



Assuring Allies by effectively deterring hybrid threats

Assurance and Deterrence Symposium
17 – 18 January 2019

Vlasta Zekulic, PhD
Operational Preparedness
NATO HQ Operations Division

De-Mystifying

What's different ?

- Concept, principles not new – NATO worked on HW since 2009
- New dimensions, means
 - Nationalism, populism, internal fragmentation
 - Complex and increasingly fragile geostrategic environment
 - Advanced technologies
 - Information demand and dependency
- Manipulation and exploitation of peoples fears and insecurities

*“The USSR makes use of carefully harmonized political, economic, financial, ideological and military actions...
the enemy attacks incessantly in all fields which are of vital importance to the peoples and at all weak points offered by the free world...
The enemy aim is to undermine the mutual confidence of the NATO countries and to dissolve NATO from within...”*

FRG working paper C-M(60)22, 1960

“What is it...?”

overt and COVERT activities

highly integrated combination of
conventional and unconventional
means

across the full DIMEFIL

applied by both state
and non-state actors

military,
paramilitary,
irregular and
civilian actors

significantly vary in sophistication and complexity

**directed at an adversary's
vulnerabilities**

creating ambiguity and denial

complicating decision making

Why is 'hybrid' considered a type of warfare?

Goals

- Ambiguity
- Coercion and control

Battlefields

- Perceptions, beliefs, values
- Data

Weapons

- Information, influence
- Corruption

Avoid direct military confrontation, but remain capable to do so

Threat broader than just military, challenging NATO's ability to respond

Example: RUSSIA

Concept → Policy → Action

2013 Value of Science in
Orediction, V. Garasimov

2014 Military Doctrine

2015 National Security Strategy

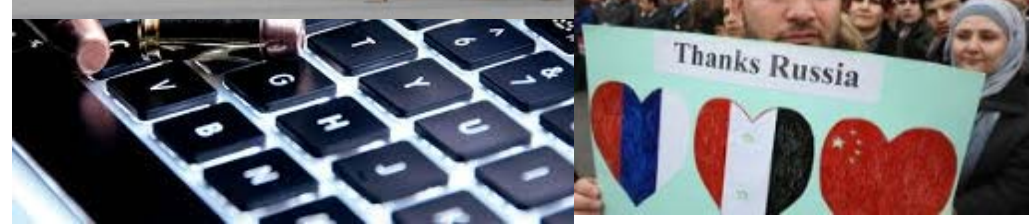
2016 National Plan for Defense of
Russian Federation



2015 Syrian Intervention

Non-kinetic levers of pressure:

- ✓ *Economic and political coercion and subversion*
- ✓ *Cyberattacks*
- ✓ *Information warfare and STRATCOM manipulation*
- ✓ *Targeted use of corruption*



Example: China

1999 “Unrestricted Warfare”

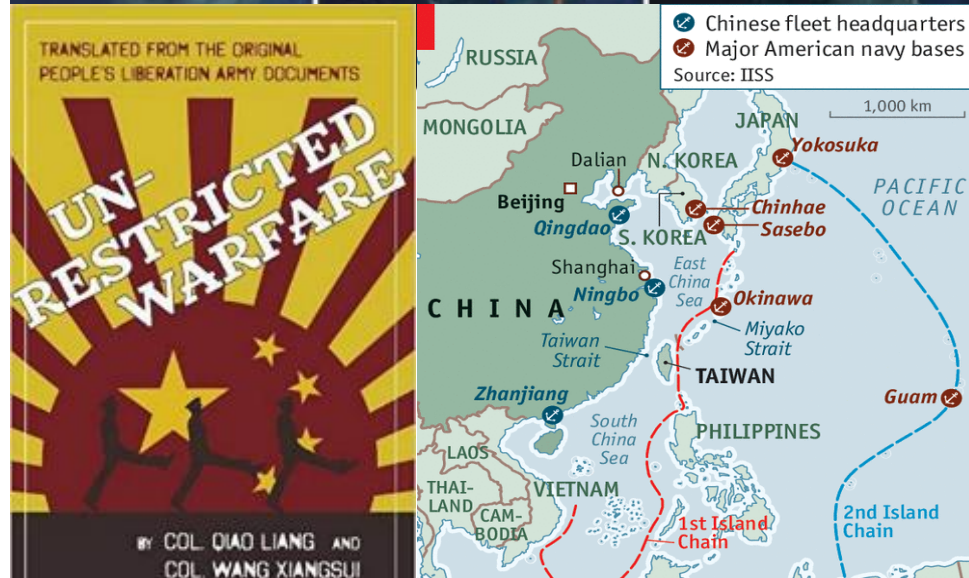
2003 “Three Warfares” doctrine

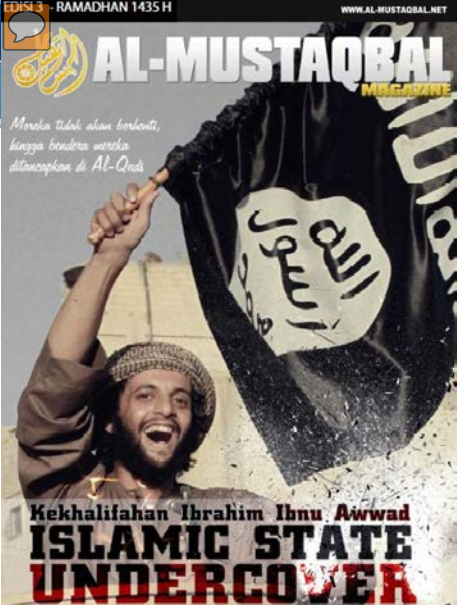
- ✓ *Legal warfare*
- ✓ *Media Warfare*
- ✓ *Psychological warfare*

2010 Economic Blackmail of Japan over maritime collision

2013 Air Defense Identification Zone in the East Chin Sea

2016 New ‘Asymmetric’ National Security Strategy





ISIS Has a Drone Strategy Too
The Pentagon is rushing to develop new technology to fight the group's unmanned aerial vehicles in Iraq.
PATRICK TUCKER | OCT 18, 2016 | TECHNOLOGY

EXAMPLE:

Hybrid model applied by a non-state actors

Vertical escalation
(military sophistication)



Unconventional use of military tools



Horizontal escalation
(use of non-military tools)

Centralized, simultaneous and in the same battlefield

NATO's RESPONSE



COUNTERING HYBRID THREATS

Nations as first targets and first responders
NATO supports, assures and reinforces



- Early identification
- Strengthen relationships and building resilience
- Advance planning
- Education, Training and Exercises

- Horizontal and vertical escalation
- Enabling disruption of the adversaries momentum

THE STRATEGY ON NATO'S ROLE IN COUNTERING HYBRID WARFARE

Internal Focus

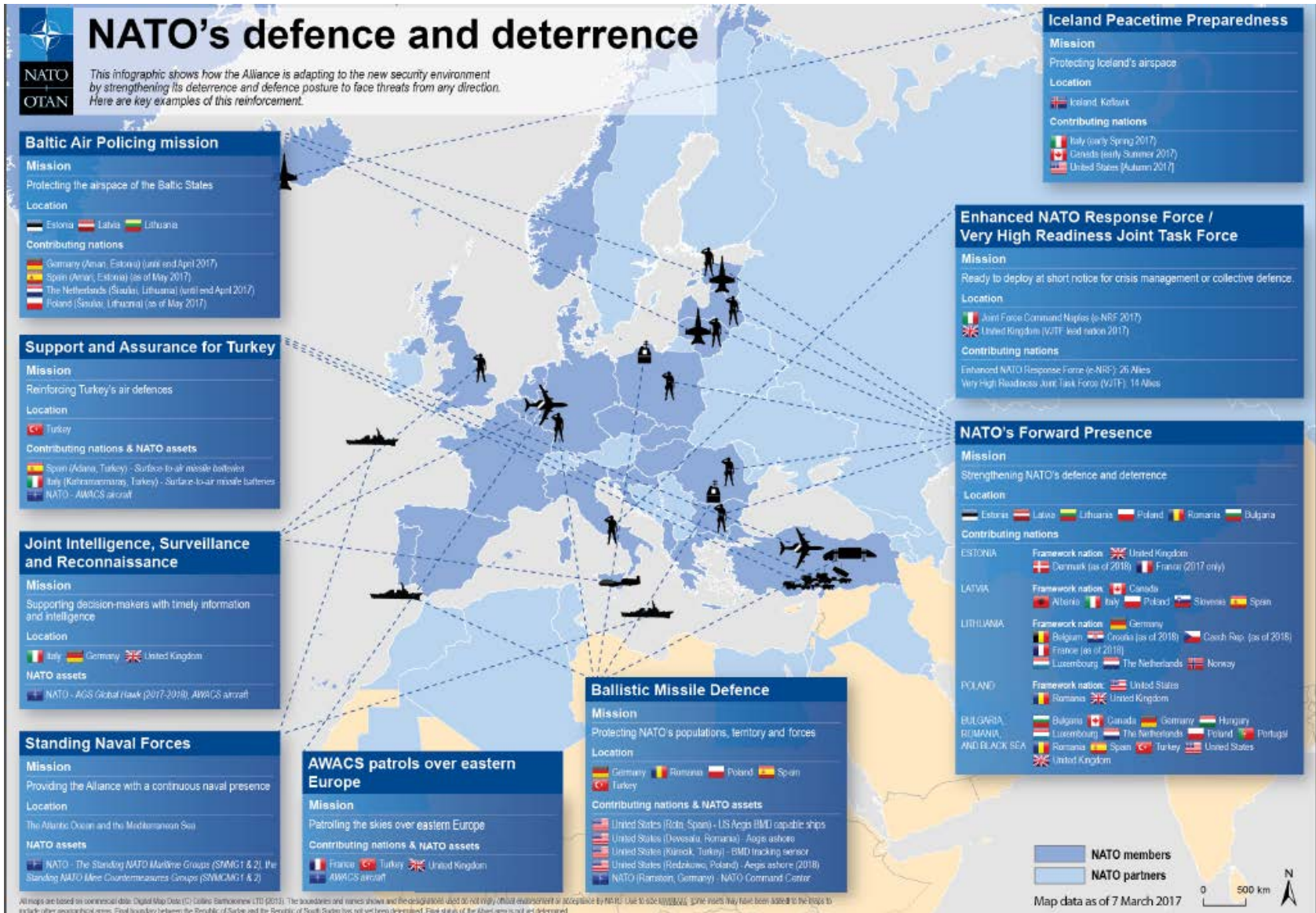
- NATO HQ and NCS to continuously analyse the security environment.
- Inform and enable rapid, timely political decision making.
- Robust strategic communications.
- Integrated civil-military analysis and planning activities
- NCS/NFS to assist Allies in building resilience, and to counter attacks.
- A demanding education, training and exercise program.

External Focus

- No one nation or organization can deal with the totality of HW alone.
- Effective cooperation with partners and international organizations.
- Particularly with EU to further strengthen strategic partnership, reinforcing joint efforts and a common message of NATO and the EU.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Deterrence and Defense functions



All maps are based on continental data. Digital Map Data (© Collins Bartholomew LTD 2013). The boundaries and names shown and the designations used do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by NATO. Use to 500:1000000. Some areas may have been added to the map to include other geographical areas. Final boundary between the Republic of Serbia and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined. Final status of the Abkhaz area is not yet determined.

Preparedness function



Recognizing
and attributing
hybrid actions



Supporting
rapid
assessment
and effective
decision
making



Building
resilience and
the readiness
to resist and
respond to
hybrid
campaigns

NATO Counter Hybrid Support Teams

Identify – Recognize – Attribute

- Tool for improving active management of the response to hybrid threats
- Building on existing mechanism and teams
 - Resilience Advisory Support Teams, Civil Emergency Planning Rapid Reaction teams, Cyber Defense Rapid Response Teams, SOF Liaison Teams
- Main characteristics:
 - Upon request, on case by case basis
 - Assist, advise and support national efforts
 - Civil-military composition

Expertise to be provided in:

- Civil preparedness
- CBRN preparedness
- CI projection
- Tackling propaganda and disinformation campaigns
- Protection of civilians
- Cyber defense
- Energy security
- CT
- (Counter) Intelligence
- Strategic analysis
- Legal aspects
- CIVMIL interactions

**NEW
TOOL**



MISSING PIECE

Effects based and behavior approach to countering hybrid actors

Adversaries actions below the threshold of military response

Knowledge, ability and willingness to respond horizontally

Same level of 'pain' but in different domain

What do we want to do?

vs.

What effect do we need to achieve?

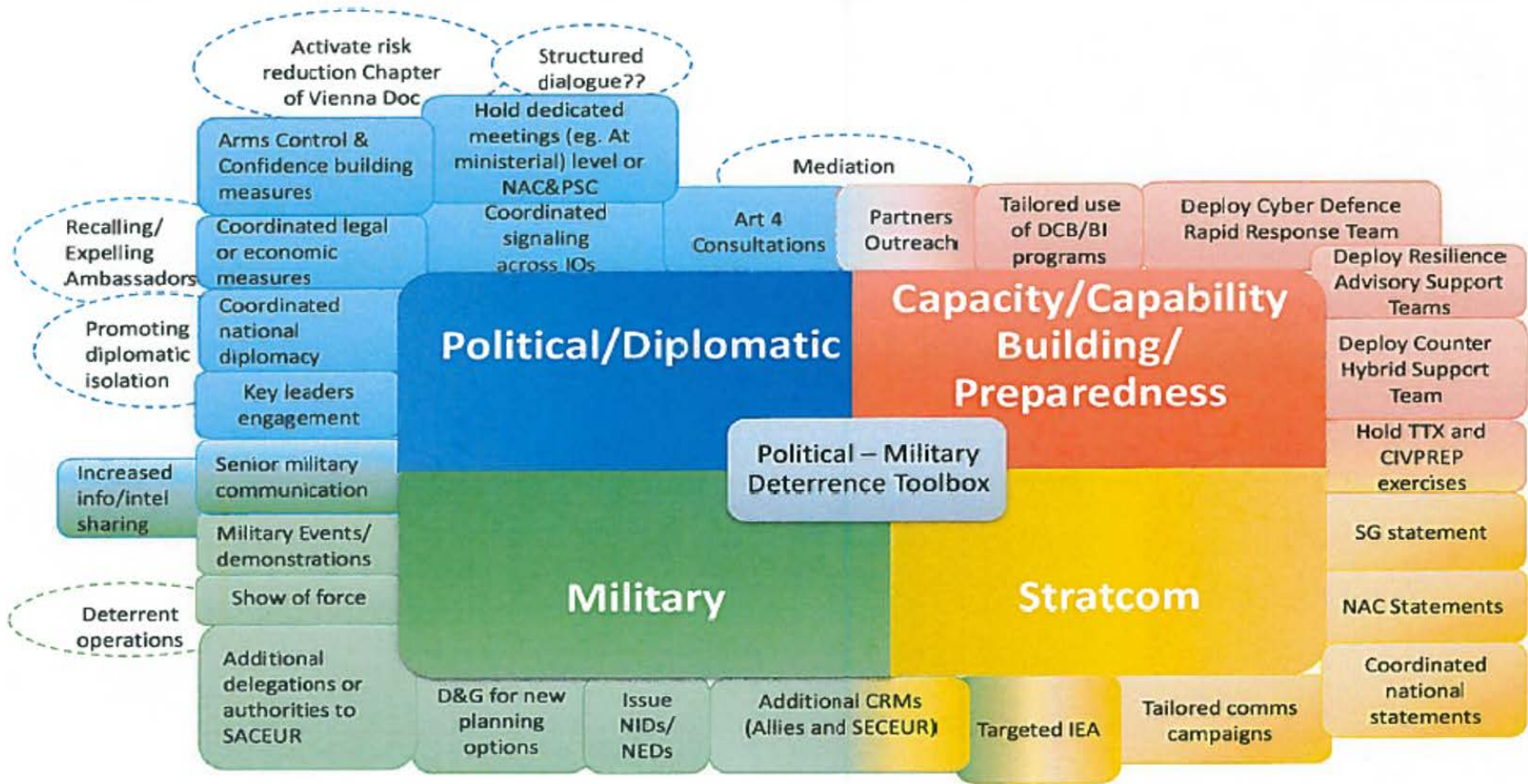
Deterrence objectives

Deliberate, tailored, focused and systematic effects

“It’s an intellectual construct enabled by technological infrastructure.”

LtGen David Deptula

Increasing effectiveness of political and military deterrence tools



Security environment favors hybrid warfare

- Diverse and unpredictable nature of the contemporary threats
- Rise of aggressive state and non-State actors
- Terrorism and organized crime
- Conventional, nuclear and unconventional military threats
- Cyber
- Information operations
- Overt and covert activities with significant variance in sophistication and complexity
- Creating, constraining and maximizing choices

