacy Cluster complement **national trainings**.

At the GCSP, the Defence and Diplomacy Cluster contribute to the building and maintaining of **trust** at the junction between foreign and defence ministries, due to the lasting dialogue between actors.

**Sponsors** support such Defence and Diplomacy courses. If you wish to engage with us and become a sponsor, don't hesitate to contact the [Head of the Cluster](#).

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*Geneva, August 2017*

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