

Bridging the Gap: Reviewing NATO's Strategic Posture and Capabilities

Towards Warsaw and Beyond Chatham House, London 9 and 10 June, 2016

The NATO summit, to be held this July in Warsaw, will provide an opportunity for NATO to review its progress towards meeting both the new and more traditional challenges it faces. It will also make clear the political will, resources, priorities and direction of the alliance in the coming years. In the light of resurgent geopolitical concerns, new and evolving challenges and long-standing structural anxieties, the Summit is an important moment to review progress and define a new path forward.

Building on workshops held over the previous six months, the US and the Americas Programme at Chatham House, jointly with the Polish Institute for International Affairs (PISM) and the Center for War Studies at the University of Southern Denmark are convening an expert roundtable to provide insight and analysis towards answering these questions.

The US and the Americas Programme at Chatham House would like to thank the NATO Public Diplomacy Division, the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office and Raytheon for their generous support of this event.

Please note that these discussions will be held under the Chatham House Rule. i

09 June 2016

The Road to Warsaw

12:15 – 12:55 Welcome lunch

12:55 – 13:00 Opening remarks

13:00 – 14:00 **Session 1: Approaching the Summit.**

What will be the key considerations for the Warsaw summit? What issues will be priorities? What has been omitted from this year's summit and why? Where are the likely areas of greatest division among the members? What can be done to reconcile differences? Are there any outstanding issues that should (and could) be included at this late date? What is the message NATO members are trying to send and will it resonate?

14:00 - 14:15 Coffee break

14:15 – 15:45 Session 2: NATO's Ability to Deter

Does NATO still have the ability to deter its adversaries? What role do nuclear capabilities play in this? Can it deter non-state actors (e.g. ISIS) as well as states? Does it have the capabilities to do so and if not, what more is needed? Will this need be met in Warsaw? What more will be required beyond it? What is the role of will vs capability in terms of member states, and how can this be addressed?





15:45 – 16:15 Coffee break

16:15 – 17:45 Session 3: Is NATO Adaptable?

Does NATO have the capacity to meet both the current and potential array of challenges? Where does the alliance need to be more flexible? Is it adaptable for decision making or are reforms needed? Can it make – and implement – decisions fast enough? How can NATO secure the political and public will for change?

18:30 – 21:00 Conference dinner

Drinks will be held from 18:30 at **[TBC]**, dinner will take place from 19:00 - 21:00

10 June 2016

Beyond Warsaw

09:15 – 10:30 Session 4: What New Capabilities does NATO Need?

Is the alliance adequately equipped to meet modern challenges? What steps are still needed to ensure it is able to do so? What gaps remain after the Newport deliverables are achieved? What deliverables does Warsaw need to define? What is the status of the Very High Readiness Joint Task Force (VJTF), and is there a readiness gap for follow-on forces?

10:30 - 10:45 Coffee break

10:45 – 12:00 Session 5: Where can NATO Spend Better?

How can NATO better utilize its resources? Is the current system for acquisition sustainable as new challenges emerge? Can we address the challenges to closer collaboration? Is the 20% spending objective on research and development the right one? How do we address long-term pressures while still meeting short-term requirements? How can the alliance better coordinate spending?

12:00 - 12:45 Lunch

12:45 – 14:00 Session 6: How Important are the Public and Partners?

Are any of these changes – in deterrence, adaptability, speed, resources and acquisitions – possible without public support reinforcing political will? Who needs to lead on driving public support and understanding from NATO – the institution or the member states. What role for the corporate sector? What role for other partners, including non-NATO member states? How can NATO assist in driving up support? Are perceptions of NATO changing?

14:00 – 14:15 Coffee break







14:15 – 15:30 **Session 7: Post-Warsaw?**

What are likely to be NATO's priorities in anticipation of the next summit in 2018? Will NATO survive isolationist tendencies and the rise of populism? How should NATO respond to the new US Administration? Should NATO continue to split its focus between conventional and hybrid security? Is there an alternative to the alliance? Is the alliance still needed?

15:30 – 15:45 Concluding Remarks





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