



## Improving Capability Profiles

Within the Federal Armed Forces, the German Army is carrying the largest burden in international operations. More than 4,200 soldiers are presently serving in foreign countries. During these operations, the German Army is presenting herself as a well wanted and highly respected partner. In international comparison, this Army is holding a very good position. The soldiers of the German Army – operating in international stabilisation operations, peace keeping and state building missions over years – are presenting themselves as highly motivated, qualified and operational minded.

The capability profile of the New Army is an important milestone in the transformation process of the entire Armed Forces. Highly visible procurement projects such as the armoured personnel carrier PUMA or the new command and control system of the Army, recently complemented by new command and weapon systems for land-based operations, are further improving command and control capabilities as well as operational effectiveness. At the same time they are important components of the modernisation and interoperability of the German Army.

However, within the forthcoming years, further capability deficiencies have to be dealt with to provide systematic cooperation of forces, systems and equipment – all complementing each other – and allow multinational ties to e.g. NATO and EU.

The large number of procurement projects for highly complex equipment and weapons systems demands a strict concentration on industrial and budgetary potentials with definite chances for realisation. Naturally, the German Army is in constant competition for a certain share of the budget against the other services. But especially in this situation it is of utmost importance to intensively demonstrate the own profile, especially towards the decision-making echelons. Rather be a hammer than a nail.

We all know, without a competitive domestic defence industry fulfilling the Army's demands with high quality is just impossible. Only with a highly developed domestic industry the capabilities for competition and cooperation on the international defence market will be maintained and expanded. Thus, politics have to contribute to ensure the survival of key capacities of the defence industry, especially in the area of the not yet consolidated land and equipment industry.

So, the direction is known, what are we waiting for?

Your

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