

Swedish chairmanship priorities for Nordefco 2019

On the 13th of November 2018, the Nordic Ministers of Defence adopted the following vision for enhanced Nordic defence cooperation:

We will improve our defence capability and cooperation in peace, crisis and conflict. We ensure a close Nordic political and military dialogue on security and defence. Acknowledging our different security affiliations, we pursue an agenda based on joint security perspectives, efficient and cost-effective cooperation to strengthen our national defences and the ability to act together.

During the Swedish NORDEFECO chairmanship 2019, we will initiate the work to implement this vision, both by consolidating and further developing ongoing cooperation and Action Plans and by new initiatives. We will discuss how to further develop the Nordic defence cooperation in peace, crisis and conflict. We will continue the efforts to strengthen NORDEFECO as a platform for security policy dialogue and will add value to other regional security cooperation forums with the aim to develop regional security together in a more effective way. We will enhance cooperation and dialogue with Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. We will also continue to develop Nordefco as a platform for cooperation in international operations. We will further monitor and continue work on previous armaments initiatives such as Nordic Combat Uniform and Logistical Preparedness.



During the Swedish chairmanship 2019, special emphasis will be put on the following priorities:

- Highlight and promote Nordic defence cooperation during NORDEFECO's 10th anniversary (2009-2019).
- Enhance the Nordic-Transatlantic relationship.
- Develop knowledge, share experiences and explore possibilities for cooperation within the area of Total Defence.
- Enhance NORDEFECO as a platform for crisis consultation between the Nordic MoDs and explore mechanisms for that purpose.
- Plan, conduct and continue to develop the Arctic Challenge Exercise into a recurring high intensive Air Combat Flag Level Exercise, as decided by the Ministers on the 9th of November 2016.
- Implement the NORECAS MoU and explore the platform Black Carrier Network for broader cooperation.
- Continued implementation and development of cooperation within the framework of the MoU for Easy Access.
- Based on lessons learned from the Nordic Combat Uniform project, finalize Nordic Procurement Guidelines and facilitate dissemination of the guidelines in the Nordic countries.
- Investigate how monitoring and facilitation of armaments cooperation may be enhanced.
- Discuss and if possible coordinate Nordic armaments and defence industry cooperation regarding the European Defence Industrial Development Programme and the European Defence Fund.



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