NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANISATION

RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY ORGANISATION





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RTO MEETING PROCEEDINGS

MP-HFM-172

Social Sciences Support to Military Personnel Engaged in Counter-Insurgency and Counter-Terrorism Operations

(Soutien en sciences sociales apporté au personnel militaire engagé dans des opérations de contre-insurrection et de contre-terrorisme)

Final Report of the NATO-Russia Human Factors and Medicine Research Task Group 172.



Published November 2011



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Final Report of the NATO-Russia Human Factors and Medicine Research Task Group 172.

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The Research and Technology Organisation (RTO) of NATO

RTO is the single focus in NATO for Defence Research and Technology activities. Its mission is to conduct and promote co-operative research and information exchange. The objective is to support the development and effective use of national defence research and technology and to meet the military needs of the Alliance, to maintain a technological lead, and to provide advice to NATO and national decision makers. The RTO performs its mission with the support of an extensive network of national experts. It also ensures effective co-ordination with other NATO bodies involved in R&T activities.

RTO reports both to the Military Committee of NATO and to the Conference of National Armament Directors. It comprises a Research and Technology Board (RTB) as the highest level of national representation and the Research and Technology Agency (RTA), a dedicated staff with its headquarters in Neuilly, near Paris, France. In order to facilitate contacts with the military users and other NATO activities, a small part of the RTA staff is located in NATO Headquarters in Brussels. The Brussels staff also co-ordinates RTO's co-operation with nations in Middle and Eastern Europe, to which RTO attaches particular importance especially as working together in the field of research is one of the more promising areas of co-operation.

The total spectrum of R&T activities is covered by the following 7 bodies:

- AVT Applied Vehicle Technology Panel
- HFM Human Factors and Medicine Panel
- IST Information Systems Technology Panel
- NMSG NATO Modelling and Simulation Group
- SAS System Analysis and Studies Panel
- SCI Systems Concepts and Integration Panel
- SET Sensors and Electronics Technology Panel

These bodies are made up of national representatives as well as generally recognised 'world class' scientists. They also provide a communication link to military users and other NATO bodies. RTO's scientific and technological work is carried out by Technical Teams, created for specific activities and with a specific duration. Such Technical Teams can organise workshops, symposia, field trials, lecture series and training courses. An important function of these Technical Teams is to ensure the continuity of the expert networks.

RTO builds upon earlier co-operation in defence research and technology as set-up under the Advisory Group for Aerospace Research and Development (AGARD) and the Defence Research Group (DRG). AGARD and the DRG share common roots in that they were both established at the initiative of Dr Theodore von Kármán, a leading aerospace scientist, who early on recognised the importance of scientific support for the Allied Armed Forces. RTO is capitalising on these common roots in order to provide the Alliance and the NATO nations with a strong scientific and technological basis that will guarantee a solid base for the future.

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Glossary of Terms

ANAM Automated Neuropsychological Assessment Models

AQ Al Qaeda

ARW Advanced Research Workshop

BM Battlemind

CBR Chemical, Biological and Radiological

COIN Counter Insurgency

COMEDS Committee of the Chiefs of Military Medical Sciences in NATO

CT Counter Terrorism

DoD Department of Defense

EMERCOM All-Russian Center of Emergency and Radiation Medicine

GHQ General Health Questionnaire
GMC General Medical Council

HFM Human Factors and Medicine Panel

IRA Irish Republican Army

JI Jemaah Islamiya

KPI Key Performance Indicators Analysis and Visualization Software

MOU Memorandum Of Understanding

M&S Modeling and Simulation

MS Mississippi Scale (measures PTSD)

NATO North Atlantic Treaty Organisation

NGO Non-Governmental Organization

NWC Naval War College
PCL Psychopathy Checklist

PHQ Patient Health Questionnaire
PTSD Post Traumatic Stress Disorder

QRT Quick Reaction Teams
QTT Quality Total Index

R&D Research and Development

RTA Research and Technology Agency
RTG Research and Technology Group
SACS Scale for Assessing Coping Skills

SPSC Science for Peace and Security Committee
TRADOC US Army Training and Doctrine Command

WHO World Health Organization

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14. Abstract

"Social Sciences Support to Military Personnel Engaged in Counter-Insurgency and Counter-Terrorism Operations" is a report based on the NATO-Russia Human Factors and Medicine Research Task Group (172) Workshop held in St Petersburg, Russia, June 18-20, 2009. The group consisted of NATO member representatives meeting with their Russian and Ukrainian counterparts and was an extension of previous NATO-Russia activities held in Belgium at NATO headquarters, an Advanced Research Workshop held in Portugal, and the NATO-Russia Advisory Group, all occurring since the historic agreement (following 9-11) between NATO and Russia to collaborate on counter-terrorism issues. This report includes findings and models on civilian, diplomatic and military resilience in those exposed to terrorism and counter-insurgency operations. Discussions focus on adequate preparation for combat, prevention of suicide, psychological mal-adaptations and post-traumatic stress disorder in combat veterans focusing on pre-deployment, during and postdeployment as well as the need for cultural awareness programs. Deradicalization and disengagement strategies for imprisoned terrorists are also discussed. Participants share lessons learned by Russia in Chechnya and Afghanistan and by NATO Nations in Iraq and Afghanistan. Support for the continued and future work between NATO and Russia from the NATO Research and Technology Organisation is also discussed.









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