Security Jam
Executive Summary

Wednesday 9 May 2012

17,000 LOGINS • 3,000 PARTICIPANTS • 116 COUNTRIES IN 4 DAYS
1 | NATO SHOULD FORMALIZE A MARITIME DOMAIN POLICY, TO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW COMMON NAVAL SYSTEMS AND PLATFORMS.

2 | NATO SHOULD CREATE A NATO-CHINA COUNCIL.

3 | THE EU’S DEFENCE INDUSTRIAL POLICY SHOULD BE UPDATED, WITH A FOCUS ON POOLING R&D, Restricting SENSITIVE EXPORTS AND DEVELOPING A NEW GENERATION OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT.

4 | NATO SHOULD LAUNCH A PROGRAMME DEDICATED TO FOSTERING A “SMART DEFENCE MINDSET” AMONGST MILITARY PERSONNEL, NATIONAL POLITICIANS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS.

5 | DEPLOYED NATIONS IN AFGHANISTAN SHOULD ESTABLISH A COUNTRY-WIDE PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAMME, TO FOSTER REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT POST-2014.

6 | A CROSS-SECTORAL INTERNATIONAL “COALITION OF THE WILLING” OF CYBER-SECURITY PROFESSIONALS SHOULD LEAD CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES FOR CYBER GLOBAL GOVERNANCE.

7 | “WHITE HAT” HACKER RECRUITMENT SHOULD BE INCORPORATED INTO PUBLIC CYBER-SECURITY POLICY.

8 | THE EU SHOULD LAUNCH A CAREER SCHEME FOR TRAINING CRISIS MANAGEMENT PROFESSIONALS AND CREATE A POOL OF COMMONLY FUNDED CRISIS MANAGEMENT EQUIPMENT.

9 | CRISIS MANAGEMENT STAKEHOLDERS SHOULD CREATE AN ONLINE COMMUNITY AND KNOWLEDGE HUB FOR INFORMING OPERATIONAL STAFF.

10 | WESTERN ALLIES SHOULD ESTABLISH A MORE COMPREHENSIVE AUTHORIZATION PROCESS AND DOCTRINE FOR PLANNING AND LAUNCHING ‘RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT’-BASED MILITARY INTERVENTIONS.
The Security Jam is a unique high-level global brainstorm – the only forum of its kind identifying and discussing the world’s most pressing challenges in foreign, defence and security policy. Organised by the Security & Defence Agenda and IBM with the support of the European External Action Service, the European Commission, NATO Allied Command Transformation and the US Mission to NATO as well as eight think-tank partners, Atlantic Council of the United States, Chatham House, Centro de Estudios y Documentación Internacionales de Barcelona (CIDOB), Fondation pour la Recherche Stratégique, The Hague Centre for Strategic Studies, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) and Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, the 2012 Security Jam was a resounding success.

Over five days, some 3,000 senior participants from 116 countries gathered online to share their thoughts in 3,800 posts. With 122,700 page views and 16,732 logins, this was the most comprehensive survey and discussion of global security yet attempted, with the public, business, military and academic sectors consulted.

VIP Jammers like Adm. James Stavridis, NATO’s Supreme Allied Commander Europe, Gen. Stéphane Abrial, NATO’s Supreme Allied Commander Transformation, Maciej Popowski, Deputy Secretary General of the European External Action Service, and Claude-France Arnould, Chief Executive of the European Defence Agency, logged on to share their thoughts and contribute to the debate. The 2012 Security Jam has resulted in a series of direct policy recommendations for tackling the most pressing global security challenges, which are summarised below, along with an overall assessment of the debate.

1. NATO should formalize a maritime domain policy, to support the development of new common naval systems and platforms.

From maritime piracy against international shipping to Arctic security and the new realities of rising naval powers in the Far East, Jammers focused on maritime technology as a key area in need of coordination. NATO should formalize a maritime domain policy that anticipates ships operating beyond the Euro-Atlantic area more regularly, to map out member state programmes and to push for new common platforms.

2. NATO should create a NATO-China Council.

In light of China’s increasing global influence and military build-up, NATO should establish a NATO-China Council (NCC) to mirror the engagement with the alliance offered to Russia within the NATO-Russia Council. Such a platform, Jammers argued, would help establish stronger diplomatic and personal connections with Chinese opposites both within the Alliance and at national level. The NCC would also offer a formalized platform for confidence-building and mutual understanding.

3. The EU’s Defence Industrial Policy should be updated, with a focus on pooling R&D, restricting sensitive exports and developing a new generation of military equipment.

Jammers argued that the European Commission’s 2007 Defence Industrial Policy, and its prime achievement thus far, the Defence Package, should be updated to more directly support a new generation of European military technology. Jammers want the Policy to focus more strongly on investment goals in military R&D, and the possibility of pooling and sharing research in multilateral technology projects.

4. NATO should launch a programme dedicated to fostering a “Smart Defence Mindset” amongst military personnel, national politicians and other stakeholders.

As NATO Supreme Allied Commander for Transformation (SACT), General Stéphane Abrial, told Jammers, “Smart Defence is not about doing more with less. It is about doing better with the resources we have, in order to fulfil the Alliance’s level of ambition.” This is what the SACT calls the “Smart Defence Mindset”, and Jammers assert that NATO should focus on formally supporting this way of thinking amongst Alliance members. This should encourage national politicians and military staff to think in a new, collaborative mindset when it comes to procuring and operating their military equipment.

5. Deployed nations in Afghanistan should establish a country-wide public education programme, to foster regional development post-2014.

With international military engagement in Afghanistan facing a rapid reduction in 2014, deployed nations should focus on creating a viable public education programme, sustainable in the absence of direct western support. The ideal model for this according to Jammers would be an “e-learning” system — supported by internet infrastructures capable of being operated in remote regions — to facilitate literacy and health education programmes.
6. A cross-sectoral international “coalition of the willing” of cyber-security professionals should lead confidence-building measures for global cyber governance.

While Jammers strongly desired a global cyber-security treaty to regulate the potential for conflict in cyber-space, this will take time. They thus advocated that key cyber-security stakeholders and experts should form a “coalition of the willing” set of working groups to help disseminate new ideas, assess emerging threats and generally assist governments and national agencies while a more formal global mechanism is established.

7. “White hat” hacker recruitment should be incorporated into public cyber-security policy.

The best expertise in the cyber domain can often be found in the hacker community — private citizens who have actively engaged in exploring, and sometimes breaching, the boundaries and capabilities of the online world. To overcome the scarcity of cyber-security talent in the European public sector, Jammers recommend that public agencies in the EU and member states should replicate the private sector practice of hiring hackers under so-called “White Hat” schemes.

8. The EU should launch a career scheme for training crisis management professionals and create a pool of commonly funded crisis management equipment.

The EU lacks a formal career path for crisis management professionals, while many member states also lack the inventories of specialist equipment for crisis situations — from aircraft to field hospitals and search and rescue — needed for rapid deployment in a crisis. The EU should foster a new career scheme for crisis management professionals, with ample time abroad, space for specialist training and incentives to draw talent with relevant national, private sector or NGO experience. It should also commonly fund the purchase and storage of specialist equipment for crisis situations.

9. Crisis management stakeholders should create an online community and knowledge hub for informing operational staff.

National authorities and international institutions often have an insufficient appreciation of local conditions in states undergoing a crisis. Jammers suggested that to overcome this, an online environment dedicated to pooling the collective expertise of stakeholders from across both sectors and borders should be set up. Such an environment would allow experts with field experience in the crisis-hit nation or conflict zone to liaise directly with incoming staff, share ideas and observations with national officials and give a free source of information to cash-strapped civil society groups or NGOs.

10. Western allies should establish a more comprehensive authorization process and doctrine for planning and launching responsibility to protect-based military interventions.

Many Jammers noted that during the NATO-led Operation Unified Protector in Libya, the application of the responsibility to protect (R2P) principle of humanitarian intervention may not have adequately appreciated the political, economic or social “end game” that such an operation would entail. A more comprehensive authorisation process should be reviewed and established for future western-led R2P operations, based around planning for a clear political end-state strategy, post-conflict management scheme and strong commitment to avoiding civilian casualties.

A wide ranging debate

The 2012 Security Jam of course went far beyond the top 10 recommendations.

One area of focus was global partnerships, with a particular focus on the rise of China in international security. From diplomacy in the Far East to security policy in Europe, outreach and engagement with China was a top Jam topic. The growing prominence of cyber-security issues and the urgent need for a global set of standards for behaviour in cyber-space was also discussed.

Other challenges tackled included the need to develop tools for 21st century security. Future technology needs – particularly in the field of maritime platforms – was one priority identified, along with non-state threats to security as typified by global terrorism and maritime piracy. Views on these topics were framed in the context of the priority for Europe to pool and share military equipment across borders to retain a robust military capability, accompanied by industrial policy concerns. Sustaining expertise in new fields was another Jam priority, with policies for advancing and sustaining the careers of crisis management and cyber-security professionals discussed. Varied forms of “open sourcing” were also advanced, proposing solutions to problems as varied as diplomatic intelligence to maritime surveillance.

Finally, Jammers reflected on the range of future policy choices in a decade of austerity that now faces Western governments. There was a great deal of disagreement over the case study of the 2011 Libyan intervention, which typified for many the problematic usage of the “responsibility to protect” principle by multi-national forces.