



DEFENDER-Europe 22 Fact Sheet

www.EuropeAfrica.army.mil/DefenderEurope

What is DEFENDER-Europe 22:

DEFENDER-Europe is an annual large-scale U.S. Army-led, multinational, joint exercise designed to build readiness and interoperability between U.S., NATO and partner militaries. This year's exercise:

- Focuses on building operational readiness and interoperability with a greater number of NATO allies and partners over a wider area of operations.
- Is defensive in nature and focused on responding to crisis if necessary.
- Demonstrates that the U.S. commitment to NATO is iron clad.
- DEFENDER-Europe 22 includes more than 3,437 U.S. and 5,193 multi-national service members from 11 Allied and Partner nations.
- Operations conducted across 9 countries
- Includes strict COVID prevention and mitigation measures.
- Utilizes key ground and maritime routes bridging America, Europe, Asia and Africa.
- Exercises new high-end capabilities such as the new U.S. Army Security Force Assistance Brigades and the recently reactivated V Corps.
- Demonstrates our ability to serve as a strategic security partner while sustaining normal operations in the rest of Europe and Africa.

Timeline of DEFENDER-Europe 22:

- March: Equipment and personnel from the United States began moving to Europe for DEFENDER-Europe.
- May: The **DEFENDER-Europe Live Exercise** takes place in Eastern Europe and will demonstrate U.S. Army Europe and Africa's ability to aggregate US-based combat power quickly in Eastern Europe, increase the lethality of the NATO alliance through long-distance fires, build unit readiness in a complex joint, multinational environment and leverage host nation capabilities to increase the command's operational reach.
- May: Army Prepositioned Stocks will be drawn from sites in Belgium, Germany and the Netherlands; then moved to various training areas via convoy, rail, line haul or barge. This phase of the exercise will demonstrate U.S. Army Europe and Africa's ability to maintain a deterrent posture in northern Europe while concurrently shifting forces to other areas of the theater.
- May: The bulk of activities will occur with training events across more than 9 countries and encompassing several linked and associated exercises. Linked exercises share coordinated mission command, mutual sustainment and common mission partner environment.
 - Flaming Thunder: A Lithuanian led live-fire exercise focused on fires and interoperability of artillery systems.
 - Slovak Shield: A Slovakian field training exercise focused on land operations.
 - Summer Shield: A Latvian led field training exercise focused on land operations.

Quick Facts about DEFENDER-Europe 22:

- 8,630 total participants
- 3,400 total U.S.-based personnel
- 1,268 National Guard Soldiers from 6 U.S. states participating:
 1. Colorado
 2. Illinois
 3. Maryland
 4. Michigan
 5. Pennsylvania
 6. West Virginia
- 300 pieces of equipment being drawn from Army Preposition Stock sites in three countries:
 1. Belgium
 2. Germany
 3. Netherlands
- 180 U.S. Army Reserve participants
- 11 countries participating in exercise activities:
 1. Denmark
 2. Estonia
 3. France
 4. Germany
 5. Latvia
 6. Lithuania
 7. Netherlands
 8. Poland
 9. Slovakia
 10. Sweden
 11. United Kingdom
- 9 country's airports receiving equipment and personnel from the U.S.:
 1. Denmark
 2. Germany
 3. Greece
 4. Latvia
 5. Lithuania
 6. Netherlands
 7. Poland
 8. Slovakia
 9. Estonia
- 5 logistics centers established in:
 1. Latvia
 2. Lithuania
 3. Poland
 4. Slovakia
- 5 countries' ports used to send/receive more than 20,000 pieces of equipment to/from the U.S.:
 1. Denmark
 2. Greece
 3. Latvia
 4. Lithuania
 5. Netherlands

*All DEFENDER-Europe 22 participants, activities and numbers are subject to change and limitations based on the evolving COVID-19 situation.