

Danish contribution to NATO Mission Iraq 2020-2022.

What will Denmark's contribution look like?

The Danish contribution may consist of up to approx. 285 people. At the beginning of December 2020 some 140 people are deployed, including the commander of the mission, Lieutenant General Per Pugholm Olsen. Denmark is responsible for command of the mission until May 2022.

The contribution includes:

- a commander with a close protection team,
- a staff element, including advisors
- a force protection element, including a Baltic platoon
- a tactical aviation detachment (from May 2021 up to three EH-101 helicopters)
- a logistics element and
- a national support element

What is NATO Mission Iraq?

At the NATO Summit in Brussels in July 2018, Allied leaders launched NATO Mission Iraq following a request from the Iraqi government. This non-combat training and advisory mission was established in Baghdad in October 2018. NMI currently advises relevant Iraqi defence and security officials in the Ministry of Defence, the Office of the National Security Advisor, and the Prime Minister's National Operations Centre. In addition, NMI also provides advice to and carries out "train the trainer" programs at Iraq's professional military training and education institutions.



LtGen Olsen meeting with Iraqi counterparts as part of his Key Leader Engagement.



Danish personnel on NMI Team 1 boarding a military aircraft bound for the Middle East.

What is the purpose of NATO Mission Iraq?

NATO Mission Iraq assists Iraq in building more sustainable, transparent, inclusive and effective security institutions and armed forces, in order to improve their capability fighting terrorism, preventing the return of Daesh and stabilizing the country.

Where is the contribution deployed in 2020?

The main part of the Danish contribution is currently stationed in Baghdad. A national support element is stationed in Kuwait, where they support Danish contributions to both NMI and Operation Inherent Resolve. Finally, liaison officers are stationed at relevant headquarters in the United States and in the Middle East.

Future of NMI

At their meetings in February and October 2020, NATO Defense Ministers reaffirmed their support to Iraq and agreed to expand NATO Mission Iraq, as requested by the Iraqi government. A formal decision is expected at the next Defence Ministers' meeting in February 2021.