

Defence cuts will leave China as the world's policeman, warns Nato chief

By [Global Research](#)

Global Research, July 21, 2011

[Daily Mirror](#) 21 July 2011

Region: [Asia](#)

Theme: [US NATO War Agenda](#)

-The director [secretary] general said: "For the first time in the history of Nato we have seen an operation not led by the Americans."

Defence cuts across Europe will diminish Nato's global role and leave China as the world's policemen, the alliance chief warned yesterday.

Anders Fogh Rasmussen praised Britain and France for taking the lead on the Libya conflict but said they could not have done it without US help.

And he claimed the slashing of troops by European leaders will hit military transport and intelligence.

Mr Fogh Rasmussen spoke out just days after Defence Secretary Liam Fox unveiled plans to cut the Army by 17,000.

The director [secretary] general said: "For the first time in the history of Nato we have seen an operation not led by the Americans.

"The Europeans couldn't do this on their own and in that respect it is of course a matter of concern that we have seen substantial defence cuts in nearly all Nato allied nations. If the current development continues, the influence of Europe on the international scene will decline because of lack of critical transport capabilities, critical intelligence gathering capabilities and because of this Europe will not be able to participate in international crisis management.

"The gap will be filled by emerging powers like China and India, that's a fact."

Shadow Defence Secretary Jim Murphy also warned about the "imbalance" between the US and Europe.

In a Washington speech, he said: "Europe must pull its weight in Nato, or Nato will have little future. We're either in this together, committed to playing our parts, or we're not an alliance that will last."

The Labour MP added: "It is important for the UK to make this case since we gain power and influence in our relations across the world through our being a strong partner with European nations."

This selection by Stop NATO :

<http://rickrozoff.wordpress.com>

Stop NATO e-mail list home page with archives and search engine:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/stopnato/messages>

The original source of this article is [Daily Mirror](#)

Copyright © [Global Research](#), [Daily Mirror](#), 2011

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Global Research](#)

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: publications@globalresearch.ca

www.globalresearch.ca contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: publications@globalresearch.ca