

# European Air Transport Training 2014



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From expeditionary missions to crisis management, air transport is an essential enabler that allows European countries to fulfill their responsibilities across the globe. With an ever increasing number of these operations being carried out jointly, there is a clear need to pool resources and share knowledge and best practices between countries. This was the rationale behind the creation of the European Air Transport Training (EATT). Taking place for the third time, this year's training will be held in Plovdiv Bulgaria between the 16 and 27 June.

## Only training exercise of its kind

While the fighter community has had numerous joint training activities for years, from the Tactical Leadership Programme to Flag and NATO exercises in European airspace, the EATT is the only multinational European airlift training event of its kind. This training takes place alongside a yearly Air Transport Symposium and a European Advanced Airlift Tactics Training Course (EAATTC), which will take place in Zaragoza, Spain for the first time in September this year.

Each of these activities is organised by the European Defence Agency (EDA) in close cooperation with the European Air Transport Fleet (EATF) and its ad hoc working group for operation and training (AHWG O&T). This group was established in 2011 and deals with training at operators level, developing amongst other activities, projects to increase the opportunities to train together and increase the adoption of best practices.

EATT14 will take place in Bulgaria for the first time, having previously being held in Zaragoza in 2012 and 2013.

## Aims and objectives

The overall objective of EATT14 is to achieve a far reaching level of interoperability between tactical airlift users in the area of operations and training. This will be done by participants consolidating the existing qualifications they have, or regaining them if necessary. The tactical objectives are:

- Train air transport elements to deploy to a DOB and execute intra-theatre air transport operations for typical scenarios.

- Tactical consolidation of following techniques:

Academics; Advanced mission planning; Personnel / cargo airdrop; Low level flight & tactical navigation; Threat reactions (A/A & G/A); Tactical Air Land Operations; short field landings; formation flying; night operations with or without NVG; COMAO with AWACS / AD assets; High Low mission profile; Aeromedical Evacuation Panel & Training; Multinational X-servicing team built-up & Training; Multinational Intel cell built-up & Training; Intelligence integration

- CATO training participation in COMAO (Composite Air Operation) packages.

- Work on standardised procedures among tactical aircraft operators to enhance interoperability.

## Training

During EATT14, independent scenarios will be played for each mission according to its specific training requirements, including the presence of air and ground threats. It will provide participants with a unique opportunity to plan and execute multinational air transport missions within realistic scenarios. The missions will be developed on an increasing complexity basis, starting from single ship missions and evolving to multiple ship formation and missions. Participants will arrive on June 15, starting with an academic session followed by day and night missions until June 27.

EATT14 takes place alongside training and education activities in various different fields, including Helicopter Training, Cyber Defence, Personnel Recovery, European Armament course and other examples. These help increase interoperability for international missions and help share best practices between European countries.

To coordinate and address the range of different activities a new education, training, and exercise unit was established under the CPS directorate in the recent EDA reorganisation.

## Participation

In total aircraft and crews from 11 countries will take part, with a further eight countries sending observers. The full list of participating countries and aircrafts are below:

1. **Belgium:** 1 x C-130 and 2 crews
2. **Bulgaria:** 1 x C-27J and 2 crews
3. **CZ Republic:** 1 x CN-295 and 1 crew
4. **France:** 1 x C-130 and 2 crews
5. **Germany:** 1 x C-160 and 2 crews
6. **Italy:** 1 x C-130J and 2 crews
7. **Lithuania:** 1 x C-27J and 1 crew
8. **The Netherlands:** 1 x C-130 and 2 crews
9. **Spain:** 1 x CN-295 and 2 crews
10. **Norway:** 1 x C-130J and 2 crews
11. **Greece:** 1 x F-16 and 1 x EMB-145H AEW&C
12. **Observers:** Austria, Finland, Hungary, Portugal, Romania, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States of America

Details on the work of the European Air Transport Fleet partnership is available on the: <http://www.eda.europa.eu/projects/projects-search/european-air-transport-fleet>

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