

DEU MARFOR

German Maritime Forces Staff



BUNDESWEHR



DEU MARFOR ...

- forms the core staff of a Maritime Component Command (MCC) Headquarters
- can assume the function of the Baltic Maritime Component Command (BMCC) with regional responsibility
- will in future be deployable as High Readiness Forces (Maritime) Headquarters (HRF (M) HQ) of the NATO Response Force (NRF) throughout the Alliance's geographical Area of Responsibility (AOR)



OUR ORIGIN

DEU MARFOR is the German Maritime Forces Staff with multinational contribution. It was commissioned in 2019, however, its background goes back several years.

With the Russian annexation of Crimea, the security situation in Europe changed decisively. As a result, the NATO member states decided at their summit in Wales in September 2014 to refocus on collective defence.

This was accompanied by the deployment of the Very High Readiness Joint Task Force (VJTF), known as the "NATO Spearhead", as well as the deployment of enhanced Forward Presence (eFP) units and NATO Force Integration Units (NFIU) in the Baltic Sea Region. In July 2016, NATO also initiated a general amendment of its Command and Force Structure.

In this security context, in 2016, Germany committed to establishing a multinational headquarters in the Baltic Sea Region to lead maritime operations, the Baltic Maritime Component Command (BMCC), as part of the NATO Readiness Action Plan (RAP).

With the establishment of DEU MARFOR, Germany is getting ready to assume regional and supra-regional responsibility, taking on its share in the Alliance defence in the maritime domain with competence in particular in the Northern Flank and the Baltic Sea Region.

On the basis of the corresponding directives from the Federal Ministry of Defence and NATO requirements, the German Navy is creating the necessary structures for the establishment and operation of a Maritime Component Command (MCC).

The significantly expanded range of tasks and capabilities of such an MCC was not previously available in the German Navy. New Posts were established comparable to staffs already existing in other NATO navies and headquarters. The German Maritime Forces Staff, or DEU MARFOR for short, was established.

#DEUMARFOR



OUR MISSION

DEU MARFOR is able to command ad hoc operations of a maritime task force at the level of a 1-star Admiral. With additional personnel, it can assume the role of an MCC in a multinational joint operation under the command of a 2-star Admiral.

A deployment of DEU MARFOR is possible under the Command of NATO, but also of the European Union or the United Nations.

The structure and procedures of DEU MARFOR's daily work are based on international standards. The working language is English.



OUR CREST

Our crest contains all the important elements that correspond to our headquarters and our claim to be a maritime command and control organisation for multinational operations. The symbols stand for this in detail:

Two stars: Sign of the Admiralty, Command level of a Rear Admiral

Black-Red-Gold: Headquarters under German command

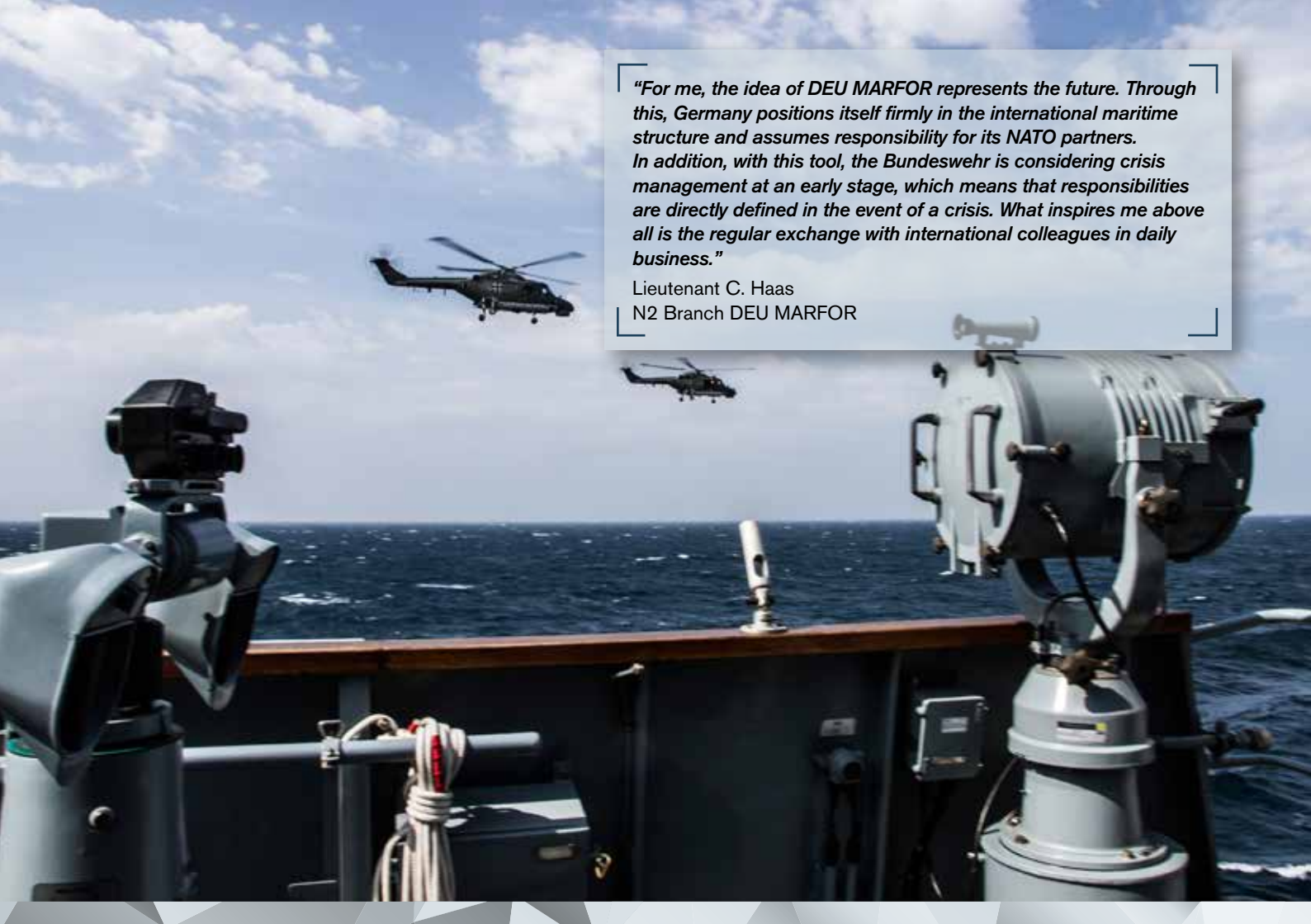
Trident: Weapon of Poseidon, naval warfare as maritime headquarters

Feather: Sign of staff work, planning of maritime operations

Rope: Sign of seamanship, comradeship and cooperation

World map: Supra-regional responsibility and multinational participation

Griffin: Heraldic animal of the Hanseatic City of Rostock, home of DEU MARFOR

A German Navy helicopter is seen in flight over a dark blue ocean under a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. The helicopter is viewed from the deck of a ship, with various shipboard equipment like searchlights and railings visible in the foreground. The helicopter is a dark color with some markings, and its rotors are in motion.

"For me, the idea of DEU MARFOR represents the future. Through this, Germany positions itself firmly in the international maritime structure and assumes responsibility for its NATO partners. In addition, with this tool, the Bundeswehr is considering crisis management at an early stage, which means that responsibilities are directly defined in the event of a crisis. What inspires me above all is the regular exchange with international colleagues in daily business."

Lieutenant C. Haas
N2 Branch DEU MARFOR

OUR STAFF

DEU MARFOR can be deployed flexibly at various command levels across the entire spectrum of planning and command and control of maritime operations.

The core staff of DEU MARFOR, the Peacetime Establishment (PE), already includes all capabilities in the areas of underwater and surface warfare as well as air warfare. In the Crisis Establishment (CE), further capabilities, such as amphibious operations or operations in the cyber and information space, are added in the context of the increase in personnel with national and multinational specialists, depending on the situation and mission.

DEU MARFOR can contribute these capabilities to maritime as well as to joint exercises. In addition, tasks in Exercise Control can also be performed.

STAFF

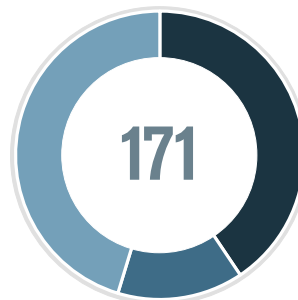
The core staff is the Peacetime Establishment (PE). It consists of a German and a multinational component. The Crisis Establishment (CE) is made up of additional specialised personnel, depending on the mission.

Crisis Establishment (CE)

78 

Peacetime Establishment (PE)
German Staff

69 



Peacetime Establishment (PE)
Multinational Staff

24 



Den Helder NLMARFOR



Portsmouth UKSTRKFOR

Rostock DEU MARFOR



Toulon FRMARFOR



Rota SPMARFOR



Taranto ITMARFOR

Aksaz TURMARFOR



"As we continue to develop our relationship with Germany, it is important and natural that we in the Royal Navy also participate in this headquarters. DEU MARFOR already has the expertise of five nations. From my point of view, it should be a must for every staff officer to work in multinational and NATO staffs during their career."

Lieutenant Commander T. McPhail
N3 Branch DEU MARFOR

OUR PARTNERS

Multinational thinking is a defining characteristic of DEU MARFOR. It is therefore open to all partner nations to participate at any time.

In Rostock, personnel from partner navies of Denmark, Finland and Lithuania as well as from the non-Baltic Sea countries France and the United Kingdom are already permanently integrated in the staff's Peacetime Establishment. This participation combines regional and supra-regional competence in daily business and lays the foundation for a trusting cooperation between partners.

There is also close cooperation with the already established High Readiness Forces (Maritime) Headquarters of NATO from France (FRMARFOR), the United Kingdom (UKSTRKFOR), Italy (ITMARFOR), Spain (SPMARFOR) and Turkey (TURMARFOR) - as well as for amphibious operations with the Netherlands (NLMARFOR).





OUR NETWORK

Since its commissioning in 2019, DEU MARFOR has built up a network and established itself as a new command element. This is conducted through fact-finding visits, participation in exercises and conferences as well as through the qualification of DEU MARFOR personnel at national and international training and education organisations.

"It is very important for the Lithuanian Navy to be represented in DEU MARFOR. Not only because Germany is a particularly important partner for Lithuania, but also because the German Navy has a great expertise in the Baltic Sea. In view of the fact that officers from different states in the Baltic Sea Region work in DEU MARFOR, the experience gained by each individual is greater. All this ensures security for the Baltic States and I am very pleased to be able to play a part in this."

Lieutenant Commander V. Petronis
N5 Branch DEU MARFOR

In the meantime, intensive working relationships have developed with several services. These include:

- the Allied Maritime Command (MARCOM) in Northwood, United Kingdom,
- the Naval Striking and Support Forces NATO (STRIKFORNATO) in Oeiras, Portugal,
- the Centre of Excellence for Operations in Confined and Shallow Waters (COE CSW) in Kiel, Germany

and outside the maritime domain

- the Multinational Corps Northeast (MNC NE) in Szczecin, Poland, and
- the Joint Support and Enabling Command (JSEC) in Ulm.

A close and functioning network has also been formed in the national domain, among others with:

- the Maritime Operations Centre (MOC) in Glücksburg,
- the Naval Tactical Centre (TZM) in Bremerhaven,
- the Cyber and Information Domain Command (KdoCIR) in Bonn, and
- the German Armed Forces Staff College (FüAkBw) in Hamburg.

This cooperation and the accompanying exchange of information are the basis of mutual trust and the joint approach in thinking and acting.

"I see the experience of supporting exercises, getting to know NATO procedures and making contacts at an international level as a great added value. It's a great opportunity to widen the perspective for possible subsequent assignments."

Senior Chief Petty Officer P. Fiedler
N3 Branch DEU MARFOR



OUR NEXT GOALS

Not later than 2025 DEU MARFOR will achieve Full Operational Capability (FOC) to perform its tasks as Maritime Component Command (MCC) or High Readiness Forces (Maritime) Headquarters (HRF (M) HQ).

The path to this goal is clearly defined: In 2021, DEU MARFOR will move into the newly built Naval Command and Control Centre in Rostock.

In 2022, the staff will go through exercise GRIFFIN MARKER. This exercise will test the planning and command process, the associated internal staff procedures, the IT infrastructure and the increase in personnel in the crisis establishment at the level of an MCC. This exercise is the basis for the subsequent declaration of Initial Operational Capability (IOC).

On this basis, DEU MARFOR will in turn assume command and control tasks in operations as well as in complex exercises from 2023 to 2025, therefore demonstrating FOC.



DEU MARFOR WILL ...

- provide a naval command contribution to the NATO Readiness Forces
- combine multinational planning and leadership competencies
- be available as a command staff at various levels
- offer specialised expertise in all warfare areas
- offer a strong network to our partners through the integration of multinational staff members

"With DEU MARFOR, my goal is that, in the future, the German Navy, in a multinational framework, will be able to offer a deployable command and control element with the highest level of expertise."

Rear Admiral (Lower Half) S. Haisch
Deputy Commander DEU MARFOR







BUNDESWEHR

INFORMATION

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