

US security and defence policy - implications for Europe

European Parliament

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Summary

- Short term – Continuity
- Long term – More uncertainty
- High level politics & Technical cooperation
- US "multilayered approach" to Europe
- US-NATO & US-EU & US-bilateral/minilateral

Short term

From campaign rethoric to talk of continuity

- President Trump
- VP Pence; Sec of State Tillerson; Def Sec Mattis
- "State and DoD lack 3-4 levels of decision-makers"
- "6-8 months to fill"

Short term

Policies in place not so easy to change

- European Reassurance Initiative continues
- Rotation schedules of troops 2-3 years in adv
- Exercise planning (28 multi-national exercises - annually trains more than 18,000 U.S. + 45,000 NATO and PfP personnel in 40 countries
- Costs: Multiannual, \$3.42 billion for 2017
- COM USEUCOM/SACEUR remains in place
- Congressional support

Long term

More uncertainty – Many factors

- US policy making: "America First – Peace through strength"; More military – less diplomacy & aid
- European policy making/reactions
- Economic outlook in US/Europe
- Elections in Europe 2017, in US 2018
- US/European Crisis response to events in:
 - Asia, Middle East, Russia, Africa,

Long term

US-European relations

- US multilayered approach to Europe
- US-NATO
- US-EU
- US-bilateral

High level politics & Technical cooperation

Political tension and military & technical cooperation can co-exist

- Ex US-Sweden during Vietnam-era

Military & technical cooperation today

- Defence technology & industry cooperation,
 - Ex. JSF/T-X cooperation
- Military to Military
 - staff talks, training and exchanges

Conclusion

- From campaign rethoric to talk of continuity
- Old messages from the US but in new form
- US engagment continues in the short term
- Long-term uncertainty
- Many transatlantic relations (NATO, EU, minilateral, bilateral)
- Events/Crisis dependent

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