

NATO's Largest Exercise Since the Cold War

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[Trident Juncture 2018](#) is NATO's largest exercise since the Cold War.

Around 50.000 troops, 250 aircrafts, aircraft carrier [Harry S. Truman](#), 64 vessels and 10,000 vehicles will participate to Nato's collective defence scenario (Article 5) from 25 October to 7 November 2018.

All Nato's members as well as NATO partners Finland and Sweden will participate.

NATO casually describes Trident Juncture as a peacemaking endeavour, as means to defending Scandinavia against Russia:

It is happening in the air, on land and at sea. Around 50,000 personnel from NATO Allies and partner countries are testing their ability to operate together to defend our populations and territories and deter potential adversaries in NATO's biggest exercise in recent years.



- **When:** from 25 October to 7 November 2018.
- **Who:** Around 50,000 participants from 31 NATO and partner countries.
- **Components:** Around 250 aircraft, 65 vessels and up to 10,000 vehicles.
- **Location:** Central and eastern Norway; the surrounding areas of the North Atlantic and the Baltic Sea, including Iceland and the airspace of Finland and Sweden.
- **Objective:** To ensure that NATO forces are trained, able to operate together, and ready to respond to any threat from any direction.
- **Commander:** Admiral James G. Foggo, Commander of NATO's Allied Joint Force Command Naples, is responsible for conducting the exercise.

The drills will take part in Central Norway, in the North Atlantic including Iceland, in the Baltic Sea and in the airspace of Finland and Sweden.

The [aircrafts](#) will operate from four Norwegian air bases, from northern Finland and from Kallax in northern Sweden.

In the Finnish archipelago more than 40 surface vessels will simultaneously hold naval exercise called [Northern Coasts](#), which is connected to Trident Juncture.

Although the majority of Finns are against NATO membership, there is almost no public debate as to why Finland is participating.

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