

## Bilag 1

Center for Militære Studiers  
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### Focus Areas

The Centre for Military Studies is a university research centre focusing on policy-relevant research and research-based information and innovation that identify options for Denmark's defence and security policy in a globalised world. Research at the Centre is thus a means to identify policy options in a complex, interconnected security environment. For this reason the Centre's research is always for someone and for some purpose. We work closely with the Danish Ministry of Defence, the Danish Armed Forces and the political level to investigate issues and develop ideas and options.

We believe that democracies make better decisions, but only if the facts are presented to public and policy-makers in ways that clearly identify choices and risks. Therefore, we carefully consider the means by which we communicate our findings and the ways in which we facilitate dialogue. We use considerable resources to inform the public and policy-makers on our findings and comment on current affairs.

A global environment that creates a complex social and political context of decision-making increasingly defines choices and risks, which means that neither decisions nor their consequences have a purely national context. Therefore creating a baseline for dialogue between different experiences with a complex environment becomes increasingly important. Foreign and security policy is no longer the purview of a select group of officers and officials, but includes NGOs, civil society actors, firms and others which a globalised world give a day-to-day experience with international affairs.

The Centre seeks to bridge the inherently global nature of security issues and security actors and the national Danish foreign, security and defence policy discourse. It does so by utilising Scandinavian traditions for a meaningful dialogue between industry, civil-society, parliament, officials and the armed forces. The Centre is a go-to-place for dialogue and policy-options. The Centre harnesses concepts, trends and evidence into tools for understanding and acting on Danish defence and security issues.

These general competences in harnessing concepts, trends and evidence into policy options give the researchers at the Centre for Military Studies *horizontal competences* which can be applied on timely challenges. These horizontal competences are based on in-depth knowledge of Danish defence issues, innovation competences and extensive experience in developing policy-options.

The Centre also seeks to develop *vertical competences* by focusing on four, mutually reinforcing, focus areas. These areas are listed below.

## **The Arctic, Global Commons and Maritime Strategy**

Geopolitics is normally about the conditions for security that do not change in time: the way mountains or oceans define borders or how natural resources are distributed. In the Arctic, these timeless truths no longer stand. Climate change and technological development is creating a 'New North' where natural resources can be utilised, goods transported from East to West and the local populations get an unprecedented chance for development. Greenland is in the middle of these developments and this raises a number of issues for the people of Greenland in particular as well as for the Kingdom of Denmark in general which the Centre is particularly well suited to address.

Developments in the Arctic region should be studied in their proper political, historical and global context in order for a real evaluation of their impact to be made. Our challenge will be to place the exciting events in the Arctic in a context that translates them into more mundane options of present action. Establishing such a baseline for action also entails the facilitation of dialogue between actors in the region as well as actors within the Kingdom of Denmark. The Centre's competences in facilitating strategic dialogue and developing policy-options based on research is thus to be able to be realised in this area because the Arctic is not regarded in isolation.

The Centre will thus combine the focus on the Arctic with a focus on Maritime strategy in general. As one of the world's largest seafaring nations freedom of navigation and Maritime security is a general Danish focus that has particular manifestations in the Arctic. The focus on Maritime Strategy includes Maritime Security Operations and maritime capacity building.

## **Small State Strategy, European Armed Forces in a time of Austerity and the Danish Defence Model**

How to punch above your weight is the key question in small state strategy that focuses on how to create options and gain influence disproportionate to your national resources. The Centre's intimate knowledge of Danish security and defence policy makes us particularly well-qualified to investigate models of small state activism. Traditionally, small states have been regarded as the pawns of the international system; however, globalisation, technological development and international institutionalisation have empowered small states, along with firms, NGOs and individual actors in an increasingly complex international system. We seek to describe these megatrends and identify the way in which they are redefining the role of small states.

Defence studies traditionally focuses on great powers because, in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the use and utility of armed force was defined in terms of economics of scale, which made the use of armed force prohibitive expensive for small states. In a time of austerity, however, the way small states have learned to generate capabilities from limited resources serves as important examples and inspiration for other countries. This is especially the case in Europe where the majority of the members of NATO and the EU are either small states or large states with a small military. Since the end of the Cold War the Danish armed forces have developed a model for making military capabilities more effective on a shrinking budget.

We study this Danish Defence Model in a comparative perspective. This means investigating the nexus between defence economics and military planning from a strategic perspective.

This also means a focus on how NATO and, increasingly, EU defence cooperation shape options for national defence.

### **The Use and Utility of Force in Future Operations**

Generals prepare to fight the last war, it is often said. In fact, technological development has defined the way future conflicts were perceived since the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The machine gun, the airship, nuclear weapons and a host of other inventions have guided the way we imagined the wars to come. The challenge has always been how to align these tools with the tasks provided by the current security environment. Unable to imagine why future wars would be fought generals and engineers alike imagined how new weapons would have been used in old conflicts rather than imagine how the nature of conflict itself would be transformed. Today, asking these questions have become even more important because the times are defined by rapid technological development and huge social changes.

The number of interstate conflicts diminishes at the same time as intersocietal conflicts increases. This means that the most likely battlefields of tomorrow are defined by the way societies develop rather than by international relations. Consequently, we approach to the study of military matters is such fundamentally sociologically focusing on how changes in society changes the nature of military operations. The fact that most people on the planet will be living in cities from 2020 is one example of how the make-up of society will change the nature of military operations.

A sociological perspective enables us to regard armed force as one element of society's total 'security capacity' – the capacity to engage with security issues in ways favourable to a certain society or government. From this perspective non-military conflict prevent, stabilisation operations etc becomes an important focus for us. In studying these issues a comparative perspective, which includes experiences in the BRIC-countries, is very important.