Facts and information
Exercise Trident Juncture 2018 (TRJE18)

Overview
Trident Juncture 2018 is a NATO-led high-visibility exercise to be held in Norway in the autumn of 2018. This will be the largest military exercise in Norway since the 1980s.

At the 2012 Chicago summit, NATO introduced the Connected Forces Initiative. This was followed up with the Readiness Action Plan at the 2014 summit in Wales. The action plan included several major military exercises to be held in Europe. The first high-visibility exercise was held in 2015, in Italy, Portugal and Spain.

The defence of Norway is based on support through NATO’s collective defence. This means that an armed attack against Norway will invoke Article 5 of the NATO Treaty, and the rest of the Alliance will support the country. To maintain a credible defence of Norway, NATO must train and exercise regularly, and Norway must test its ability to receive and handle allied reinforcements. In 2014, Norway invited NATO to hold Trident Juncture 2018 in Norway. NATO accepted the offer, making Norway the official host nation for the exercise.

Trident Juncture 2018 has three main phases:
- A deployment and redeployment phase: August–October, November–December
- A live field exercise (LIVEX): 25 October–7 November
- A command post exercise (CPX): 14–23 November

Benefits for Norway
For Norway, TRJE18 is an opportunity to test the country’s ability to receive and handle allied reinforcements. It also gives Norway an opportunity to test and evaluate its total defence concept and national plans concerning host country support.

The exercise involves large parts of the Norwegian total defence, giving Norway an opportunity to practise and develop its total defence concept. At a tactical and operational level, the field exercise provides an arena for testing interoperability and cooperation with allied forces during a high-intensity operation.

Norway has three main roles during the exercise:
- Providing host nation support for the participants.
- Act as an integrated and equal participant in the exercise. Norway will also be present at the military-strategic, operational and tactical levels, both during the live exercise and the command post exercise.
- Fulfil the roles and responsibilities assigned to the host nation, including safety and control.
The exercise area
The field exercise spans large air, sea and land areas (see map below). Land forces will exercise in the area south of Trondheim and north of Oslo (red box). Maritime forces will operate in the sea along the Norwegian coast, and southwards to northern Scotland. In addition, there will be some maritime activity in the Skagerrak and the Baltic Sea (dark blue boxes). Air forces will operate in the air space over central Norway and parts of Sweden and Finland (blue box).

Timeline
- Deployment period: August–October
- Preparation and co-training: 25–29 October
- Distinguished visitors day: 30 October
- Field exercise: 31 October–7 November
- Command post exercise: 14–23 November
- Redeployment period: November–December
Facts and figures

- Around **50,000 participants** (land forces: 20,000; navy personnel: 24,000 (including U.S. Marines); 3,500 air personnel; 1,000 logistics specialist; 1,300 personnel from a range of NATO commands)
- 31 nations (all 29 NATO members + Finland and Sweden)
- 250 aircraft
- 65 vessels
- 10,000+ vehicles

- An expected 180 flights and 60 ships of equipment and personnel will arrive at 27 different points (harbours, airports, railway terminals, roads) in Norway.
- If all the participating vehicles had been placed after one another, they would form a continuous link of 92 kilometres (57 miles) – equivalent to 34 Golden Gate bridges.
- Around 35,000 beds will be established in and around the exercise area. In comparison, Oslo has around 26,000 hotel beds.
- 1.8 million meals will be served before and during the exercise
- 4.6 million bottles of water will be delivered to the exercise.
- 660 tonnes (650 US tons) of laundry will be done during the exercise.
- 50 camps will be set up. Of these, 20 camps can take more than 500 people. The largest camp can house 5,500 people.
- NATO and the Norwegian Armed Forces have signed contracts with Norwegian businesses worth around 1.5 billion NOK ($184 million, €159 million).
Norwegian views on NATO and Trident Juncture

The following figures are taken from the Norwegian Armed Forces’ Population Survey 2018. A representative selection of the Norwegian population over the age of 18 years were asked in April and May 2018.

- 61% have a good impression of NATO
- 87% think other NATO countries should assist and help Norway if the country were attacked.
- 80% think Norway should assist and help if one or several NATO allies were attacked.
- 72% think Norway's NATO membership makes it less likely for a foreign country to attack Norway.
- 65% are positive to other NATO countries exercising and training in Norway.
- 29% have good knowledge of the Norwegian total defence concept.
- 23% know that NATO is holding a large-scale military exercise in Norway in 2018.

The Norwegian total defence

After World War II, the Norwegian Armed Forces had extensive cooperation with civilian authorities. The idea was that the civil society would assist the Armed Forces in a crisis or conflict. The total amount of military and civilian efforts was called the total defence. In the 1990s, the total defence was gradually built down, but lately the concept has been revitalised.

The Norwegian total defence is the sum of all of Norway’s civilian and military resources that work together to handle crises, armed conflicts and wars. The total defence is based on mutual support and cooperation between the Norwegian Armed Forces and the civil society in Norway – from peace to war. If a serious situation should arise, the Armed Forces and the civil society are mutually dependent on one another.

The Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection (DSB) coordinates the civilian effort into the exercise. Since 2016, the directorate has worked together with the Norwegian Armed Forces and different civilian partners in developing the total defence concept. This cooperation has improved the understanding and interaction between the involved partners. In 2016, the Norwegian government also established a programme to help develop the total defence and the resilience of the Norwegian society. DSB coordinates this programme, and Trident Juncture is an important milestone in streamlining the Norwegian total defence concept.
Host country support

Host country support is the total amount of effort Norway needs to put in, in order for NATO to be able to operate in Norway.

Receiving allied reinforcements is a national responsibility within the framework of the total defence. The Norwegian Joint Headquarters cooperates closely with the Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection (DSB), private companies and other civilian partners. DSB and the Armed Forces work together to ensure that the host country support works according to plan. This includes the deployment and redeployment of personnel, vehicles and equipment to and from Norway.

Around 60 ships and 180 flights of equipment and personnel will come to Norway. From the arrival points, the equipment will be transported to the exercise areas by road and rail. The following seaports and airports will be used:

- Seaports: Borg, Åndalsnes, Orkanger, Fiborgtangen
- Airports: Gardermoen, Røros, Kristiansund, Ørland, Værnes

The deployment and redeployment will put pressure on Norwegian infrastructure. Information through social and traditional media is important. The Armed Forces have also produced several information films to inform the public about safety around battle zones and military convoys.

The Norwegian Home Guard plays an important role during the deployment and redeployment phase. The Home Guard also contributes with force protection.
The Exercise

Live Field Exercise (LIVEX), 25 October–7 November

Land

The exercise is a scripted exercise, which means it will be played out according to a pre-written manuscript. The land exercise will primarily train the tactical units and will take place in central and eastern Norway.

During the exercise, a northern force and a southern force will play against each other. The northern force is led by NATO’s Allied Land Command and has forces from the Norwegian Brigade Nord and brigades from Canada and Sweden. In addition, there will be an amphibious warfare force from the U.S. Marine Corps. The southern force will be led by the I. German/Dutch Corps and consists of brigades from Germany, Italy, and the United Kingdom. Both headquarters will be established at Camp Jørstadmoen in Lillehammer. The Norwegian Home Guard participates with rapid-reaction forces and other personnel.

The battle will be played out in two phases. From 31 October to 3 November, the northern force will attack the south force, supported by an amphibious operation from the U.S. Marine Corps. From 4 to 7 November, the southern force will gain the initiative and carry out a counter-attack against the northern force.

Air

Trident Juncture 2018 provides an excellent opportunity to train and carry out complex air operations between allied forces under rough Norwegian weather conditions. NATO Allied Air Command at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, is in charge of planning the air activity, while the Norwegian National Air Operations Centre (NAOC) plans and coordinates the
Norwegian participation and host country support in cooperation with the Norwegian Joint Headquarters.

The air forces will operate from four Norwegian airports, in addition to Kallax, Sweden and Rovaniemi, Finland. Air operations will take place in the entire exercise area, but mainly in northern Norway and Sweden. The air forces will support the land forces in the field exercise area, and the maritime forces off the coast of western and central Norway.

**Sea**
The maritime forces will primarily exercise in the Norwegian Sea along the coast from the city of Bergen in Western Norway and northwards up to Vestfjorden in Nordland County.

The maritime forces are divided into two main forces that will fight each other. The northern maritime force consists of units from Canada, Denmark, Norway, Poland, the United Kingdom, and the USA. The southern maritime force consists of Standing NATO Maritime Group 1 and 2 (SNMG1 and SNMG2), Standing NATO Mine Countermeasures Group One (SNMCMG1) and a Dutch-led amphibious force. The southern force has vessels and marines from: Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, and the United Kingdom.

**Distinguished visitors day (DV Day), 30 October**
On 30 October, there will be a designated day for VIP visitors and the press, officially called a distinguished visitors day. This will be held at Byneset, outside Trondheim City, in front of an expected 500 guests and 150 people from the press. The guest list includes military, political and civilian leaders from NATO, the participating countries and the observer countries. Representatives from the Norwegian government, parliament, counties, municipalities, the Armed Forces, and civilian authorities will be attending the DV Day.

The event lasts about an hour and will be a demonstration of land, air and maritime forces. Several types of aircraft will participate, and there will be an amphibious landing. After the landing, the land forces will take over the demonstration. There will also be a static display of equipment, materiel and personnel from 15 of the participating countries.

**Command post exercise (CPX), 14–23 November**
The command post exercise will be held at the NATO Joint Warfare Centre in Stavanger, Norway from 14 to 23 November. This is an administrative exercise to train the headquarters, and there will be no military forces on land, at sea or in the air during the CPX. Norway is host nation, and the country will train its role, responsibility and authority during an Article 5 operation in Norway.

NATO Joint Warfare Centre in Stavanger has produced the scenario, by instructions from the NATO Military Committee. The Norwegian Armed Forces and civilian departments have contributed with national input so that Norway is portrayed as realistically as possible. The CPX is carried out as a computer simulation. During this simulation, all the participants will be tested at their primary functions jointly within NATO's command and force structure.
Safety

With tens of thousands of soldiers exercising together, accidents may occur. This factor has been taken very seriously during the planning process, and NATO and Norway have taken several steps to reduce the risk of accidents.

There will be established a local safety organisation, along with a Local operations control staff (LOPSCONSTAFF) in the town of Røros. This staff will work continuously to prevent accidents from happening. The control staff is led by NATO, but Norway will have the majority of the staff personnel.

Norway has the main responsibility within mudslides, flooding, mobility, multi-national military police and environment. The Norwegian Joint Headquarters is in charge of coordinating units in the event of an incident or accident during Trident Juncture 2018, and the headquarters will ensure that information will reach all the affected units and staffs.

Environment and damage prevention

The Norwegian Armed Forces and NATO have a common interest in reducing the consequences on the environment as much as possible.

The Norwegian Armed Forces have gathered extensive local information, and we have cooperated with several civilian authorities to learn about areas we should or must avoid – like drinking water sources, fish farming facilities, cultural monuments, etc. This information is incorporated into special made environmental maps that all participating units must use.

Since the ground normally is not frozen in October–November, heavy vehicles can leave deep marks and trails on the ground. To minimise this problem, we have designated areas for the forces to manoeuvre freely, and areas where transportation and battle must be avoided or kept at a minimum.

There will be traffic restrictions in so-called out of bounds areas like nature reserves, national parks and cultural monuments. In addition, we have signed a number of local agreements that allow us to use areas with low risk of damage – i.e. where landowners will plough the ground after the exercise. Norway and NATO have also conducted several reconnaissance tours in the exercise area. This will give all participants the best possible knowledge of the areas they are going to operate in. During the exercise, personnel from the exercise command and the exercise judges will help avoid any unnecessary damage to the environment.

Our goal is to reduce the consequences for neighbours and the environment as much as possible. Environmental protection is vital for both NATO and the Norwegian Armed Forces, and all the participants will be instructed to respect the restricted areas and to avoid damages and pollution. Any damage will be taken care of by NATO and the Norwegian Armed Forces, and damages will be compensated.
Information to participants and the public
Together with the Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection (DSB), the Norwegian Armed Forces are responsible for the strategic communication concerning the exercise. This includes informing the public why we exercise, how the exercise is conducted and what will happen when and where. The Armed Forces have two main websites for providing this information:

- For the Norwegian public: www.forsvaret.no/øvelse
- For foreign participants and press: www.forsvaret.no/exercise

In addition to this, specific information (like traffic information and weather) will be provided through the websites of our civilian partners like the Norwegian Public Roads Administration, the Norwegian State Railways and the Norwegian Meteorological Institute.

We will provide the public with correct and updated information on where and when the large military convoys will be present. Motorists are advised to pay extra attention, respect road signs, drive carefully and use alternative routes.

For questions concerning the exercise, please see www.forsvaret.no/exercise for whom to contact. Press inquiries and questions from the public are answered by the Norwegian Joint Headquarters.