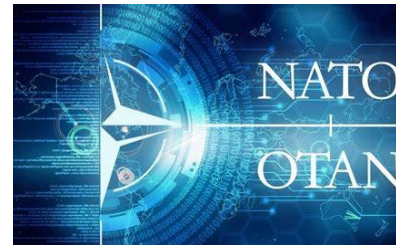


# NATO's Strategic Adaptation to Hybrid Threats and Lessons for the Alliance's Future Resilience

## Project Overview

The security of the Euro-Atlantic area has been challenged in recent years by comprehensive strategies based on a broad, complex, adaptive, and highly integrated combination of conventional and unconventional means, and overt and covert activities. These activities were mostly conducted by military, paramilitary, irregular, and civilian actors and were targeted at achieving (geo) political and strategic objectives.



**“NATO is ready, upon Council decision, to assist an Ally at any stage of a hybrid campaign. In cases of hybrid warfare, the Council could decide to invoke Article 5 of the Washington Treaty, as in the case of armed attack”**



*Unidentified uniformed man in Crimea*

## NATO's Hybrid Threat Strategy

In 2014, the Heads of State and Government at the Wales Summit categorized such comprehensive strategies as hybrid threats and recognized Russia as one of the main practitioners of such strategies. Hybrid threats exploit vulnerabilities, create ambiguity, and ultimately undermine the unity, solidarity, and cohesion that form NATO's cornerstone principles.

Since then, NATO and the Nations have been working towards adapting their structures and processes and developing the mind-set to prepare against, deter, and respond to hybrid threats.





## NATO is Ready

With the promulgation of the Warsaw Summit Declaration in July 2016 and the Brussels Summit Declaration in July 2018, the Alliance made a clear statement on the topic of hybrid threats by highlighting that:

*“NATO is ready, upon Council decision, to assist an Ally at any stage of a hybrid campaign. In cases of hybrid warfare, the Council could decide to invoke Article 5 of the Washington Treaty, as in the case of armed attack”*

(NAC; Brussels Summit Declaration; 11-12 July 2018)



## Strategic Adaptation to Hybrid Threats

In order to support Allied Command Operations’ (ACO) and Allied Command Transformation’s (ACT) continuous efforts to enhance the Alliance’s strategic adaptation to hybrid threats, the JALLC conducted a study to explore what measures NATO and the Nations have taken in recent years to counter hybrid threats and to draw strategic lessons from that analysis that can inform the Alliance’s future adaptation against hybrid threats.

## Conclusions and Recommendations

Based on the project team’s findings and conclusions, the JALLC was able to make recommendations to improve the Alliance’s strategic adaptation to hybrid threats and lessons for the Alliance’s future resilience.

The report is classified and a copy can be requested by contacting the JALLC.



### Project Team

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Colonel Laszlo Toth joined the Hungarian Army in 1977 and he has been working in the JALLC since July 2018 as a military analyst. Prior to arriving at the JALLC he worked as the Head of Lessons Learned of the Hungarian Armed Forces. He has a wide-ranging international career, in particular dealing with peacekeeping and representing the military side of the arms control, as well as confidence and security measures in diplomacy.

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