

European Union



With immigration crisis on the rise, EU is still unable to find common approach. Each country is dealing with the issue in its own way. [Hungary accomplished construction of its razor wire fence on borders with Serbia](#). The country is also working on tougher immigration laws.

[Seventy one dead immigrants](#) were found in neighbour Austria. Austrian authorities along with their Hungarian colleagues detain several people and charged them with human trafficking. Vienna awaits about 80 000 asylum applications by the end of this year. To successfully manage this situation, [Austria is prepared to use about 500 members of its armed forces](#).

Great Britain is also under a great pressure. Prime Minister Cameron will be unable to fulfil his election promises to lower immigration rate down to 100 000 as just since January, [more than 300,000 immigrants have arrived to UK](#). Aside from other EU countries, immigrants going to the UK are not just from Middle East or Africa, but significant number is also from India and China. According to the German Chancellor A. Merkel, EU must show kindness and solidarity towards immigrants. Being an example, [Berlin awaits about 800,000 asylum applications](#) in this year and its Chancellor believes that Germany will successfully manage this situation. But not all Germans share the same passion as [200 attacks against immigrants](#) and their shelters are known so far.

Many European countries are planning to acquire unmanned aerial systems. [Spain has announced purchasing of American MQ-9 drones](#) with reconnaissance equipment whereas [Poland is developing](#) Gryf program, which aims to purchase small recon drones and Zefir program which includes medium size drones with offensive strike capabilities. Other states interested in drone's development are [Ukraine or Romania](#). Mistral crisis was finally solved. [France will pay about 2.67 billion \\$ to Russia](#). This amount includes costs which Russia has to pay for crew training or development and acquisition of naval version helicopters. The French shipyard will also receive a compensation for its loss and moreover, French must find a new buyer. Otherwise the standby position of Mistral costs 5 mil. \$ every month. Arab countries like [Saudi Arabia or Egypt](#) are among potential buyers. Another option is to sell the ships to the international organizations like NATO, EU or UN.

Germany wants to improve current shape of its armed forces. German defence minister openly admits, that German armed forces are unable to fulfil its commitments to allies. The minister perceives very low supplies of military equipment, mainly spare parts, as the major cause. [According to Spiegel, only 4 NH90 helicopters from 39 are capable to operate](#). Therefore Germany plans to invest about 6 billion € in next 6-8 years in order to increase number of ground personnel and spare parts.

[The situation in French Calais is getting worse](#) under the great pressure of immigrants as they are trying to get into Eurotunnel in group of hundreds and reach Great Britain on trucks. By the end of July, more than 2,000 people were detected by French police only during one night. The situation is even worsening with the [large number of people smugglers](#).

Great Britain increased security measures around Eurotunnel which slowed down the migrants; however this is not a permanent solution as immigrants will very soon find another way to the tunnel.

Iraqi Crisis and Islamic State



[NATO member states decided to support Iraqi government](#) in the fight against so called Islamic state during the meeting of head of states which was summoned by Turkey under Article 4. Turkey launched its own air campaign against jihadists after suicide terrorist attack in Turkish city. Moreover NATO will assist Turkey in seven key areas including military training, cyber defence or reform of security sector as Ankara requested. NATO withdrew from Iraq in 2011 due to the absence of agreement about status of Alliance's units.

Few weeks later, Turkey joined US alliance in air campaign, however still continues its own air attacks to Kurdish party PKK which is [considered as a terrorist organisation](#). The concept [war on terror on two fronts](#): ISIS and PKK, is perceived as controversial by some of the European states. The head of Pentagon, Carter, claims that Turkey does not do enough and should [secure its borders with Syria](#) and thus stop the supplies for ISIS. The supplies were coordinated by the second ISIS man – Fadhi Ahmad al-Hayali who was [killed by drone attack](#).

Moreover ISIS is suspected of [use of chemical weapons](#) against 60 Kurdish warriors, who are currently suffering

breathing problems. Iraqi and American experts are investigating the case.

Australian Minister of Foreign Affairs, [Bishop, called on launching air campaign against ISIS by European states.](#) According to her, this might help to stop the large number of incoming migrants to Europe.

North Atlantic Treaty Organisation



Germany hosted [Allied Spirit II exercise](#) with 4,500 units out of 8 states – Canada, Czech Republic, Georgia, Hungary, Italy, Serbia, Great Britain and USA. Moreover, the training was for the first time under the Czech command, which made it even more significant for this country. The scenario contented fiction military conflict with hybrid context.

[London think tank published its report](#) where the experts had stressed the great possibility of conflict with Russia after 18 months of mutual tensions. The think tank pointed out on several exercises like the March ones when Alliance underwent training with 5,000 units of 19 states whereas Russia had 80,000 soldiers in its exercise. According to London, Russia is preparing for conflict, NATO for confrontation. Moreover, Russia has decided to increase the Naval present in Black sea as well as undergo 4,000 military exercises in this year, [which is ten times more than Alliance will.](#) Furthermore, Moscow also uses nuclear weapons as a part of trainings

which worried Alliance in words of [General Secretary Jens Stoltenberg.](#) Full report "Preparing for the Worst: Are Russian and NATO Military Exercises Making War in Europe more Likely?" is available [here.](#)

Alliance opened its new training centre in Georgia. Jens Stoltenberg highlighted the Georgian participation on *Resolut Support* mission in Afghanistan and noted, that Alliance members acknowledge Georgian territorial integrity.

The new training centre is a part of Georgian-Alliance package which passed the vote in Wales and should help Georgia in its NATO membership aspirations.

West and Ukrainian Conflict

[NATO leaders warned pro-Russian rebels](#) against breaking the ceasefire in Eastern Ukraine. The Alliance's speaker reminded that Russia has especial responsibility for holding the stable situation. Moreover, he added that any attempt of taking another Ukrainian territory under separatists' control is non-acceptable. The warning came after increasing tensions between both sides. The head of Germany diplomacy, Frank W. Steinmeier, emphasized current situation as dangerous, furthermore the international observers pointed on the transport of equipment back to the front line.

North America

USA has decided to send [four air fighters F-22 Raptors](#) with stealth technology to Europe. The fighters will appear in Europe for the very first time and they should be deployed during Atlantic Resolve exercise to ensure allies and demonstrate the solidarity with European states. Due to the breaking of ceasefire in Ukraine,

USA also sent two F-22 to Poland and according to the Polish Minister of Defence, Tomasz Siemoniak, Washington plans to [place heavy equipment](#) to Baltic states and Eastern Europe in 2016. Russia has already announced that in that case it is prepared to restore its nuclear programme.

Washington also took [a closer look on Guantanamo base](#) and the possibility to move the facility into the military property in United States like Fort Leavenworth base or Charleston navy brig. Barack Obama has been promising closing of Guantanamo base since his presidential campaign in 2008. Obama has so far ordered only a transfer of 52 of 116 prisoners. However Republicans are opposed the idea of having Guantanamo's prisoners at the United States territory.

United States Army newly offers a [Ranger training without gender difference.](#) It was a reaction to Obama's order to accept women to combat roles. Even though the cancellation of the rule is planned on 2016, women can already apply for the training and two of them has already successfully undergone [demanding 62-days course.](#) According to statistics – 15% of American army consist of women.



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