

DECLARATION OF INTENT  
BETWEEN  
THE FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE, CIVIL PROTECTION AND SPORT OF  
SWITZERLAND  
AND  
THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM  
OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND  
FOR  
ENHANCED COOPERATION IN SECURITY AND  
DEFENCE

The Federal Department of Defence, Civil Protection and Sport of Switzerland and the Ministry of Defence of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,

Recognising the tradition, importance, and mutual benefit of cooperation between Switzerland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,

Taking into consideration existing bilateral agreements and arrangements between Switzerland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, such as the Joint Statement on enhancing bilateral relations between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Swiss Confederation,

Respecting the sovereignty and independence of both countries,

Respecting the international obligations and the respective national legislation,

#### DECLARE:

Cooperation in the field of security and defence between The Federal Department of Defence, Civil Protection and Sport and the Ministry of Defence of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is to be further expanded and deepened in areas of mutual interest. The United Kingdom and Swiss Confederation will pursue opportunities for defence cooperation and focus on the following overarching specialist areas to drive our bilateral activities:

1. **Training:** cooperation in military training should continue and be further developed on the basis of the existing training arrangement - Arrangement between the Swiss Federal Council and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning the conduct of military exercises or training and the provision of host nation support, 2004. Cyber training and Space Situation Awareness opportunities should be explored; technical talks and visits may be considered, and existing fora used to identify further areas of cooperation.
2. **Technology:** where appropriate exchanges on the modernisation of capabilities and armaments procurements, which run in parallel, should be strengthened; exchanges and cooperation may be strengthened in the areas of joint technological demonstrations and trials, or invitations to observe as guest nations.
3. **Greening Defence:** the objective of more sustainable, resource-efficient approaches in the field of security and defence should be pursued jointly. Exchanges in science and technology may be strengthened to foster new approaches and develop experimental platforms and technologies while considering the reduction of harmful emissions and the promotion of new, more climate-friendly defence technologies.
4. **CBRN:** cooperation between Spiez and Defence Science and Technology Laboratories (DSTL) should, where appropriate, be strengthened and maintained through regular dialogue on emerging trends, threats and counter-measures.

The following principles will apply to the intensified cooperation between the Federal Department of Defence, Civil Protection and Sport of Switzerland and the Ministry of Defence of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

1. Cooperation can be extended at any time by mutual approval to other areas, in which cooperation is of mutual interest and in the spirit of this Declaration of Intent.
2. Coordination of the implementation of this Declaration of Intent is the responsibility of the Security Policy Division of the Federal Department of Defence, Civil Protection and Sport on the Swiss Side and of the Directorate for Euro-Atlantic Security of the Ministry of Defence on the British Side
3. This Declaration of Intent does not create any new international or intergovernmental legal obligations between states or affect existing obligations with other states.

This Declaration of Intent is signed in two copies in English, in London on the \_\_\_\_\_ 2023.

For the Federal Department of Defence,  
Civil Protection and Sport of Switzerland

For the Ministry of Defence of the United  
Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern  
Ireland

Viola Amherd  
Federal Councillor and Head of the Federal  
Department of Defence, Civil Protection and  
Sport of Switzerland

Ben Wallace  
Secretary of State for Defence of the United  
Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern  
Ireland