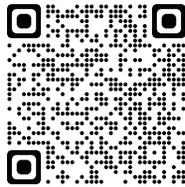


EDITOR'S LETTER



Survey

<https://www.jwc.nato.int/survey>

Password: jwctsm2021

DEAR READER,

There are things that you will remember for a lifetime, even though you would perhaps prefer not to. The COVID-19 pandemic began as one of those things for many. However, the Joint Warfare Centre used this unusual time to prepare and implement numerous innovations.

Our NATO Exercise STEADFAST JUPITER-JACKAL 2020, executed for the first time as a battle staff exercise, is part of that innovation process, as is the command post exercise portion of Exercise STEADFAST DEFENDER 2021. As a vignette-based exercise, it led to the certification of the Joint Support and Enabling Command in Ulm, Germany, this spring.

You can read about the experience gained during the planning and the execution phases of these exercises in this edition.

But in July 2021, our first fully in-person scripting workshop since the beginning of the pandemic saw us return to business as usual.

Did it really?

In fact, questions such as, "Do I have to be quarantined after entering this country?" will remain essential aspects for participants in future NATO events as well. And that is acceptable.

Appropriate internal and external communication is key for keeping staff and their families informed — especially when staff work from home and regulations affecting individuals frequently change due to the pandemic.

While internal communication can be evaluated by direct feedback and regular surveys, external communication is rarely assessed beyond the evaluation of social media statistics and the subjective perception of a few individuals.

With this issue, the Joint Warfare Centre would like to ask for your feedback so that we can better evaluate the information we provide. If we know more precisely where we are, we are better equipped to choose the way ahead.

You will find a link and a password above. You can also use the QR code to take our survey, which will be open until January 31, 2022.

In addition to articles by the JWC members, this issue contains numerous guest articles. I would like to thank all authors, especially NATO Deputy Secretary General Mircea Geoană, our Norwegian partner organizations and authorities, Headquarters Supreme Allied Commander Transformation, and the Allied Rapid Reaction Corps. Their contributions have once again brought an enormous range of defence topics to our journal.

Finally, I would like to thank our outgoing Commander Rear Admiral Jan C. Kaack for the trust he has placed in us, and, as the Joint Warfare Centre's "One Team", we wish him all the best for his new assignment.

Lieutenant Colonel Stefan Kuehling

German Army
Chief Public Affairs Officer
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THE THREE SWORDS MAGAZINE

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The views and opinions expressed in this journal are those of the authors alone and do not necessarily represent the official position or policy of Member Governments, or of NATO.

The Editor reserves the right to edit or shorten submissions prior to publication.

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