

# Berlin Plus agreement

(Provided by Mr. Tim Waugh NATO)

Berlin Plus agreement is a short title for a comprehensive package of agreements between NATO and EU, based on conclusions of the NATO Washington Summit. It is comprised of the following major parts:

- a. NATO - EU Security Agreement
- b. Assured Access to NATO planning capabilities for EU-led Crisis Management Operations (CMO)
- c. Availability of NATO assets and capabilities for EU-led CMO
- d. Procedures for Release, Monitoring, Return and Recall of NATO Assets and Capabilities
- e. Terms Of Reference for DSACEUR and European Command Options for NATO
- f. EU - NATO consultation arrangements in the context of an EU-led CMO making use of NATO assets and capabilities
- g. Arrangements for coherent and mutually reinforcing Capability Requirements

All parts are tied together through the so called "Framework Agreement", which consists essentially of an exchange of Letters between SG/HR and SG NATO, dated 17 Mar 03. Since that day, the "Berlin plus" package has been in effect and serves as the foundation for practical work between EU and NATO. In that, the view of EU-led CMO makes use of NATO planning support or NATO capabilities and assets for the execution of any operations

You can find more at:

<http://www.nato.int/issues/nato-eu/index.html>

“NATO and the European Union are working together to prevent and resolve crises and armed conflicts in Europe and beyond.

They share common strategic interests and cooperate in a spirit of complementarity and partnership. The decision to cooperate on security issues goes back to 24 January 2001 when the NATO Secretary General and the EU Presidency exchanged letters defining the scope of cooperation and the modalities of consultation between the two organisations.

Cooperation has accelerated ever since, in particular with the signing of the landmark “NATO-EU Declaration on ESDP” (European Security and Defence Policy), which paved the way for the “Berlin Plus” arrangements, and the adoption of the “Berlin Plus” arrangements, which form the basis for practical work in crisis management between the two organisations.

Since the enlargement of both organisations in 2004, 19 member countries of the EU are members of NATO.

## **What does it mean in practice ?**

As well as meeting on a regular basis, the two organisations work together in the field under “Berlin Plus” arrangements. They have also decided to develop cooperation to combat terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and are working toward concerted planning of capabilities development.

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**How did the policy evolve?**

The “NATO-EU Declaration on ESDP” and the agreement over the “Berlin Plus” arrangements are milestones in the evolution of the NATO-EU strategic partnership.

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The following link gives some useful contextual info:

<http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cmsUpload/03-11-11%20Berlin%20Plus%20press%20note%20BL.pdf>