



JOINT EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

The JEF Vision

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The JEF – Working Together as One

The JEF is a multi-national framework of like-minded Northern and Eastern European nations. It provides an important forum for political consultations on defence and security challenges affecting its core regions (the High North, North Atlantic and Baltic Sea) and provides a range of credible military options to respond – rapidly when needed – in scenarios ranging from sub-threshold peacetime responses through to full-spectrum interventions during times of crisis or conflict, both in its core regions and beyond.

JEF Participant Nations share a commitment to democracy, human rights, the rules-based international order and the rule of law, as well as a long history of operating together. By planning, training, and operating together continuously, we combine our strengths so that we can respond quickly to threats wherever and whenever they arise. The ‘opt-in’ principle upon which the JEF is founded enables an agility of response which is our unique advantage.

For all JEF Participant Nations, NATO is the foundation of collective security in the Euro-Atlantic area. From its inception, as the UK’s offer to NATO under the Framework Nations’ Concept, the JEF has been designed to be complementary to NATO. Finland’s and Sweden’s accession to NATO makes both the Alliance and the JEF stronger, bringing greater operational synergies between the two.

The JEF will complement both NATO and Participant Nations’ national response capabilities. We must work in concert to ensure a seamless interface between national, JEF and NATO responses. We will ensure that the role of the JEF is reflected in our respective national policies and plans, with all Participant Nations taking an active role in its continued development. We will also develop strong links with regional Allies and partners. And, given the centrality of NATO as the ultimate guarantor of European security, the JEF will integrate with and contribute to NATO deterrence at all times.

Russia’s illegal invasion of Ukraine has only increased the importance of both NATO and the JEF as enablers of regional security for their members. From the day of Russia’s invasion, the JEF has been one of the most vocal and proactive groups in support of Ukraine and in the vanguard of those nations providing practical assistance, including political and financial support, training and donations of vital military equipment. The JEF will remain resolute in its support for Ukraine in this conflict and beyond.

We will invest in the capabilities that enable the JEF to plan, exercise and operate effectively together. Furthermore, the JEF Participant Nations will, where appropriate, adopt an approach that brings together military elements of the broader levers of national power to respond to hybrid security challenges. We will enhance shared situational awareness with greater interconnectivity, enabling common solutions to common challenges. As we have designed the JEF to complement other international frameworks and avoid duplication, it will remain ready to support UN, NATO, EU or other multinational or coalition operations as required.

The JEF will strengthen our cooperation, increase our security and defence, and deter malign activity and aggression in our region, recognising that JEF Participant Nations are stronger when working together as one.