



Fact Sheet: DEFENDER-Europe 20

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Over the last several years, the Army has concentrated on - and made great strides toward – building the tactical readiness of Soldiers and units. Now it is time to focus on operational and strategic readiness. Strategic readiness includes the ability of the U.S. military to dynamically project force and set the theater by mobilizing and deploying forces, sustaining them in a crisis, and redeploying them when their mission is complete.

Funded by the European Defense Initiative, Atlantic Resolve demonstrates the U.S. Army's ability to rotate several thousand Soldiers and pieces of equipment overseas. As a result, it exercises the U.S. Army Europe's ability to receive forces, move them across Europe, and employ them as part of the command's exercise program to build readiness and interoperability with our Allies and partners.

The lessons learned through these rotations will be applied on a much larger scale with exercise DEFENDER-Europe 20, the largest deployment of U.S.-based forces to Europe for an exercise in the last 25 years. Once here, participants will spread across the continent to participate in five smaller, linked exercises.

In the future, the Army must be ready to deploy, fight and win decisively against any near-peer adversary in a joint, multi-domain, high-intensity conflict. DEFENDER-Europe 20, and linked activities, will build whole-of-Army strategic readiness and operationalize the National Defense Strategy by demonstrating the U.S. military's ability to rapidly deploy a large combat-credible force and, alongside its Allies and partners, quickly respond to a potential crisis.

Participating units will include a U.S. Army division headquarters, three armored brigade combat teams, a fires brigade, and a sustainment brigade; as well as planned U.S. Air Force, U.S. Navy and Marine Corps participation. Some units will deploy with their equipment from the United States while other U.S.-based units will deploy and draw Europe-based Army Prepositioned Stock vehicles and equipment.

DEFENDER-Europe 20 will be conducted in five phases beginning in February 2020 and ending in August 2020. The bulk of activities will occurring in April-May 2020.

- 1) Deployment
- 2) Joint Forcible Entry
- 3) Command Post Exercise
- 4) Live Exercises
- 5) Consolidate and redeploy

Additionally, the Joint Warfighting Assessment will be take place as part of DEFENDER-Europe 20. JWA is an annual joint-multinational exercise in which the U.S. military and partner nations assess future warfighting concepts, capabilities and formations in a large-scale and realistic battlefield exercise.

DEFENDER-Europe 20 is the first installment in a U.S. Army series of DEFENDER exercises demonstrating the ability to deploy and project power globally.



DEFENDER-Europe 20

By the Numbers

- **37,000** allied and U.S. service members anticipated to participate
- **20,000** U.S. service members from the continental U.S. deploying to Europe
- **20,000** pieces of equipment will come from continental U.S.
- **13,000** pieces of equipment drawn from the Army Prepositioned Stock
- **9,000** U.S. service members based in Europe participating from the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines
- **8,000** European service members participating
- **4,000** km travelled across **12** convoy routes
- **18** participating nations
 - Belgium
 - Canada
 - Czech Republic
 - Denmark
 - Estonia
 - Finland
 - France
 - Georgia
 - Germany
 - Hungary
 - Italy
 - Latvia
 - Lithuania
 - Netherlands
 - Poland
 - Spain
 - United Kingdom
 - United States
- **14** air and sea ports in **8** European countries being used
 - Belgium
 - Estonia
 - Georgia
 - Germany
 - Latvia
 - Lithuania
 - Netherlands
 - Poland
- **11** State National Guards participating
 - Arizona
 - Connecticut
 - Idaho
 - Maryland
 - Michigan
 - Mississippi
 - New York
 - Pennsylvania
 - South Carolina
 - Tennessee
 - Virginia
- **10** countries hosting exercise activities
 - Belgium
 - Czech Republic
 - Estonia
 - Georgia
 - Germany
 - Italy
 - Latvia
 - Lithuania
 - Netherlands
 - Poland
- **7** U.S. Army Reserve units
- **5** APS draw sites in Germany and Belgium
- **5** U.S. sea ports in **4** states
 - Florida
 - Georgia
 - South Carolina
 - Texas
- **5** linked exercises (activities share scenario, coordinated mission command, mutual sustainment and common mission partner environment)
 - Allied Spirit XI
 - Dynamic Front 2020
 - Joint Warfighting Assessment 2020
 - Saber Strike 2020
 - Swift Response 2020
- **4** U.S. Army divisions and **3** Corps participating with various elements