



TOGETHER.
ANYTIME.
RESOLUTE.

MANAGING RSOM-I

The link between provision and
deployment of military forces



BUNDESWEHR

FROM PROVISION TO EFFECTS

The changed threat situation on NATO's eastern flank and the growing number of trouble spots in a globalised world demand the ability to quickly move troops at any time. After all, military forces can only be employed effectively if they are available at the right time, fully equipped and combat-capable, in the event of a conflict. That is why rapid strategic deployment is a key element of NATO's defence planning. The process of deploying forces starts typically with pre-deployment movements from the homebases of the forces to preplanned assembly points such as sea- or airports or railway stations. From there the strategic deployment to the area of operation starts. After the strategic deployment the forces get through the so called RSOM-I process which describes reception, staging, onward movement and integration. Alternatively, military forces can also move directly to the area of operation by road. The provision of forces for NATO or EU missions is in general a national responsibility. For the Bundeswehr, the Joint Force Command is in charge of the strategic deployment.

COLLECTIVE DEFENCE, SIMULTANEOUS DEPLOYMENT

Germany is integrated into a system of collective defence. That means, that German armed forces will always be deployed together with its allies in NATO and the European Union. In this context, Germany acts as a support hub for allied forces, transiting through Europe, for example to NATO's eastern flank. The large number of simultaneously executed force deployments by different countries requires careful planning and complex coordination at a multinational level. The Bundeswehr Joint Force Command coordinates in conjunction with NATO and EU Headquarters all movements in Germany and generates a comprehensive operational picture. If more than one country wants to use the same route at the same time, priority is given based on military requirements. Decisions of this kind are made in line with NATO's or EU's defence planning.

SUPPORT FOR GERMAN AND ALLIED FORCES

When forces are on the move, they need many different support services. Typical services are accommodation, messing, medical care, refuelling as well as protection and security measures. The Bundeswehr generally provides this support with its own resources. If necessary, it also draws on civilian contractors. The Bundeswehr Joint Force Command coordinates all support services for the military forces during movements and in transit – not only for the Bundeswehr, but also for allied countries' armed forces through host nation support. In this regard, the Bundeswehr's regional territorial commands act as a point of contact between the Bundeswehr, authorities and organisations with security tasks, and other civil authorities in the relevant federal state. They cooperate closely at the local and regional levels.



ALWAYS PEOPLE AND MATERIEL

RSOM-I always includes both people and materiel. It is not limited to weapon and ammunition transports. In RSOM-I, troops, weapon systems, ammunition and supplies are often transported in different ways and at different times. Military personnel generally fly to the mission area, while battle tanks, armoured infantry fighting vehicles, command and transport vehicles, other equipment and material containers are transported by ship or rail.

Road movements over long distances are very demanding for people and materiel. It is important to coordinate transports so that military personnel and their equipment and weapon systems arrive in the designated destination at the same time. In order to accomplish their mission effectively and without delay, they need to be seamlessly deployed to their area of operations.



MANAGING RSOM-I AS A KEY CAPABILITY

Whether RSOM-I is part of an exercise outside of Germany or heading for an operation or standby commitment is irrelevant for the planning and steps involved. If the Bundeswehr, and with it Germany, wants to fulfil its alliance commitments to NATO and the European Union or train within the scope of a multinational exercise, one thing is certain: efficiently managed, on-schedule RSOM-I is essential.

For effective national and collective defence, the forces of the Bundeswehr and its international partners must be able to be employed in the right place at the right time. It is the Bundeswehr Joint Force Command's mission to make sure that is the case.



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