Report of the Conference:

The role of Stability Policing within Human Security

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Acknowledgements to:

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Others:

Prefect of Vicenza Dott. S. CACCAMO; Mayor of Vicenza Dott. G. POSSAMAI, NATO Secretary General's Special Representative for Women, Peace and Security Ms I. FELLIN, Moderator of the conference Dr M. OZAWA- Senior Researcher at NATO Defence College; SHAPE ACOS J9 representative Mr T. GOOCH; International Committee of the Red Cross representative. Mr. P. CHOLOUS; J.J. College of Criminal Justice representative Prof. M. NATARAJAN; EUROPOL representative LC D. ELLERO; UNICEF representative Mr. LOUKARELIS.

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The report is classified *Non-Sensitive Information* – Releasable to the Public.

At the NATO SP COE in Vicenza, Italy, from May to July 2023

Director's foreword

I am particularly pleased to present this Final Report based on the outcomes of the event organised and hosted in Vicenza by the NATO Stability Policing Centre of Excellence from 19 to 22 July 2022. The distinguished participants included, among others, Major General Robert GLAB, NATO Supreme Allied Command Transformation Deputy Chief of Staff Resources and Management as well as SP CoE FOGO Champion, and Ms. Irene FELLIN, NATO Secretary General's Special Representative for Women, Peace and Security.

NATO's commitment to safeguarding freedom and security has guided the Alliance since its origins. Security challenges have continuously evolved, and civilians are now being deliberately targeted in conflict to serve military objectives, particularly within Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine.

Human Security has become central to NATO's common values of individual liberty, human rights, democracy, and the rule of law, and is being integrated into the three updated NATO core tasks: deterrence and defence, crisis prevention and management, and cooperative security.

Violations against Human Security are crimes, and as crimes they demand justice. As well as an effective prevention campaign. Under this perspective, Stability Policing doctrine can provide the Alliance an expeditionary tool capable of enforcing – across the whole operational continuum – all applicable International and Host Nation Law.

The Alliance focuses on five key areas of effectiveness: the protection of civilians, preventing and responding to conflict-related sexual violence, combating trafficking in human beings, children and armed conflict, cultural property protection.

Building upon the success of the NSPCoE's 2021 event on the role of NATO Stability Policing in Cultural Property Protection, this year's conference examined the remaining four areas, exploring how Stability Policing can contribute to NATO's overall efforts to ensure HS.

The conference gathered subject matter experts and experienced practitioners, and the impressive results showcased the added value that Stability Policing offers to NATO military operations, below or above the threshold of armed conflicts. With a specific focus on populations, Stability Policing contributes to their freedom from fear and to ensure their right to live in dignity, upholding their human rights, making it a crucial commitment for the Alliance as a whole.

In conclusion, I extend my gratitude to all who contributed to the success of the conference and express the hope that the NATO Stability Policing Centre of Excellence may continue to benefit from their invaluable support.

Luigi Bramati
Colonel, Italian Carabinieri
NATO SP COE DIRECTOR

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an overview of the conference and workshop held on June 19-22 in Vincenza, Italy, and recommendations about the role of NATO Stability Policing within Human Security and four cross-cutting topics. The NATO Human Security vision emphasizes the Allied fundamental principles of democracy, individual liberty, and Rule of Law. It is inspired by the UN's "multi-sectoral approach to security that identifies and addresses widespread and cross-cutting challenges to the survival, livelihood, and dignity of the people."

Protection of Civilians aims to avoid, minimize, and mitigate the negative effects from NATO, NATO-led military operations and other actors' actions on the civilian population, while Conflict-Related Sexual Violence and Trafficking in Human Beings are grave violations of human rights and humanitarian law. Children's vulnerability in armed conflicts necessitates special attention. Cultural Property Protection has been the focus of a conference in 2021, hence it was not discussed.

Since violations within these cross-cutting topics and Human Security constitute crimes, they require a law enforcement response. In crises and conflict situations, host nations are the primarily responsible entities, but they and other actors may be unable to address these policing needs. In such cases, NATO Stability Policing can provide support through capacity building and executive policing missions. In fact, Stability Policing is the NATO expeditionary military capability that aims to restore public order and security, protect human rights and support the Rule of Law across the three NATO core tasks, by reinforcing indigenous police forces or temporarily replacing them. Stability Policing contributions seeking success in NATO operations, missions, and activities require a harmonized approach to Human Security and the Cross-Cutting-Topics from political to tactical levels. They call for provisions on the threat and use of force and coercion measures to enable law enforcement activities under an executive SP mandate. As a military capability focusing on policing civilians, Stability Policing fosters collaboration between military and civilian actors in a comprehensive approach. This would be improved if agreements and mechanisms were established in advance of crises to facilitate day-zero-integration, flexibility and freedom of action for commanders. A shared approach to Stability Policing and common training would enhance the resilience of NATO Nations as single entities, and as members of the Alliance. SP plays a key role in consolidating battlefield gains, understanding the local environment, and dealing with criminal activities, also in a Human Security perspective. Therefore, the integration of Stability Policing within NATO would benefit from a dedicated conceptual document outlining the capability and clarifying guidelines, establishing roles and responsibilities.

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INTRODUCTION

Context

NATO is dedicated to ensuring the freedom and security of its members and to constantly adjusting to the dynamic security challenges. The new NATO Strategic Concept and Human Security Approach and Guiding Principles, endorsed at the Madrid Summit in 2022, highlight the central role of Human Security for the Alliance. The concept is drawn from the United Nations' one as "a multi-sectoral approach to security that recognizes and addresses broad and cross-cutting threats to people's ability to survive, earn a living and live with dignity". Human Security directly links NATO's common values of individual liberty, human rights, democracy and the rule of law to NATO practice, provides a heightened understanding of conflict and crisis and requires it to be incorporated in all the three core tasks.

The NATO Stability Policing Centre of Excellence, NATO's hub of expertise in the matter and focal point for knowledge, innovation, and transformation seeks to explore the subject by looking for relevant implications and recommendations to continue keeping the Alliance fit for purpose in a 360° approach.

Purpose and Aim of the Conference

The specific event sought to increase the knowledge about the relation between Stability Policing, Human Security and four of the five Cross-Cutting Topics, since Cultural Property Protection had already been analysed in a previous dedicated conference in 2021. The NATO SP CoE aimed at obtaining actionable insights to improve the contribution Stability Policing can provide to NATO operations, missions and North Atlantic Council approved activities, identifying shortfalls and gaps, implications and strongpoints, seeking to eliminate or at least mitigate negative factors and boosting positive ones.

Scope of the Conference

The Human Security Approach and Guidelines identifies five cross-cutting topics in which the Alliance can be most effective. Only Protection of Civilians (PoC), Children and Armed Conflict (CAAC), Conflict Related Sexual Violence (CRSV) and Trafficking in Human Beings (THB) were discussed during the 2023 conference, since Cultural Property Protection (CPP) was already the focus of a dedicated conference in 2021.

Organisation and conduct of the Conference

The three-day event pursued a dual-format approach encompassing both a conference and a workshop. On the first day, all participants gathered for a high-level in-presence conference offering speeches and presentations on Stability Policing, Human Security and on the four cross-cutting topics of interest. This set the tone arming the participants with the necessary tools and knowledge for the following discussions and workshop.

On the second day, four syndicates were formed (one per area) in which participants had the opportunity to share their thoughts in a guided interactive discussion with a moderator, analysing the role of SP within each CCT for the benefit of the Alliance. Each syndicate had a stable team comprising a Chairperson, usually the most expert on the topic; a Moderator, responsible for animating the discussion; an SP Subject

Matter Expert (SME) from the NSPCoE: and a Secretary/Note-taker/Young disruptor from either the Youth Atlantic Treaty Association or the Atlantic Forum.

Each group of attendees examined, discussed, and scrutinized one CCT for a period, before passing to the next one, until all four had been investigated. The stable component exercised supervision, guidance, council and was entrusted with recordkeeping.

On the third and last day, the main takeaways of each syndicate were presented to the plenary of attendees. These conclusions will be detailed in this report.

HUMAN SECURITY

The Washington Treaty established the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) as an Alliance *reaffirming the faith in the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.* It expresses the determination to *safeguard the freedom, common heritage and civilisation of their peoples, founded on the principles of democracy, individual liberty and the rule of law.*[1] For over 70 years, the Alliance has continued growing, transforming, innovating and adapting to challenges and changes. Allies have expressed collective commitments and perspectives in different declarations specific to one topic. Human Security was repeatedly mentioned within the *Strategic Concept* and *Human Security Approach and Guiding Principles*. Both emerged during the Madrid Summit in 2022[2]. HS is recognized as having a central role within the Alliance, stipulating that it needs to be incorporated in all the three core tasks through policies and guidelines. NATO's Human Security Approach is that of the UN, which conceptualized it as "a multi-sectoral approach to security that identifies and addresses widespread and cross-cutting challenges to the survival, livelihood and dignity of the people".[3] Human Security directly links the above-mentioned common values to NATO practice, provides a heightened understanding of conflict or crisis, and allows to develop a more comprehensive view of the human environment. This can consequently enhance operational effectiveness and contribute to lasting peace and security.

The Human Security Approach reiterates the need for a people-centred perspective, which actively integrates a gender perspective while respecting local customs and International Law. It furthermore encompasses the cooperation with Non-Governmental Organizations, assures the Sovereignty of Host Nations, and emphasizes that Human Security and the Women, Peace and Security Agenda complement and reinforce each other, across all core tasks.

Human Security was first mentioned in the *London Summit declaration* (2019) that envisioned an increased role of NATO within the remit. In the same year at NATO

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1 Preface to the North Atlantic Treaty, Washington D.C. - 4 April 1949

2 During the Vilnius Summit, the commitment to implement NATO's Policy on Women, Peace and Security has been re-established. The policy developed about *Combating Trafficking in Human Beings* (2004) was updated at the recent Summit in Vilnius, during which also the new policy on *Children and Armed Conflict* was endorsed. While there are policies on the *Protection of Civilians* (2016) and on the *Prevention and Response to Conflict-related Sexual Violence* (2021), a dedicated policy on *Cultural Property Protection* is still under development.

3 NATO's Human Security Approach and Guiding Principles (2022)

headquarters, a *Human Security Unit* was established under the responsibility of the *Special Representative of the Secretary General for Women Peace and Security,* currently *Ms. Irene Fellin*, who gave the keynote speech at the conference.

She stated that certain policy areas were tailored to specific contexts that no longer reflect the strategic environment in which NATO operates and that there are inconsistencies in terms of structures, reporting requirements, but also ownership. The International Military Staff and the *Guiding Principles* define five cross-cutting topics within Human Security, but the *Allied Joint Doctrine (AJP-01)* defines eight of them, adding *Women, Peace and Security*, *Sexual Exploitation and Abuse*, as well as *Building Integrity*. These inconsistencies hamper a harmonized approach from political to tactical level within these important remits. In mid-May, a Human Security Framework Development Workshop took place at NATO HQ, to initiate a serious discussion on the implementation of Human Security within the Alliance.

In the words of Ms. Fellin, NATO and NATO SP need to adopt a "people-centred approach" in all its activities. Understanding the human environment in which we operate is crucial to assess the different needs of women, men, boys and girls, based on the existing social structure, gender, age and any other factors of their identity.

About Cultural Property Protection (CPP), she mentioned that the policy will be the last one to be developed, likely in 2024. The CPP Conference held in February 2023 at NATO HQ, advocated for strengthening NATO's efforts and understanding of the importance of CPP in all NATO-led missions, operations and activities. This was an important step towards the development of a policy. She affirmed that the SP CoE has significantly contributed to drafting the Bi-Strategic Command Directive on Cultural Property Protection[4] and has also taken an active role during the CPP online events organised in spring 2021, which initiated the discussions for a NATO Policy on CPP. Moreover, the "NATO Stability Policing in Cultural Property Protection" Conference organised in November 2021 resulted in the establishment of a CPP Network, and the development of an online course on CPP. She emphasized that when she thinks about Cultural Property Protection (and the role of SP), she envisions preventing the looting or destruction of pieces of arts and culture.

Aligning and harmonizing the political and military sides of NATO in the most efficient way is crucial also from a Stability Policing perspective, and related works are under way with the participation of the NATO SP CoE.

Identifying a golden thread throughout the Alliance should allow all stakeholders, across the *continuum of competition[5],* and from the political level down to the soldiers on the ground, to understand what Human Security means. This also entails aligning relevant *Cross-Cutting Topics* and related activities to *Defence and Deterrence in the Euro-Atlantic Area*, *NATO Warfighting Capstone Concept* and *Multi-Domain Operations*. The ultimate aim is to enhance interoperability and for the Alliance to effectively face present and future security challenges.

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[4] BiSCD 086-005 (2019) "Implementing Cultural Property Protection in NATO Operations and Missions"

[5] Allied Joint Doctrine (AJP-01): The continuum of competition is a model depicting how attitudes and behaviours shape international relations. The continuum depicts four types of relationships between states/groups of people: cooperation, rivalry, confrontation and armed conflict.

Ms Fellin stated that pivoting on Human Security is also essential to contribute to winning the Battle of Narratives and upholding the legitimacy of local institutions and specified that Stability Policing and Law Enforcement have an important role to play in this enterprise.

Mr. Gooch, bringing the Allied Command Operations' (ACO) perspective, highlighted the need for a harmonization of Human Security and the different Cross-Cutting-Topics within all levels in NATO to ensure the Freedom of Action for commanders. He underlined the differences between the wider approach of the UN and the one of NATO, mentioning a newly coined term of Military Contribution to Human Security (MC2HS) that captures ACO's point of view. In fact, he explained, this wording highlights the different roles and responsibilities (political and military) within the HS portfolio and therefore supports the differentiation between what is and is not within the military remit. MC2HS links with the military instrument of power to ensure HS considerations are integrated within NATO operations, missions and activities. This is in line with existing similar approaches such as the Military Contribution to a Peace Support, Military Contribution to Humanitarian Assistance and Military Contribution to Stabilisation. He explained that the CCTs are cross-cutting because they are interlinked, context-based, and put the human beings at the centre. There is a need to continue their implementation considering current related stages.

The recent war of aggression by Russia shows how tensions can result in violence against civilians, including CRSV, attacks against children and cultural property as well as THB.

STABILITY POLICING

Stability Policing (SP) is defined within NATO as "police related activities intended to reinforce or temporarily replace the indigenous police in order to contribute to the restoration and/or upholding of the public order and security, rule of law, and the protection of human rights."

Stability Policing had been created to address a critical requirement on the ground, namely, to fill a security void hampering the attainment of mission success. In fact, the Host Nation and its populace had police- and justice-related needs, but no domestic or international actor was able to answer these needs properly. The Indigenous Police Forces (IPF)[6] who were already present were marred by ethnic and political bias and were not accepted by the whole population. The United Nations had deployed the International Police Task Force consisting of single police officers, who were unable to conduct efficient executive policing also due to their lack of "robustness". The "traditional", combat-oriented NATO military capabilities, possessed this quality, but they did not bring the expertise, experience, nor ability that are so vital to police civilians.

The situation needed a new tool that could provide a framework of security, which could enable the Host Nation and other actors of the International Community to mitigate the effects of the conflict and build a sustainable peace. Re-establishing a minimum level of Safe and Secure Environment, enforcing Public Order and Public Security, providing respect for Human Rights and fostering the Rule of Law.

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[6] For this report the terms Indigenous Police Forces is to be considered synonymous with Host Nation Police Forces, Host Nation Law Enforcement Agencies Police Services.

In fact, SP encompasses two missions, namely reinforcement (or strengthening) of the IPF through Monitoring, Mentoring, Advising, Reforming, Training and Partnering on the one hand and/or temporarily replacing (or substituting) them on the other. SP is the only dedicated expeditionary military capability of the Alliance to police civilians and provide police assistance to Host Nations. It can intervene from peacetime, through crisis to conflict, in all three NATO core tasks:

- In Deterrence and Defence, it can support an Ally who has been subject to an armed attack;
- In Crisis Prevention and Management, it contributes to crisis-response operations, peace support as well as humanitarian assistance;
- In Cooperative Security, it can enhance the ability of Nations to improve their responses to security challenges also of hybrid nature.

SP elements possess a populace-centric and civilian-oriented mindset and are part of the military force, therefore they can better contribute to a comprehensive approach. SP can be performed by all kinds of forces with different levels of capabilities and capacities. Irregular actors including criminals, insurgents, and terrorists operate mostly in the Land domain, but may act as well in the Sea or Cyberspace.

Ms Fellin stated that Stability Policing is the key actor to contribute to the consolidation of the battlefield gains and to provide action with the right expertise, stemming from years of experience in dealing with criminal activities in their own countries.

PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS (PoC)

Protection of Civilians includes all efforts taken to avoid, minimize and mitigate the negative effects arising from NATO and NATO-led military operations on the civilian population. Particular attention should be given to vulnerable groups like children and women, who are more susceptible during conflicts. PoC also involves safeguarding civilians from conflict-related physical violence or threats of physical violence by other actors, which includes establishing a safe and secure environment[7]. As emphasized by Ms. Fellin in her address, NATO's Protection of Civilians policy[8] was endorsed at the 2016 Warsaw Summit and heavily influenced by NATO's operational experience in Afghanistan. While many policies and guidelines were tailored to that specific context, PoC is still relevant today for the Alliance to build and retain credibility and legitimacy.

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[7] NATO Policy on the Protection of Civilians (2016)
[8] The policy on Protection of Civilians is hitherto the only policy document specifically mentioning "a Stability Policing dimension".
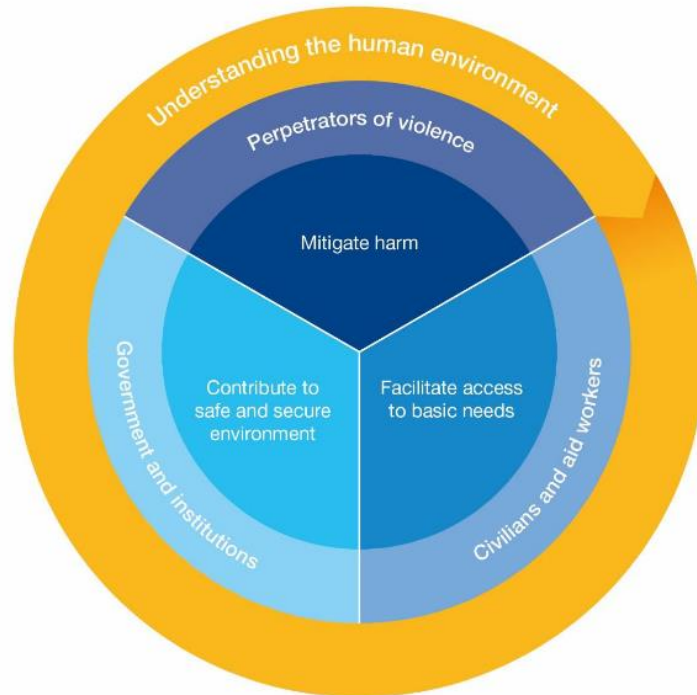
Figure 1 – Concept of the Protection of Civilians framework

On the first day of conference, Mr. Cholous introduced the concept of PoC for the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). ICRC's mission, committed to International Humanitarian Law (IHL), centres around mitigating suffering in armed conflict and other violent situations. The principle of neutrality is central to IRCC's existence and operations, emphasizing the importance of conducting activities in an impartial and non- discriminatory manner. Although Mr. Cholous recognized the challenges the above-mentioned pose for NATO as an organization, he suggested it could still find some ICRC approaches useful. Additionally, like NATO, the ICRC aims to ensure that important values, such as individual rights under relevant bodies of domestic law, Human Rights Law (HRL), International Humanitarian Law (IHL), and Refugee Law (RL) are fully respected. Lastly, Mr. Cholous emphasized the need for simplicity and pragmatism in developing and improving frameworks and policies, an approach applicable to the current context.

Within the PoC syndicate, participants examined how Stability Policing (SP) can support the implementation of PoC, specifically focusing on tools, competencies, and capabilities. Their discussions aligned with the PoC framework (Figure 1) introduced in NATO's *Protection of Civilians Handbook* and *AJP-01* Annex A, which consists of four sections:

Understanding the Human Environment (UHE):

Participants recognized that SP can facilitate understanding by building trust with local populations, as police actors are often perceived as being more positive and more approachable than military actors. In doing so, SP can anticipate and prevent violence. They emphasized the importance of cultural and community mediation through engagement with community and faith-based elders and leaders.

SP can also contribute to knowledge development and situational awareness, by recognizing the diversity of threats and insecurities among vulnerable groups, mapping landscapes areas and hot spots of criminal activity, and engaging with local communities to include them in identifying law enforcement needs and finding viable solutions. This includes encouraging community self-protection (e.g., neighbourhood watch), providing additional law enforcement information gathering capacities (e.g., hotline, anonymous crime-reporting), and supporting the analysis of the human environment from a policing perspective, conducting surveillance and assessing the impact of conflict on the population in terms of law enforcement significance.

To ensure better integration of military and civilian capabilities, mechanisms from policy to the operational level should be established. The capability to collaborate with International Organizations (Ios), Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) should be enhanced. Additionally, prioritizing interoperability among different forces in multinational units is crucial, enabling Stability Policing Units (SPUs) to work effectively alongside other actors either directly or through interfaces. Adopting a 'population-centric' approach is essential to understand the context and provide enhanced protection to civilians. Organizations must overcome barriers to information sharing from the planning phase onwards. Although certain information and evidence regarding crimes may not be accessible to other entities than SP, there remains a need for mechanisms that facilitate and enable integration and sharing of important information, starting from the very first stages ('Day zero integration').

Mitigate Harm (MH):

According to participants, mitigating harm from NATO's own actions should start with the compliance with applicable law (IHL, IHRL, Refugee Law, etc.) including the applicable domestic/Host Nation Law as well as the respect for the code of conduct for forces. They also highlighted the need for a robust system of complaints, reporting and an investigating and response mechanism. Related to this, the American framework for Civilian Harm Mitigation and Response Action Plan (CHMR-AP) was discussed as a potential initiative for NATO to investigate and potentially incorporate into SP's development of HN law enforcement capabilities. On the other hand, mitigating harm from others' actions can be done through prevention but also through investigation, as a deterrent against further crimes and violence against civilians. SP can for instance: prevent violence and internal ethnic conflicts with presence patrols and actively contacting locals; investigate perpetrators for suspected war crimes, crimes against humanity and ordinary crimes that target civilians; collect battlefield evidence; or seize illegal assets and funds.

Facilitating Access to Basic Needs (FABN):

Given that civil society and international aid providers are often present in SP's operational context, participants recognized SP's role in facilitating civilians' access to basic needs and services and to civilian infrastructure[9]. SP forces can serve as security escorts for humanitarian convoys and provide perimeter guards for selected structures, including humanitarian camps. They can also contribute to the delivery of

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[9] NATO Protection of Civilians ACO Handbook (2016), Page 36.

humanitarian assistance (water purification, power generation, decontamination etc.) by setting the conditions and providing security to facilitate access to medical first response and first aid. Like police or gendarmerie forces at the domestic level, SPUs can secure critical infrastructure including power generation and distribution, hospitals, ports etc as well as provide road and circulation safety.

Contribute to a Safe and Secure Environment (C-SASE):

Syndicate work identified this as the area where SP can make the most significant impact in the protection of civilians. By filling the security gap[10], SP can provide security conditions to allow other organizations to conduct their missions while reducing the chance of escalation, conflagration or reversion into armed conflict[11]. SP can engage in activities such as transnational crime investigation, community policing, visibility and reassurance patrols, bringing perpetrators to justice, crowd control, mass atrocity response, guarding key infrastructure and countering hybrid threats (including cyber and space domain); displaced persons management, establish checkpoints, border management activities and screening/protecting displaced people. SP can contribute to capacity building also by monitoring the performance of local law enforcement, design and provide training (e.g. Rule of Law Training) support the Security Sector reform from a law enforcement perspective, develop, improve and foster the availability of judicial and correctional services, and promoting building integrity and accountability of the IPF.

Lastly, discussions further emphasized that these activities can be carried out throughout the continuum of competition, across the full spectrum of conflict, including war. Therefore, SP can also operate in Article 5 "conventional" or non-permissive environments. To enhance effectiveness, military commanders need to be sensitized to the role and added value Stability Policing can offer to the attainment of within their military objectives.

CONFLICT-RELATED SEXUAL VIOLENCE (CRSV)

CRSV is an act that can constitute a crime against humanity that violates human rights and humanitarian law. At the Summits in Chicago (2012) and Wales (2014), NATO Heads of State and Heads of Government expressed their commitment to fight against sexual violence in conflicts. In line with this commitment, in 2015, Military Guidelines were adopted. To provide a coherent, consistent and integrated political framework for NATO's role, the NATO Policy on Preventing and Responding to CRSV was implemented in 2021. According to this, NATO defines it as rape, sexual slavery, forced prostitution, forced pregnancy, forced abortion, forced sterilization, forced marriage and any other form of sexual violence of comparable gravity perpetrated against women, men, girls or boys that is directly or indirectly linked to a conflict. Ms. Fellin also emphasized that CRSV is related to shielding people from being sexually abused or forced to undesired pregnancy or abortion. The policy identifies four areas

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[10] Also "policing gap" the capability/capacity void between the policing- and justice-related needs of the populace and Host Nation on the one hand and the responses from indigenous police forces and other international actor and combat-oriented element within a NATO on the other
[11] NATO. Protection of Civilians ACO Handbook (2016), Page 48.

where NATO can take an active role: preventing CRSV, education and training, responding to CRSV, and reporting and sharing information.

The discussions on Conflict Related Sexual Violence during the conference started with the presentation given by Professor Natarajan. She emphasized that CRSV is a crime motivated by political, military, or economic objectives to control territory or resources; frequently and deliberately used to target civilians, inflicting long-term trauma and humiliation, fracturing families, and the social fabric, triggering displacement, and fueling armed actors' activities. It is crucial to know categories and characteristics of such violence along with diverse types of perpetrators and victims, to educate, prevent and respond to it. Furthermore, CRSV has other underlying intersectional factors such as local culture, local politics, the socio-economic situation as well as gender, race, and ethnic disparities. For this reason, guidelines, policies or mandates need to follow distinct principles such as being people-centered, comprehensive, context-specific, prevention-oriented, protection and empowerment-based, instead of only planning to respond to CRSV after it takes place.

Conflict Related Sexual Violence is a highly debated topic and SP's role undeniably important to prevent and respond to such crimes. During the syndicate discussions, many important aspects were highlighted both from the civilian aspect and from SP approach side.

- The preexisting policy on CRSV is missing the approach to the implementation on the ground. Concrete, actionable and measurable tools are needed and should be better defined down to the tactical level, where NATO personnel are more likely to encounter the perpetrators and victims.
- The CRSV policy should provide flexibility while also adding a provision mentioning the role of SP, particularly in an executive policing role that, to be effective, requires powers and authorities (e.g., the use of force, coercive measures etc.).
- In the policy the "do not interrogate" clause, prohibiting any interrogation of victims, should be clarified in order to allow SP executive functions, such as investigating the crime. To support this provision, a particular communication and engagement with victims' guidelines should be established[12]. While the priority for SP personnel is investigating CRSV cases, they should at the same time reach out to entities providing additional services and support including medical aid, social services and psychological support.
- When CRSV is encountered, opting for a survivor-centric approach is key and communicating with survivors should include a trauma perspective. SP is not the primary agent for this and to this end, there should be enhanced collaboration between trauma-informed and psychologically trained experts and SP units.
- A special element within a deployed Stability Policing Unit can be created to deal with CRSV cases, work on reporting channels, receive targeted training on dealing with a survivor, and be a bridge between the local police forces, the populace and the rest of the SPU.
- Being aware of the environment, culture and being in constant touch with locals is essential when it comes to trying to understand CRSV, also identifying hidden

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[12] This point was considered in the updated CTHB policy during Vilnius Summit and was drafted as "Do not interview victims or survivors, unless trained to do so".

cases, often not easy to recognize. Hence, while a standardized definition to CRSV is needed, it should also give flexibility factoring the cultural and location-based differences.

- The response to CRSV should not be reactive, a comprehensive planning and communication strategy is necessary considering preventing CRSV ahead and specific SP contributions.
- Specific means of temporary self-protection and communication mechanisms such as providing whistles, advising to walk in daylight, escorting more vulnerable groups by SP, or deciding and disseminating a special sign for victims of CRSV could be developed as practicable tools.
- CRSV is targeted to everyone, but women and girls experience it relatively more compared to men and boys. In any case, a gender-sensitive approach and analysis is needed to provide the best and tailored response to each victim. SP can support gender experts' action by offering law-enforcement specific advice.
- Training and mentoring constitute crucial aspects both for the Stability Policing Units and Indigenous Police Forces. CRSV specific actions and best-practices should be emphasized and be implemented in the Lessons Learned process. Host Nations should also be included in the pre-deployment trainings to align activities and continuously raise awareness.
- Finally, the Four Rs approach should be implemented in SP missions when CRSV is encountered: Recognize, Respond, Record and Refer. In an executive policing role, responses by SP operators vary greatly from those of other NATO forces and a specific legal framework (i.e., powers of arrest, search etc.) must reflect the required mandate.

COMBATTING TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS (CTHB)

Trafficking in Human Beings (THB) is condemned as a crime that constitutes a serious violation of human rights.

Trafficking means the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat of use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purposes of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others, or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices like slavery, servitude or the removal of organs. THB can be used for both economic and political advantages. In this view, economic advantages of THB are more straightforward such as creating cheap labour for exploitation, avoidance of taxes, generating illegal revenue. THB can furthermore be used as a coercive tool for political reasons, to enforce political positions, and governments might weaponize THB while closing an eye to other similar crimes.

The Alliance implemented a related zero-tolerance policy on human trafficking, which was endorsed at the Istanbul Summit in June 2004[13]. The preexisting policy defined the relevant context and aimed to reinforce efforts on countering CTHB while the 2023 update identified policies on other CCTs, such as CRSV and CAAC, as important pillars to CTHB. The recently updated policy also followed a similar framework as the other policies for CCTs and added preventing THB, responding to THB, reporting and information sharing, education and training sections. It is crucial to highlight that the new policy also outlines important guiding principles in the case of encountering victims and survivors. This updated policy also mentions the provision of emergency first response including medical assistance by NATO in extreme cases, in which other actors are unable to reach victims.

Trafficking in Human Beings is a transnational problem, and it requires a multilateral action to be defeated[14]. Europol is one of the active tools for CTHB and during the first day presentation, its representative Mr. Ellero firstly drew attention to the difference among human trafficking and migrant smuggling. The primary difference revolves around a key concept: consent. Migrants not only consent but seek to illegally cross a border, while in the case of THB, consent is mostly absent and irrelevant. According to the 2022 data, sexual exploitation victims constituted 67% of THB cases and it was followed by labour exploitation with 24%. During her speech, Ms. Fellin also highlighted that when THB is mentioned she is thinking about saving people from being trafficked for illicit purposes. Europol develops dedicated projects to counter trafficking in human beings, such as Project Phoenix, which enables them to have a dedicated database on victims and perpetrators, money flow, and evidence to document fraud. The continuous update of information tools enhances intelligence gathering and enables a higher rate of success. Mr. Ellero also highlighted that having worldwide international cooperation tools such as Joint Investigation Teams are required to be more effective, and Europol is working on that through operational, strategic and working agreements.

The discussion during the syndicate of Combatting Trafficking in Human Beings identified the following findings:

- In THB recognizing and differentiating various root causes, push and pull factors is relevant to counter this crime:
  - o Root causes include poverty, danger from conflict or instability, presence of organized crime, presence of terrorist groups, lack of rule of law and lack of human rights.
  - o Push factors can be political instability, militarism, civil unrest, internal armed conflict, military intervention/invasion of a third party, disruptive economic or health crises, climate change and natural disasters.
  - o Pull factors might be false promises such as higher salary, better quality of life, social / welfare / economic stability.
- Combatting THB, which includes prevention, is particularly significant when countering transnational or organized crime and terrorist groups as it constitutes a relevant source of revenue. THB is directly linked to document and benefit fraud, drug production and trafficking, weapon trafficking, property crimes, money laundering and facilitation of illegal migration.

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[13] And which was updated during the Vilnius Summit in 2023
[14] The policy that was updated in Vilnius also reaffirms the importance of cooperation of multiple actors and "two-way staff level" engagement on CTHB.

- Stopping THB can decrease exploitation, the connected crime rates, funding of criminal activities and networks, as well as weakening their position and power.
- THB requires a comprehensive approach and should not be seen on its own but rather be interpreted through other identified cross-cutting topics. Particularly, "Building Integrity" i.e., countering/fighting corruption tools and methods can be applied to reduce or stop the illegal cash flows related to THB.
- THB is a multidomain phenomenon and it is strictly connected with hybrid threats[15]. Hybrid warfare entails an interplay of conventional and non-conventional threats that might be both military and non-military including disinformation, cyber-attacks or economic pressure. Therefore, a comprehensive approach including military, political, law enforcement and intelligence instruments is required to identify who is supposed to fight against whom, in which ways and which actions should be taken to achieve objectives. The law enforcement bit would be the focus of SP, employable in one or both of its missions or reinforcing and/or temporarily replacing the IPF.

In the recently updated CTHB Policy, NATO recognizes the unique value that can be added to CTHB through specialized skills of Military Police and Gendarmerie type forces.

After productive syndicate sessions on this cross-cutting topic, the following takeaways for SP were identified:

- A strong mandate is required enabling to carry out all necessary police functions in missions encompassing Stability Policing, including in a CTHB role.
- A clear and solid doctrine would improve the implementation of Stability Policing throughout missions; without an official comprehensive document that touches the above-mentioned aspects, conducting Stability Policing will be challenging.
- Multilateral cooperation should be increased, specifically on the policing dimension of CTHB; such an increased partnership is also conducive to better following financial flows throughout different countries, enhancing judiciary partnership, interagency cooperation through a common reporting system.
- To have a multilateral cooperation, it is essential to make sure that each actor is at the same level in terms of training and knowledge. To achieve this, there should be a common training among NATO actors and those with whom NATO cooperates.
- Pre-deployment training about the culture, situation, judicial system in the HN is necessary to avoid or to decrease the probability of difficulties; outcomes can be enhanced by adding practical examples of past cases, conducting exercises also for third party countries which are unfamiliar with local situations, or envisioning possible scenarios of confrontations during border controls of a country in which THB occurs.
- The language barrier when it comes to THB is an important obstacle to tackle. When the victims, survivors or informants become aware of the trafficking situation, they should be able to talk to someone or report through a channel without facing the language barriers. Hence, multilingual reporting channels, hotlines and media are required to reach every victim.
- The evolution of THB results in a larger involvement and the use of cyberspace, particularly in the recruitment phase of this crime. Therefore, cyber patrolling

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[15] A type of threat that combines conventional, irregular and asymmetric activities in time and space. NATO agreed.

activities should be reinforced, boosting the use of Emerging and Disruptive Technologies (EDTs), preventing a loss of technological advantage against traffickers.
- SP is an important instrument that can contribute to CTHB, in particularly training and assisting the indigenous police forces including in the following areas: Community Policing / Surveillance, Reporting / Info-sharing, Law Enforcement Intelligence (LEINT), dedicated investigations on criminal networks, Border Control, Building Integrity, and Cyber Patrolling.
- Finally, Stability Policing Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) can also help in mentoring and advising:
   o Ministry of Interior officials in the drafting of dedicated THB policies. A comprehensive approach and the gathering of inputs from various stakeholders during the policy drafting process is crucial. SP SMEs can offer unique expertise, qualifications, and knowledge on the topic, contribute with inputs to identify and fill gaps providing diverse aspects and proposals.
   o Ministry of Justice officials in the identification of THB legislative loopholes: in this view, SP can support the rule of law and protect the human rights. SP SMEs can assess and identify legislative gaps on this matter, particularly shortcomings hampering investigations, more efficiently.

CHILDREN AND ARMED CONFLICT (CAAC)

Children are highly vulnerable in conflict situations, often becoming victims of indiscriminate attacks and subjected to sexual violence. It is crucial to give special attention to this matter, as innocent individuals who should not bear the consequences of adults' actions. The protection of children was first addressed at the 2012 Wales Summit and the Military Guidelines on Children and Armed Conflict (CAAC) developed later that year to integrate UNSCR and related guidelines into military doctrine, training and operational planning and conduct. Although national governments hold primary responsibility for protecting children, NATO's 2015 policy document on the *Protection of Children in Armed Conflict – Way Forward* identified four key priorities in consultation with the United Nations:
- Political Dialogue;
- Training of Allies and Operational Partner Nations' forces;
- Awareness raising of local security forces; and
- Reporting Violations and support of monitoring.

NATO's *Protection of Children in Armed Conflict – Way Forward* intersects with other human security-related frameworks and cross-cutting topics, both within and beyond the context of Stability Policing in NATO. During the conference's first day, Ms. Fellin highlighted the importance of defending children, provisions found in the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1612 (2005) that identifies the following six grave violations:

- Killing and maiming of children;
- Recruitment or use of children;
- Rape or other sexual violence;
- Abduction;
- Attacks on schools or hospitals; and

- Denial of humanitarian access for children.

During her opening speech, Ms. Fellin announced that NATO HQ was in the final stages of negotiations for an overarching policy on Children and armed conflict (CAAC)[16].

NATO and the UN, along with its children-focused agency UNICEF, strive to protect children from such violence. Mr. Loukarelis, the UNICEF representative, underscored the significance of the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) established in 2005 by the UN, documenting grave violations against children in armed conflict situations. Since its creation, the UN has verified over 315,000 grave violations against children committed by parties to conflict, in more than 30 conflict situations, indicating that the actual toll is unfortunately expected to be even larger. Notably, girls are disproportionately affected by rape and sexual violence, while boys are primarily abducted for recruitment and use by armed forces and groups. Understanding the perpetrators, their targets and the geographical areas of those crimes is essential to effectively address children's needs, protect them and reduce the push and pull factors of violations against children.

The role of Stability Policing is crucial in protecting children in armed conflict, pushing the syndicate participants to come up with interesting points and ideas regarding how NATO SP can mitigate harm to children from its own actions and that of others. For the sake of clarity, most ideas were organized along the four key priorities mentioned above:

Political Dialogue
This area of CAAC brings out the high necessity of cooperation between NATO and other stakeholders on the ground, including reliable NGOs, civil society actors and UN agencies. Participants emphasized the importance of early creation of networks of stakeholders at high level preceding operations ("Day-Zero-Integration), highlighting the significance of planning and creating lines of coordination, enabling to deploy and immediately start operating, without having to start from scratch in setting up required mechanisms. Civil and military relations should be embraced to foster collaboration. As mentioned repeatedly in syndicates, a comprehensive approach directly involving SP was suggested, institutionalizing a relationship with children protection agencies.

Training of Allies and Operational Partner Nations' forces
Adequate resource allocation and designing scenarios based on best practices and lessons learned are essential. Trainings from individual through collective level and exercises should prepare NATO SPU to recognize and handle situations involving child soldiers. Participants emphasized the need to identify personal triggers in training such as exposure to situations that can cause PTSD in the troops, even after they've been extensively trained before deployment (e.g. Afghanistan). It is crucial to convince the military leadership to engage in combatting the six grave violations against children in situations of armed conflicts. Therefore, military personnel, in particular

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[16] The policy was presented and adopted at the Vilnius Summit in July 2023.

commanders, should be trained to recognize and address those grave violations when participating in NATO-led missions and operations.

Awareness raising of local security forces
Participants discussed the SP reinforcement or training of local police and security forces and the need to raise awareness on child protection issues. Building trust, links and connections on the ground can serve as a preventive tool for the six grave violations and other serious violations or abuses against children, facilitating the identification by the local population and local security forces. The latter should also be aware and trained to keep up with the evolution of technology, particularly in the cyber domain, which represents a growing platform for various crimes targeting children (e.g., recruited as soldiers or human-trafficked).

Reporting Violations and support of monitoring
With their forensic experience, SP forces can be an important actor in collecting evidence of crimes committed against children, thus enabling the pursuit of perpetrators. It is crucial to establish mechanisms and procedures coherent with the United Nations' Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) to ensure effective interaction and reliability between different mechanisms. This point emerged from the general confusion around reporting and monitoring measures and frameworks, which often differ when organizations don't coordinate. A reporting mechanism implementation and monitoring plan should be developed, to facilitate information sharing and prevention of harm to children.
This point was emphasized in the recently agreed 2023 policy on Children and Armed Conflict, within a new, harmonized framework common to the updated CTHB one, consisting of four parts:
- Preventing Violations against Children in Armed Conflict / trafficking in human beings
- Responding to Violations against Children in Armed Conflict / to trafficking in human beings
- Reporting and Information Sharing
- Education and Training.

Within prevention and awareness, the new policy mentioned the development and use of CAAC Risk Assessment, using the appropriate analytical and reporting tools to "understand the level of and mitigate risk" involving "*internal and external expertise*"; SP can contribute to the assessment of those risks from a law enforcement perspective.

In addition to the four priorities, SP should identify early-warnings and use available indicators, also to prevent the recruitment of children in the first place. This includes measures to prevent violence and internal ethnic conflicts through the presence and active interactions of SP with the local population.

Like for PoC and other CCTs, it is essential to understand the human or local environment and for SP to assess the operational context to operate effectively. Establishing connections with local populations and social and host nations services is crucial to be aware of potential threats to children and build trust with the communities. It was highlighted that credibility and trust between SP and local communities are essential.

Participants identified the protection of critical sites as another important aspect. SPUs should contribute to protect critical sites when in their mandates, such as to safeguard hospitals, schools and other political, social, or cultural sites where children may gather. This includes securing routes used for essential activities such as access to hospitals or transportation to school. This concept aligns with the idea of *Facilitating access to basic needs (FABN)* within the Protection of Civilians framework.

Finally, the discussion touched on the scope of application of measures protecting children in armed conflict, and the significance of universally defined indicators, such as age thresholds. While NATO did not have an official stance on the question and used the United Nations' age threshold of 18 within doctrine and training at the time of the conference, there is a need in SP executive missions for a precise limit to distinguish children from adults. The NATO CAAC policy presented and adopted in Vilnius provided a more precise view on this matter, defining a child as "any human being below the age of 18 years"[17].

CONCLUDING REMARKS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The conference emphasized the critical role of a harmonized overall approach and of interoperability when tackling current and future security challenges also from a HS perspective. Therefore, it is essential to eliminate inconsistencies and seek to attain clarity at all levels on Human Security. The outcomes of the conference highlighted the need for a military-strategic HS Framework. Adopting a single overarching HS policy including relevant CCTs, with a single action plan and reporting line was discussed, as they would facilitate the implementation of a harmonized HS approach. Flexibility was a recurring theme to provide a framework allowing for commanders' freedom of action, while allowing for a case-based approach. The conference outcomes provided the following recommendations for the role of SP within HS. Although this is an extensive list, continuous updates and research are required on the role of SP to confront tomorrow's challenges effectively. A question that was not answered pertains the role and requirements of SP within the existing framework for NATO in peacekeeping and vigilance settings.

It should be noted that the CAAC policy and the updated CTHB policy that were recently adopted during the Vilnius Summit address some of the identified recommendations during the targeted syndicate sessions. Although the changes have been made so far only for the two mentioned CCTs, this partial approval confirms that the conference's findings align with the Alliance's agenda, approach to HS, and priorities. Therefore, the recommendations on the other CCTs can also be used as an input for further policy or guidelines development and adaptation, including the policy about Cultural Property Protection.

Recommendations for the role of Stability Policing within Human Security
NATO operations, missions, and North Atlantic Council approved activities in (armed) conflicts and crises benefit from the inclusion of Stability Policing (SP) to respond to

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[17] NATO Policy on Children and Armed Conflict (2023)

police-and justice-related needs of the Host Nation, its governance, the Indigenous Police Forces, and its populace also in a Human Security perspective.

In particular:

- NATO at all levels from political to tactical – including from an SP point of view - requires a harmonized approach to Human Security (HS) and related Cross-Cutting-Topics (CCTs);
- An executive SP mandate, i.e., conducting law enforcement activities, demands a provision on the use and threat of the use of force and coercion measures, which is lacking in current HS-related policies and in AJP-01;
- The responsibility for ensuring HS lays primarily with the Host Nation. SP as a military capability enables the presence and expertise of law enforcement whenever and wherever required by the Alliance also to deter, prevent and investigate crimes within Human Security and the related CCTs'. This is attained through the two main missions of SP, namely reinforcement of the indigenous police forces (capacity building) and their temporary replacement (executive policing).
  - o Reinforcement[18] consists in creating new or improving the performance of existing Host Nation law enforcement, until the latter or follow-on forces can assume relevant responsibilities. SP can monitor, mentor, reform, advise, and train and partner with.
  - o Temporary replacement (substitution) bridges the period in which these forces are reaching desired levels of performance.
- The complexity of HS necessitates a wide range of military and non-military actors operating in a comprehensive approach with whom SP can successfully interact, thanks to its nature as a military capability and its civilian-oriented and population-centric perspective. SP and other HS-related actors intervening in a crisis should be able to start operating immediately in the so-called 'Day Zero' integration. Agreements and mechanisms (e.g., training, exchanging information) should have been prepared and tested beforehand.
- SP can support the understanding of the local/human environment, in fact SP Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) can contribute to assess, identify, and geo-locate threats and opportunities in local contexts bringing the law-enforcement perspective.
- Attacks within Human Security or within one of the CCTs constitute crimes and might be indicators of even more severe violations, such as genocide or ethnic cleansing. Preventing a crime from happening or stopping it in its initial stage is always preferable. SP activities include presence patrols, actively engaging and establishing trust with local populations and stakeholders as well as enforcing a credible deterrence.
- The SP response to crimes that have already happened entails investigating such crimes, pursuing/arresting perpetrators (criminals, insurgents, terrorists), gathering evidence, dismantle criminal networks, as well as seizing their assets including illicit capital.
- During a crisis, Host Nations might need support on managing and controlling borders, an activity that SP can perform, participate in or support HN capacity.

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[18] SP Reinforcement differs from the NATO Agreed term for reinforcement, defined as The process of relocating and/or reallocating forces to strengthen military capabilities as a means of conflict prevention, crisis management or defence.

- SP capabilities can perform or support the collection and analysis of law-enforcement and specifically HS-crime-related information, feeding the intelligence cycle through Law Enforcement Intelligence (LEINT) thus improving situational awareness for the whole force.
- A common approach on SP would enhance the resilience of NATO Nations both as single entities and as elements of the Alliance, against military and non-military threats and challenges, including hybrid ones.
- A concrete framework incorporating SP considerations at the strategy level, would allow to be designed, and forces to be generated in a way that recognizes the value-added of SP.
- Common SP-focused trainings in accordance with NATO standards would increase military and civilian actors' awareness, facilitate interactions and foster an overall more effective and cooperative performance.

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NATO Policy on Conflict Related Sexual Violence (2021)

NATO Strategic Concept (2022)

NATO Summit Communiqué (2023)

North Atlantic Treaty (1949)

ANNEXES

Participating organisations

Arma dei Carabinieri

Atlantic Forum

Bocconi University

British Army

Carabinieri Vicenza

Centre of Excellence for Stability Police Units

Civil-Military Interaction Unit, Network Politics

College of William and Mary

Defence General Staff

European Centre of Excellence for Countering Hybrid Threats

European Gendarmerie Force – Permanent Headquarters

EUROPOL

Finnish Defence Forces International Centre

French Gendarmerie Nationale

Guardia Civil

Guardia di Finanza

HQ Allied Rapid Reaction Corps

International Committee of the Red Cross

Istituto Affari Internazionali

Italian Committee for UNICEF

John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Koninklijke Marechaussee (Royal Marechaussee)

Multinational CIMIC Group

Mondo Internazionale APS

NATO Allied Command Transformation

NATO Allied Joint Force Command Naples

NATO Allied Land Command

NATO Assistant Secretary General

NATO CIMIC Centre of Excellence

NATO Defence College

NATO Military Police Centre of Excellence

NATO Rapid Deployable Corps Italy

NATO School Oberammergau

NATO Security Force Assistance Centre of Excellence

NATO Stability Policing Centre of Excellence

NATO Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe

Norwegian University of Life Sciences

Sapienza Università

Saxion University

SEFAT

Stimson Center

UK Army 11th Security Force Assistance Brigade Outreach Group

United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute

United States Air Force

United States Army Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations Command

United States Army Peacekeeping & Stability Operations Institute

United States Department of Defence Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering

United States Marines Corps Manpower & Reserve Affairs Headquarters

United States Marine Corps University

United States Special Operations Command

Università degli Studi di Genova

Young Atlantic Treaty Association

List of Acronyms

A: Army

ACO: Allied Command Operations

ACT: Allied Command Transformation

AJP: Allied Joint Doctrine

CAAC: Children and Armed Conflict

CC: Carabinieri

CCT: Cross-Cutting Topics

CHMR-AP: Civilian Harm Mitigation and Response Action Plan

CoE: Centre of Excellence

CPP: Cultural Property Protection

CRSV: Conflict Related Sexual Violence

C-SASE: Contribute to a Safe and Secure Environment

CTHB: Combatting Trafficking in Human Beings

CZE: Czech Republic

EDT: Emerging and Disruptive Technologies

ESP: Spain

EUROPOL: The European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation

FABN: Facilitating Access to Basic Needs

FOGO: Flag Officer General Officer

FRA: France

GC: Guardia Civil

GN: Gendarmerie Nationale

GTFs: Gendarmerie-Type-Forces

HRL: Human Rights Law

HQ: Headquarters

ICRC: International Committee of the Red Cross

IHL: International Humanitarian Law

IO: International Organization

IPF: Indigenous Police Forces

ITA: Italy

J: Jandarma

KMar: Koninklijke Marechaussee (Royal Military Police)

LEINT: Law Enforcement Intelligence

LL: Lessons Learned

MC2HS: Military Contribution to Human Security

NATO: The North Atlantic Treaty Organization

NGO: Non-Governmental Organization

MH: Mitigate Harm

MoJ: Ministry of Justice

MRM: Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism

MSU: Multinational Specialised Unit

NLD: The Netherlands

NSPCoE: NATO Stability Policing Centre of Excellence

PoC: Protection of Civilians

PTSD: Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder

RL: Refugee Law

SHAPE: Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe

SME: Subject Matter Expert

SP: Stability Policing

THB: Trafficking in Human Beings

TUR: Türkiye

UNSCR: United Nations Security Council Resolution

UHE: Understanding the Human Environment

UN: United Nations

UNICEF: United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund

VP: Vojenská Policie

Generic questions asked to all syndicates:

- NATO in its AJP-01 looks at Human Security inspired by the UN approach and states "A.27 The notion of human security is distinct from the responsibility to protect and does not entail the threat of the use of force or coercive measures."
- What are the implications for Stability Policing? Should AJP-01 be amended?
- If and when a dedicated policy about Human Security is going to be developed, should a "Stability dimension" be added (as in the policy for the Protection of Civilians)?
- If and when a dedicated policy about Children and Armed Conflict is going to be updated, should a "Stability dimension" be added (as in the policy for the Protection of Civilians)?
- In NATO a concept defines a capability thoroughly looking at 4 different aspects, namely Doctrine, Organization, Training, Materiel, Leadership development, Personnel, Facilities, Interoperability (DOTMLPFI). In such a document, Human Security and Cross-cutting-Topic specific links to SP would be described.
- Should NATO develop a dedicated concept on Stability Policing including HS and CCT-related content?

CCT specific questions:

PoC

- Can you elaborate on the measures NATO has taken in terms of SP to mitigate harm to civilians? Consider both missions of reinforcement and temporary replacement of the Indigenous Police Forces?
- The POC Policy dates back from 2016. Since then, have you noted any flaws, inconsistencies in the integration of the PoC into NATO and NATO activities, particularly from an SP perspective? In your opinion, what areas or aspects of the SP dimension within the NATO Policy for the Protection of Civilians can be further advanced or strengthened? Are there any specific gaps or challenges that need to be addressed to improve the effectiveness of that aspect of the policy?
- Collaboration with other actors and agencies is essential for SP just as for an efficient and more sustainable POC (as stipulated in the policy). Therefore, how have you or would you like to see NATO address this in different environments (missions, operations, training or in HQ for instance)?
- From an SP perspective, what synergies exist between the implementation of the NATO Policy for the Protection of Civilians and the promotion of Human Security? How can the policy effectively address the root causes of insecurity and vulnerability, beyond immediate physical threats to civilians?
- How can the implementation of SP in the spirit of the NATO Policy for the Protection of Civilians contribute to long-term peacebuilding and conflict prevention efforts? How can it address the underlying grievances and drivers of conflict that pose risks to the security and well-being of civilian populations?

CRSV

- In your opinion, what are the main challenges for Stability Policing in preventing and addressing Conflict Related Sexual Violence?
- Can you elaborate on the differences between sexual harassment vs sexual exploitation and abuse vs CRSV? Do you think the different concepts are widely known or there is still the need of improvement? Consider both SP missions of reinforcement and temporary replacement of the Indigenous Police Forces.
- What are the legal frameworks and international conventions that aim to fight Conflict Related Sexual Violence SP practitioners should consider/implement?
- In your opinion, what are the common misconceptions, weak-points or myths surrounding a role for SP in CRSV and how they can be fought?
- How can national governments, local communities / organizations promote gender equality and women's empowerment to prevent CRSV in an Sp perspective?
- How can SP support survivors of CRSV? What is the role of Stability Policing in preventing and responding to CRSV?
- What specific measures can Stability Policing forces take to enhance the safety of survivors?
- On the NATO Policy on CRSV, under the responding to CRSV section there is this step: "Do not interrogate or interview victims/survivors" What is your interpretation of this policy from an SP point of view? Do you think this should be readdressed specifically for SP?

CTHB

- What measures are employed by NATO to make sure that its personnel involved in SP operations are not involved with cand not complicit in trafficking-related activities?
- Given that Human Trafficking rates are considerably high and represents major income for the crime networks, hence resourcing other types of crime, how do you see a role for SP? Consider both its missions of reinforcement and temporary replacement of the Indigenous Police Forces
- Migrant smuggling and human trafficking are widely confused. Given that victim identification is crucial in the context of CTHB, what kind of differences are there in terms of SP while dealing with such issue?
- What are the primary challenges faced by SP forces in addressing trafficking in human beings, particularly in conflict and post-conflict zones? Could you give some examples from the past lessons?
- How can SP forces engage with relevant actors such as international organizations, NGOs etc. on CTHB?

CAAC

- What does Stability Policing do in the protection of children in armed conflict?
- Can you elaborate on the measures NATO SP has taken or could take to mitigate harm to children, particularly in terms of harm mitigation from its own actions?
- How familiar are you with UNSCR 1612 (2005)? Can you elaborate on SP implications, considerations, issues about the 6 "grave violations" against

children that it identified give examples of ways you encountered such situations and went about them (preventively and/or retrospectively)?
- What is the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) and how would SP personnel apply it? Have you seen any inconsistencies in NATO's use of the MRM in general or regarding SP?
- How does the NATO Policy for the Protection of Civilians intersect with other human security-related frameworks and cross-cutting topics, both within and outside the NATO SP context? How do they intersect?
- UNICEF present at the Oslo June 2023 CAAC conference as a co-organizer gave recommendations to governments on how to better protect the latter. UNICEF Executive Director said, "Protection services for children must build upon existing systems and community structures, and support children's rights, participation, and their best interests". Even though NATO is not the primarily responsible agent for the protection of children (national governments are), how can it use its system and specifically SP and both its missions (reinforcement and temporary replacement of the Indigenous Police Forces) to do more for CAAC?