



February 2, 2010

UPDATE: MOBILIZING NATO FOR AFGHANISTAN AND PAKISTAN

THE CENTER ACCELERATES ITS EFFORTS TO MOBILIZE NATO IN AFGHANISTAN

As the Center’s initiative, *Mobilizing NATO for Afghanistan and Pakistan: Ensuring the Alliance’s Future* continues to progress, the Center has completed its first in a series of reports to promote increased Allied participation in the campaign against extremism in Central and South Asia. While crafting this initial report the Center has engaged a series of senior military officials and representatives from a number of NATO countries.



Adm. James Stavridis, SACEUR and CSPC President and CEO
David Abshire

On Thursday, December 17, Admiral James Stavridis, the NATO Supreme Allied Commander Europe, met with CSPC President and CEO David Abshire and Center Staff to discuss the Center’s project and its draft report, which the Admiral had received from Members of Congress visiting as part of a CODEL during the NATO Parliamentary Assembly meetings. Admiral Stavridis expressed his support for the project, and complemented the Center on their work and the accessibility and accuracy of the report.

On Tuesday January 19, Dr. Abshire led a team to Norfolk to discuss the initiative with the new head of NATO’s Supreme Allied Command-Transformation, French Air Force General Stephane Abrial.

On Friday, January 22, General David Petraeus, Commander of U.S. Central Command, visited CSPC to discuss the project, its methodology, and the Center’s strategy for increasing NATO involvement in Afghanistan.



Gen. David Petraeus, Commander CENT-COM and CSPC President and CEO David Abshire

REPORT ON NATO CAPABILITIES ROLLED-OUT ON CAPITOL HILL

In anticipation of the January 28th international conference on Afghanistan in London, the Center released its first in a series of reports during a January 26th event on Capitol Hill. The event was co-sponsored by US Senators Jeanne Shaheen and Lindsey Graham, and featured project experts Bruce Riedel, James Dobbins, former NATO Ambassadors David Abshire, Robert Hunter and Kurt Volker, and former Secretary of Defense Bruce Weinrod. The event was attended by a number of Ambassadors and representatives from a wide range of NATO countries.

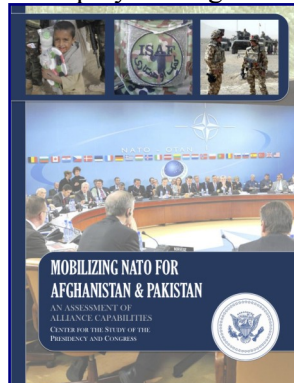


“The biggest loss that would come from a failed state in Afghanistan would be the end of NATO as we know it...NATO’s reputation is on the line.”

-Senator Lindsay Graham, speaking at the CSPC report roll-out.

The report, available on the Center’s website, describes how the Alliance can maximize its contributions and more effectively and efficiently conduct the Afghan and Pakistan effort. It identifies areas of immediate reform that would strengthen the international coalition while also examining key capacities NATO allies have yet to deploy to Afghanistan that would turn the tide

against the extremist insurgency. The report has been very well received both on Capitol Hill and in the SACEUR’s office as a good examination of what Europe is currently doing in Afghanistan as well as providing possible ways for Europe to enhance its commitment.



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