

 ROC
National
Defense
Report
2025



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Foreword

Assessments of the current global security situation show that, as the U.S. and PRC continue to engage in strategic competition, the international situation is intricate and complex with rising geopolitical risks. The ongoing Russia-Ukraine war as well as armed conflicts in the Middle East and between India and Pakistan have kept countries at heightened awareness. To ensure their security and development, major countries around the world have adjusted their national defense policies and strengthened their defense capabilities in response.

The PRC has continued its military expansion in recent years, and frequently engages in military activities in the East China Sea, Taiwan Strait, and South China Sea, projecting its air and sea power beyond the first island chain. This poses a threat and challenge to security in the Indo-Pacific region and even the world. There are many signs of the PRC's belligerence and expansionism, and the PRC is putting pressure on surrounding countries through gray zone harassment and intrusions, causing high concern in the international community. Furthermore, the PRC conducts joint operational readiness patrols and targeted military exercises against Taiwan without warning, attempting to create the model of invading Taiwan by turning training into exercises and turning exercises into war. This has destabilized the situation in the Taiwan Strait and encouraged countries with similar democratic ideologies to strengthen their security cooperation.

In the face of shifting global strategic situations, escalating regional security challenges, and the threat of the PRC, I have become deeply aware of the complexity of national defense affairs since taking office as the Minister of National Defense. I understand the necessity of building on existing foundations by further implementing pragmatic and innovative policies, seeking new ways of thinking and methods, and strengthening force buildup and combat readiness in order to ensure security for the nation, our national defense, and the people of Taiwan. First, human resources have always been a key asset for forces. We uphold the philosophy of being people-oriented, implemented "focusing on the essentials", and eliminated formalism for service members to focus on combat readiness training and improve organizational performance.

At the same time, the ROC Armed Forces builds combat capabilities for "multi-domain denial, resilient defense" based on the military strategy of "resolute defense and multi-domain deterrence," adopting a strategy of erosion and the concept of asymmetric warfare, integrating the nation's overall capabilities, and further extending combat readiness during peacetime to respond to gray zone harassment and intrusions. The ROC Armed Forces is also strengthening civilian-military integration mechanisms through whole-of-society defense resilience. In recent years, the ROC Armed Forces has formulated defense operations that are verified through immediate response exercises, realistic combat training, unscripted Exercise HAN KUANG, and joint exercises, aiming to build rapid response forces with high combat readiness. The ROC Armed Forces has created a common operation picture for the kill chain that integrates various weapon systems and equipment to form a kill web, in hopes of building multi-domain defense capabilities to deter the enemy from invading.

In terms of resources, the government is gradually increasing its defense budget to continue strengthening capabilities, and focuses on building asymmetric warfare capabilities, strengthening

defense resilience, enhancing the reserve forces, and consolidating response capabilities for gray zone tactics. The government is making iterative adjustments to the force structure of the ROC Armed Forces in coordination with the schedule for acquiring (transitioning to) new weapon systems and equipment.

In addition, through self-reliant national defense and acquisitions, the Ministry of National Defense (MND) is accelerating the acquisitions of new weapon systems and equipment in response to the development of innovative technologies and changes in the modern battlefield. Meanwhile, the MND has established the Defense Innovation Office (DIO) to develop advanced weapon systems and equipment suitable for future combat scenarios, thereby laying the foundation for defense technology capabilities. The MND has also introduced innovative technologies and currently available equipment in the private sector to accelerate capability growth, focusing on advanced technologies and AI applications. In conjunction with the government's industrial development strategy, the MND is establishing a Non-PRC supply chain for drones and unmanned surface vehicles, developing domestic Research and Development (R&D) and production capabilities to create mutual benefits for national defense and the economy.

In this crucial time, with both opportunities and threats, the MND is continuing to develop cross-departmental collaboration frameworks for all-out defense mobilization according to the government's policy guidance regarding whole-of-society defense resilience, thereby building comprehensive national power. The MND is actively promoting all-out defense education, and instills all citizens with the concept of shouldering burdens together for national security. At the same time, the MND continues to actively engage in exchanges with international think tanks through visits between high level officials and strategic dialogue, and is increasing military and security cooperation with friendly and partner countries to fulfill our commitment to cooperatively maintain peace.

Defending national security is the ROC Armed Forces' most critical mission, and both military and civilians share the belief that we must safeguard our homeland. The service members of the ROC Armed Forces will always be at the front lines when the nation needs them the most, where they will establish resilient lines of defense. We firmly believe that national security is built on the foundation of solid combat readiness, and being prepared and willing to fight is the only way to respond to severe threats and challenges and gain advantages from taking the initiative. This will deter the enemy from starting war. The publication of this report represents the commitment of the ROC Armed Forces to exert every effort in force build up and combat readiness to resolutely defend our sovereignty. We look forward to any encouragement, support, and advice from all sectors. The national defense of the ROC is not just the responsibility of service members, but relies on everyone working together to jointly protect our nation and defend our homeland.

Minister of National Defense



October 2025

In response to changes in modern warfare and multi-domain challenges of national security, the ROC Armed Forces bears the responsibility of being a force of stability in society and solid backing for national security. The MND has continued to apply new ways of thinking and methods to build asymmetric and resilient capabilities in recent years. The MND upholds the philosophy of preventing war by preparing for war, and diligently carries out training and combat readiness work, so as to protect citizens in everyday life and achieve the goal to prevent war and maintain peace.

This is the 18th ROC National Defense Report, which is published in accordance with Article 30 of the *National Defense Act*. The MND periodically publishes the ROC National Defense Report to explain to citizens the current security environment, the combat readiness of the ROC Armed Forces, and the current status and results of national defense administration, thereby demonstrating the transparency of national defense policy, strengthening the willpower of all-out defense, and gaining citizens' confidence regarding national defense, so that they will jointly defend the nation and protect Taiwan's democracy and liberty.

The theme of this report is "Agile and Resilient ROC Armed Forces Resolutely Defends Our Nation," and its contents cover the President's concept of "four pillars of peace," building agile response capabilities, and jointly carrying out whole-of-society defense resilience work with various government agencies. The ROC Armed Forces uses its capabilities to ensure peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait, and resolutely defends our homeland, ensuring that the ROC Armed Forces are a key foundation for national security and an important pillar of social stability. This report is divided into four parts: Strategic Environment, Resolute National Defense, Cornerstone of Peace, and National Defense Management. The data in this report is from September 2023 to August 2025.

Part 1 Strategic Environment

With the ongoing competition between the U.S. and PRC, the PRC continues to accelerate its military modernization and carry out the development and deployment of new equipment. At the same time, the PRC has also stepped up the use of various conventional and unconventional means of intimidation and is accumulating operational capabilities against Taiwan. We must leverage our geostrategic advantages and soft power to strengthen our national defense capabilities and resilience, and work alongside other democratic countries to contribute to regional peace and stability.

Part 2 Resolute National Defense

In accordance with the *Constitution of the Republic of China (Taiwan)*, *National Defense Act*, and the national security concepts of the President, the ROC Armed Forces has formulated national defense strategies and military strategies, planned the long-term development of national defense, and is building combat capabilities for "multi-domain denial, resilient defense" based on the military strategy of "resolute defense and multi-domain deterrence." The ROC Armed Forces emphasizes

agile and rapid response, asymmetric warfare, decentralized operations, and a strategy of erosion when building reliable capabilities that can effectively deter and defeat the enemy. The ROC Armed Forces is exerting every effort in combat readiness and is developing more resilient capabilities, as well as improving the effectiveness of joint operations through realistic combat training. Moreover, it is also enhancing the reserve forces to consolidate overall defense capabilities, in order to curb the expansion of military provocations by the PRC and ensure security and prosperity across the Taiwan Strait and in the Indo-Pacific region.

Part 3 Cornerstone of Peace

The ROC Armed Forces continues to engage in defense security cooperation with the U.S. and other friendly and partner countries in accordance with the President's national security concept of "four pillars of peace," and is building partnerships with other democracies to jointly become a force of deterrence. During peacetime, military resources are utilized to support disaster prevention and relief missions, protecting the safety of citizens and maintaining the stability of society. Furthermore, the ROC Armed Forces carries out measures for whole-of-society defense resilience together with government agencies to jointly build a resilient homeland. In addition, the ROC Armed Forces continues to strengthen strategic communication to foster strong patriotism among citizens so that they will clearly see the enemy threat, and also improves the effectiveness of international communication, thus working together to jointly defend a life of democracy and freedom.

Part 4 National Defense Management

With the goal of building modern national defense capabilities, the ROC Armed Forces has dedicated its efforts to national defense governance, self-reliant national defense, force management reform, professional logistics readiness, stable manpower, and stronger maintenance of military discipline, properly allocating overall resources to improve the quality and performance of defense undertakings. Taking care of service members is one of the primary tasks of national defense administration. The ROC Armed Forces is actively renovating living quarters, improving benefits, protecting the rights and interests of service members, and raising salaries (additional pay) to build cohesion among forces and give service members a stronger sense of commitment, so that they can focus on combat training. Cadre members show concern and provide assistance to service members with difficulties in life, and refer them to civilian counseling institutions to provide service members with better mental care, thereby ensuring the capabilities of forces.



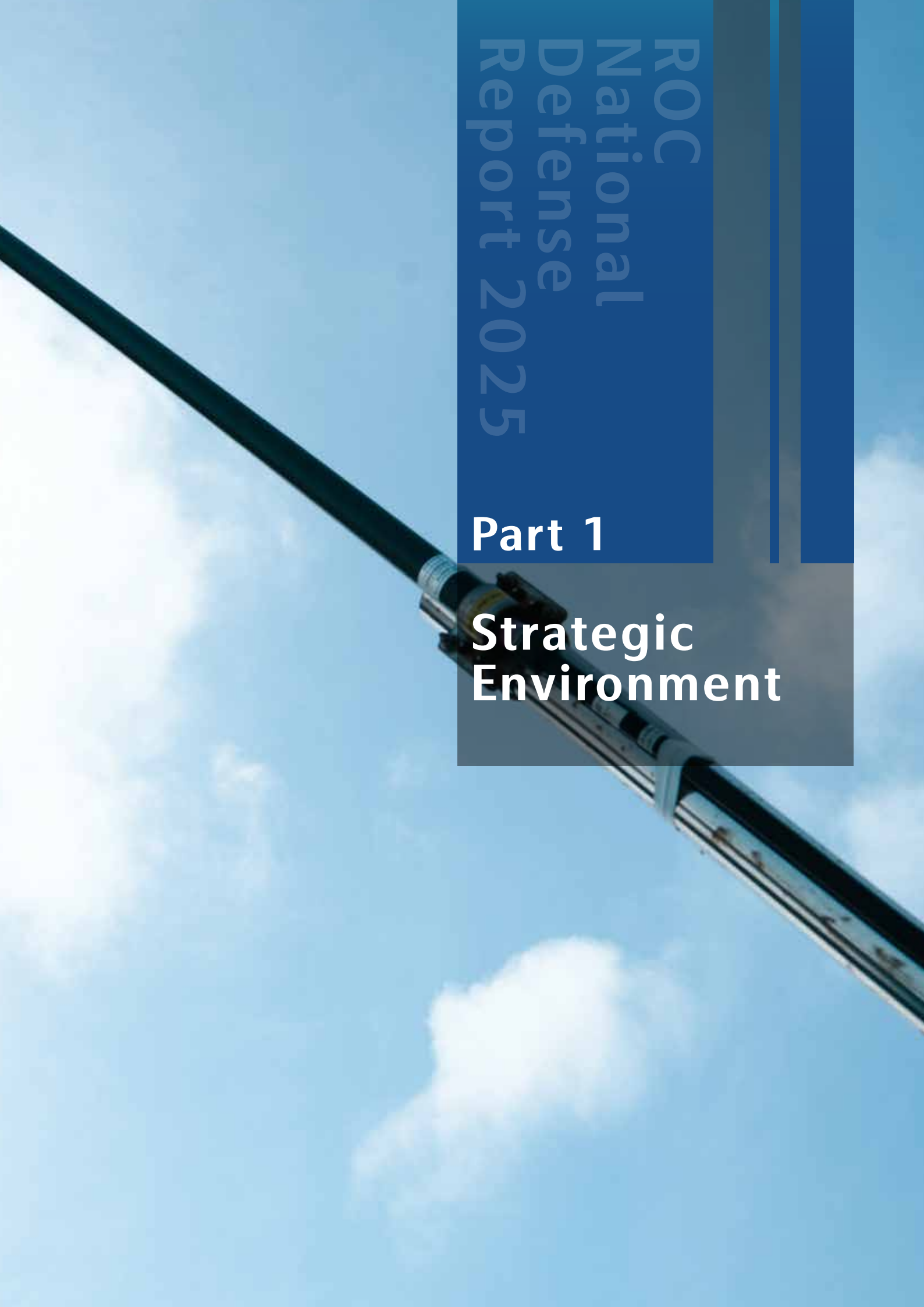
Shield of Democracy

Regional Combined Defense

The USS Carl Vinson and USS Theodore Roosevelt Carrier Strike Group conducted combined exercises with JS Ise, DDH-182 in the Philippine Sea.







ROC National Defense Report 2025

Part 1

Strategic Environment

Chapter 1

Regional Posture

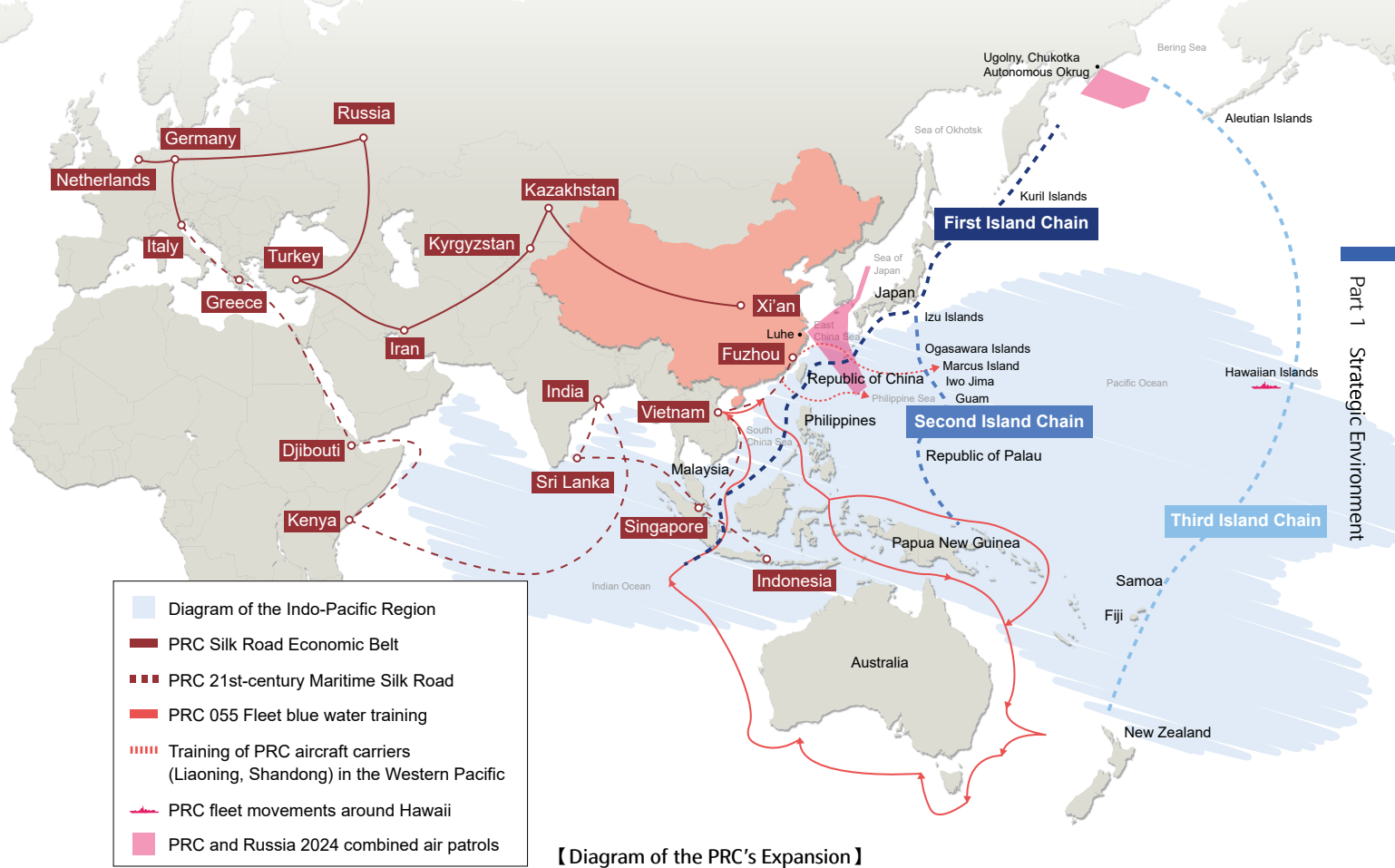
The strategic competition between the U.S. and the PRC is an important variable that influences the strategic environment in the Indo-Pacific. The U.S. will continue to adopt strong economic and military stances against the PRC, and prioritize the development of capabilities to deny PRC aggression. The U.S. is also demanding that allied countries increase their defense budget to share the responsibility of maintaining regional security. The PRC's geopolitical strategy has shifted from land power to sea power as it continues to significantly increase its military strength. The PRC has increased the frequency of joint air and maritime patrols with Russia, and escalated its coercion to gain greater regional influence. At the same time, the PRC also is taking countermeasures against the U.S. economically. Many countries in the Indo-Pacific region have increased their defense budgets and accelerated their investments in armaments systems, strengthening their defense capabilities to maintain national security. European countries are engaging in exchanges and establishing friendly cooperation with Taiwan, and have expressed their concern about the regional tension caused by the PRC's frequent military activities in the Taiwan Strait.

Section 1 Security Posture of the Indo-Pacific

With the rapid rise of its political and economic strength, the PRC has used the Belt and Road Initiative as an important tool for forming partnerships with Global South countries, attempting to increase its influence on international affairs. Furthermore, the PRC has continued to increase its defense budget to accelerate its military modernization, and has implemented a number of projects to build modernized forces to support its expansionist geopolitical strategy. The PRC taking stronger stances on sovereignty disputes has become a growing concern in geopolitics. The U.S. views the PRC as the only competitor capable of reshaping international order, and is imposing economic sanctions and technology embargoes as well as adjusting its forces deployed in the Indo-Pacific region to prevent the PRC's military expansion and ambitions to drive a wedge between democratic countries, thereby disrupting the existing international order.

I. The PRC is strengthening its military power projection capabilities and deepening its strategic cooperation with Russia.

The PRC has continued to upgrade its military capabilities through combat readiness, weapons development, and combat training, and has demonstrated its anti-access/area denial (A2/AD) capabilities through frequent military activities in the region. It is actively projecting its air and maritime military power in the East China Sea, Taiwan Strait, and South China Sea, and engaging in gray zone tactics and military exercises. Additionally, the PRC claims maritime jurisdiction as the basis for enforcement by its coast guard, and unilaterally extended its sovereignty jurisdiction claims to disputed waters on China's periphery. Combined with the *Provisions on Administrative Law Enforcement Procedures of Coast Guard Agencies* announced in 2024, the PRC is authorizing its coast guard to detain foreign vessels and crew within its alleged maritime jurisdiction in an attempt to legitimize its illegal claims.



The PRC's naval vessels passed through the Miyako Strait during an exercise, and even engaged in live-fire drills in international waters between Australia and New Zealand to demonstrate its ability to project stronger military power. The PRC has increased the number of its naval vessels and expanded its aircraft carrier formations, which have carried out training near Guam and in the Indian Ocean. In May and June of 2025, the PRC's Liaoning and Shandong carrier strike groups conducted training in regions such as the western Pacific Ocean. Publicly available data also showed that PRC ships were active in the waters around Hawaii in July of the same year. In addition, the PRC has built military bases in Djibouti and Cambodia, and obtained the right to use Pakistan's Gwadar Port and Sri Lanka's Hambantota International Port. The PRC plans to build naval bases in African countries, such as Equatorial Guinea, to strengthen its capabilities to secure logistics in the future.

The strategic partnership between the PRC and Russia has deepened in recent years. Both sides are working closer militarily through combined exercises and patrols, and they have gained influence and created a favorable strategic environment by increasing the number of participants in the BRICS Summit. The PRC and Russia continued to engage in air and maritime combined and joint exercises during the Russia-Ukraine war, and conducted combined air strategic patrols over the Sea of Japan, Bering Sea, East China Sea, and West Pacific. The two countries also conducted exercises in the Sea of Japan, Sea of Okhotsk, and South China Sea to deepen their strategic cooperation.

II. The U.S. views the PRC as a main threat and is uniting its allies to defend its interests.

As the U.S. and the PRC continue their strategic competition, the U.S. recognizes that the PRC is actively modernizing its military and projecting its military power in an attempt to change the rules-based international order, viewing the PRC as the greatest threat to U.S. national security and interests.

The *Military and Security Developments Involving the People's Republic of China 2024* published by the U.S. Department of Defense in December 2024 points out that the PRC's military power has continued to grow as it increases its number of nuclear warheads and develops new intercontinental ballistic missiles, which are a threat to the U.S. homeland. The PRC has also continued to develop a modernized navy and air force to strengthen its ability to cross the first island chain, and is seeking to increase its overseas infrastructure and logistics capabilities and expand its global military deployment. At the same time, the PRC is stepping up its cognitive and cyber warfare, aiming to divide society and prevent U.S. intervention in a crisis or conflict. The People's Liberation Army (PLA) is gradually increasing the frequency and intensity of military activities in the East China Sea, Taiwan Strait, and South China Sea. If an unforeseeable event occurs in the Taiwan Strait, it will delay or prevent intervention from a third party.

In March 2025, the U.S. Secretary of Defense, the Honorable Pete Hegseth signed the *Interim National Defense Strategic Guidance*, in which China is viewed as the primary military threat, and asks for the development of necessary military plans based on potential scenarios of China attacking Taiwan, as well as related adjustments to military deployments in the Indo-Pacific region. Recently, the U.S. has been relocating a portion of the Marines stationed in Okinawa, Japan to Guam, in order to reduce the burden of its forces on local communities. The U.S. can continue to work with the Japan Self-Defense Force (JSDF) by relieving the garrison in the future, and forming even more mobile littoral regiments to strengthen its deterrence capabilities in the Indo-Pacific region. The U.S. is also strengthening its military cooperation with the Philippines, conducting combined patrols and exercises, and conducting Freedom of Navigation Operations (FONOPs) in the South China Sea. The U.S. is also requesting and assisting friendly and allied countries with strengthening their defense capabilities to respond to the military threat of the PRC.

The U.S. promotes peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific region through multilateral security frameworks, such as the Trilateral Security Partnership between Australia, the UK, and the U.S. (AUKUS) and Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QUAD) with Japan, India, and Australia. Furthermore, the U.S. engages in 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue with Japan, the Republic of Korea (ROK), and India to enhance cooperation in supply chains, regional security, and logistics. At the same time, the U.S. is demonstrating its military power and is expanding cooperation with numerous countries through Exercise RIM OF THE PACIFIC (RIMPAC) and combined military exercises with other countries, such as Malabar, Exercise Pacific Steller, etc. The United States Coast Guard is strengthening maritime security, humanitarian aid, sea area monitoring, and law enforcement activities together with Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries and Pacific Island countries, in order to expand its influence in the region and strengthen the defense capabilities of island chains.

III. The United States, Japan, and the ROK strengthen cooperation in response to the growing threat of the PRC, Russia, and North Korea.

The PRC has repeatedly violated the air space and territorial waters of neighboring countries with its military aircraft and naval vessels, attempting to change the status quo in the East China Sea, Taiwan Strait, and South China Sea with military force. It has also expanded its regional influence through the Belt and Road Initiative, and uses the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Summit and BRICS Summit to win over developing countries in the Global South. The PRC and Russia have continued to strengthen their comprehensive strategic partnership, despite claiming to be non-aligned. Russia and North Korea signed a *Comprehensive Strategic Partnership Treaty*, which is the reason why North Korea sent troops to support Russia in the war with Ukraine. Meanwhile, Russia assists North Korea with military



Source: Official website of the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command



Source: Official website of the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command

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1.2. The U.S. and ROK continue to expand the scale of combined and joint military exercises to strengthen cooperation and improve the performance of multi-domain operations, in order to respond to the growing nuclear threat of North Korea.

modernization and enhancing its nuclear capabilities, escalating the nuclear tensions in the Korean Peninsula. North Korea unilaterally revoked the *919 Inter-Korean Military Agreement* previously signed with the ROK, and restarted military activities at the Military Demarcation Line between North Korea and the ROK, bombing railways and roads connected to the ROK and irregularly launching missiles, which have further escalated security risks in the Korean Peninsula.

Japan has continued to implement its *National Security Strategy* (NSS) of 2022 and views the PRC as its greatest strategic challenge, while Russia and North Korea are its main security threats. The ROK lists North Korea as its most direct and imminent security threat, and monitors the PRC's military expansion in the Indo-Pacific region and Russia's military deployment in the Far East region. Japan and the ROK have continued to deepen their alliances with the U.S. to counter expansionism of the PRC, Russia, and North Korea, and have strengthened intelligence sharing, periodic military exercises, and coordinated

operational capabilities for maritime security. In the future, Japan and the ROK will negotiate with the U.S. regarding the military expense sharing ratio for American presence, and increase their defense budgets and weapons acquisitions to bolster their defense capabilities, which will make them more capable of responding to potential military conflicts in the region. Furthermore, the *Diplomatic Bluebook 2025* of Japan includes concerns about the PRC and Russia working closer militarily, North Korea sending troops to assist Russia, and military activities of the PRC, and proposed continuing to work with the U.S. and ROK to respond to changes in the Indo-Pacific security environment.

IV. The Philippines defends its sovereignty through legislation while the remaining ASEAN countries are strengthening their defenses.

The South China Sea is rich in natural resources and also a main route for international air and sea transport. Neighboring countries such as Vietnam all have claims over the islands and reefs in the sea area, which have caused many disputes. The PRC negotiated the *Code of Conduct in the South China Sea* with the Philippines and some ASEAN countries in an attempt to mitigate the disputes. However, the PRC is also reinforcing the infrastructure and military equipment on the islands and reefs it controls, such as the Fiery Cross Reef, Mischief Reef, Subi Reef, Gaven Reef, Woody Island, and Triton Island, and conducts frequent military activities, using military aircraft (vessels) and coast guard vessels to hinder the aircraft (vessels) of other countries from exercising their rights. This shows the PRC's ambition for military expansion in the South China Sea and influence in the region.

President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. of the Philippines gave a speech at the Shangri-La Dialogue in June 2024, and stated that the Philippines will not tolerate other countries infringing on its maritime rights. He subsequently allowed the U.S. Armed Forces to use bases in the Philippines under the *Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement* (EDCA), and periodically conduct military exercises, such as BALIKATAN, to improve combined operational capabilities. The Philippines also signed the *Reciprocal Access Agreement* (RAA) with Japan to expand military cooperation and the scale of military exercises. Japan switched from observer to participant and formally joined BALIKATAN 25, a combined military exercise of the U.S. and the Philippines, in April 2025, enhancing their combined defense capabilities to face regional security threats together.

The U.S. has continued to strengthen its security relations with ASEAN countries with a focus on security interests in the South China Sea. Most ASEAN countries other than the Philippines have adopted a hedging strategy for relations between the U.S. and the PRC to protect their national interests. The ASEAN Summit in October 2024 called for the *Code of Conduct in the South China Sea* to be completed as soon as possible to reduce conflicts in the South China Sea, and to continue military modernization to strengthen security cooperation with neighboring countries. For example, Vietnam has upgraded its relationships with Singapore, Indonesia, and Malaysia into comprehensive strategic partnerships. Indonesia also indicated that it will expand current defense partnerships to strengthen its ability to deal with the sovereignty disputes in which it is involved, and cooperatively work for regional peace and stability.

V. European countries are deepening regional defense cooperation to strengthen Indo-Pacific security.

The Indo-Pacific region accounts for approximately 50% of the global trade volume, and competition between the U.S. and the PRC has further highlighted the importance of its strategic position. Following the PRC's military expansion and growing emphasis on Indo-Pacific affairs, the United

Kingdom (UK), France, Germany, and Netherlands have dispatched naval vessels to pass through the Taiwan Strait routinely or to participate in military exercises, showing their determination to uphold freedom of navigation. Japan signed a *Reciprocal Access Agreement* (RAA) with the UK, the first among European countries. The UK also deployed a carrier strike group in the Indo-Pacific region to strengthen bilateral cooperation. France passed the *seven-year 2024-2030 LPM* ("Military Programming Law") and reiterated that it is defending freedom of navigation in the Indo-Pacific based on the *United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea* (UNCLOS). France is particularly concerned about peace and stability in the South China Sea and Taiwan Strait, and has thus sent naval vessels to participate in a combined military exercise to deepen military cooperation with the Philippines in the South China Sea.

The European Union (EU) and U.S. issued a joint statement in September 2024 to emphasize the importance of maintaining peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait, and opposed unilaterally changing the status quo with military force. The European Commission announced *Readiness 2030* in March 2025 and pointed out that European security is currently facing the threat of war, invasion, and other hostile acts, including the expansion of Russia and rapidly growing military power of the PRC. The European Commission proposed the ReArm Europe financial plan, raising the funds needed to invest in defense. The EU signed security and defense partnerships with Japan and ROK, so that European countries will have powerful and adequate defense capabilities before 2030, strengthen the transatlantic alliance, and continue to support Ukraine. European countries will strengthen security cooperation with partners around the world, including India, Japan, ROK, and Australia in the Indo-Pacific, to contribute to regional peace and stability. The EU pointed out during the second-year Shangri-La Dialogue in May 2025 that the PRC's military activities in the South China Sea and Taiwan Strait threaten regional stability, and that the EU will strengthen cooperation with Indo-Pacific countries to face security challenges together.

North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) views Russia as the primary security threat in its *2022 Strategic Concept*, and listed the PRC as a systemic challenge. Since 2022, the defense ministers of Japan, ROK, Australia, and New Zealand have been invited to participate in the NATO Summit three times, and issued a joint statement for the first time in 2024, pointing out that the PRC's strong support for Russia's defense industry is a decisive enabler in the Russia-Ukraine war. They announced that they will deepen cooperation with partnering countries in the Indo-Pacific in four new flagship programs covering support for Ukraine, cybersecurity, misinformation, and artificial intelligence (AI), thereby confronting regional threats through collective security mechanisms.

In June 2025, the UK published the *Strategic Defence Review*, which pointed out the Indo-Pacific region's importance to the UK, and noted the PRC's military exercises have led to cross-Strait tensions. Therefore, the UK will continue to deepen its collaborations with partners in the Indo-Pacific and protect freedom of navigation, thereby defending and shaping rules and norms. In the same month, the UK also published its *National Security Strategy 2025*, with a continued focus on developments in the Indo-Pacific region, the Taiwan Strait, and the South China Sea, as well as strengthening regional cooperation in security.

VI. The international community continues to pay attention to peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait.

The PRC has continued its verbal attacks and saber-rattling against Taiwan, and continues to use military aircraft and vessels for harassment and provocation, normalizing gray zone threats and using joint

readiness patrols, targeted military exercises, enforcement by coast guard vessels, and other actions in an attempt to legitimize the PRC's maritime jurisdiction over the Taiwan Strait. The PRC expresses its discontent when foreign naval vessels pass through the Taiwan Strait and dispatches military aircraft and naval vessels to follow and monitor the foreign naval vessels, which has raised concerns from the international community.

The U.S. views the PRC as a primary competitor and continues to monitor the PRC's frequent military activities in the Taiwan Strait. The U.S. sells defensive weapons and equipment and provides technical services needed by Taiwan as authorized in the *Taiwan Relations Act* and the Six Assurances. The U.S. also included the Taiwan Security Cooperation Initiative in its *National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025* (NDAA), and requires administrative departments to implement the plan to build up an emergency weapons stockpile for Taiwan, thereby making Taiwan's defenses more resilient. In addition, the U.S. conducts freedom of navigation operations in the Taiwan Strait. In response to the PRC's joint readiness patrol in March 2025 and the military exercise targeting Taiwan in April of the same year, the U.S. stated that it is continuing to monitor military activities and developments in the Taiwan Strait.

In recent years, the PRC's military activities in the Taiwan Strait threaten and challenge security in the Indo-Pacific and even the world. Especially in response to PRC military exercises, government agencies and legislatures of numerous countries, have emphasized the importance of maintaining peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait and urged the PRC to show restraint, to resolve differences through dialogue, and opposed unilaterally changing the status quo through military force or coercion. NATO, EU, and Group of Seven (G7) all stressed that peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait is inseparable from global prosperity. Numerous countries continue to show concern for the tension in the Taiwan Strait caused by the PRC's Exercise STRAIT THUNDER 2025A in April 2025. In July of the same year, France released its *National Strategic Review 2025*, which pointed out that the PRC has engaged in high-intensity military exercises around the Taiwan Strait and strengthened its intimidation toward Taiwan, creating regional tensions. Compared to the past, France is increasing its attention toward the peace and stability in Taiwan and the Taiwan Strait.

Section 2 Strategic Direction of Countries in the Indo-Pacific

The Russia-Ukraine War, Middle East Conflict (Israel-Hamas, Iran-Israel), and India-Pakistan Conflict show that regional conflicts have become the new norm in geopolitics. Moreover, the military cooperation between the PRC, Russia, and North Korea has created even greater uncertainty in the security of the Indo-Pacific region. Countries in the Indo-Pacific region have adjusted their defense policies and increased their defense budgets in response to changes in the international situation and regional environment, strengthening their defense capabilities to respond to various security challenges and threats and to protect their national security interests.

I. United States

The U.S. remains in strategic competition with the PRC and views the PRC as the only country with the intent and capability to reshape the international order. The U.S. defines the PRC's military expansion as a pacing challenge. Currently, the U.S. Armed Forces is actively developing operating concepts and concentrating resources to transform its conventional forces, in order to ensure military superiority over the PRC. The U.S. Department of Defense announced in May 2025 that it will implement the America First and Peace Through Strength agenda as the core of the *National Defense Strategy* (NDS) in 2025, and deter the activities of the PRC in the Indo-Pacific region.

In terms of defense development, the U.S. continues a military superiority strategy and allocated a defense budget of US\$895 billion (approximately NT\$28.64 trillion) in 2025, an increase of 1% compared with the previous year. A significant portion is allocated for military personnel, to increase its military presence in the Indo-Pacific and support the defense of allies, as well as investments in the modernization of new military technologies, in order to remain the world's most powerful force.

In terms of security, the U.S. continues to engage in military cooperation with allies in the Indo-Pacific for security, in order to respond to the PRC's expansion in the region. The U.S. is further modernizing its military and developing innovative technologies to improve its deterrence capabilities and prevent a regional conflict from occurring. The U.S. has established a multi-layered defense system through forward deployment, military base expansion, and integration with allies to maintain its dominance in the Indo-Pacific region:

- (I) Strengthening defenses of the first and second island chains: The U.S. reinforced its bases in Japan, gained the right to use bases in the Philippines, and upgraded its air defense system in Guam to ensure its operational capabilities remain at the forefront of the Western Pacific.
- (II) Forward deployment and strategic deployment: U.S. battle groups are deployed on a long-term basis, and B-52 bombers and nuclear submarines rotate between Guam and Australia to enhance strategic deterrence and rapid response capabilities.
- (III) Deepening military alliances: Missile defense and intelligence sharing is integrated through trilateral cooperation between the U.S., Japan, and ROK, cooperation in military technology is deepened through the AUKUS, and the U.S. continues to engage in multilayered security cooperation with like-minded countries through QUAD.

Furthermore, the U.S. has stepped up FONOPs and dispatched naval vessels to patrol the South China Sea and regularly pass through the Taiwan Strait to uphold freedom of navigation. The U.S. provides military aid to ASEAN countries to help them develop the means to respond to the PRC's A2/AD capabilities, and thereby deal with the PRC's frequent military activities in the South China Sea. The U.S. and the PRC restored their military hotline, established rules for encounters between military aircraft and vessels, and regularly hold high level talks on military matters to lower the risk of miscommunication and avoid conflict or escalation.

II. Japan

Japan's security and defense strategy is gradually shifting away from the concept of exclusively defense-oriented policy and towards a more proactive approach, responding to regional security challenges. The *Defense of Japan 2025* discusses the security environment around Japan, including the intense U.S.-China strategic competition, high-level growth of China's defense budget for improvement of its military power, North Korea's advances in nuclear weapons and missile development, the strategic partnership between Russia and China, and conflicts in regions such as the Middle East. Japan has thus increased its defense budget to strengthen its defense capabilities, and has stepped up security cooperation with its allies to cooperatively maintain the current international order.

In terms of defense development, Japan's defense budget reached JPY8.7 trillion (approximately NT\$1.8 trillion) in 2025, an increase of 9% compared with the previous year, focusing on building counterstrike capabilities, upgrading defense systems, and improving the salaries of the JSDF. Japan is focusing on building a multi-domain defense system covering the land, air, sea, space, cyberspace, and electromagnetic domains to strengthen its defense capabilities, to respond to the rising threat of cyber warfare and hybrid warfare.

In terms of security, Japan is adjusting its defense strategy and strengthening its military capabilities to deter the threat of the PRC and North Korea:

- (I) Significantly increasing defense budget: Japan plans to increase its defense spending to 2% of its gross domestic product (GDP) before 2027, and plans to purchase cruise missiles to strengthen its counterstrike capabilities and modernize its military.
- (II) Strengthening island chain defense: Japan plans to build a missile base and air-defense batteries in the Ryukyu Islands, increasing its long distance delivery and defense capabilities to respond to potential conflict in the East China Sea and Taiwan Strait.
- (III) Deepening military cooperation with the U.S.: Japan and the U.S. Armed Forces plan to deploy medium-range missiles in the Okinawa and Kyushu regions, share intelligence, improve the joint operational capabilities of the JSDF, and better safeguard regional security.

Japan has acquired Tomahawk missiles to strengthen the joint operational capabilities of the JSDF. Japan established the JSDF Joint Operations Command in March 2025 to strengthen its ability to coordinate with the U.S. Armed Forces in military operations. It also developed a combined operational information integration system with the U.S. Armed Forces to share intelligence and early warnings, in order to improve the response speed and joint operational capabilities of both countries when facing a sudden military conflict. Recently, Japan has been actively reinforcing defense facilities on the Okinawa Islands, adding missile bases and air defense systems to rapidly respond to security threats and ensure regional peace and stability.

III. India

India has proposed an adaptive defense strategy to replace conventional defense in response to the challenges brought by rapidly changing situations, from conventional security threats to unconventional warfare, such as cyberattacks and hybrid warfare.

In terms of defense development, India's defense budget reached INR6.81 trillion (approximately NT\$2.59 trillion) in 2025-2026, an increase of 9.5% compared with the previous year. The budget is mainly allocated to developing defense technology, achieving a self-reliant defense industry, strengthening defense capabilities, and personnel expenses. India is focusing on ensuring national

security, maintaining territorial integrity, and modernizing its military to achieve strategic autonomy and balanced development.

In terms of security, India maintains a non-aligned stance and is actively modernizing its military. It is also working with the U.S., Japan, and Australia to deal with the threat of the PRC and Pakistan:

- (I) Strengthening and modernizing its navy: India is building an aircraft carrier to strengthen control over the Indian Ocean.
- (II) Developing defense technology: India is developing a self-reliant defense industry with an emphasis on the autonomy of its economy, technology, and defense strategy, so that it will be less dependent on foreign suppliers.
- (III) Strengthening border military deployment: India has increased the number of troops deployed at the borders, and also deployed drones, air-defense missiles, and hypersonic cruise missiles to respond to military pressure from other countries.
- (IV) Deepening cooperation with QUAD members: India is increasing interoperability with the U.S., Japan, and Australia through defense supply chain cooperation and combined military exercises.

In recent years, India has engaged in security cooperation with the U.S., Australia, and Japan numerous times to counter the potential military challenge of the PRC, and has maintained the principle of strategic autonomy. India has not formally joined any military alliance so as to maintain flexibility and independence in its diplomatic policy, giving consideration to both national interests and regional security.

IV. Australia

In response to the PRC's military expansion in the Western Pacific, Australia's military strategy is to strengthen its autonomy and deterrence. Australia's *Defence Strategic Review* (DSR) in 2023 and *National Defense Strategy* (NDS) in 2024 both stressed that it is seeking to strengthen its military power projection. The framework of the *US-Australia Defense Agreement 2024* has included military cooperation between the U.S. and Australia in the U.S. Indo-Pacific Strategy.

In terms of military development, Australia's defense budget reached AUD55.7 billion (approximately NT\$1.16 trillion) in 2024-2025, an increase of 6.3% compared with the previous year, and focuses on developing weapons such as missiles, drones, and naval vessels to respond to potential conflict in the Pacific region.

In terms of security, Australia is actively building its military power and deepening military cooperation through the AUKUS:

- (I) Strengthening defenses of northern bases: Australia upgraded its Darwin Port base and allows the U.S. Armed Forces to temporarily station fighter aircraft and naval vessels at the base.
- (II) Strengthening air and maritime operational capabilities: Australia has upgraded its F-35 fighters and acquired Tomahawk cruise missiles to build its sea control, air control, and long range strike capabilities.
- (III) Increasing interoperability: Australia seeks science, technology, and supply chain integration through information sharing between allies, in order to accelerate its weapons development and increase its operational resilience.

Australia is currently strengthening its military capabilities and has made significant progress in improving its long range strike capabilities and military cooperation with the U.S. and UK. This strategy will not only help deal with the PRC's military expansion in the South China Sea and Indian Ocean, but also provide important support for the U.S. Indo-Pacific Strategy. Australia will continue to deepen its cooperation with the U.S. and other allies, in hopes of gaining stronger self defense and deterrence capabilities for potential regional security challenges in the future.

V. Republic of Korea (ROK)

The 2023 *National Security Strategy* (NSS) of the ROK emphasizes developing preemptive strike capabilities, building missile defense systems, and developing the K-3 Axis System for retaliation against large scale strikes, in order to deal with the threat of North Korea's nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction. The strategic defense technologies listed by the ROK include AI, quantum technology, space, energy, high-tech materials, networks, drones, detection and electronic warfare, propellants, and countering weapons of mass destruction. It is actively working with the private sector in hopes of accelerating scientific research.

In terms of defense development, the ROK focuses on responding to the threat of North Korea's nuclear weapons, reinforcing military cooperation with the U.S., developing high-tech weapons and space strategies, and enhancing its self-reliant national defense capabilities. The ROK's defense budget reached KRW61.59 trillion (approximately NT\$1.39 trillion) in 2025, an increase of 3.6% compared with the previous year, focusing on active military modernization to enhance military capabilities for responding to potential threats.

In terms of security, the goal of the ROK's military strategy is to establish strong national defense capabilities, and it continues to make progress in weapons development and military modernization. Its defense industry has benefited from the Russia-Ukraine War and continues to grow. The ROK will gradually strengthen its defense capabilities to deal with the threat of North Korea through:

- (I) Deployment to extend deterrence: U.S. nuclear submarines and strategic bombers rotate to the Korean Peninsula, and the U.S. and ROK formed the Nuclear Consultative Group to strengthen nuclear deterrence against North Korea and the PRC.
- (II) Development of domestically-built weapons: The ROK is upgrading its military equipment, such as the K-2 main battle tank, KF-21 fighters, and new combat ships, for self-reliant national defense.
- (III) Deepening security cooperation with the U.S. and Japan: The ROK is developing a joint warning system to enhance its ability to respond to missile threats.

VI. Southeast Asian Countries

The PRC's military expansion in the South China Sea poses a threat and challenge to regional order and the security of neighboring countries. Southeast Asian countries are prioritizing self-reliant national defense and military modernization, territorial land and sea security, regional cooperation and multilateral security frameworks, anti-terrorism and internal security, military diplomacy and balancing the influence of major powers, and disaster response and humanitarian aid. In particular, Southeast Asian countries are focusing on accelerating military modernization.

(I) Philippines

The Philippines allows the U.S. Armed Forces to use 9 military bases according to the *Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement* (EDCA) of 2014, strengthening joint defense to maintain regional peace and stability. The U.S. also stressed that the *Mutual Defense Treaty between the United States and the Republic of the Philippines* is applicable to areas of the South China Sea controlled by the

Philippines, including military conflicts in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the Philippines. To counter the PRC's expansion in the South China Sea, the Philippines has continued to enhance its defense and response capabilities and plans to purchase F-16 fighters, high mobility artillery rocket systems (HIMARS), and Typhon medium-range missile systems from the U.S.; BrahMos supersonic cruise missiles from India; Acero-class patrol gunboats from Israel; and FA-50 fighters and frigates from the ROK; which will strengthen its territorial defense and maritime security capabilities to safeguard its sovereignty and interests in the South China Sea.

(II) Vietnam

Vietnam emphasizes its independence and focus on defense as the basis for responding to potential threats and security challenges in the region through military modernization and international cooperation. Facing the PRC's military influence, Vietnam is working closer with the U.S. and Japanese militarily. Vietnam has also acquired the T-90 main battle tank, Kilo-class submarine, and Gepard-class frigate from Russia. Vietnam has purchased RADAR, fighter, drone, and electronic warfare weapons and technologies from the U.S., India, the ROK, and the Czech Republic to modernize its military and enhance its defense capabilities. Vietnam participated in numerous combined exercises with the U.S. and Japan relevant to the South China Sea issue, and has thereby strengthened its maritime defense and countermeasure capabilities. Vietnam has expanded international military and security cooperation to bolster its national defense and defend its territorial interests.

(III) Indonesia

Indonesia's strategy is a multi-layered defense and serving as a global maritime fulcrum, placing emphasis on maritime security and defense, military modernization, and regional security cooperation, in order to safeguard its sovereignty and territorial integrity. Indonesia cooperates with both the U.S. and PRC in regional security. Militarily, Indonesia maintains a neutral position. In recent years, it has made plans to purchase Rafale fighters and diesel-electric submarines from France, jointly develop advanced fighters with the ROK, and acquire new frigates from Italy, so as to strengthen its air and maritime capabilities. Indonesia has also expanded combined exercises with many countries to enhance its maritime patrol capabilities. Facing the dispute with the PRC over the exclusive economic zone of Kabupaten Natuna in the South China Sea, Indonesia is working with the U.S., Australia, and other ASEAN countries to protect its maritime rights and interests.

(IV) Singapore

Singapore is the smallest Southeast Asian country by land area, but has a modern national defense system and well-equipped military. Its main military strategy is the "dolphin" defense posture, and it is strengthening its maritime defense capabilities, while playing a flexible, agile, and highly effective crucial role in regional security. In terms of defense development, Singapore continues to modernize its military and strengthen its deterrence capabilities. In terms of military diplomacy, Singapore has continued to cooperate with the U.S. militarily and signed an EDCA, improving interoperability through combined exercises. Singapore agreed to let the U.S. use its Paya Lebar Air Base and Changi Naval Base to assist the U.S. Armed Forces with logistics. Furthermore, Singapore is actively conducting military exercises with Australia and ASEAN countries to improve combined operational capabilities with allies and jointly maintain regional stability and maritime security. Singapore has gained also greater discourse power by organizing important regional security forums, such as the Shangri-La Dialogue, and increased its influence on regional security.

Section 3 Security Environment of Taiwan

Taiwan is situated at a crucial location in the first island chain of the Western Pacific, and plays a key role in the economic development of countries around the world on the busiest sea and air routes in the world. If the security environment of the Republic of China (ROC) is threatened by the PRC, it will impact global politics, international trade, economic development, and regional security. It will also pose an acute challenge to the defense of democracy and human rights. Numerous democratic countries and international organizations have issued statements emphasizing the importance of security in the Taiwan Strait. Ensuring peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait has become a major common interest of the international community.

I. Key geopolitical and economic location

Taiwan has a democratic political system that serves as a model for the Indo-Pacific. The PRC is a communist totalitarian regime that has continued to expand its military in recent years, frequently engaging in military activities in the East China Sea, Taiwan Strait, and South China Sea. The PRC is projecting its air and sea power beyond the first island chain to challenge the current rules-based international order, causing instability in geopolitics. Taiwan is at the forefront of the PRC's expansion and attempts to change the status quo. The PRC continues to increase the intensity of its gray zone tactics, viewing the Taiwan Strait as under its maritime jurisdiction and entering the prohibited and restricted waters of Kinmen. The PRC also frequently crosses the median line of the Taiwan Strait to conduct joint readiness patrols, finds excuses to conduct military exercises targeting Taiwan, conducts drills of its A2/AD, maritime blockade, and rehearses assault operations against Taiwan, threatening regional peace and stability.

Taiwan and its surrounding air space and waters are major international airways and waterways. Nearly 30% of the world's passenger and cargo flights pass through the air space near Taiwan every year, and nearly 50% of all maritime container traffic passes through the Taiwan Strait, making it one of the busiest trade routes in the world. Taiwan is the world's main producer of advanced microchips and semiconductors, manufacturing nearly 90% of the world's 3 nanometer chips in 2024. Chips manufactured in Taiwan are needed in a wide range of products from smartphones to AI servers, and cutting off this supply chain will cause a massive global economic slowdown. If a crisis occurs in the Taiwan Strait, it will threaten global economic development. Hence, Taiwan's security has become a global focal point.

II. A force for regional peace and stability

As a responsible member of the international community, the ROC has adhered to the *Charter of the United Nations* and international law for many years, playing a key role in geopolitical and economic security and industrial development to ensure peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait, as well as becoming a trustworthy security partner to countries in the region. Taiwan is willing to strengthen cooperation with like-minded countries and cooperatively hold up the democratic umbrella, utilizing collective security capabilities to curb provocation, intimidation, and violations of international law by the PRC, as well as its intent to unilaterally change the status quo in the region, thereby contributing to peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific and the world.



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1.2. President Lai Ching-te visits Pacific Island countries, including the Marshall Islands, Tuvalu, and Palau, on a trip themed “Smart and Sustainable Development for a Prosperous Austronesian Region” to build closer cooperation with Taiwan’s allies and gather together a force for maintaining regional peace and stability.

Among the defense system of democratic countries in the Indo-Pacific, friendly and partner countries are attaching growing importance to the operational capabilities of Taiwan’s Armed Forces, and have high expectations for Taiwan to rapidly strengthen its asymmetric capabilities by increasing its defense budget, acquiring new weapons, and increasing its operational resilience, so that Taiwan will be able to play an important strategic role in countering China’s military expansion. Countries in the Indo-Pacific region can help Taiwan’s Armed Forces strengthen its capabilities to counter PRC blockades by engaging in exchanges on personnel training, defense industry development, and resilience of whole-of-society defense. This will help maintain peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait and ensure that global trade continues to operate unimpeded.

Chapter 2

Security Threats

The development of the situation in the Indo-Pacific region is influenced by the strategic competition between the U.S. and the PRC. The PRC continues to increase its defense budget, accelerate its military modernization, develop and deploy various new weapons, and increase the scale of participation of its services in exercises. This has put pressure on surrounding countries and also raised concern in the international community. Taiwan is located at the forefront of the PRC's shift in its geostrategic shift from land power to sea power. The PRC has never renounced the use of military force against Taiwan, normalizing gray zone tactics combined with cognitive warfare and narrative warfare, and intensifying verbal attacks and saber rattling against Taiwan. The PRC is Taiwan's most direct security threat and also creates a greater risk of geopolitical instability.

Section 1 Status and Development of PRC's Military Capabilities

The PRC released the white paper titled *China's National Security in the New Era* in May 2025. The white paper pointed out that in order to forge practical national security capabilities for real combat, it will gradually complete its defense readiness, deepen reforms of the joint operations system, develop military power in conventional security and emerging security domains, and accelerate the modernization of its defense and armed forces to prepare for war or unforeseen events. The PRC continues to strengthen its military power development in each domain, weapon system research and development, combat readiness, and research on operating methods, and emphasizes integrated joint operations in order to achieve the goal that a century of military buildup has been pursuing, reform the PLA into one of the world's top armed forces, and comprehensively develop a "modern socialist country".

I. The PRC's military strategy

The PRC uses *Xi Jinping's Thought on Strengthening China's Military (2023 version)* as the guideline for accelerating defense and military modernization and building a world-class military. The PRC will accelerate the development of weapons and equipment, implement projects to train personnel, reform the defense mobilization system, and conduct realistic combat training. It will also accelerate the integrated development of mechanization, informatization, and intelligentization.

- (I) Strategic objectives of the PLA military services: The PLA Army (PLAA) aims to pursue the goal of real-combat training, information-enabled operational platforms, and talent specialization. The PLA Navy (PLAN) aims to modernize its fleet and transition from near seas defense to far seas operations, and cooperates with the coast guard in strengthening joint operational capabilities. The PLA Air Force (PLAAF) positions itself as full-fledged strategic service, capable of conducting long-range air power projection. The PLA Rocket Force (PLARF) aims to develop long range precision strike capabilities and has short range, medium range, and long range ballistic missiles and land-launched cruise missiles. The PLA Joint Logistic Support Force (PLAJLSF) is accelerating the development of unmanned, automated, and intelligent equipment.

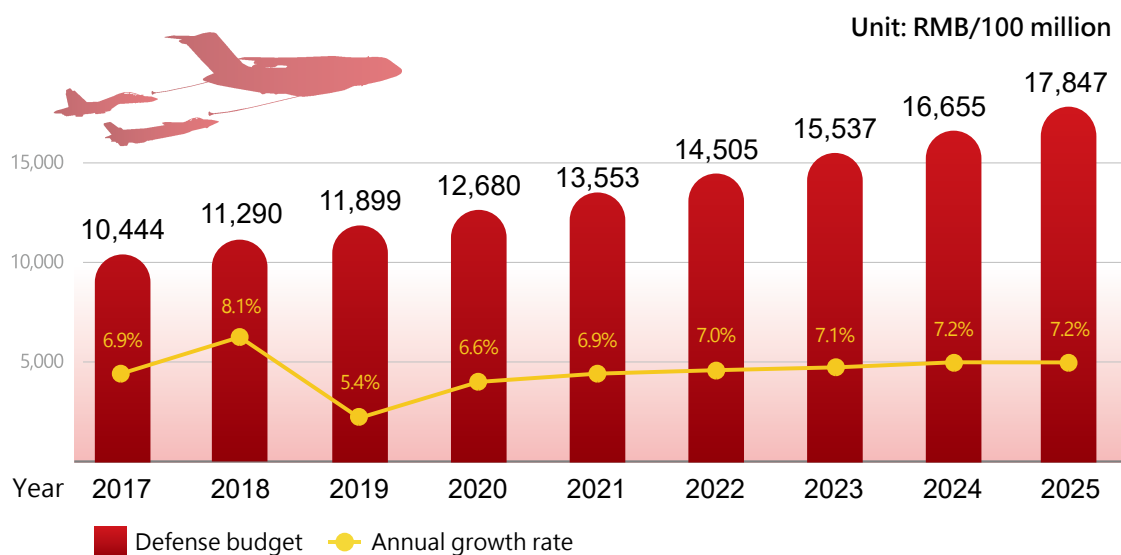
- (II) The PRC dissolved the PLA Strategic Support Force (PLASSF) and reorganized it into the PLA Aerospace Force (PLAASF) and PLA Cyberspace Force (PLACSF) and established the PLA Information Support Force (PLAISF) in April 2024, developing space warfare, cyber operations, and information and communications capabilities to achieve its strategic goals of informatization and intelligentization.

II. The PRC's defense budget and arms exports

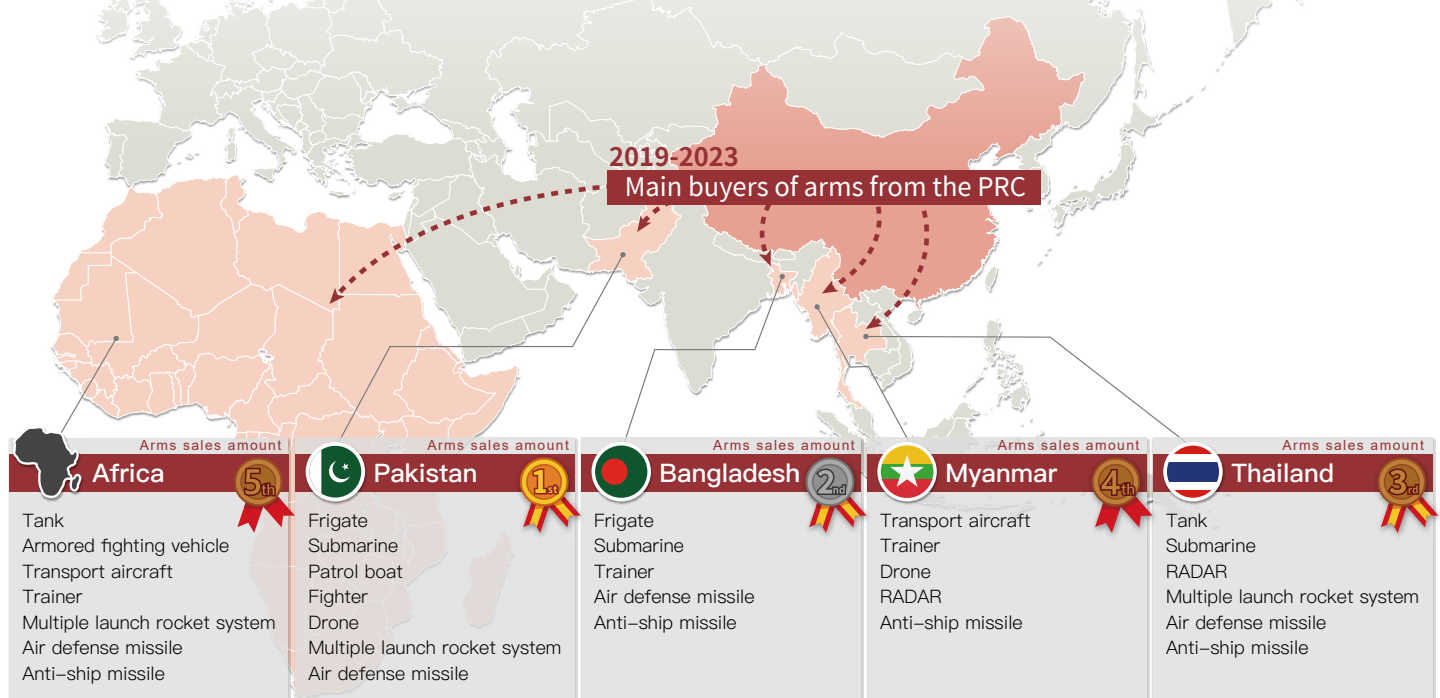
The PRC has increased its defense budget and investment in defense development and military each year to achieve the strategic plan of sustaining defense and military modernization. In recent years, the PRC has become one of the world's main weapons exporters, and through arms exports it has strengthened its military and political connections with the countries receiving its weapons to gain greater influence in the region.

(I) The PRC's defense budget

The PRC's defense budget has grown at a pace faster than its economic growth each year to gradually realize its military modernization strategy. The PRC's defense budget was RMB1.7847 trillion (approximately NT\$8 trillion) in 2025, an increase of 7.2% and higher than the annual economic growth target of 5%. It is clear that the PRC prioritizes military modernization and has increased investments in its armed forces, including accelerating its far sea development strategy, continuing to commission new fighter aircraft, acquiring integrated reconnaissance-strike drones as well as vessels and developing modernized weapons systems such as precision missiles. It is also strengthening its strategic nuclear capabilities and cyber warfare capabilities, and also implementing a strategy to strengthen its military power for talented personnel in a new era, deepen defense and military reform, invest in new technologies with military potential, and improve the work, training, and living conditions of its forces.



【The PRC's Defense Budget in 2017-2025】



Source: SIPRI Military Expenditure Database

【 Main Buyers of Arms from the PRC in 2019-2023 】

(II) The PRC's arms exports

The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) published a global arms trade study in 2024, pointing out that the revenue of the world's top 100 arms-producing and military services companies has reached US\$632 billion in 2023, up 4.2% compared with 2022. Furthermore, the PRC's arms exports accounted for 5.9% of global arms exports, and it was the world's 4th largest arms exporter. The Aviation Industry Corporation of China, China North Industries Group Corporation, China South Industries Group Corporation, and China Aerospace Science & Industry Corporation were listed among the world's top 100 arms-producing and military services companies, with a total arms revenue of US\$103 billion in 2023. In recent years, the PRC has mainly exported arms to countries in Asia, Oceania, and Africa, in which 60% of arms are exported to Pakistan, while Bangladesh and Thailand are the next-highest purchasers of arms.

III. The PRC's weapon system research and development

By referencing publicly available information, a PRC invasion of Taiwan would require approximately 100,000 troops, including airborne, heliborne, and amphibious landing troops. The PRC has been developing operations in new domains and new quality combat forces in recent years, and it is utilizing AI and unmanned systems in various domains of operations. It has incorporated the Beidou Navigation Satellite System into military operations and improved the precision of long range missile strikes, increased the combat radius of unmanned aerial (surface) vehicles, and battlefield command and control capabilities. Each service continues to develop and transition to new weapons to increase its strategic capabilities.

(I) PLAA

The PLAA currently has approximately 965,000 personnel, and has continued to decommission old tanks and the PHL-81 multiple rocket launcher; develop the Feilong 60A cruise missile and GL series active protection system for tanks; and commission the ZTQ-15 light tank, mobile artillery rocket system, and mobile anti-aircraft guns; increasing the tactical flexibility of its forces and rapid maintenance and resupply capabilities.

(II) PLAN

The PLAN currently has approximately 260,000 personnel, and is commissioning new aircraft and vessels; completed the sea trial for its Type 003 aircraft carrier and fourth Type 075 amphibious assault ship; continues to build the Type 076 amphibious assault ship; and is developing combatant ships (055, 052D, 054A/B), submarines (093B, 094), various carrier-based aircraft (Z-18 transport/Z-20 attack helicopter, KJ-600), the YJ-21 missile, and railgun technology to gradually replace old vessels and weapons. The PRC is also developing the JL series intercontinental-range submarine-launched ballistic missiles and unmanned underwater vehicles, as well as improving the operational performance of conventional and strategic submarines to build area denial and deterrence capabilities.

(III) PLAAF

The PLAAF currently has approximately 395,000 personnel, and has gradually replaced its fighters with next-generation fighters and increased the carrying capacity of H-6 bombers to achieve long range precision strikes on important targets. It is accelerating the development of next generation stealth fighters, strategic bombers, and various extended range air-defense missile systems and also enhancing its command and control, reconnaissance, communications, and long range precision strike capabilities for joint air operations. In response to the transition in strategy of the PLAAF, the Airborne Corps plans to build operational capabilities for multi-domain maneuver, airborne combat equipment, and mechanized main battle equipment.

(IV) PLARF

The PLARF currently has approximately 120,000 personnel, and has continued to develop medium range, long range, and intercontinental ballistic missiles and hypersonic missiles to enhance the precision strike and penetration capabilities of its missile systems. It is also increasing the number of nuclear warheads and diversifying deployment and launch methods to strengthen its strategic deterrence.

(V) PLAJSF

The PLAJSF currently has approximately 150,000 personnel. To develop intelligent, modular equipment and facilities, it is currently developing drones with the carrying capacity to transport supplies. It conducts exercises on cross-sea delivery, cross-theater medical support, and fuel resupply to verify standardized procedures and reduce casualties on the battlefield, so that it will be able to effectively support the operations of all forces during wartime.

(VI) Other forces

To accelerate the development of heavy and reusable carrier rockets, the PLAASF uses the Beidou Navigation Satellite System, remote sensing and reconnaissance satellites, and Chinasat communications satellites to create a clear picture of the battlefield to support joint operations of different services. The PLACSF is developing the PLA's cybersecurity, information processing and distribution, electronic confrontation and signal interception, and cyber warfare. In addition, the PLAJSF is working towards the strategic goals of modernization by setting up smooth data links and integrating the joint operations system to support operating forces in real time.

IV. Long range force projection readiness

The PRC is seeking to expand its overseas logistics and base facilities to demonstrate and strengthen its overseas military power projection. It has continued to verify the load capacity of commercial ships to improve the performance of joint operations and long range force projection. It also uses commercial semi-submersible ships as a platform for coordinated operations to improve its maritime penetration capabilities.

(I) Current status of overseas military base establishment

The PRC established its first overseas military base in Djibouti. The civilian-military integrated investment in the air and maritime facilities of a developing country under the name of the Belt and Road Initiative makes it a potential overseas base. The Ream Naval Base in Cambodia built with aid from the PRC has begun operations under a 30-year lease. The base will be able to supply fuel, ammunition, and provisions and meet the repair needs of naval vessels training overseas, which will help increase the PLA's force projection and long-range combat capability.

(II) Rapidly developing roll-on/roll-off ships and commercial ship load capacity

The PRC announced the *Technical Standards for Implementing National Defense Requirements in New Construction of Civilian Ships* in March 2015, and future ships will be constructed according to its national defense requirements. The PRC has increased subsidies for the construction of commercial ships, including roll-on/roll-off ships and bulk carriers, that can be mobilized for national defense and support military operations. The PRC used newly built jack-up barges for a ship connection and Bailey bridge extension experiment in Zhanjiang Municipality, Guangdong Province in March 2025, in order to increase the flexibility of its forces for future landing operations, and strengthen equipment transportation and delivery capabilities. The PRC continues to develop special work ships, such as the bridge-type landing barge for beach landing. In recent years, the PLA has used a large number of civilian roll-on/roll-off ships in military transportation operations, utilizing their large load capacity, convenience of recruitment, and relatively low shipbuilding cost and time to increase long range force projection capabilities and joint operation capabilities.

V. The PRC's use of new generation technologies

The PRC has continued to improve its military drone, space, big data, and AI technologies, utilizing the high mobility, strong reconnaissance capabilities, excellent concealment, and lower operating cost of unmanned vehicles in the air, at sea, and on land for gray zone harassment and intrusions, so that there are no casualties and relatively low cost losses. Additionally, the tech war between the U.S. and the PRC is focusing on space technology and AI. The PRC already views the development of space technology as one of its comprehensive strategic priorities, and is attempting to "seize the commanding heights" in the space technology domain.

Section 2 The PRC's Military Threat

The PRC is actively developing and preparing various military capabilities, and poses a targeted military threat to Taiwan through various paramilitary operations, cyber and electronic warfare, exercises in lieu of training, firepower strikes, and blockade capabilities. In recent years, the PRC has demonstrated its military power and blockade capabilities through military exercises, and engages in cognitive warfare to mislead the international community, posing an even greater military threat to Taiwan.

I. Patterns of targeted military threats

The PRC utilizes military activities with different threat levels to normalize military exercises and training targeting Taiwan. It continues to carry out combat readiness plans targeting Taiwan during realistic exercises and training under its targeted strategies, and utilizes a variety of intimidation tactics to accumulate overall operational capabilities against Taiwan. Observing the PRC's exercises targeting Taiwan in the past 2 years, including joint military Exercises JOINT SWORD and the STRAIT THUNDER, which are combined with its annual exercises and training, the PRC has significantly increased its ability to conduct joint operational readiness patrols, air and sea blockade, joint firepower strikes, landing operations, and electromagnetic dominance, air control, and sea control operations. These are aimed at exercising overall operations targeting Taiwan and building PRC area denial capabilities.

(I) Paramilitary operations

The PRC frequently conduct gray zone harassment and intrusions, and has increased the frequency of using aircraft, vessels, and drones to harass Taiwan, from coastal areas to the median line in the Taiwan Strait, moving closer to the 24-nautical mile line each time, gradually increasing the level of threat and intimidation. The PRC also sent balloons to harass Taiwan, gradually extending the duration of balloon operations and moving them closer to Taiwan in order to put greater military pressure on Taiwan. The goal is to attempt to deplete Taiwan's capabilities and normalize the use of such tactics.

(II) Cyber and electronic warfare

The PRC has learned from recent military conflicts around the world, and publicly views cyber and electronic warfare as part of national security, announcing that it will accelerate the development of its cyber capabilities. The PRC will continue using the Internet to gather intelligence and launch cyberattacks targeting network-based logistics, command and control, communications, commercial activities, and critical civilian and defense infrastructure. The PRC will attempt to limit its enemy's operations by launching cyberattacks, embedding malware and viruses, and infiltrating the media. The PRC has focused its efforts on the development of electronic warfare in recent years, with an emphasis on upgrading "informatized" and "intelligentized" operational capabilities. The PRC is looking into the use of electronic warfare, drones, and AI-assisted technologies to seize electromagnetic dominance, which will affect the normal operation of public and private electronics and information systems in Taiwan. It has set the command and control system of Taiwan's Armed Forces as a priority target for attacks.

(III) The PRC's displays of military power

The PLAN dispatches naval formations on cross-island chain blue water voyages each quarter, conducting combined exercises and cruise missions with Russia and also visiting partners along

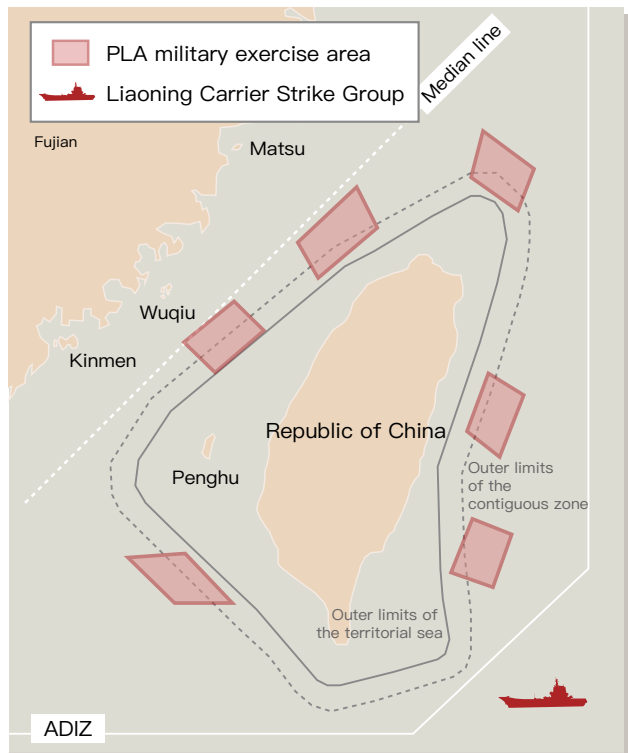
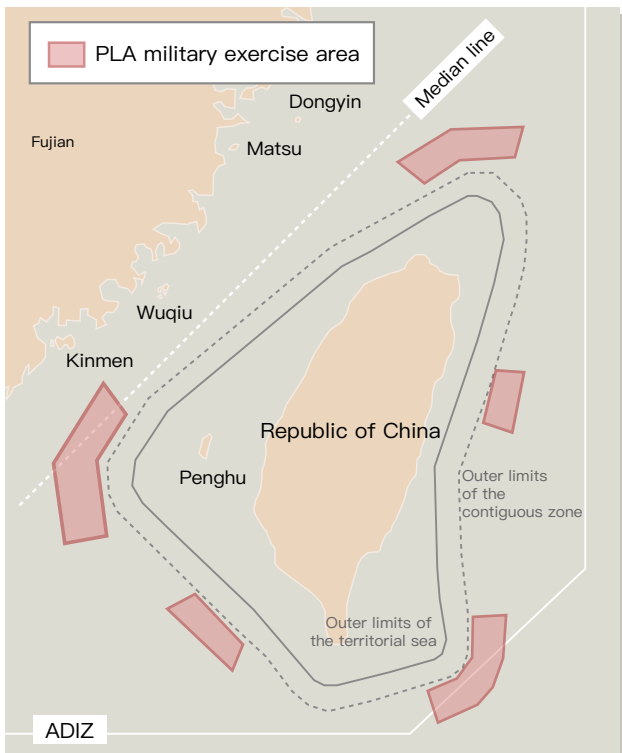
the way. The PRC also dispatches the PLAAF or naval forces with aircraft/drones to participate in regional multinational military exercises, and engages in air-sea joint training or long-range flight training in coordination with naval vessels from each theater or naval formations on blue water voyages when they pass through surrounding sea areas of Taiwan. The U.S. Department of Defense report on *Military and Security Developments Involving the People's Republic of China 2024* pointed out that the PRC has 600 nuclear warheads as of 2024, and that the PRC plans to increase the number of nuclear warheads to over 1,000 by 2030. The PRC is currently developing a fractional orbital bombardment system capable of bypassing conventional missile defense systems to enhance its global strike capabilities.

(IV) Joint firepower strikes

Observing the development of the PRC's firepower strike capabilities in the past 2 years, including long-range strike capabilities of the PLARF and PLAA long-range artillery units, modernization of the PLAN, and strategic projection of the PLAAF, the PLARF has increased the number of Dongfeng missiles deployed, which have a range covering the Western Pacific, Indian Ocean, and South China Sea. The PLAA long-range artillery units have continuously improved their fire range and precision, thereby strengthening their long-range precision strike capabilities. The PLAN continues to expand the capabilities of its aircraft carriers, and has deployed Type 075 amphibious assault ships to enhance its blue water operational capabilities. The PLAAF is focused on developing the operational capabilities of long range bombers and drones to reduce Taiwan's response time.

Exercise JOINT SWORD-2024A from May 23 to 24, 2024

Exercise JOINT SWORD-2024B on October 14, 2024



【 Overview of PLA Military Exercises Around Taiwan in the Past 2 Years 】

(V) Blockade capabilities

The PLA's military exercises targeting Taiwan in the past 2 years have all focused on blocking Taiwan's air and sea lines of communication. Exercises JOINT SWORD-2024A in May 2024 and JOINT SWORD-2024B in October of the same year focused on PLA blockade capabilities, which attempt to seize overall air and maritime dominance around Taiwan. The PLA conducted a 4-day large-scale military operation in December of the same year, which was longer than previous exercises, without making any announcement in advance, attempting to normalize blockades of waterways and air space surrounding the Taiwan Strait. The PRC conducted an unnamed military exercise on April 1, 2025, organizing army, navy, air force, and rocket force in a joint exercise with PLA aircraft and vessels approaching Taiwan from multiple directions. Exercise STRAIT THUNDER-2025A on April 2 of the same year added inspection, capture, verification, and identification, and also verified the area control, joint blockade, and precision strike capabilities of the forces participating in the exercise. Though it did not set up an exercise zone during this period, it did stream images of live-fire exercises with long-distance fire as well as satellite images of core areas of Taipei in an attempt to strengthen their military intimidation of Taiwan.

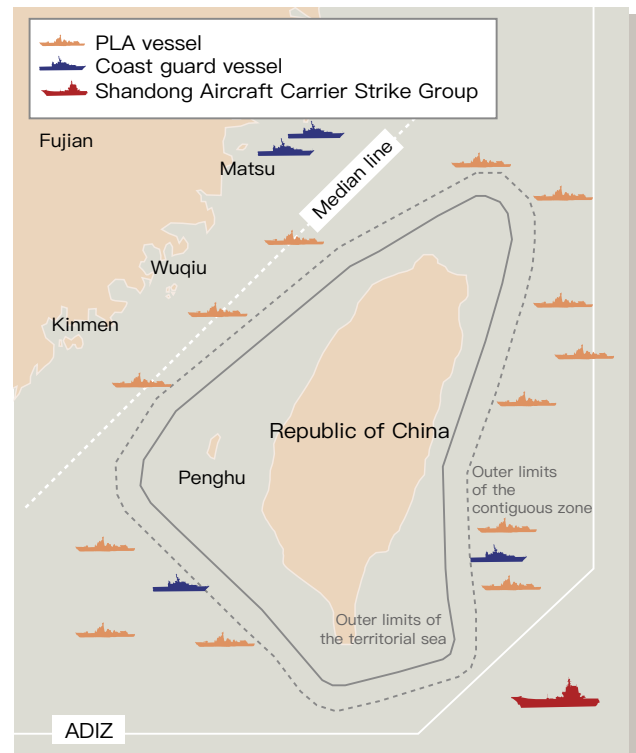
II. Transitions in the PRC's military exercises

The PRC has conducted numerous exercises since the joint military operations in August 2022, when former U.S. House Speaker Nancy Patricia Pelosi visited Taiwan. The PRC began dispatching military aircraft and vessels to conduct military exercises surrounding Taiwan in 2024 to achieve the goal of

The PLA designated 7 Reserved Areas
from December 9 to 11, 2024



Exercise STRAIT THUNDER-2025A
on April 2, 2025



controlling the Taiwan Strait. It also added boarding, inspection, and blockades by coast guard vessels to sharpen its joint command and operations efficiency across theaters, demonstrating its capabilities to impose a blockade on Taiwan and offshore islands. The PRC has also engaged in cognitive warfare using various gray zone harassment and intrusions along with misinformation and propaganda, attempting to legitimize military exercises targeting Taiwan as compliant with international law, create a divergence of views in Taiwan's society, and cause Taiwanese citizens to panic, in order to create favorable conditions for invading Taiwan.

(I) Joint operational readiness patrols

To seize initiative and continue to put pressure on Taiwan militarily, the PRC routinely dispatches fighters and support aircraft to harass Taiwan's surrounding waters and air space, crossing the median line with different types of aircraft in different directions for long durations. Its combatant ships operate near the 24-nautical mile line and conduct joint operational readiness patrols.

(II) Joint blockades

The PRC dispatches combatant ships, submarines, official ships, and coast guard vessels to conduct exercises simulating a blockade and boarding and inspecting ships in waters near important sea lines of communication of Taiwan, blocking waterways to surround Taiwan, testing the effectiveness of joint operations command and sea blockades.

(III) Joint firepower strikes

The PRC's long range missiles, cruise missiles, ballistic missiles, and air-launched land attack missiles have a range covering all of Taiwan, and can attack important military targets and critical civilian infrastructure together with navy and air force capabilities.

(IV) Amphibious landing operations

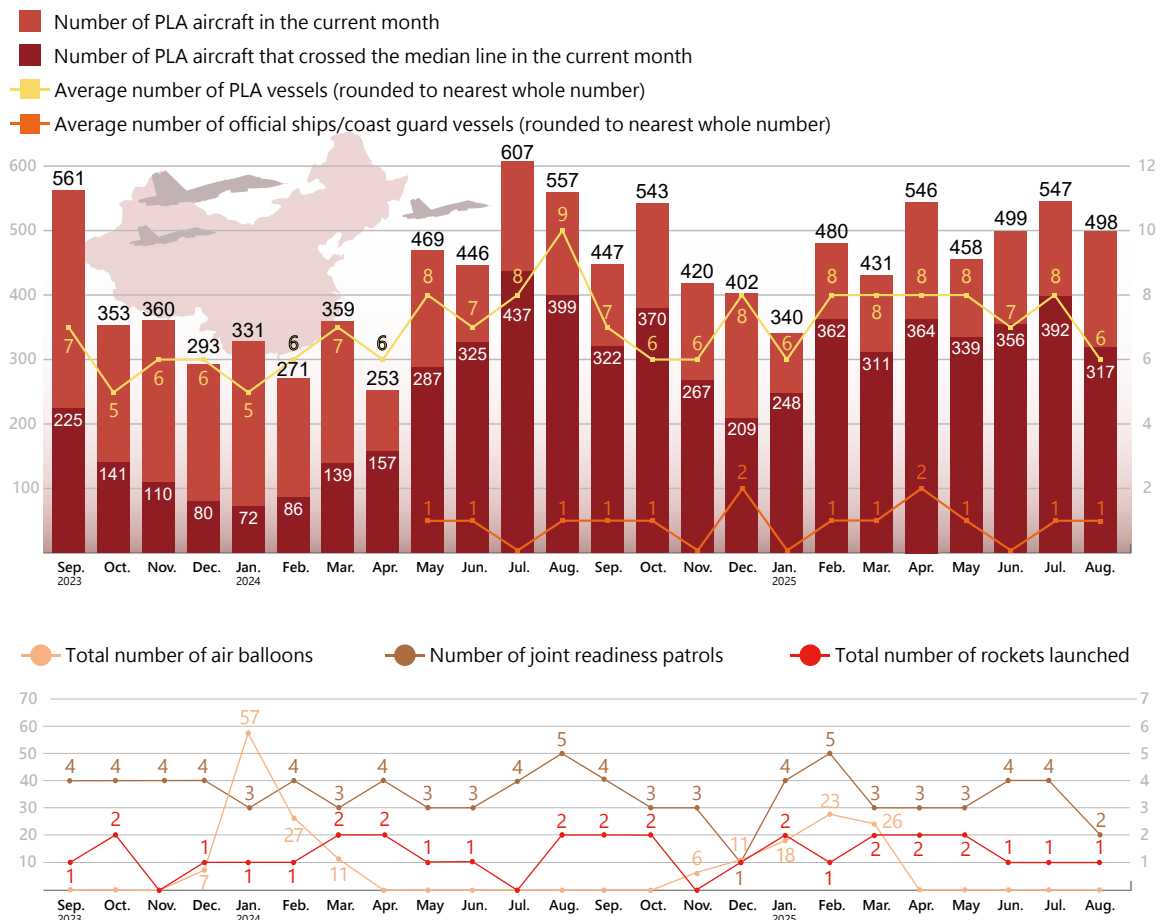
The PLA's amphibious landing forces train in realistic environments on its coastal training ground to strengthen its landing operational capabilities. It has included civilian roll-on/roll-off ships to verify its capabilities for strategic delivery and logistics.

(V) Military exercises coordinated with the coast guard

The PRC's coast guard has coordinated with the PLAN and PLAAF in major military exercises since 2024, and has expanded its maritime law enforcement authority, attempting to legitimize its claim of jurisdiction and change how the international community views the Taiwan Strait. The PRC's coast guard participated in Exercise STRAIT THUNDER-2025A in April 2025, which imposed a blockade of waterways surrounding Taiwan and simulated a blockade of Taiwan's energy imports.

(VI) After action review of the exercises

The PRC routinely uses gray zone harassment and intrusions together with joint operational readiness patrols, targeted military exercises, and cognitive warfare, posing a comprehensive threat to Taiwan. Since 2024, the PRC's coast guard vessels have routinely expanded their law enforcement authority in waters around Taiwan, and may be coordinated with readiness patrols and military exercises to take stronger blockade measures in the future. The PRC may attempt to turn exercises into war or turn training into war during exercises of plans to invade Taiwan, in order to take military action against Taiwan.



Date	Military Exercise Code	Important Event
2022.08.04	Important military exercise of the PLA	Nancy Pelosi, former speaker of the United States House of Representatives, visits Taiwan.
2023.04.05	Combat Readiness Patrols Around Taiwan Island and Exercise JOINT SWORD	Tsai Ing-wen, former president of the ROC, passes through the U.S. and meets with Kevin McCarthy, former speaker of the United States House of Representatives.
2023.08.24	Air and sea joint readiness patrol exercises	Former vice president Lai Ching-te passes through the U.S.
2024.05.23	Exercise JOINT SWORD-2024A	Inauguration ceremony of President Lai Ching-te on May 20.
2024.10.14	Exercise JOINT SWORD-2024B	President Lai Ching-te gives a speech on National Day.
2024.12.09	Military exercise and code not officially announced	President Lai Ching-te completes the first overseas visit during his term and passes through Hawaii and Guam.
2025.04.01 2025.04.02	Military exercise code not announced Exercise STRAIT THUNDER-2025A	President Lai Ching-te explains the 17 major strategies to respond to 5 major national security and united front threats to citizens.

【 Overview of the PRC's Recent Harassment of Taiwan and Important Events 】

Section 3 Hybrid Threats of Gray Zone

The PRC has never renounced the use of force against Taiwan, and constantly threatens Taiwan with paramilitary operations, cyber and electronic warfare, and blockades. It simultaneously engages in hybrid threats such as public opinion warfare, psychological warfare, legal warfare, cyberattacks, cognitive warfare and narrative warfare, economic coercion, and intelligence infiltration in the gray zone between peace and war, aiming to sap the will of the people, lower the morale of the military, and divide society. These measures will be combined with military threats to take military action against Taiwan when the time is right. This influences Taiwan's national security and causes regional tension.

I. Gray zone harassment and intrusions

The PRC engages in military and non-military gray zone tactics using small forces continuously over a long period of Taiwan in areas not clearly defined in international law, putting pressure on Taiwan militarily and psychologically. Over the past 2 years, the PRC has used drones for harassment by circling Taiwan, increased patrol forces in Taiwan's surrounding waters, and set up no-sail/reserved zones for targeted joint military exercises, ratcheting up its intimidation.

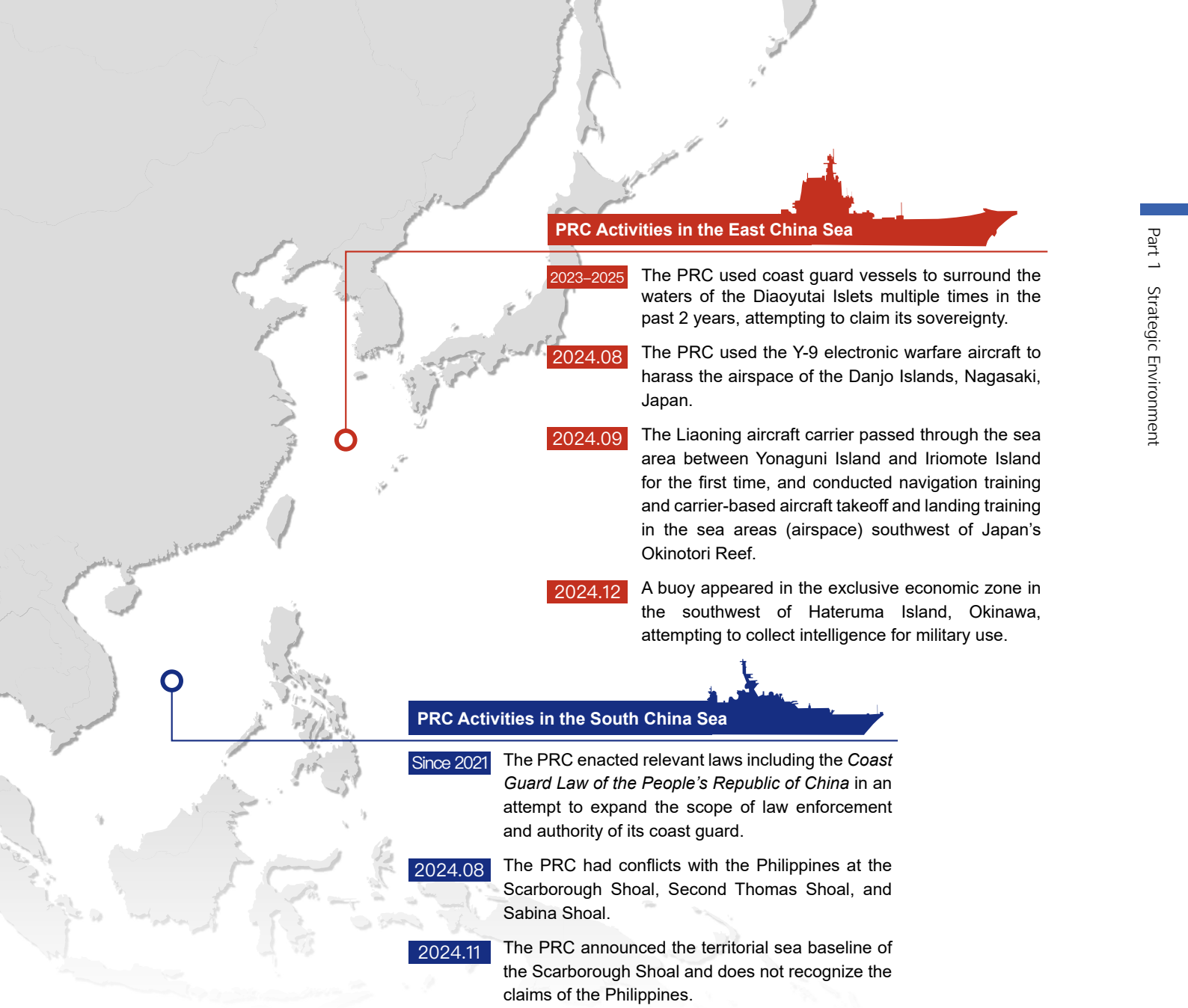
Moreover, the PRC has sent coast guard vessels and official ships into Taiwan's prohibited (restricted) water, attempting to expand its maritime enforcement authority and consolidate its regional influence to counter the challenges of external forces. At the same time, the PRC is using long-duration, low-cost, non-military measures to frequently test Taiwan's warning abilities and weaken Taiwan's response capabilities. The PRC adjusts its paramilitary operations along with changes in geopolitics and the situation, gradually increasing its threat and intimidation against Taiwan.

The PRC is intensifying its gray zone tactics and increasing the frequency and forces participating in military exercises. Taiwan cannot rule out that the PRC is intentionally trying to mislead the international community and break the will of Taiwan's people to resist the enemy. The PRC is further using conventional and unconventional military measures to verify its ability to invade Taiwan and deny the intervention of foreign forces, and might attempt to turn exercises into war or turn training into war, so that Taiwan and friendly countries will not be able to respond in time, severely impacting regional peace and security.

II. Potential threats surrounding Taiwan

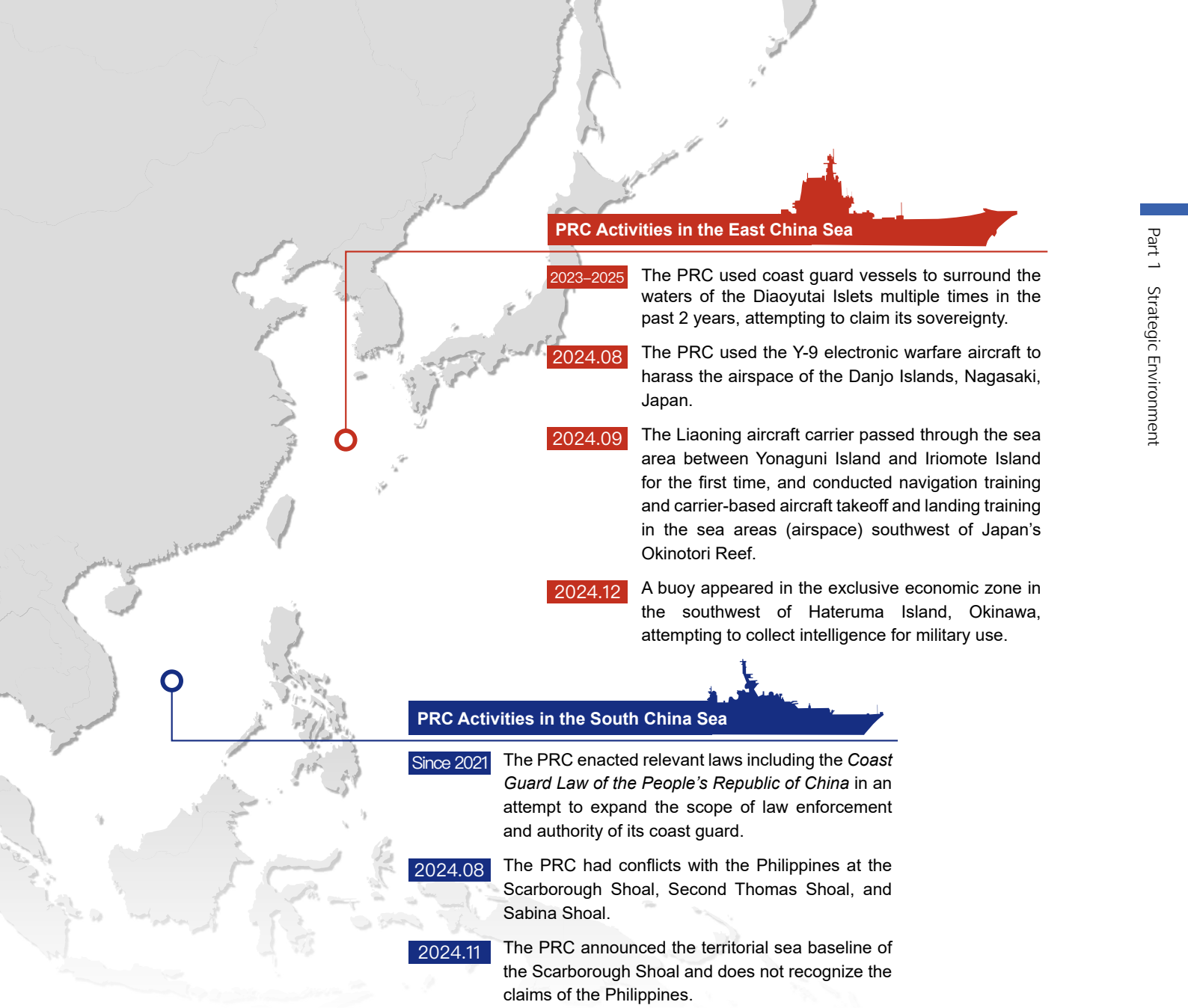
The PRC is accelerating the development of a blue water navy and is developing capabilities to become a maritime power. It demonstrates its military power through blue water training and by participating in regional multi-national military exercises. The PRC is not only projecting its naval and air forces, engaging in gray zone tactics, and conducting military exercises in the Taiwan Strait, but also frequently engaging in similar activities in the East China Sea and South China Sea. The continued growth of the PRC's maritime power is a challenge to the security of the Indo-Pacific region.

The PRC deploys naval vessels in the East China Sea for warning and surveillance of foreign forces. The PRC has used coast guard vessels to surround the waters of the Diaoyutai Islets, claiming its sovereignty and maritime rights. It uses gray zone tactics and hybrid threats to break through the first island chain, gain control over the seas, and claim its sovereignty over the Diaoyutai Islets. This has attracted the attention and concern of Japan and neighboring countries, and become a factor of instability in the East China Sea, forming a potential threat to Taiwan's security.



PRC Activities in the East China Sea

- 2023-2025** The PRC used coast guard vessels to surround the waters of the Diaoyutai Islets multiple times in the past 2 years, attempting to claim its sovereignty.
- 2024.08** The PRC used the Y-9 electronic warfare aircraft to harass the airspace of the Danjo Islands, Nagasaki, Japan.
- 2024.09** The Liaoning aircraft carrier passed through the sea area between Yonaguni Island and Iriomote Island for the first time, and conducted navigation training and carrier-based aircraft takeoff and landing training in the sea areas (airspace) southwest of Japan's Okinotori Reef.
- 2024.12** A buoy appeared in the exclusive economic zone in the southwest of Hateruma Island, Okinawa, attempting to collect intelligence for military use.



PRC Activities in the South China Sea

- Since 2021** The PRC enacted relevant laws including the *Coast Guard Law of the People's Republic of China* in an attempt to expand the scope of law enforcement and authority of its coast guard.
- 2024.08** The PRC had conflicts with the Philippines at the Scarborough Shoal, Second Thomas Shoal, and Sabina Shoal.
- 2024.11** The PRC announced the territorial sea baseline of the Scarborough Shoal and does not recognize the claims of the Philippines.

【 PRC Activities in Sea Areas around Taiwan 】

In the South China Sea, the PRC has continued to carry out sea reclamation and militarize islands. It established Sansha City, Hainan Province and the People's Government of Xisha District and Nansha District in recent years to show that it is governing the South China Sea and expanding the scope of enforcement and authority of its coast guard. The Maritime Militia also often engages in activities in the waters of the disputed Thitu Island and Whitsun Reef, which has deepened its conflict with the Philippines and caused rising tensions in the region.

III. Complex threats from the three warfares

The “three warfares” include public opinion warfare, psychological warfare, and legal warfare. They are a complex unconventional means of intimidation. The PRC is attempting to drive divisions between

Taiwan's people, weaken Taiwan's will to defend itself, and create international opinions that favor the position of the PRC, all without having to engage in armed conflict.

In terms of public opinion warfare, the PRC utilizes social media and state media to disseminate information that benefits its political purpose and control public opinion on politics, military, and national security, attempting to disrupt Taiwan's normal social order. In terms of psychological warfare, the PRC utilizes the military threat of frequent exercises, harassment, and missile tests around Taiwan, the dissemination of information for intimidation, or dis/misinformation to reduce the confidence of Taiwanese people in the ability of Taiwan's Armed Forces to safeguard national security, causing panic and psychological fatigue to lower the will of Taiwan's people to resist the enemy. In terms of legal warfare, the PRC uses international law as a means to limit Taiwan's space to participate in international organizations, and uses its domestic laws as the legal basis to legitimize the expansion of its law enforcement, attempting to suppress Taiwan's status as a sovereign state.

The PRC uses the "three warfares" to influence the trust of Taiwanese people in the government as well as weaken the legitimacy of Taiwan's military and support for defense spending, and attempts to change the basic understanding of the domestic and international community regarding cross-Strait relations, in order to further achieve its political goals, which will hinder Taiwan's defense preparedness and the stability of the nation and society.

IV. Cyberattacks

The PLAISF and PLACSF (formerly the PLASSF) are specialized units for cyber warfare. Their cyberattacks against Taiwan have evolved from simple hacking and theft of intelligence into complex operations that can exploit social media platforms. The PRC's cyber army controls social media accounts and uses spamming to disseminate misinformation, attempting to drive a wedge in Taiwan's society. These units have also launched cyberattacks and collected data from Taiwan's military command and control systems, government agencies, defense industry, tech industry, and financial institutions, attempting to paralyze important systems to affect national defense command and dispatch and normal functions of society.

Recently, the PRC has used AI to automate its vulnerability detection systems, and continues to scan Taiwan's critical infrastructure for weak points. It is also using AI to assist in the analysis of classified information that it has stolen to accelerate the extraction of valuable intelligence. The PRC uses AI technology for accurate positioning on social media platforms, and has targeted Taiwan's defense department and military units for infiltration. It has produced fake videos using deepfake technology, uses algorithms to control information, and uses emotional interactions to influence the target's state of mind. Furthermore, the PRC uses AI to generate opposing political comments, and automatically adjusts the dissemination strategy to extend its reach. It uses a content analysis system to accurately identify weaknesses in Taiwan's public discourse, and also utilizes AI facial recognition and big data analysis to lock on to specific targets for launching targeted cyberattacks.

The objective of the PRC's cyberattacks is to attack Taiwan's democratic system and social stability. The PRC uses new botnet attacks in conjunction with AI to damage Taiwan's digital infrastructure and cybersecurity, and tests the defense resilience and response capabilities of Taiwan's cybersecurity environment.

V. Cognitive warfare and narrative warfare

The PRC's threat toward Taiwan has expanded from "visible military pressure" to "intangible cognitive suppression," using cognitive warfare and narrative warfare to control information and redefine its historical significance, in order to weaken Taiwanese citizens' identification toward their country as well as their willingness to defend Taiwan, cause divisions in societal consensus, and claim the right to speak on Taiwan-related issues on the international stage.

The core of the PLA's cognitive warfare is to control individuals' and groups' psychological cognition. Elaborately designed and specific propaganda is disseminated on social media, targeting the psychology of the target audience to isolate them and preventing exposure to other viewpoints. Social media algorithms are leveraged to push similar content to specific targets, and gradually change the emotional responses and value judgments of the target audience, weakening their national identity and will to defend the country. Furthermore, the PRC uses cognitive warfare to expand its overseas influence, and mainly uses coordinated operations through multiple channels along with state media to guide the direction of issues, with an army of trolls to strengthen the effect on public opinion, and private groups to expand local influence. The scope of PLAISF operations has expanded from mainstream social media to new social media platforms popular among the younger generation, repeatedly disseminating controversial information, such as military threats against Taiwan, slandering government administration, and dividing society, attempting to drive a wedge in Taiwan's society.

Narrative warfare refers to the PRC's strategy of using stories and narratives to control the discourse and influence interpretations of facts, in order to attempt to change the Taiwanese people's thoughts and reduce their discourse power. The PRC uses narrative warfare against Taiwan as well as the international community. In terms of redefining history, the PRC deliberately exaggerates its historical accomplishments during the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression, while also downplaying or erasing the ROC armed forces' contributions to protecting the survival and development of the nation, as well as creating the false narrative that "the PRC led the liberation of the nation and was the main force in the war." Through this, the PRC subtly influences the public's understanding of historical truths, as well as weakens the defensive resilience of the Taiwanese people. On the international level, the PRC uses international press conferences and multilateral events to repeatedly claim that "Taiwan is an indivisible part of China" and denying the legitimacy of any foreign intervention. Such acts are not limited to just targeting Taiwan, but also other democratic countries in the Indo-Pacific region and even the entire world, as it attempts to create regional order and manipulate discourse on major international issues that are favorable to its political stance, and weaken the influence of the U.S. and its allies, which poses a challenge to Taiwan's democracy and global security.

VI. Economic coercion

The PRC uses economic coercion as an important means in its hybrid gray zone threats. These measures are coordinated with its political, military, and diplomatic actions to form a multi-layered threat to Taiwan's national security. In recent years, the PRC has, without prior warning, banned specific industries such as Taiwan's agriculture (fisheries) and travel industry, restricted market access, or required technology transfer, all to put pressure on key industries of Taiwan, or has provided preferential measures for specific areas or industries in an attempt to cause divisions in Taiwan's society.

Economic coercion measures can easily cause Taiwan to sustain economic losses, hinder the exports of specific industries, and cause companies to face uncertainty in their operations in the short term. In the

long term, it may cause the outflow of industries and talent, lower Taiwan's economic independence, and hinder the development of Taiwan's defense industry. In terms of its effect on national security, the PRC's economic coercion directly interferes with the development of defense technologies and production of weapons systems in Taiwan, and it is targeting industries with technologies that have both military and civilian applications with the intent of disrupting the modernization of Taiwan's Armed Forces.

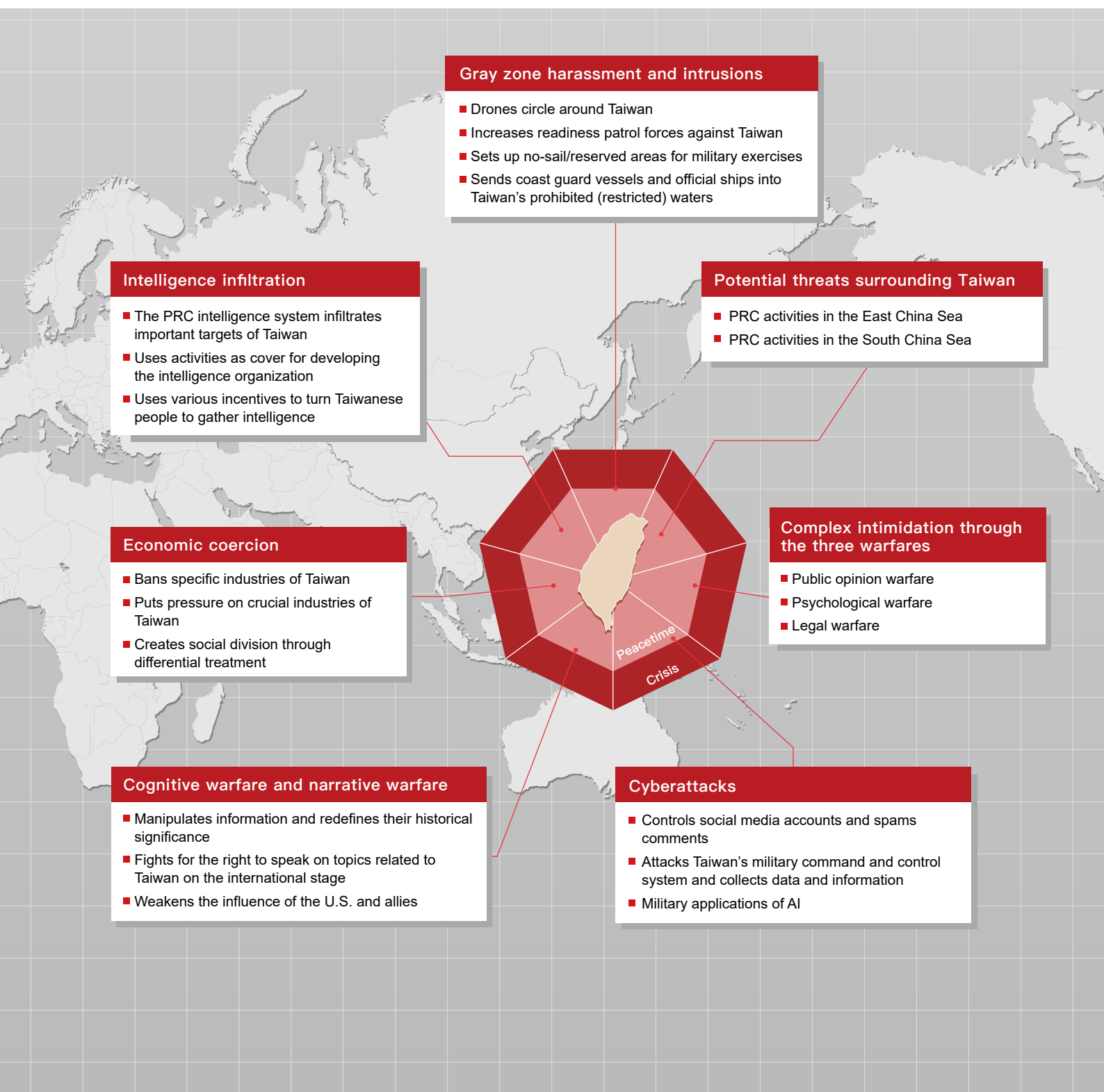
The PRC's methods are highly political in their objectives. Whether it is using capital and financing tools to apply pressure, attempting to influence government decisions and election results, or undermining the resilience of the supply chain of Taiwan's defense industry via economic measures, all of these pose real threats to Taiwan's economic development and national security. Taiwan must be more alert and implement practical response measures.

VII. Intelligence infiltration

The PRC gathers intelligence and infiltrates important targets in Taiwan, such as government agencies, defense units, and high-tech industries, through its intelligence system, including its Ministry of State Security, the United Front Work Department, and military intelligence units. It uses economic and trade interactions, academic exchanges, and club activities as cover for sending or developing intelligence personnel. They use coercive measures such as family relationships, money, and positions to lure Taiwanese citizens to gather intelligence for the PRC. The PRC has built an intelligence network and uses social media and messaging apps for online recruitment and intelligence gathering.

Over the past 2 years, the PRC has enticed or coerced veterans to gather classified information of Taiwan's Armed Forces and fill out a pledge of allegiance. The PRC has also funded temples in Taiwan to make contact with active servicemen through religious activities, and enticed them to hold the Chinese flag while wearing their uniforms to film videos of them surrendering to the PRC, or hand over information on the defense plans of their units. The PRC also uses social media to find contact points for intelligence leads and recruit Taiwan's veterans, enticing them to provide classified and sensitive information for money or sexual favors.

The PRC's intelligence infiltration methods have become more specialized and difficult to detect, with advancements over time and rapid technological development. The PRC is gradually shifting from conventional infiltration by intelligence officers to complex intelligence operations using technology, and aims to obtain classified information and key technologies of Taiwan's government, steal military intelligence of Taiwan's Armed Forces, and infiltrate organizations and media in Taiwan's society. The use of hybrid means combining the "three warfares" and cognitive/narrative warfare has become a serious threat to Taiwan's national security.



【Hybrid Means of Intimidation Faced by Taiwan】



High Performance Vessels Fortresses of the Sea

Joint interdiction operations training of the Tuo Chiang-class corvette to defend the security of Taiwan's territorial seas.





Rapid Changes Passed Down Through Generations

Brave Eagle advanced jet trainers and F-5 fighters soar through the blue skies.





Forged in Fire

Forces of Steel

Live-fire training of the M1A2T main battle tank to verify the performance of newly acquired weapons.





A photograph of a military vehicle, possibly a missile launcher, firing a missile. The vehicle is positioned on a grassy field, and a large, bright, orange and white plume of fire and smoke is visible behind it, indicating the launch. The sky is blue with some clouds. The image is used as a background for the report cover.

ROC
National
Defense
Report 2025

Part 2

**Resolute
National
Defense**

Chapter 3 Strategic Guidance

Pursuant to the *Constitution of the Republic of China* and *National Defense Act*, Taiwan's defense strategy is structured by the President, Executive Yuan, and Ministry of National Defense (MND) into a complete framework of national security and military defense strategies. On the basis of this framework, the MND is responsible for national defense affairs. Under the President's national security concept and the Executive Yuan's policy guidance, the MND formulates forward-looking plans for the long-term development of defense affairs, proposes defense strategies and military strategies, and carries out force buildup and combat readiness work to implement the President's national security concepts, thereby building resilient defense capabilities to ensure our national security.

Section 1 Fundamental Concept of National Defense

National defense development must be planned as a whole with a long-term perspective to protect our national interests, safeguard national security, and address the PRC's military threat. It is necessary to build resilient and sustainable defense and deterrence capabilities. Our current fundamental concept of national defense is expounded below:

I. Maintaining Regional Peace and Safeguarding National Sovereignty

With the goal of preventing war and maintain regional peace, national defense capabilities will provide strong supporting defense against foreign invasion and safeguarding national sovereignty, territory, and the security of our people.

II. Developing Response Capabilities for Modern Warfare

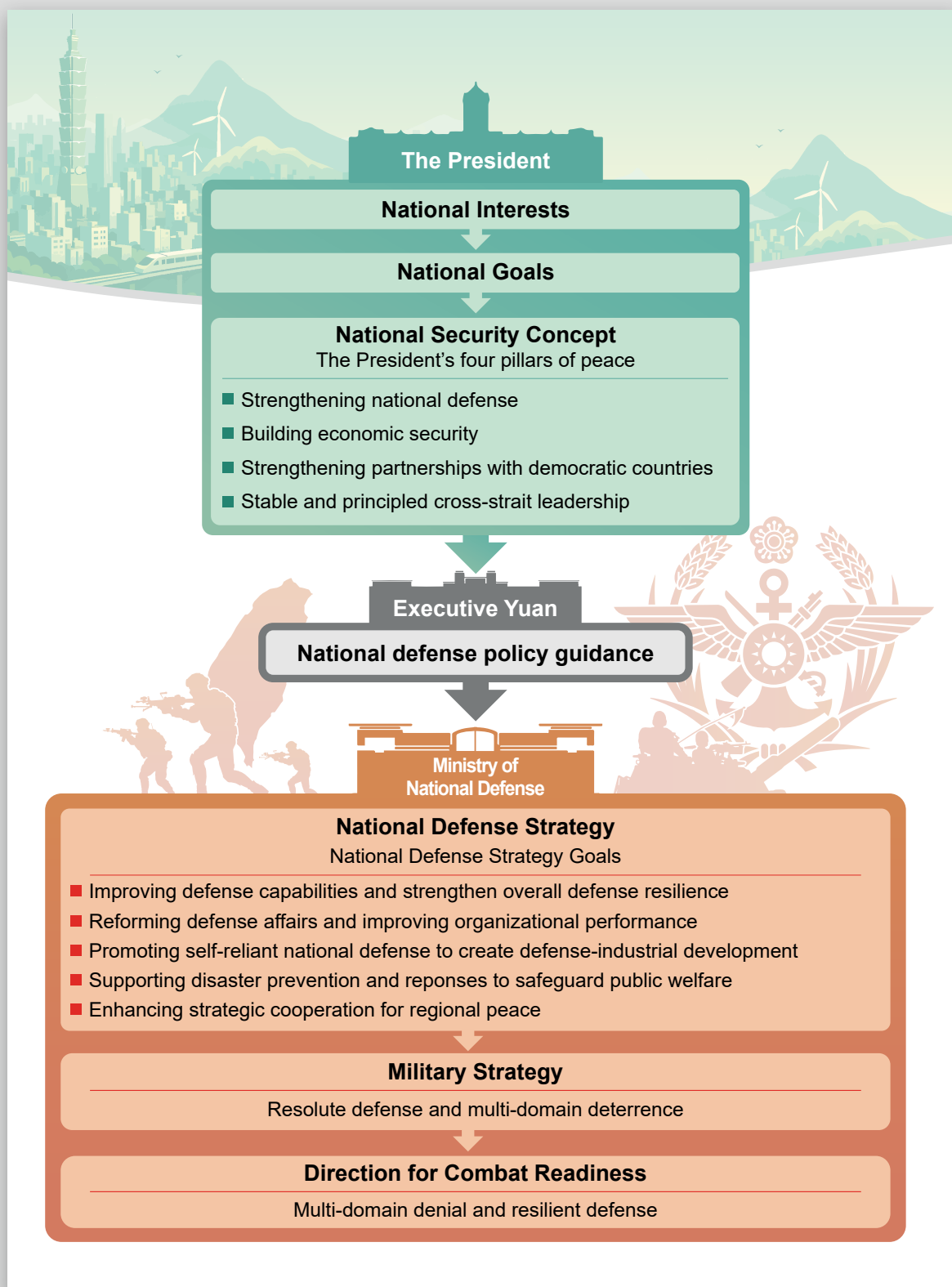
The MND plans to develop rapid response and durable, resilient defense capabilities, develop and introduce emerging technologies and capabilities to ensure the military will be able to respond to the complexity of modern warfare and the rapidly changing multi-domain nature of Taiwan's security threats.

III. Building Comprehensive National Power and Social Resilience

With the consensus and strategy of building comprehensive national power to defend our homeland, the MND combines the capabilities of military, civilian, and government agencies to increase the resilience of whole-of-society defense.

IV. Ensuring Strategic Autonomy for Responding to Regional Threats

The MND will maintain strategic autonomy of our national defense in the international security environment, actively participate in military exchanges and cooperation, build security partnerships, and respond to regional threats and challenges with collective capabilities.



【Conceptual Framework of Defense and Military Strategies】

Section 2 National Defense Strategy

Anticipating changes in the strategic environment and assessing national security threats, while learning from the experience of the Russia-Ukraine War and Israel-Hamas Conflict, the MND formulates defense strategies based on the President's national security concept of "Four pillars of peace" and the defense policy guidance of the Executive Yuan, using innovative concepts to strengthen deterrence through our defense capabilities, implement pragmatic reforms, and maximize limited resources for national defense development. The MND provides guidance for the development of military strategies on this basis, in order to realize national interests, safeguard sovereignty, respond to security threats, and influence the way military strategies are achieved. The MND is determined to defend the nation and strengthen our military capabilities, and exerts every effort to defend the Taiwan Strait and prevent war from occurring, in order to maintain regional peace and stability. Current goals of our defense strategy include:

I. Improving defense capabilities and strengthen overall defense resilience

Building strong national defense is the cornerstone of a nation's survival and development. The ROC Armed Forces adheres to the concept to "avert war by preparing for it, be capable of fighting a war to stop it," utilizing the geographic environment, acquiring long-range, precision, mobile, and unmanned weapons and equipment, and conducting exercises of the mechanism for transitioning between peacetime and wartime, decentralized operations, capability protection, all-out defense mobilization and rules of engagement, and legal support operations, which improve overall performance in combat. Nationwide human and material resources are combined to improve mobilization capabilities and mechanisms, in order to leverage advantages of innovative/asymmetric warfare, deter the enemy from making a rash military advance, and achieve the goal of preventing war and maintaining peace.

II. Reforming defense affairs and improving organizational performance

High quality manpower and a highly effective organization are crucial to the military preparedness and improvement of combat capabilities of the ROC Armed Forces. Anticipating the needs of modern high-tech warfare and defense missions, we continue to improve the effectiveness of the defense organization through organizational adjustments and system improvements based on "focusing on the essentials", while reforming the management of forces, creating a culture of integrity and anti-corruption, attaching importance to on-the-job training and humanized management, adjusting the salaries of service members, improving the defense knowledge of civil officials, creating a professional workplace environment, and ensuring long-term talent retention. These measures will build a modernized, knowledge-based, and specialized elite force with better overall defense capabilities.

III. Promoting self-reliant national defense to create defense-industrial development

National defense and the economy are the two main pillars that support the survival and development of a nation. We are actively pursuing self-reliant national defense, and implementing indigenous aircraft and shipbuilding manufacturing programs and drone national team programs, along with new commercial applications of mature technologies, such as AI and unmanned systems, to deepen the integration of military and civilian technologies, equipment production and maintenance capabilities, and independent development and manufacturing capabilities for weapons, equipment, and critical components. The goal of the MND is for maintenance, performance upgrades, and development of new generation weapons and equipment in the future will fully meet the need of a modernized military to rapidly replace weapons and technology, in order to enhance defense capabilities and durable resilience, and drive the upgrade of domestic defense technologies and the military industry's supply chain, thereby achieving mutual benefits for national defense and the economy.



1

At the start of 2025, President Lai Ching-te announced the integration of the Exercise WAN AN (air defense), Exercise MIN AN (all-out defense mobilization), and critical infrastructure protection exercise into the Exercise URBAN RESILIENCE, comprehensively strengthening the resilience of national defense, livelihood, disaster prevention, and democracy.

IV. Supporting disaster prevention and response to safeguard public welfare

It is the duty of the ROC Armed Forces to protect the people and defend the homeland. When facing non-military challenges, such as natural disasters and epidemics, the ROC Armed Forces engages in disaster relief according to the government's instructions, and plays a crucial role in emergency relief and reassuring the people. The ROC Armed Forces uses the regional joint defense mechanism for all-out defense resource integration and drills together with government agencies and local governments, and jointly carries out critical infrastructure defense and response, in order to utilize comprehensive national power for rapid transition between peacetime and wartime. The ROC Armed Forces is also intensifying maritime reconnaissance and patrol and joint fishery patrol according to the government's ocean policy, safeguarding the nation's maritime rights, interests, security, and development.

V. Enhancing strategic cooperation for regional peace

Taiwan is located on the world's busiest transportation routes and also at a strategic hub. It is at the forefront of the democratic defense line and influences geopolitical developments. Taiwan continues to fulfill its duties as a resolute defender of peace in the domain of intelligence, scientific research, information security, and countering gray zone tactics and the threat of cognitive warfare. Taiwan is working side by side with democratic countries around the world, and assisting the defense industry with joining the international democratic supply chain by expanding its fundamental capabilities and production capacity, thereby forming a peace community for stronger deterrence. Taiwan is seeking the attention and support of the international community through overseas think tanks and academic exchanges, cooperatively maintaining peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait and peace and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region.

Section 3 Military Strategy

The ROC Armed Forces is building “multi-domain denial, resilient defense” capabilities according to the military strategy of “resolute defense and multi-domain deterrence” in response to the overall strategic environment and enemy threats and challenges, and planning for force buildup and preparedness. The defense plan takes into consideration force, space, and time, and extends forward to combat readiness and response to gray zone tactics during peacetime. The strategies adopted include rapid combat readiness response, asymmetric methods, decentralized operations, denial instead of control, and making it riskier for the enemy to carry out their mission. Multi-layered defense capable of surviving attacks combined with whole-of-society defense resilience and capabilities ensure that Taiwan can maintain and utilize its capabilities to disrupt enemy operations and capability employment, so that they will not be able to rapidly achieve operational goals. Taiwan will also use strategic communication to gain international support and achieve the strategic goal of deterring the enemy from starting a war during peacetime and preventing the enemy from achieving its operational targets during wartime.

I. Resolutely Defending National Security

Based on a strategy of erosion and concept of asymmetric warfare, we have formulated tactics to defeat the enemy for each type of enemy threat and operation, and established a multi-domain defense system covering land, sea, air, space, and cyber through a mission-oriented approach based on the principles of mobility, agility, lethality, cost effectiveness, and stealth. The defense system provides early warning of an enemy invasion and creates a common operational picture through various command and control systems and links to show enemy movement to commanders at each level. It is closely linked to front-line combat units to form a rapid response kill web, so that precision strikes can be carried out against enemy weak points when the enemy launches an attack, achieving the most effective defense.

II. Multi-domain Deterrence Utilizing Joint Capabilities

In response to the PRC’s diverse gray zone tactics, the ROC Armed Forces maintains the position that “Taiwan is not eager for war, but Taiwan will not shy away from one” and actively integrates and strengthens intelligence gathering and warning systems, including RADARs, satellites, airborne early warning aircraft, drones, and naval vessels; and improves joint intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance capabilities and response mechanisms. Taiwan combines capabilities across government agencies to properly respond to provocation from the PRC, and continue to study patterns and modes of the PLA’s operations to formulate and adjust responses and action plans, control the waterways and air space surrounding the Taiwan Strait, and seize electromagnetic dominance, thereby achieving effective countermeasures to the PLA’s incursions.

When the enemy launches an invasion against Taiwan, Taiwan will fully utilize its geographic advantages for homeland defense, extending the space for defense operations outward, while strengthening military and civilian integration mechanisms inward. For the operational stages of regular crisis management, combat readiness deployment, joint anti-landing, littoral, and coastal combat, defense-in-depth, and protracted war, Taiwan has deployed multiple layers of defense forces and built multiple lines of defense based on the principle of weakening the enemy to prevent the enemy from seizing key positions. Taiwan will also create localized advantages by deploying the navy and air force around key supply lines when strategic and civilian supplies are shipped to Taiwan, thereby maintaining the safety of the shipping fleet. Taiwan will use naval and air forces to protect Taiwan’s maritime supply chain and maintain resilient defense capabilities. Concurrently, the ROC Armed Forces will employ

armored, mechanized, area defense, and reserve forces to vigorously delay, disrupt and deny enemy achievement of its objectives in all offensive phases, including Transit, Foothold, Formation, Penetration, Consolidation, and Force Buildup. Our forces will maximize defensive advantages of favorable familiar terrain and fortifications, and employ available firepower to continually neutralize and debilitate waves of enemy offensives in each phase until they culminate after suffering heavy losses.

III. Resilient defense and developing Taiwan's endurance in wartime

To effectively defend against external military threats, the ROC Armed Forces exerts every effort to enhance national defense capabilities and defense resilience, and develop complete asymmetric warfare capabilities, focusing on improving the mobility of forces, so that forces can be flexibly deployed based on the situation on the battlefield. Multiple backup systems are put in place for critical capabilities, so that the systems are not paralyzed by a single strike from the enemy. Logistics supply points are established in advance in important areas of operations to accelerate supply efficiency. Signal transmissions from electronic equipment are strictly controlled and operations of forces are concealed to avoid exposing force movement. Mobilization is rapidly carried out when there are signs that the enemy plans to invade Taiwan. Exercises of coordinated operations between regular and reserve forces during peacetime have been intensified to build forces with high combat readiness during peacetime and high survivability in the battlefield during wartime. We will preserve capabilities from being damaged by enemy fire before engaging the enemy, and then use the terrain and barriers to increase survivability in a protracted war, using our capabilities when the time is right to deny the enemy achievement of its strategic objectives.

The resilience of whole-of-society defense and overall capabilities that can be mobilized for all-out defense are leveraged to strengthen critical infrastructure protection via military-civilian integration and combining human and material resources of civilians to support military operations, thereby maintaining core functions of society and the continued operation of the government. The MND is improving the efficiency of mobilizing reservists and upgrading weapons, equipment, and training methods of reserve forces so that they can operate alongside regular forces to maximize their potential in war, and achieve the goal of strategic endurance, making the PRC realize that it will not be able to achieve its goals of invasion even after sustaining massive losses, and thereby prevent it from deciding to use military force.

Strengthening cooperation with friendly partner countries is an important foundation for Taiwan to utilize the capabilities of international society to increase its defense resilience. Taiwan is located at a key position in the first island chain and controls important sea lines of communication between Northeast Asia and Southeast Asia and between the Western Pacific and South China Sea. According to statistics of the United Nations Development Programme, freight between the Western Pacific and North America and Europe accounts for 51% of global freight. The deterrence and defense system of democratic countries in the Indo-Pacific region play an important strategic role in resisting authoritarian expansionism and maintaining the status quo of peace and stability. We will continue to broaden and deepen military exchanges, strengthen security connections and combined operations with friendly countries, and take action to counter the enemy's provocation and intimidation.

The ROC Armed Forces has analyzed the patterns of current international military conflicts, and is adjusting the direction of future combat readiness accordingly. Following the “fight, equip, organize, and train” thinking process for force buildup and combat readiness, the ROC Armed Forces anticipates future enemy threats, technological developments, the spectrum of war, and combat scenarios, considers the actual needs of Taiwan’s defense operations, and fully utilizes available resources. In order to build combat readiness for “multi-domain denial, resilient defense” and a strategy of erosion, the ROC Armed Forces is carrying out force buildup based on four principles: build asymmetric warfare capabilities, strengthen the operational resilience, enhance the reserve forces, and consolidating response capabilities for gray zone tactics, as it continues to strengthen overall defense capabilities to support the completion of various missions.

Section 1 Defense Organization and Force Structure

The *National Defense Act* and the *Organization Act of the Ministry of National Defense* promulgated in 2002 established a democratic national defense organization with “civilian control over the military” and a “unified commanding and policymaking organ.” The head of state is the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, while the minister of national defense is a civilian official. The MND is responsible for national defense affairs, military policy, and all-out defense mobilization. The force structure currently planned by the ROC Armed Forces for defense operations aims to address the enemy threat and gray zone tactics, building the most effective force structure and organization according to the strategic guidance and future warfare, thereby increasing the defense resilience and overall capabilities of the ROC Armed Forces.

I. National Defense Organization

(I) Hierarchy and Responsibilities of the National Defense Organization

1. The President

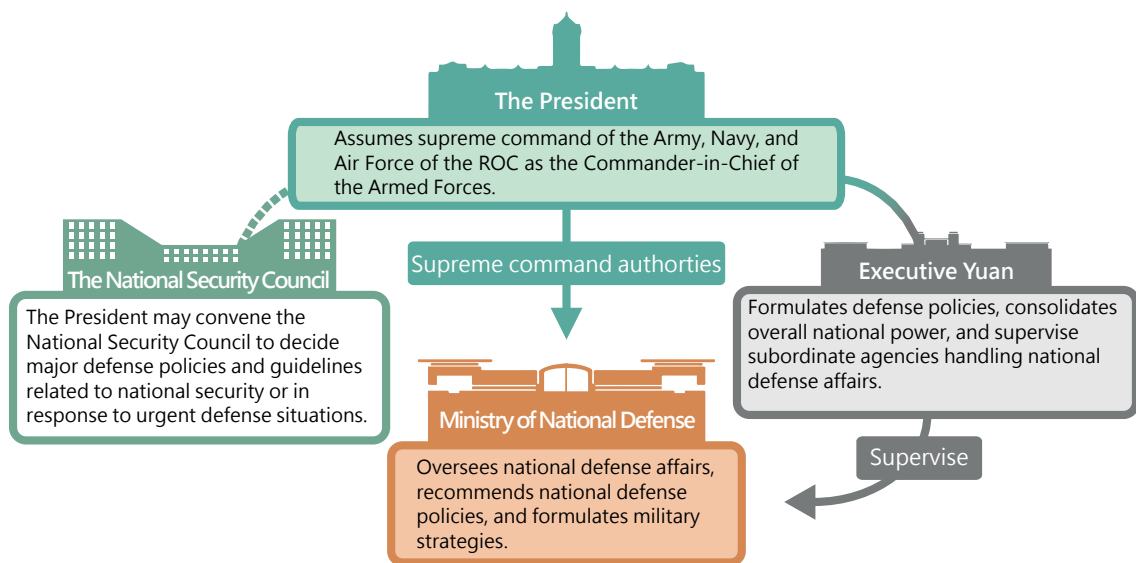
The President shall assume the supreme command of the army, navy, and air force of the ROC as the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces. He or she exerts executive authority over the National Defense Minister, and the Chief of the General Staff (CGS) follows the leadership of the Minister to command the Armed Forces.

2. The National Security Council

The President may convene the National Security Council to decide major defense policies and guidelines related to national security or in response to urgent defense situations.

3. Executive Yuan

The Executive Yuan is responsible for formulating defense policies, consolidating overall national power, and supervising subordinate agencies handling national defense affairs.



【Hierarchy and Responsibilities of the National Defense Organization】

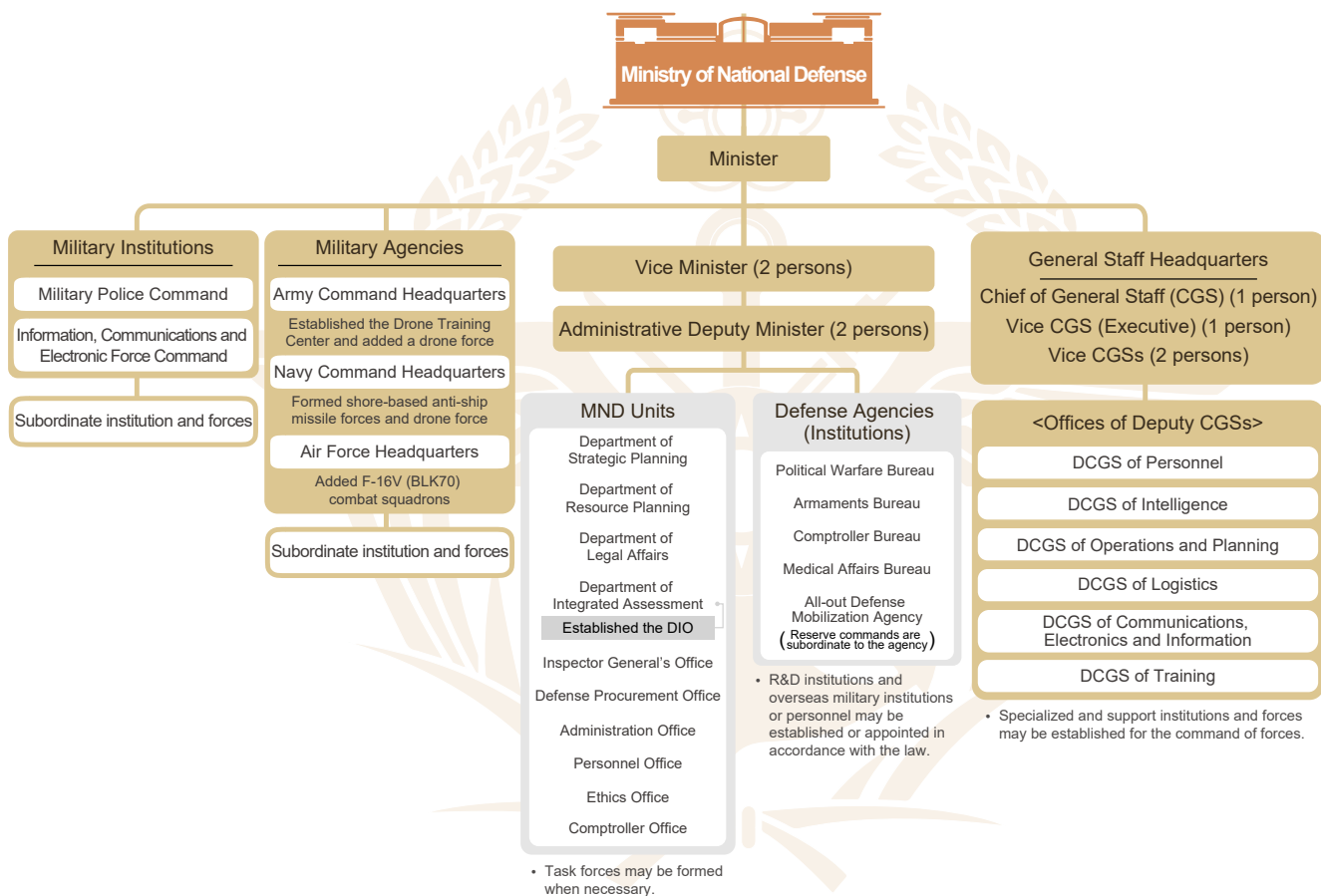
4. Ministry of National Defense

The MND is in charge of national defense affairs. The MND shall perform its policymaking, command, and armament functions, and shall submit suggestions for defense policies and formulate military strategy accordingly.

(II) Defense Organizational Structure

According to the *National Defense Act*, the defense organization is divided into three systems, namely the “policymaking system,” the “command system,” and the “armaments system” to perform their distinctive and professional functions to achieve synergy for the organization. The MND is responsible for the following:

1. The policymaking system is responsible for defense strategy and force buildup plans, resource planning and allocation, legal affairs, overall capability evaluation, all-out defense mobilization, acquisition policy, and other administrative affairs of national defense.
2. The command system, led by the Chief of General Staff, is responsible for proposing requirements for force buildup, proposing defense and military resource allocation, supervising force buildup progress and force training, formulating and executing operational plans, and other matters related to commanding forces. Furthermore, a joint operational command center (JOCC) is established under the command system and is operational both in peacetime and wartime.
3. The armaments system is responsible for proposing armament development plans, defense technology industry development, formulating weapons and equipment acquisition strategies, military-civilian technology exchanges, armament exchanges and collaboration, planning and recommending overall logistics policies, and providing consultation and review opinions on armaments-related decisions.



【National Defense Organization】

II. Force Structure

The enemy threat, national defense resources, manpower acquisition, weapon upgrades, acquisition of next-generation weapons, and all-out defense mobilization are comprehensively considered when making decisions about national defense capabilities and enhancing weapons and equipment performance. Adjustments continue to be made to the force structure in terms of the active forces, garrison defense forces, and reserve forces, force structure planning, allocation of equipment, etc.

(I) The ROC Army (ROCA)

1. The Command Headquarters of the ROCA has specialized offices at staff level and oversees numbered-army commands; defense commands; an aviation and special operations command; an education, training and doctrine development command; a logistics command, and their subordinate units.
2. In coordination with the scheduled acquisition of High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS), the ROCA established an additional multiple launch rocket system battery in the Western Theater of Operations to conduct long-range strikes against enemy forces and high value targets (HVTs), and improve the effectiveness of defensive operations.
3. The ROCA integrated drone training capacity and resource sharing to continue the comprehensive development of drone applications. The ROCA Drone Training Center was



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1.2.3. The ROC Armed Forces continues to enhance its tactical integration capabilities, acquire new equipment, and strengthen reconnaissance and counterstrike capabilities to achieve effective joint operations and build rock-solid national defense capabilities.

established in July 2024 and tasked with basic drone operation of ground forces, instructor training, tactical application, maintenance and modification, and operational development. The center aims to make every soldier a drone operator to effectively leverage the advantages of asymmetric warfare and strengthen overall defense capabilities of the ROC Armed Forces.

(II) The ROC Navy (ROCN)

1. The Command Headquarters of the ROCN has specialized offices at staff level, and oversees a fleet command; a marine corps command, an education, training, and doctrine development command; a maintenance and repair command, and their subordinate units.
2. The ROCN continues to form mobile shore-based anti-ship missile forces and transitioned to high performance combatant ships to meet the needs for littoral strike and maritime patrol and convoy missions. The ROCN integrated fixed and mobile RADARs, drones, and information

and communication forces to jointly carry out littoral strike missions, and improved the tactical application of naval mine deployment to degrade the enemy's attempt to launch an amphibious attack. The ROCN plans to implement a light frigate building project to enhance joint sea control capabilities and capabilities to deal with the PRC's gray zone tactics.

3. The ROC Marine Corps 66th Marine Brigade serves as the strike force of the area of operations and the MND's strategic reserve force. In the future, it will also be responsible for central defense operations and cooperate in littoral strike operations. The brigade's organization was appropriately adjusted to a "drone battalion" and "firepower battalion" in response to the requirements of new missions. Various exercises have been planned for verification, and the organization will be adjusted iteratively according to the conclusion of verification, in order to respond to the future battlefield environment and increase survivability in the battlefield.

(III) The ROC Air Force (ROCAF)

1. The Command Headquarters of the ROCAF has specialized offices at staff level, and oversees an air combat command (ACC); an air defense and missile command; an education, training, and doctrine development command; a maintenance and support command, and their subordinate units.
2. To improve the effectiveness of its overall air defense operations, the ROCAF has been replacing obsolete air defense missiles with new and upgraded missiles to defend against the enemy's air attacks, protect our high value assets (HVAs), and safeguard our air space. When necessary, the ROCAF may conduct long-range missions to attack the enemy's center of operations and its critical nodes.
3. The ROCAF plans to acquire new F-16V (BLK70) fighters, and will add two new combat squadrons to strengthen the overall air defense capabilities of the Armed Forces.

III. Improving Organizational Effectiveness

In response to the current regional environment and the enemy threat, such as gray zone tactics, in accordance with Taiwan's military strategy and direction for combat readiness, besides strengthening the resilience of whole-of-society defense, a review of the force structure has been conducted since 2024 based on principle of "replacing manpower with technology and replacing conventional forces with firepower," combined with the one-year conscription service term, the number of conscription age men, changes in the spectrum of war, diverse weapons acquisition channels, and the acquisition of new weapons such as drones and stingers, with an aim to meet operational requirements without increasing the establishment size and structure. The goal is to build multi-layered defense capabilities that survive enemy attacks and achieve strategic endurance.

Section 2 Acquiring Capabilities

The ROC Armed Forces builds combat capabilities for “multi-domain denial, resilient defense” according to the guidance of the military strategy, and thoroughly planned the Guidelines for Joint Capabilities based on four principles for building up forces, which was included in the Five-year Force Buildup Plan. After force buildup plans are approved according to the Regulations for ROC Armed Forces Military Investment Plans and allocated a budget, the defense weapons and equipment required by the ROC Armed Forces are acquired to strengthen Taiwan’s national defense capabilities and the resilience of whole-of-society defense.

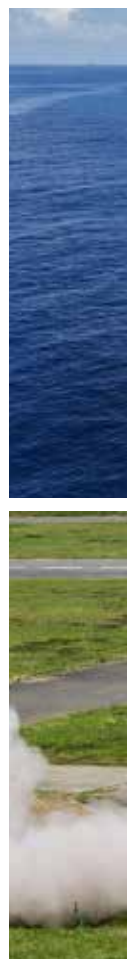
I. Joint Capability Planning

The ROC Armed Forces continues to strengthen asymmetric warfare capabilities to rapidly increase its capabilities, and responds to gray zone tactics and threats through early warning, rapid transition between peacetime and wartime, and intelligence sharing. At the same time, the ROC Armed Forces is enhancing the reserve forces and utilizing the capabilities of the private sector for decentralized operations, drones, and C5ISR (command, control, communications, computers, cyber, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance), and strengthening enemy deception, decoy, and capability preservation measures to strengthen the overall resilience of defense operations, create a favorable battlefield environment, and leverage operational advantages.

- (I) Joint capability planning aims to meet the strategic concepts and future operational requirements of the ROC Armed Forces, and primarily improves overall joint operational capabilities. At the current stage, in addition to “replacing manpower with technology, replacing traditional forces with firepower,” we are prioritizing long-range, precision, mobile, lethal, and AI asymmetric capabilities.
- (II) Weapons and equipment buildup is reviewed based on distributed, survivable, redundant, and cross-domain resilient deployment, and the priority of short-term, medium-term, and long-term needs in the Guidelines for Joint Capabilities are determined based on the level of urgency, operational benefits, transition/performance upgrade plans, and technological development. Current capability buildup is divided based on missions and scenarios into land operations; maritime operations; air and missile defense operations; and cyber, communication, information, electronic, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance operations. The ROC Armed Forces is actively acquiring the weapons and equipment needed to respond to the rapidly changing spectrum of warfare.

II. Force Buildup Plan

The ROC Armed Forces sets priorities according to the Guidelines for Joint Capabilities, and includes required items in the Five-year Force Buildup Plan, focusing on meeting requirements of defense operations, missions, and scenarios, and learning from the experience of the Russia-Ukraine war. The ROC Armed Forces included unmanned systems, AI, automation, cyber warfare technologies, and the development and application of advanced combat technologies in the plan, evaluating and introducing mature technologies of the private sector to rapidly develop capabilities, pragmatically carrying out combat readiness work, and building robust defense capabilities to respond to future national defense challenges and military threats.



(I) Self-reliant National Defense

1. Land Operations

- (1) Acquire land-based Sky Sword II field air defense systems, upgrade field air defense radars, and strengthen countermeasures against the threat of the enemy's air attack.
- (2) Acquire weapons and equipment to enhance the reserve forces and meet actual needs of reserve forces that will ensure the success of missions.
- (3) Expand the functions of existing training grounds to match real combat situations based on the future transition to new weapons, and accelerate deployment and commissioning.

2. Maritime Operations

- (1) Upgrade combat systems of the Chien Lung Class submarines and acquire new generation submarines to utilize their underwater stealth and surprise attack capabilities.
- (2) Build new generation light frigates to deal with gray zone tactics of the PRC and enhance maritime operation capabilities.
- (3) Acquire mobile launchers for Hsiung Feng II and III missiles to erode the enemy's maritime blockade, operations, and strategic projection capabilities.
- (4) Upgrade littoral RADAR systems to closely monitor maritime maneuvers of the enemy and buy time for response.

3. Air and Missile Defense

- (1) Acquire Chien Hsiang anti-radiation Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) and Hsiung Sheng standoff precision munitions to improve our capabilities to impede the enemy's operations.



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- 1.The Jianxiang anti-radiation UAV is a loitering munitions system capable of tracking and positioning enemy electronic emission sources for a long period of time before attacking, effectively suppressing various radars of the PRC along the coasts, inland, or at sea.
- 2.The Indigenous Defense Submarine is a new milestone of Taiwan's self-reliant national defense, and tests will be subsequently completed to achieve delivery goals.
- 3.The land-based Sky Sword II air defense system can track, monitor, and intercept fighters and cruise missiles, making it an important air defense weapon in the field.
- 4.The HF III anti-ship missile is known as the "aircraft carrier killer" for its precision strike capabilities, deterring PRC vessels from invading.

(2) Acquire land-based Sky Bow III air defense missiles and upgrade Sky Bow II missiles to protect our HVAs.

(3) Acquire new Advanced Jet Trainers (AJT) to improve flight safety and training effectiveness and meet the needs for transition to next generation fighters.

4. Cyber, Communication, Information, Electronic, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Operations

(1) Acquire various types of drones for Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) and target acquisition missions, and improve our battlefield surveillance and reconnaissance capabilities against the enemy.

(2) Integrate civilian industrial capacity and acquire counter UAV systems to effectively defend against the harassment of small PRC drones and protect the safety of installations.

(3) Utilize resources of the public and private sectors to build a second router for the optical cable around the island, and build a resilient communication and information backbone network to support intelligence transmission by the command and control system for joint operations.

(II) Acquisitions from U.S. Foreign Military Sales

1. Land Operations

(1) Acquire the HIMARS to improve long-range strike capability.

(2) Acquire the Vehicle-Launched Scatterable Anti-tank System (VLSAS), to effectively interdict and impede the enemy's operations, and buy more time for our operations.

(3) Acquire M1A2T main battle tanks (MBT) to build mobile precision strike and fire support capabilities of ground forces.

- (4) Acquire TOW 2B and Javelin anti-armor missiles to strengthen the mobile strike capabilities of our ground forces.
- (5) Acquire man-portable air-defense (MANPAD) Stinger missiles to strengthen the short-range air defense capability of ground forces, so that the ROC Armed Forces can effectively carry out defense operations against airborne threats.

2. Maritime Operations

- (1) Acquire Harpoon Coastal Defense Systems to extend our maritime strike capabilities for more effective joint sea control operations.
- (2) Upgrade and acquire Phalanx close-in weapon systems (CIWS) to strengthen our anti-missile capability and enable us to shoot down close-in targets in the air and at the sea, which will increase the survivability of our vessels.
- (3) Acquire long-range heavyweight submarine-launched torpedoes that can be used with existing torpedoes to improve the tactical flexibility of our submarines.

3. Air and Missile Defense

- (1) Acquire various air-launched precision missiles to intercept enemy aircraft, strike the enemy's operations center and critical weaknesses, and erode the enemy's operational capabilities.
- (2) Acquire new F-16V (BLK70) fighters, and retrofit existing F-16A/B fighters to strengthen our air control capabilities.
- (3) Acquire weapons systems such as Patriot Advanced Capability (PAC)-3 air defense missiles, to strengthen the protection for our HVAs.
- (4) Acquire the National Advanced Surface-to-Air Missile System (NASAMS) to fill in the gap in short-range and medium-range air defense, and effectively protect central and HVAs.

4. Cyber, Communication, Information, Electronic, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Operations

- (1) Acquire new generation Improved Mobile Subscriber Equipment (IMSE) and improve the timeliness of command and control for mobile operations through multi-layered, distributed deployment and redundancies, in order to effectively support operations.
- (2) Acquire high altitude drones to strengthen surveillance, reconnaissance, and early warning capabilities around the clock, and support defense operations.
- (3) Acquire L-band (AN/TPS-77) and non-L-band (AN/TPS-78) radars to improve the target acquisition rate and warning effectiveness for targets with a small radar cross-section (RCS), such as drones, while gaining mobile deployment capabilities.

III. Weapons and Equipment Acquisition

Military investment plans are carried out according to the *Regulations for ROC Armed Forces Military Investment Plans* for all items included in the Five-year Force Buildup Plan. Based on the spirit for plans to wait for funding, after completing procedures for military investment plans, the plans are included in the MND's annual budget in coordination with the defense financial resources that are acquired. The budget is submitted to the Legislative Yuan for review and approval, and then submitted to the President for

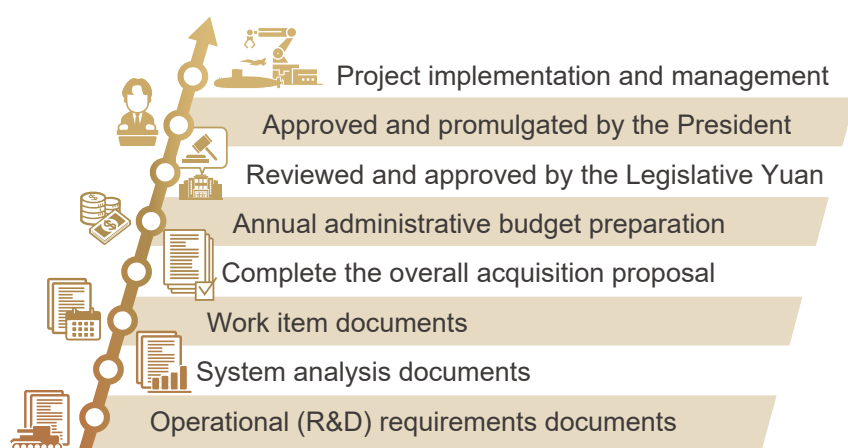
approval and promulgation. Units of the ROC Armed Forces then carry out acquisition accordingly and the plans enter the management stage, in order to acquire the required weapons and equipment according to schedule while meeting quality requirements, and thereby build robust capabilities.

(I) ROC Armed Forces Regulations for Military Investment Plans

The MND promulgated the *Regulations for ROC Armed Forces Military Investment Plans* to prescribe the procedures for weapons and equipment acquisition plans. Military investment plans go through the following procedures to ensure they are aligned with the direction for force buildup and combat readiness: verify operational requirements (operational/research requirements documents), analyze weapons and equipment acquisition methods and cost and benefits (system analysis documents), review and verify the equipment delivery schedule and allocate a multi-year budget (schedule and work item documents), and complete overall planning (overall acquisition plan). Learning from the experience of the Russia-Ukraine war, modern weapons are being rapidly developed, and the development and application of military technologies are crucial to the progress of capability modernization of the ROC Armed Forces. The MND thus established the *ROC Armed Forces Regulations for Military Investment Plans* with a focus on supporting innovative requirements of national defense, accelerating the replacement of old systems, and meeting operational requirements to rapidly increase overall combat capabilities. Articles of the regulations will be revised on a rolling basis based on the regional situation, changes in the enemy situation, and technological developments, in order to meet actual requirements.

(II) Multiple Weapons Acquisition Channels

Weapons and equipment acquisition is based on the principle to “prioritize domestically producing and supplement with purchased.” Weapons and equipment that cannot be locally manufactured and will rapidly increase capabilities within a short period of time will be acquired from the market or through military procurements. In addition, Taiwan has continued to utilize a variety of security cooperation authorities with the U.S. national security team, including presidential drawdown authority (PDA) and foreign military financing (FMF), to acquire weapons and accelerate the completion of training required for the equipment, shortening the time it takes to develop capabilities to strengthen Taiwan’s defense capabilities.



【 National Defense Weapons and Equipment Acquisition Flowchart 】

Section 3 Joint Operations

The PRC has been using gray zone tactics, joint readiness patrols, and targeted military exercises to attempt a blockade on Taiwan, and has extended its force deployment outward in an attempt to create the strategic posture of A2/AD, limiting Taiwan's space in international waters, and shortening Taiwan's early warning time for defense operations. The ROC Armed Forces is seeking to increase the early warning time for defense operations to effectively respond to the PRC's military coercion, and continues to pragmatically build up the required capabilities, strengthening command, communication, cyber, and electronic resilience. At the same time, the ROC Armed Forces reviews the appropriateness of countermeasures for gray zone tactics, joint operation plans, and regional joint defense mechanisms on a rolling basis, and comprehensively improves the effectiveness of joint operations to build robust overall defense capabilities.

I. Capability Buildup Guidance

The ROC Armed Forces follows the policy guidance of the Force Structure Adjustment of All-out Defense, and builds capabilities based on four principles: build asymmetric capabilities, strengthen operational resilience, enhance the reserve forces, and increase capabilities to deal with gray zone tactics, in order to enhance overall deterrence and lasting capabilities and thereby ensure regional security and stability and the ability to defend against an invasion. In recent years, 5 additional Coastal Defense Reserve Infantry Brigades were formed, the cadre manpower of the reserve brigades of 18 counties and cities was increased, and some reserve infantry brigades were assigned active duty conscript soldiers to make them comparable to an active duty infantry brigade. In coordination with the schedule for acquiring (transitioning to) new weapons and equipment, such as the F-16V (BLK70) fighter and M1A2T MBT, the force structure of the ROC Armed Forces is reviewed and adjusted iteratively each year, and is included in immediate response exercises and annual Exercise HAN KUANG to verify the effectiveness of joint operations, laying the foundation for successful defense operations.

II. Strengthening Command, Communication, Cyber, and Electronic Resilience

To strengthen command, control, and communication resilience and capabilities, the command and control system of the ROC Armed Forces features multiple redundancies and mobile deployment. It integrates military and civilian communication resources to achieve distributed deployment, and continues to expand cybersecurity defense-in-depth, while utilizing multi-layered defense and mobile redundancy systems. Current cybersecurity "zero trust" and active defense concepts integrate emerging technologies to build a network environment capable of reducing damages, limiting diffusion, and rapidly recovering, so that the command and control core system of the ROC Armed Forces is able to continue operating when under interference and sabotage.

(I) Improving the Effectiveness of Command and Control

The ROC Armed Forces established the Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Cyber, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (C5ISR) system to integrate the command and control center, weapons platforms, and surveillance and reconnaissance systems through advanced information technologies and innovative concepts, obtaining battlefield information in real-time while improving interoperability with friendly partner countries to improve the effectiveness of joint operations.

(II) Ensuring Communication Resilience

To meet command, control, and intelligence transmission requirements, the ROC Armed Forces uses landlines, radio, microwave, and satellite communications, and is concurrently building a second redundant landline backbone. It is also integrating civilian communication resources and capabilities

to establish multiple redundancies. According to the plans of the Ministry of Digital Affairs' satellite policy, satellite capabilities are included as a backup means of communication, and the nation's own satellite communication services are being developed in coordination with the Taiwan Space Agency's schedule for developing Taiwan's own satellite network, which will increase the allowance of satellite communication resources and strengthen overall communication resilience.

(III) Strengthening the Cybersecurity Environment

Mature cloud technologies and redundancy measures from the private sector are utilized together with a multiple backbone network and communication methods to build a distributed cloud system architecture, thereby achieving distributed deployment and cross-site mutual backup. In addition, the cybersecurity strategy of "Zero Trust" is implemented with identity verification, equipment identification, and trust inference technologies, integrating multiple layers of cybersecurity, information encryption, access control, and digital monitoring mechanisms to become aligned with international standards, facilitating data exchange and collaboration between services and allied countries, and improving operational effectiveness by effectively supporting decision-making by commanders.

(IV) Building Cyber and Electronic Capabilities

The ROC Armed Forces is closely following development trends of technological innovations across the globe. Based on the principle of building both purchased and self-developed capabilities, it continues to build cyber and electronic equipment and develop tactical applications, implementing electromagnetic spectrum and signature management, and carrying out verification and adjustments during various exercises to support joint operations and enhance the ROC Armed Forces' overall capabilities.

III. Enhancing the Security of Military Operations

In response to the PRC's active expansion of satellites, drones and unmanned surface vessels, land-based radar, naval intelligence ships, and Internet intelligence, as well as recruitment of collaborators in Taiwan, various means have been adopted to create a clear picture of the PRC's hostile activities against Taiwan. To ensure the security of ROC Armed Forces' military operations, prevent the enemy from conducting reconnaissance and learning of the ROC Armed Forces' intentions, combat security assessment processes have been used to confirm confidential and sensitive information that should be controlled and protected. Furthermore, potential weaknesses and threats in operations are analyzed in order to evaluate the risks during execution, and strategic responses such as countermeasures, evacuation, concealment, and camouflage are taken. In addition, necessary control measures are taken for electronic communication signals, mobile movement routes, command posts, and the positions of military forces, disrupting the enemy's reconnaissance and judgment through redundant, diverse, and deceptive methods. This would limit the enemy's ability to achieve their combat objectives and increase Taiwan's chances of success.

IV. Maintaining Shipping and Supply Chains During Wartime

The PRC is attempting to impose a three dimensional blockade of Taiwan's air space, waters, and underwater using missiles, fighter aircraft, naval vessels, and submarines. The ROC Armed Forces continues to analyze the enemy threat and operational environment, established a real-time intelligence exchange mechanism with the U.S. and Japan, and monitors the PRC's force movement, in order to maintain smooth lines of communication. During military exchanges between Taiwan and the U.S., both sides observe each other's operating procedures, planning, and training models, and revise the joint operations plan through



modeling and simulation and war games, strengthening execution capabilities for operational plans in hopes of achieving the goals of anti-blockade operations.

V. Regional Joint Defense Mechanisms

The ROC Armed Forces continues to improve regional joint defense mechanisms and integrates defense resources and capabilities of the ROC Armed Forces, local governments, and civil defense systems to strengthen the resilience and effectiveness of whole-of-society defense. The MND references potential forms of enemy operations, the size of operations, regional characteristics, and the distribution of important military defenses and critical infrastructure when delineating areas of responsibility for defense, and clearly specifies the responsible unit and command authority. Based on the principle that “any unforeseen event will cause a chain reaction triggering an overall response,” the MND established the authority for mutual support and contact mechanisms when various unforeseen events occur, establishing an emergency response system with a chain of command, intelligence sharing, and rapid response to counter the enemy’s special operations, infiltration, and sabotage, ensuring the security of installations and the government continues to function.

VI. Immediate Response Exercises

The ROC Armed Forces has referenced the PRC’s gray zone tactics and forms of military threat in recent years, and analyzed potential enemy operations, adjusting readiness response plans, formulating Guidelines for Joint Operations, completing force and firepower deployment and pre-position plans, and examining the completeness, feasibility, and appropriateness of plans with respect to the intelligence transmission, command and control, mission coordination, and decentralized operation of combat forces at each level. This enables joint operations forces with high readiness and survivability in the battlefield to be built and maintained. In addition, regular forces are authorized to carry out plans for distributed storage of combat supplies and the deployment of barriers in advance during peacetime. This reduces the time required for preparation for conflict, influencing enemy’s plans, and deterring aggressive actions.



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1. Dassault Mirage 2000 conducts immediate response exercise and rapidly carries out air defense missions, strengthening response capabilities.
- 2.3. C-130 transport aircraft conducts "military supplies airdrop training" and airdrops military supplies to designated touchdown zones.

VII. Drills for Operational Plans

To effectively strengthen Taiwan's overall defense operational capabilities, the ROC Armed Forces simulates combat and tests hypothetical scenarios during the annual Exercise HAN KUANG, rehearses operational plans, joint air-sea reconnaissance and patrol, and readiness reconnaissance and patrols. Simulated scenarios are used to guide emergency preparations and responses, command and control of joint operations, joint defense operations, capability replenishment, and battlefield rescue during realistic combat training. This allows officers and soldiers to understand their combat missions, become familiar with the operational environment and battlefield management, and improve the capabilities of forces to carry out defense missions.

VIII. Drone Applications in Combat

Drones (including unmanned surface vessels, USV) have become a key part of enhancing the ROC Armed Forces' asymmetric capabilities in modern combat environments. The main missions of drones are intelligence gathering, surveillance and reconnaissance of the enemy over long periods of time, and providing real-time battlefield intelligence. Drones are also used to support joint operations and carry out precision strike missions, thereby maximizing the effectiveness of their reconnaissance and strike capabilities.

Considering that the PRC may potentially use a large number of drones to launch an attack against Taiwan, the ROC Armed Forces plans to develop multiple detection methods, and utilize soft/hard kill equipment to improve the capabilities of ground combat forces to protect a specific area or important target, ensuring the security of defense areas. The ROC Armed Forces is leveraging mature technologies to rapidly introduce drones (including USV) to combat applications and countermeasures, thereby significantly improving the transparency of battlefield intelligence, strengthening strike effectiveness, and enhancing the joint countermeasures and combat capabilities of different branches. This will improve the overall combat effectiveness of the ROC Armed Forces.

Section 4 Realistic Combat Training

For forces at each level to achieve rapid response and maintain high combat readiness, training of the ROC Armed Forces primarily focuses on joint operations training under the guidance of combat readiness for “multi-domain denial, resilient defense.” Training is carried out in the field, in real time, and using actual equipment to strengthen combat readiness deployment, joint anti-landing, littoral, and coastal combat, defense-in-depth, and readiness for protracted war. Training items, standards, and targets are set for each level to improve the engagement capabilities of forces.

I. Basic Training

With the goal to rapidly increase defense capabilities, adjustment to the conscription term and reform of the reserve mobilization policy have been implemented based on the concept for bringing active duty units up to full strength with mobilized reserves of regular forces and recall mobilization of reserve force units. This enables regular and reserve forces to maintain sufficient personnel strength during peacetime, and takes into consideration the expertise requirements of reserve forces, in order to achieve parity between regular and reserve forces and training that is aligned with how these units will operate in combat.

- (I) Basic military training (BMT) is an important stage in the transition from civilian to serviceman, and civilians become qualified combatants after they complete the training. Starting in 2024, all soldiers, — 4-month conscripts, 1-year conscripts, and volunteers — receive 8 weeks of basic training. BMT is divided into four stages: core values of service members, fundamentals, team training, and final evaluation. Courses include reasonable risk-taking, battlefield stress-resistance, combat casualty care, shooting in combat, an introduction to all-out defense handbook, and sports science, adopting a gradual approach to strengthen the physical fitness and combat and shooting skills of new conscripts. BMT has also intensified combat training and small arms training for new conscripts to gain individual combat skills.
- (II) The final evaluation for basic training soldiers culminates with battle inoculation through three days and two nights of field training, during which they receive realistic combat training, including combat drills, tactical march, and bivouacking, thereby experiencing small unit tactics under the command of squads. After conscripts complete training, they are mainly assigned to the coastal defense infantry brigades at their home of record, but they may voluntarily choose to serve in the active force, and will continue to receive unit training and base training according to the training pipeline.
- (III) To strengthen the individual combat skills of conscripts, training with small arms and crew-served weapons was added to the 8-week BMT starting in 2025. For all conscripts to gain basic knowledge of new weapons, they are gathered together for courses on basic operations of drones, anti-armor rockets, and stinger air defense missiles before being assigned to units. Training units teach the courses in the schedule and complete preparations with respect to instructors, graphs and charts, lesson plans, and equipment for the training.

II. Home Station Training

One-year conscripts and volunteer soldiers receive specialty training for their position and receive a military occupational specialty (MOS) certificate upon completion, which increases the MOS capabilities of the active force and reserve forces. After completing base training, company-level and battalion-level forces will be



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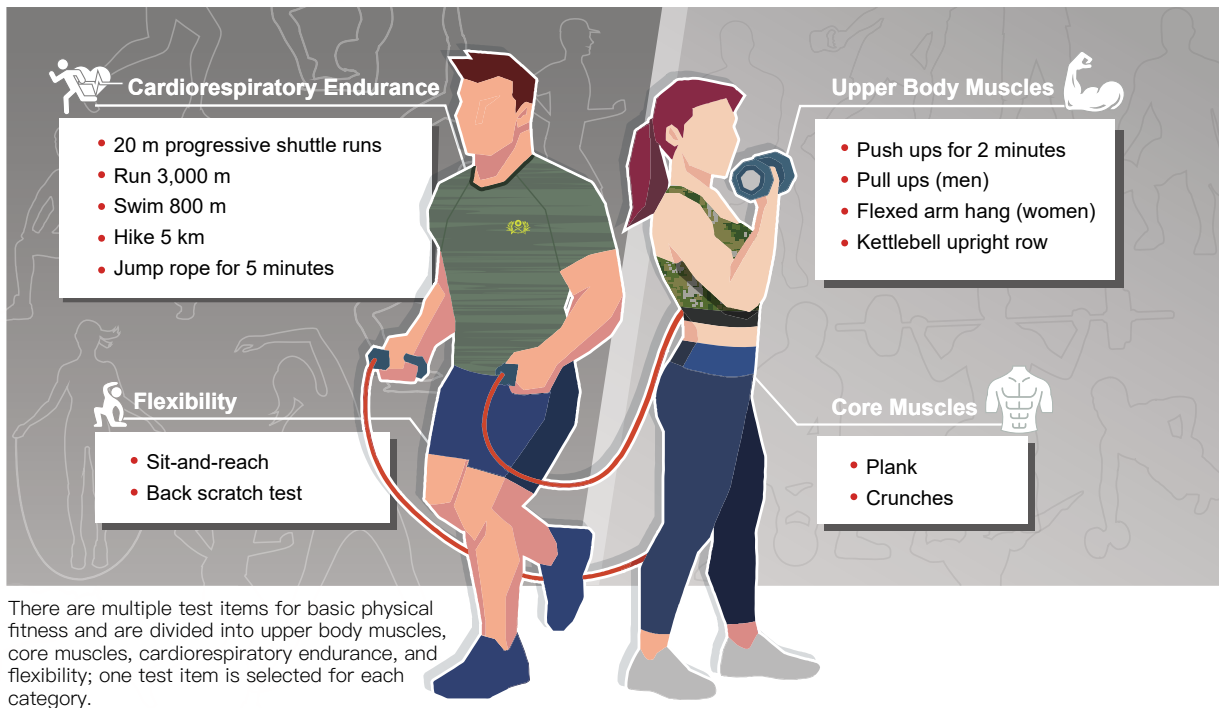
Kneeling and standing positions were added to realistic shooting training. Servicemembers are required to fire 36 rounds in 3 positions within 1 minute and 45 seconds, improving their mobility and stability when firing their weapon so that they will be able to respond to complex combat environments.

capable of carrying out combat readiness missions, so that they will immediately be combat ready and have greater mobilization capabilities.

(I) Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) Training

MOS training is provided according to MOS, along with more intense training of physical fitness and combat skills, weapons shooting, and combat drills. Once soldiers receiving a MOS certificate, they will increase the capabilities of the reserve forces after transitioning to reserve status. During unit training, forces focus on firing practice using various weapons (including artillery), comprehensive combat drills, live simulation system, and rehearsals for operational plans. Forces receiving training in existing training grounds, and also engage in various combat rehearsals at the tactical position they will defend in wartime, so that service members will be familiar with the battlefield environment. Battlefield management measures and operational plan rehearsals are continuously improved through the training process to achieve realistic combat training, so that forces will be capable of carrying out combat missions after completing training.

Test Items for Basic Physical Fitness of Servicemembers



(II) Physical Fitness and Combat Skills Training

Physical fitness and good combat skills of service members are the foundation of warfighting. The ROC Armed Forces adopted diverse training and test items for basic physical fitness training, which is divided into 12 items in four categories, namely upper body muscles, core muscles, cardiorespiratory endurance, and flexibility. In response to scenarios of defense operations and weapons and equipment operations, the ROC Armed Forces referenced close combat training methods of countries around the world and discarded bayonet drills to focus on firearms combat training, which is more suitable for real combat, improving weapons use techniques and quick reaction, strengthening mental fortitude and confidence, and improving close combat capabilities of service members.

(III) Offshore Island Situation Response Training

Drone harassment incidents have frequently occurred in recent years. The ROC Armed Forces therefore designed scenarios to guide the training of forces, bases, and observatories on offshore islands in the context of conducting operations, so as to effectively improve their situation response capabilities and thereby ensure the security of their defense area.

1. The ROC Armed Forces is strengthening drone countermeasures before drone jammers are acquired, and use current weapons and equipment, such as flare guns, rifles, and machine guns, to conduct countermeasure drills during defensive weapons shooting training each quarter, in order to improve the effectiveness of rapid response by service members. The frequency of nighttime shooting training has been increased to build the nighttime operational capabilities of service members.



ROC Armed Forces Essentials for Responding to Drones

STEP
1

Identify and Monitor

- Verify that it is an unknown drone, report it to the unit supervisor, and gather evidence.
- Safe shooting angle that will not harm the lives and assets of civilians.
- Continuous monitoring.

STEP
2

Issue Warning

- After verifying the target, a warning is issued by a whistle or an alarm.
- A flare is also fired as a warning.
- Notify surrounding barracks and positions to respond to the drone.
- Notify local military police, police, and prosecutors to assist in handling the situation.

STEP
3

Verify Safety

Verify that there are no personnel from surrounding barracks in the shooting area and safely shoot according to the restrictions of the small arms illustration.

STEP
4

Defensive Shooting

Use a counter-UAV rifle or 7.62mm caliber and under small arms to soft/hard kill drones.

2. Offshore island combat readiness training is carried out in the field using actual equipment at tactical positions. Various scenarios and situations are used during base training to guide service members to take countermeasures, so that they are familiar with the plan and battlefield management, achieving the goal of aligning training with combat for immediate response and immediate operations.

III. Joint Operations Training

Each exercise has the joint operations plan at the core, which takes into account the current enemy threat and developments in its regional posture, and anticipates that the PLA might attempt to turn training into exercise or turn exercise into war. Joint operations training is carried out according to the latest joint operations plan, and the effectiveness of joint operations readiness is examined based on the five aspects of planning, organization, equipping, training, and evaluations. The training strengthens the capabilities of forces at each level to carry out the joint operations plan, thereby achieving the goal of maintaining high combat readiness during peacetime and wartime.

(I) Armed Forces Joint Firepower Live-Fire Test

To strengthen the joint operation capabilities of the Armed Forces, combined arms training is carried out with a focus on joint command and control mechanisms, joint fire support and coordination, joint ISR, joint air defense, joint cyber warfare, joint logistics, and joint command and staff operating procedures of the Armed Forces. Combined arms live-fire is conducted to verify joint fires application capabilities.

(II) Sea and Air Missile Launch Training

To improve the training results and the effectiveness of weapons and equipment of the ROCN, ROCAF, and air defense forces, the ROCN established a safety control branch that uses situations to guide forces into tactical position to fire missiles, protect HVAs, and completes the assignment of targets according to the joint target handling procedure. Units fire missiles according to the kill chain to verify force training results, improving the joint air defense operational capabilities of forces.

(III) Joint Operations Training Exercises

To strengthen the defense operational capabilities of the ROC Armed Forces, joint operations training is planned for crucial joint operations so that forces receive adequate training and evaluation and improve their joint operational capabilities. In addition to the HAN KUANG Computer-Assisted Command Post Exercise and HAN KUANG Field Training Exercise, joint operations training in 2025 also includes 5 exercises: "Immediate Response," "Joint Information and Cyber Operations," "Overall Air and Missile Defense," "Joint Maritime Defense," and "Joint Ground Defense," thereby strengthening combat readiness deployment, joint anti-landing, littoral, and coastal combat, defense-in-depth, and readiness for protracted war, in order to effectively build the capabilities required for missions under the joint operations plans.

IV. Exercises HAN KUANG

The ROC Armed Forces continues to revise and refine the joint operations plan in response to the needs of defense operations. The on-the-spot decision making of commanders at all levels, the planning and actions of staff organizations, and the operational effectiveness of forces in joint operations are combined with the HAN KUANG Exercises, based on the foundation of joint operations. The HAN KUANG 41 Exercise in 2025 is based on scenarios involving the PRC's gray zone tactics and potential invasion of Taiwan, and is divided into three stages: a high-level military staff war game in February, computer-assisted command post exercise in April, and a field training exercise in July:

(I) High-level Military Staff War Games

Before the computer-assisted command post exercise is conducted, high-level military staff of the Armed Forces are called together for war games on certain issues, and they reach a consensus for operations through interactions and exchanges, allowing commanders at all levels to better understand the military strategy.

(II) Computer-Assisted Command Post Exercise

The Joint Theater Level Simulation (JTLS) system uses reasonable assumptions to guide the defense force to respond to gray zone tactics and conduct drills for each defense operation stage, including combat readiness deployment, joint anti-landing, littoral, and coastal combat, defense-in-depth, and readiness for protracted war, in order to hone the military decision-making of commanders at each level and the determination and planning capabilities of staff.

(III) Field Training Exercise

Field training exercises are conducted for each stage of defense operations using force-on-force, on-site, in real time, using real equipment, and based on real scenarios, with some exercises partially featuring opposition, in the surrounding waters and air space of Taiwan and offshore islands over 10 days. Commanders at each level make assumptions and plan auxiliary situations from the perspective of real combat based on potential operations of the enemy. Furthermore, emphasis is placed on responding to gray zone incursions, rapid response readiness and deployment, strategic communication and operation mechanisms, recovery of capabilities for deployed forces, deployment of multi-domain and defense-in-depth defenses, the operational effectiveness of new equipment, improvement of logistics capabilities, and military-civilian integration and coordination, in order to build rapid response capabilities and high combat readiness of the ROC Armed Forces.

V. Development of Military Doctrine

To meet current military training and operational needs of the ROC Armed Forces, military doctrine is revised each year to keep up-to-date on modern warfare, developments of technology applications in the battlefield, acquisition of new weapons and equipment, and tactical adjustments. In coordination with the schedule for receiving new weapons and equipment, including naval vessels, submarines, M1A2T MBT, HIMARS, F-16V (BLK70) fighters, and drones, plans have been made to revise 193 doctrines: the revision of 80 doctrines has been completed, and the remaining 113 doctrines will continue to be revised. The revision of 335 doctrines has been completed in the past 2 years. The ROC Armed Forces has a total of 945 military doctrines (excluding technical publications) for forces to use during operations and training under current conditions, and meet the needs for tactical applications, command, and control.

Section 5 Reserve Capabilities

Based on the types of missions carried out by reserve forces, the ROC Armed Forces improved recall training by adding shooting training and combat drills, providing solid training for reserve forces by gradually intensifying training. Rehearsals for operational plans are conducted at actual wartime tactical positions to improve the capabilities of reserve forces in coordinated operations with regular forces. At the same time, Exercise TONG HSING and Exercise TZU CHIANG increased the number of participating units, utilized civilian vehicles (scooters), and collected supplies, strengthening round-out and augmented mobilization capabilities to support military operations.

I. Reform of Reserve Force Training

(I) Adjusting cadre manpower

In response to the requirements for battlefield management during peacetime and rapid mobilization during wartime, the BMT reserve brigade and county/city reserve brigades gradually increased their cadre manpower according to the Force Structure Adjustment of All-out Defense, cultivating reserve mobilization instructors and carrying out mobilization readiness, recall training, equipment maintenance, and management work based on actual needs of reserve forces, which will help enhance basic capabilities of reserve forces. Reserve cadres will be the tactical leaders leading reserve units in combat to defend Taiwan's cities and towns.

(II) Expanding shooting training for voluntary participants

For reservists to maintain basic shooting skills in between recall training, the ROCA organized 4 reservist rifle shooting training camps during the summer combat camp in 2023. County/city reserve brigades organized 18 rifle shooting training opportunities for voluntary participation by reservist on a trial basis in 2024, producing good results. The training continued to be organized in 2025 and was increased to 30 opportunities to provide more chances for re-training.

(III) Promoting voluntary reservist training

Pursuant to the *Act Governing Preferential Treatment for Recalled Reservists* and *Regulations on Granting Awards for Recalled Reservists and Voluntary Participation in Recalls*, reservists who voluntarily participate in reservist training will be awarded NT\$5,000 for each training completed from the fifth time and onward. Recall training for voluntary participation by reservists was organized for the first time in 2023, in which 65 opportunities were organized for male reservists and 8 opportunities for female reservists; the training was organized on a trial basis for verification in 2024, in which 220 opportunities were organized for male reservists and 48 opportunities for female reservists; the training continued to be organized in 2025 and increased to 238 opportunities for male reservists and 118 opportunities for female reservists, providing more options for participation in training to achieve the goal of extensively preserving reserve capabilities.

II. Refining Realistic Combat Training for Reserves

(I) Strengthening Recall Training

The number of recall training events and number of reservists recalled for 14-day recall training were increased, while 5-day to 7-day recall training was maintained. Training topics include littoral operations, defense-in-depth, urban operations, and protection of HVAs according to the tactical position and mission of forces, focusing on MOS re-training, firing practice, tactical march and bivouacking, and battalion and company rehearsals. The training also established best practices for testing mechanisms to achieve realistic combat training of reserve forces.



1
2

1.2. Reservists report for duty at the designated time and place when they receive the order, and begin weapons and specialty examination.

(II) Intensifying Training

The missions and training volume of various reserve forces were reviewed based on recall training results in 2024. Plans were made to train an additional over 20,000 reservists in 14-day recall training in 2025, which include field training in areas of operations, and training guidelines and hours were established for different types of forces. Guidelines for communication equipment training, applied shooting, and comprehensive evaluations were also added or revised. Training for drone employment will be included in recall training in the future in coordination with the schedule for drone acquisition, in order to optimize training and strengthen the combat skills of reservists.

III. Expanding the Effects of Mobilization Exercises

Based on the principle of local use of mobilized troops, the scale and number of participants in mobilization exercises have gradually increased over the years. The exercises involving the issuing of a mobilization order, reservists report for duty, force organization, pre-combat training, and responding to various situations on the battlefield. The exercises are combined with critical infrastructure, designated hospitals,

and shelters in surrounding areas of tactical positions, demonstrating all-out defense mobilization together with military police, police, firefighters, and civil defense groups.

In the past 2 years, mobilization exercises have involved procurement, requisition, and production conversion according to instructions and scenarios of Exercise HAN KUANG, carrying out “civilian vehicles and scooters, supplies reporting,” “emergency production and repair by the military supplies industry,” and “integration of military and civilian medical systems.” Government agencies participated in on-site observation with 79 units of the Armed Forces, 6 private factories, and 2 civilian hospitals participating in the exercise, which mobilized more than 437,800 items of supplies, refining overall mobilization procedures and mechanisms to strengthen the resilience of defense operations.

IV. Preferential Treatment for Recalled Reservists

To reduce the impact of recall training on the livelihood of reservists and mitigate the impact of their absence on the operations of government agencies, institutions, businesses, schools, corporations, and organizations, while taking into account talent recruitment for regular forces, the pay and benefits for recalled reservists and preferential measures for the companies they work at have been increased in accordance with the Act Governing Preferential Treatment for Recalled Reservists, so as to raise the morale and strengthen the capabilities of reservists. The tax reductions provided to companies increases their support for the reservist recall policy, thereby extensively storing reserve capabilities and boosting up the reserve forces.

V. Equipment Acquisition for Reserve Forces

To rapidly increase the capabilities of reserve forces, adjustments have continued to be made towards the integration of regular and reserve forces, technology-enhanced manpower, and applying firepower before deploying troops according to the capability buildup guidance of the ROC Armed Forces, the amount of defense financial resources available, and self-reliant defense capabilities. The MND has been actively acquiring miniature drones, communication equipment, and weapons and equipment in the past 2 years. At the same time, the U.S. provided equipment through PDA specifically for Taiwan’s reserve forces. The replacement of equipment is reviewed based on the service life and acquisition of equipment for reserve forces, so as to enhance overall capabilities of reserve forces and enable them to conduct joint operations with regular forces during wartime, maximizing capabilities to achieve strategic endurance.

Preferential Treatment Provided According to the Act Governing Preferential Treatment for Recalled Reservists



■ Recall Bonus

Reservists who participate in recalls 5 times or more will receive a recall bonus of NT\$5,000 after completing training for the 5th time and after.



■ Military Hospital Registration Fee Waiver

Within 1 year after being dismissed, reservists may bring their certificate to a military hospital and their registration fee will be waived.



■ Shopping at BXs/PXs

Within 1 year after being dismissed, reservists may bring their certificate to shop at BXs/PXs.



■ Lodging Discounts at Hero Houses

Within 1 year after being dismissed, reservists may bring their certificate to enjoy lodging discounts at Hero Houses.

Section 6 Combat Casualty Care

To improve the survivability of service members in the battlefield and strengthen operational resilience, the Armed Forces have learned from the experience of wars around the world and the concept of tactical combat casualty care (TC3) from the U.S. military, and provided front-line service members with skills to help themselves and help each other through combat casualty training, training for combat casualty care instructors, supplying individual first-aid packs, preparing training grounds, and integrating medical institutions for combat casualty care. The MND is also working with domestic and overseas partners to stockpile biological defense and response capabilities to meet the needs of domestic epidemic prevention work and the biological defense missions of the ROC Armed Forces.

I. Training Levels

(I) Individual Combat Casualty Care Training (Entry level)

Entry level training includes instructions for individual use of the first-aid pack, medical evacuation under fire, hemorrhage treatment, and respiratory care. The training course lasts 8 hours. Entry level training is included the annual training order for forces. All forces of the ROC Armed Forces are required to include entry level training, so that service members will have the basic skills to help themselves and help each other.

(II) Professional Combat Casualty Care Training (Intermediate level)

Intermediate level training includes triage, medical care at casualty assembly points, and medical evacuation. The training course is 40 hours to teach trainees to quickly evacuate wounded members from the front line to a second-level health service facility or hospital. Furthermore, the training slots are given from the bottom (platoons) up to strengthen the professional combat casualty care skills of all service members.

(III) Advanced Professional Combat Casualty Care Training (Advanced level)

Advanced training is based on the contents of professional combat casualty care training, and includes 160 hours of training on advanced evaluation and treatment of various injuries, so that injured service members will be able to receive surgical cricothyroidotomy, airway maintenance, chest seal, needle decompression, blood transfusion from a walking blood bank, oral medication/ intravenous injection/intraosseous injection, and hemostatic injection on the front line. Training continues to be expanded for special forces, high mountain remote stations (radar stations), naval forces, and missions on offshore islands, in order to improve the advanced professional combat casualty care skills of service members.

II. Training Courses for Instructors

(I) Individual Combat Casualty Care Instructor Training (Entry level)

Entry level instructors must have a certificate of professional combat casualty care. The training includes preparing lesson plans and teaching rehearsals with a total of 24 course hours. After completing the training, new instructors can train new enlistees and teach individual combat casualty care refresher courses. Over the last two years, more than 4,740 service members have completed this training.

(II) Professional Combat Casualty Care Instructor Training (Intermediate level)

Intermediate level instructors must have both EMT-2 and professional combat casualty care certificates. The training course is 80 hours and focuses on the evaluation of wounded service members, treatment processes for all casualties, real combat applications at small unit levels, and teaching rehearsals. Over the last two years, more than 380 service members have completed this training.

(III)Advanced Professional Combat Casualty Care Instructor Training (Advanced level)

Advanced level instructors must have a certificate of advanced professional combat casualty care. The training course focuses on scenarios of advanced combat casualty care and teaching rehearsals with a total of 80 hours. Over the last two years, more than 90 service members have completed this training.

III. Supplying First-aid Packs

The ROC Armed Forces purchased first-aid packs for individual combat casualty care after referencing the standard specifications of the U.S. military for first-aid packs, thereby comprehensively improving combat casualty care capabilities. At present, every service member in the regular force has received one first-aid pack for various operations (exercises) and training. The ROC Armed Forces will continue to acquire the quantity required for reserve forces in the future, in order to increase the survivability of service members during wartime.



【Contents of an Individual First-aid Pack】



1	2
	3

1.2.3. The ROC Armed Forces uses VR and AR technologies in the Tactical Combat Casualty and Disaster Casualty Care Training Building for simulation training with tactical combat casualty scenarios, major disaster scenarios, and care in transportation tools, creating realistic simulated environments of battlefields.

IV. Training Ground Establishment

To extensively develop deep reserves of personnel trained in TCCC rapidly improve service members' combat casualty care skills, the ROC Armed Forces has established a training ground in the Health Service Training Center (HSTC) of the National Defense Medical Center (NDMC), and also established training grounds in each military branch for a total for 21 training grounds. Furthermore, the ROC Armed Forces uses virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR) technologies for simulation training of combat casualty care in the Tactical Combat Casualty and Disaster Casualty Care Training Building of the HSTC, NDMC. In addition, 11 training courses, including the captain's career course, receive combat casualty care training, comprehensive battlefield exercises, and disaster medical response training. In the 2024 emergency care and battlefield casualty search and rescue skills competition, a total of 969 people completed training, improving the overall results of combat casualty care training.

V. Integration of Medical Care for Combat Casualties

In coordination with the Resilient National Medical Care Readiness Program of the Ministry of Health and Welfare, military, public, and private medical institutions are integrated during peacetime so that there will be 205 designated hospitals (including military hospitals) for injured service members and civilians during wartime. In response to the need to operate on a large number of injured patients during wartime, when patients cannot be immediately evacuated due to roads becoming impassable, or when the closest designated hospital has reached capacity, military hospitals have 24 forward surgical teams combined with second-level health service forces that can operate in fixed buildings, basements, or in the field, allowing severely injured service members who cannot be immediately evacuated to receive surgery. This increases the survivability of service members during wartime and supports the resilience of whole-of-society defense. Starting in 2024, military hospitals cooperate with the Ministry of Health and Welfare and the Ministry of the Interior National Fire Agency in exercises that integrate military, public, and private hospitals, in order to strengthen disaster prevention and relief and combat casualty care capabilities.



1

1. In response to the battlefield environment, the ROC Armed Forces improves the combat casualty care skills of servicemembers through simulation training for evaluation of wounded servicemembers and the use of tourniquets.

2

2. With consideration to the enemy threat, wounded servicemembers are dragged or helped up, and basic life saving treatment is improved to increase survivability in the battlefield.



VI. Stockpiling Biological Defense and Response Capabilities

In terms of international cooperation, the MND is using digital analysis tools and big data resources for biological information, in order to improve the quality of technical support in response to domestic epidemic prevention needs and biological defense missions of the ROC Armed Forces. The MND has also partnered with high containment labs or laboratory animal centers in various countries to enhance our overall advantages. Domestically, the MND aims to establish, train, and execute the biological disaster emergency response mechanism, and established a complete biological defense system through training by the Biological Terrorist Attack Response Team of the Taiwan Centers for Disease Control, as well as training of a chemical corps and basic level health forces of the ROC Armed Forces.

To upgrade the advanced equipment in high containment labs and increase their high pathogenic research capabilities, Taiwan carries out pathogen identification, analysis, animal testing, and clinical testing in biosafety Level 2 to Level 4 labs, prescribe R&D and testing procedures for vaccines and drugs in accordance with the law, and comprehensively upgrade detection, testing, prevention, and treatment technologies for biological disasters through training, drills, and international cooperation, thereby improving biological protection research effectiveness.

Section 7 Psychological Readiness

Psychological readiness is an important foundation for whether forces are effective in combat, and directly affects the response and determination of service members when facing war and challenges. It is also an important component of combat power. The ROC Armed Forces continues to foster patriotism, understanding of the enemy, and media literacy among service members to shape their military ethics, security concepts, and sense of mission to defend the nation, deeply embedding the core value of “why we fight, for whom we fight” to effectively enhance overall capabilities. The ROC Armed Forces also provides media literacy education through multiple channels to strengthen the resilience of all-out defense, bolstering the psychological defense of service members and civilians to build a consensus on all-out defense, and create toughness and the determination to fight, so that overall defense capabilities are fully utilized.

I. Commitment of Service Members to the Core Values

Psychological education is planned from enlistment to discharge, and general education materials related to national defense are published, so that service members will become committed to the core values. Courses are taught during BMT and recall training, during which service members watch videos to foster patriotism and instill them with the right concepts. Chu Kuang TV Program sessions, psychological readiness education, and political warfare courses, along with Youth Daily News and the monthly publication Endeavor during the force training stage, help educate service members on national security, strengthen their sense of mission to defend the nation and its people, and instill them with the humanitarian spirit and military ethics that must continue to be upheld during wartime.

With the goal to strengthen the determination of service members to defend the nation and build national defense capabilities in 2025, the Chu Kuang TV Program sessions were changed to a modular curriculum, adding regular analysis of the PRC’s regional posture and cognitive warfare, and developing the media literacy of service members, so that they will be able to clearly see through inducements and united front tactics of the PRC. The courses also cover “cultivation of military values - country, responsibility, and honor” and “basic competencies of service members.” General education and lessons on the resilience of whole-of-society defense foster patriotism and the willpower to defend the nation, thereby elevating overall psychological readiness.

II. Countering the PRC’s Cognitive Warfare

The PRC has created an information advantage in politics, the economy, culture, and military, and engages in cognitive warfare by attempting to control the narrative and spread misinformation to undermine the harmony in our society. The MND adopts the principles to take the initiative and actively counter cognitive warfare, in order to effectively stop the threat and harm brought by cognitive warfare.

(I) Taking the Initiative

The MND is actively promoting media literacy education to improve service members’ understanding of the enemy situation. The MND has produced relevant educational videos and provided them to government agencies and local governments. Furthermore, for important national defense policies, the MND utilizes a wide range of promotional channels and organizes educational events on all-out defense to provide citizens with opportunities to come in contact with national defense affairs. The MND actively communicates with society, establishes the right concepts of national defense, seizes the initiative in public opinion by increasing the visibility of the Armed Forces, and thereby creates a favorable information environment.

(II) Actively Countering

The MND actively monitors unfavorable misinformation and issues a clarification as soon as possible, using the “Latest News Clarification Section” on the official website to provide explanations, and also uses social media such as the MND Spokesperson and the official account of the Executive Yuan for verification of Line information to allow correct information more quickly reach the public, set records straight, and reduce the PRC’s manipulation of public opinion, and bolster the psychological defense of service members and civilians.

(III) Raising Awareness of Defense

The PRC unilaterally interprets United Nations General Assembly Resolution 2758 and makes claims that go against reality and distort the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), using its coast guard to create disputes and constantly harass Taiwan’s surrounding waters and offshore islands, which have caused regional tensions. The MND produced the television program Let’s Talk about National Defense as part of the Chu Kuang TV Program sessions to explain international law and analyze the PRC’s ambitions behind the harassment, as well as countermeasures from the perspective of legal warfare, so that service members will understand and respond to the PRC’s gray zone tactics with strengthened awareness of defense and by defending Taiwan’s lawful rights and interests.

III. Raising the Security Awareness of Service Members

Following social changes and the development of network technology, the MND continues to explore innovative ways to improve service members’ understanding of confidentiality and counter-espionage, and uses different media for confidentiality and counter-espionage education, while enhancing infiltration countermeasures. These efforts provide better understanding of counter-intelligence in order to respond to the threat of the PRC’s infiltration of the ROC Armed Forces and espionage activities.

(I) Diverse and Innovative Confidentiality and Counter-espionage Education

Lessons on confidentiality and counter-espionage shown during the Chu Kuang TV Program sessions are adapted from actual national security cases to resonate with service members, and subtly establish their understanding of counterintelligence. Seeking innovative ways of teaching, the MND produced lessons combined with traditional performing arts - glove puppetry in 2024, and plans to collaborate with well-known YouTubers in 2025, using the channel of influencers make serious topics such as confidentiality and counter-espionage more approachable and closer to everyday life, effectively achieving the purpose of education to raise the security awareness of service members.

In recent years, the MND has collaborated with the national security intelligence team in jointly solving national security cases, most of which were actively reported by service members with confidentiality and counter-espionage awareness to the National Security Bureau through the national security joint defense mechanism. The investigations were jointly conducted with judicial authorities and apprehended the PRC’s spy organizations, showing the effectiveness of confidentiality and counter-espionage education of the ROC Armed Forces.



1

2

1. The National Defense University and Ministry of Justice Investigation Bureau co-organized the academic conference on “2024 Cross-Strait Relations and Regional Security under the New Development,” which included a keynote speech on “The PRC’s Cognitive Warfare Against Taiwan” to strengthen the psychological defense of servicemembers and civilians.

2. The immersive game *Beneath the Surface* combines live action role playing, mystery-solving, and immersive theater to instill the younger generation with concepts of national security.



(II) Improving Infiltration Countermeasures

To continue improving counterintelligence education, the MND used cases of the PRC’s spies to analyze their infiltration models, strategies, and methods, and compiled the *Analysis of PRC Infiltration Patterns* and *Red Alert Book Series* for use by forces at each level. The MND requires combat-level units to organize a confidentiality and counter-espionage lecture every six months, and invite experts who have analyzed cross-Strait affairs and have actual case investigation experience to explain the PRC’s infiltration methods and cases jointly investigated with prosecutors, so that service members will become more aware of confidentiality and counter-espionage.

For the 5 main national security and PRC United Front work threats currently faced by Taiwan, the President described 17 response strategies in March 2025, including amending the *Military Trial Act* and restoring the military trial system. The MND is currently preparing related amendments and supporting reforms, including restoring military trial with a military judge to handle military crimes specified in Part 2 of the *Criminal Code of the Armed Forces*, and establishing laws such as the *Military Judges Act*, *Military Court Organization Act*, and *Military Prosecutors Office Organization Act* to preserve the purity of the ROC Armed Forces and defend Taiwan’s sovereignty.

Brave the Winds and Waves We are in the Same Boat

Servicemembers in the Amphibious Reconnaissance and Patrol Unit cruise along the coasts in an M109 assault boat.





Brave and Fearless Fly with the Winds

Air Force pilots fly F-16V fighters and fire live ammunition according to orders.







Come and Go like a Shadow

Seize Victory through a Surprise Attack

Special forces use camouflage and the T93K1 sniper rifle to deal the enemy a lethal blow.



守護家園
2BG1



ROC
National
Defense
Report 2025

Part 3

Cornerstone
of Peace

Chapter 5

Democratic Partners

A country must be responsible for its own survival. The ROC Armed Forces is committed to building solid national defense and showing the international community Taiwan's determination to defend itself. On the basis of Taiwan's location in the first island chain, democracy and freedom, and the position and importance of Taiwan's semiconductor industry, it has continued to expand exchanges in each domain and deepen defense cooperation with friendly and partner countries, such as the U.S., to acquire the defensive weapons, equipment, and services needed. Taiwan has expanded exchanges with other friendly and partner countries and international think tanks, actively speaks out to the international community in search of support, and builds connections with the international community through midshipmen cruises, humanitarian aid, and military medicine. Taiwan is also expanding partnerships with democratic countries to jointly maintain peace, stability, and prosperity in the Taiwan Strait, Indo-Pacific, and the world.

Section 1 Defense and Security Cooperation

Taiwan plays a crucial role in resisting authoritarian expansionism and maintaining the status quo of peace and stability in the defense system of democratic countries in the Indo-Pacific region. To show the importance and support for peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait, the U.S. government is helping Taiwan build modern defense capabilities through legislation, as well as using Taiwan-U.S. communication channels for military exchanges and multi-domain, multi-level strategic cooperation under the *Taiwan Relations Act* and Six Assurances, increasing the depth and breadth of Taiwan-U.S. security cooperation. The U.S. provides the defensive weapons and equipment as well as related technical services needed through arms sales, which strengthens Taiwan's defense and response capabilities.

I. Support from U.S. Congress

Facing the PRC's frequent gray zone tactics and military activities around the Taiwan Strait, U.S. Congress has taken action to strengthen Taiwan's deterrence capabilities in the past 2 years, such as passing the *National Defense Authorization Act* for Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025 (NDAA 2024 and 2025), the *Consolidated Appropriations Act* of 2024, the *Emergency National Security Supplemental Appropriations Act* of 2024, and the *Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act* of 2025. These acts authorize the U.S. Department of Defense and Department of State to use PDA, FMF, and International Military Education and Training (IMET) for security assistance and cooperation based on Taiwan's defense needs, helping Taiwan acquire weapons and equipment suitable for Taiwan's joint capability planning, which will enhance the resilience of Taiwan's defense operations. This has brought military interactions between Taiwan and the U.S. to a higher level, and implemented professional training for joint operations.

The U.S. NDAA 2025 included the Taiwan Security Cooperation Initiative in its articles for the first time, and will provide Taiwan with security assistance, such as defensive material and personnel training, to meet the operational requirements and deter the PRC. The NDAA includes articles and recommendations

that are supportive of Taiwan, such as implementing a military trauma care program between Taiwan and the U.S., encouraging European countries to strengthen cooperation with Taiwan, strengthening the cooperation between defense industries of Taiwan and the U.S., and requiring the Department of Defense to establish a regional contingency stockpile for Taiwan. In July 2025, the United States House Committee on Appropriations passed the The Department of Defense Appropriation Act for the 2026 fiscal year, with US\$500 million in funding planned for the Taiwan Security Cooperation Initiative, which would help Taiwan procure defense materiel and military training, thereby strengthening Taiwan's defense, combat readiness, and deterrence capabilities.

Furthermore, the *Taiwan Assurance Implementation Act* gained bipartisan support in the United States Senate and House of Representatives, which requires the U.S. Department of State to examine and update the rules for interacting with Taiwan at least once every 5 years, and report to the United States Senate that it has removed self-constraints within a specified time limit. This will help Taiwan respond to the threat of the PRC and build integrated deterrence capabilities to maintain peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait and the Indo-Pacific region.

II. Taiwan-U.S. Military Exchanges

Under the framework of the *Taiwan Relations Act* and the Six Assurances, a series of Taiwan-friendly policies and laws from the legislative and administrative departments of the U.S. demonstrate high support for Taiwan. Such support can also be seen as a strong bilateral consensus that transcends political parties in the U.S. In addition to releasing more military resources, the U.S. has also positioned Taiwan as a key strategic partner in the Indo-Pacific.

Under these circumstances, ROC Armed Forces have deepened the framework of national security, defense strategy, and military operations into policy dialogue, foreign military and direct commercial sales management, scientific research on arms, defense evaluation, defense professionalization, training, intelligence exchanges, combat readiness, logistics maintenance, and communication, information, command, and control thereby maintaining military exchanges and cooperation. In particular, procurements from the U.S. are a key part of Taiwan obtaining arms for building asymmetric defense capabilities. During bilateral exchanges, Taiwan and the U.S. have discussed procurements that are battlefield-tested, that fulfill defensive requirements, and that Taiwan cannot manufacture domestically. By incorporating these procurements into force construction plans, Taiwan can obtain the weapons and equipment it needs while also learning about operational concepts from other advanced countries. Furthermore, the U.S. government has signed an executive order to streamline the procurement process for arms sales to other countries, and members of Congress friendly to Taiwan have pushed for simplified procedures for selling arms to Taiwan. Such policies, such as easing the requirement to notify congress, are in line with those for NATO countries, and will accelerate military procurement processes, speed up the delivery of key equipment, and strengthen Taiwan's defensive capabilities.

Over the past 2 years, Taiwan visited the U.S. over 370 times, while the U.S. made over 260 visits to Taiwan, and another 40-plus interactions were conducted via video chat, telephone conferences, or document exchange. Overall, more than 5,100 personnel were involved. These exchanges strengthened strategic cooperation in interoperability, defense industry cooperation, and whole-of-society defense resilience; focused on integration of command and control systems, joining the supply chain of Taiwan and U.S. defense industries, and strengthening the resilience of society during wartime



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1.2. Taiwan purchased the HIMARS from the U.S. and verified its precision missile strike capabilities, showing its high precision and high mobility to highlight the force buildup and combat readiness of the ROC Armed Forces.

or crises; increasing opportunities for security cooperation and interactions between Taiwan and the U.S. This will enhance Taiwan's asymmetric warfare, reserve capabilities, defense resilience, and capabilities for responding to gray zone tactics, and enable us to effectively respond to new threats and challenges.

Taiwan and the U.S. will continue to expand strategic dialogue and opportunities for security cooperation, and engage in military exchanges, such as policy talks, strategic communication, military cooperation, and exercises, to strengthen defense technology research, cybersecurity, and practical experience from combat training, which will enhance overall defense capabilities, such as ISR, long-range precision strike, and battlefield command and control. This shows Taiwan's determination to defend itself and builds mutual trust between Taiwan and the U.S. to solidify the security partnership.

Section 2 Expanding Friendly and Partner Countries

The ROC Armed Forces is the backbone of the country. Leveraging the importance the international community attaches to Taiwan's geostrategic position, Taiwan has continued to deepen cooperation and exchanges with the U.S. according to the government's integrated diplomacy policy, and also actively expanded exchanges with other friendly and partner countries and think tanks, seeking strategic dialogue and security cooperation opportunities to build closer partnerships and security links, so as to cooperatively face potential threats and challenges, defend democracy and freedom, and ensure the nation's sustainable development and prosperity.

I. Military Exchanges with Friendly and Partner Countries

The ROC Armed Forces has military attaché offices or military coordination groups in 25 countries based on the principle of comprehensive exchanges to consolidate diplomatic relations, and conducts military diplomacy missions, visits between high-level officials, midshipmen cruises and training, intelligence exchange, military medicine, military supplies aid, training, military law, and humanitarian aid.

Taiwan made over 280 visits to other countries, and other countries made over 150 visits to Taiwan with over 1,700 participants in exchanges over the past 2 years. The Graduate Institute of China Military Affairs Studies, National Defense University organized exchange events with foreign research institutes and think tanks visiting Taiwan, engaging in academic interactions, visits, and signing memorandums of understanding (MOU) by organizing the national development course or international military education conferences. This has effectively expanded academic and military exchanges between Taiwan and friendly and partner countries. When actual visits cannot be made between Taiwan and friendly and partner countries, various alternatives are used to exchange opinions in fields of cooperation, such as cybersecurity and military medicine, to build closer bilateral relations with friendly and partner countries.

The ROC Armed Forces continues to share intelligence, engage in dialogue and visits, joint personnel training, scientific research cooperation, cybersecurity, and countermeasures for gray zone tactics and the threat of cognitive warfare during military exchanges with friendly countries, gradually deepening partnerships and working even more closely with like-minded countries that share strategic interests, seeking to establish international joint defense and defense mechanisms to cooperatively counter PRC expansionism.

II. Exchanges with International Think Tanks

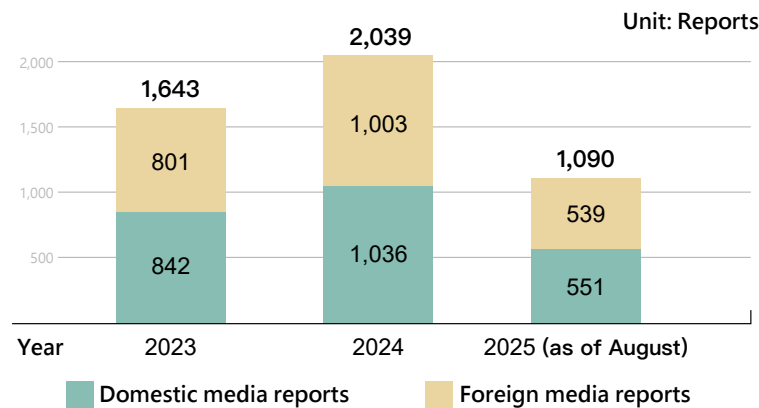
To drive academic development in Taiwan and expand channels for defense diplomacy, the MND and Institute for National Defense and Security Research (INDSR) are actively expanding exchanges with important international organizations, think tanks, generals, and former/current government officials during exchanges and visits with foreign think tanks. Taiwan co-organizes conferences with foreign think tanks and participates in war games to gain greater influence in defense issues. Taiwan engages in exchanges on defense issues during visits from foreign think tanks each year, which totaled 385 visits in the past 2 years, helping Taiwan become aligned with international standards and providing opportunities for Taiwan to offer its perspective.

The INDSR also invites foreign scholars to visit, conduct research, and established a platform for exchanges with domestic researchers, so that the international community will gain a more in-depth understanding of Taiwan’s strategic and security environment. Up to 2024, nine foreign scholars were conducting research at the INDSR. In 2025, twelve members including Executive Director Matej Šimalčík of the Slovakian think tank, the Central European Institute of Asian Studies, were invited and helped elevate Taiwan’s research capabilities and strategic thinking.

III. Expanding Strategic Communication

Publications of the INDSR in the past 2 years include *Real-time Analysis*, *Defense Security Biweekly*, *Special Issue on the Defense Situation*, *Defense Strategy & Assessment Journal*, *Annual Assessment Report*, *Taiwan National Defense Survey*, and *Defense Security Brief*. Contents include the current international situation, regional security, defense technology, and analysis of PRC policy, providing research results as references for formulating defense policies with the world concerned about the situation in the Taiwan Strait. In addition, the Taipei Security Dialogue continues to be held each year to discuss the importance of Taiwan to global security, challenges to democracy and strengthening resilience, the PRC’s global strategy, and security challenges, thereby promoting regional peace and stability.

The INDSR has continued to deepen partnerships with various countries since it was established, and has signed 27 MOUs or exchange agreements with foreign think tanks. To gain greater influence in national defense and diplomacy and show the academic research results of employees, the INDSR also actively participates in overseas seminars, forums, and academic conferences, and has been invited to conduct research in other countries for a total of 85 projects in the past 2 years. Furthermore, domestic and international media coverage reached 1,643 reports in total in 2023; domestic and international media coverage reached 2,039 reports in total in 2024; and as of August there were a total of 1,090 reports in 2025. The increase in strategic communication with the international community helps draw attention and gain the support of the international community for security in the Taiwan Strait.



【 Media report statistics from the last two years 】

Section 3 International Connection and Exchanges

The ROC is a responsible member of the region, and the ROC Armed Forces is using its soft power to seek international connections and deepen security cooperation with friendly countries. In addition to exchanges at the tactical training level to enhance the defense operational capabilities of ROC forces, it is also actively aligning with international standards and increasing Taiwan's international visibility through midshipmen cruises, participating in the Government Defence Integrity Index (GDI) evaluation, military medicine, humanitarian aid, urban resilience exercises, and training exchanges.

I. Midshipmen Cruises

Midshipmen Cruises and Training is an important annual training mission of the ROC Armed Forces, which dispatches a naval detachment to visit partner countries to train Naval Academy students that will be graduating that year, so that they will become familiar with life at sea, train their professional competencies, and expand their international perspectives. At the same time, it verifies their far sea operational capabilities, consolidates diplomatic relations, and comforts expatriates, demonstrating the best practices for national defense and diplomacy complementing each other.

During midshipmen cruises and training, they visit the heads of state of partner countries, and build cohesion and foster patriotism among expatriates through flag-raising ceremonies, visits to naval vessels, display of promotional materials, marching band performances, donation of supplies, and banquets. These activities deepen relations with partner countries and show the benefits of military diplomacy. During the voyage, each vessel fully utilizes its independent maintenance capabilities to ensure the availability of equipment, and carries out refueling at sea, ship-to-ship transfer operations, and combat readiness exercises to verify regular training results of service members, level of combat readiness, far seas maneuvering operations, and force projection capabilities.

II. National Defense Integrity

"Promoting integrity and implementing military discipline" is a key task that the ROC Armed Forces continues to carry out. Transparency International announced the results of the third Government Defence Integrity Index (GDI) evaluation on November 16, 2021, among the 86 competing countries, Taiwan received a B rating (low corruption risk) for the third time and was tied with Germany in 6th place worldwide, becoming the only Asian country to rank in the top 10, showing that the integrity of the ROC Armed Forces continues to receive international recognition.

The MND continued to implement the themes of the international integrity initiative, such as openness and transparency, during the 4th evaluation of the GDI in 2022. The International Military Integrity Academic Forum organized in the past 2 years invited the head of advocacy and two experts from the research center of Transparency International Defence & Security, as well as the CEO of Transparency International - ROK, to share academia's perspective and international trends, discussing the sustainable development of Taiwan's military industry from the perspective of global competition. In addition, the Military Integrity Evaluation Academic Conference co-organized with the Taiwan Association for Schools of Public Administration and Affairs (TASPAA) to conduct exchanges with domestic and foreign experts on integrity issues, which effectively improves the ROC Armed Forces' image and evaluation results in the GDI.



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Opening ceremony of the 2025 navy midshipmen cruises and training. All servicemembers and students were inspected by the commander of the Naval Fleet Command.

III. Military Medicine

The MND has obtained substantial results from exchanges with the international community and partner countries in tactical combat casualty care, academic conferences, and instructor training in recent years. To improve the skills of service members to help themselves and help each other, American instructors were invited to provide training through tactical combat casualty care courses, which accelerated the development of military medicine in Taiwan. Representatives from Taiwan made 23 visits to friendly and partner countries in the past 2 years, invited foreign guests to provide training in Taiwan 15 times, and participated in 9 international military education and training (IMET) courses (9 courses). The 4th Taipei International Military Medicine Forum (TIMMF) held in 2023 invited 15 military medicine experts from 5 countries to discuss digital health, military medical research, battlefield medical ethics and psychological health, disaster medicine and military-civilian cooperation, and health service readiness. The 5th TIMMF was held in 2024, at which 28 experts were invited from 11 countries and discussed international medical exchanges, battlefield medical care readiness, medical cooperation and humanitarianism, military medicine and gender care, and mental health and well-being, strengthening exchanges with friendly and partner countries to show Taiwan's capabilities and development potential in military medicine.

At the same time, Taiwan organized international academic exchange events extended from the TIMMF, and in 2024 Taiwan introduced and developed courses on Advanced Surgical Skills for Exposure in Trauma (ASSET) and Definitive Surgical Trauma Care (DSTC) that meet international standards and are suitable for training military surgeons, and also collaborated with the Taiwan Surgical Association and the Formosa Association for the Surgery of Trauma to organize courses on Advanced Surgical Trauma Care (ASTC). These courses help improve surgeons' combat casualty surgery skills.

IV. Humanitarian Aid

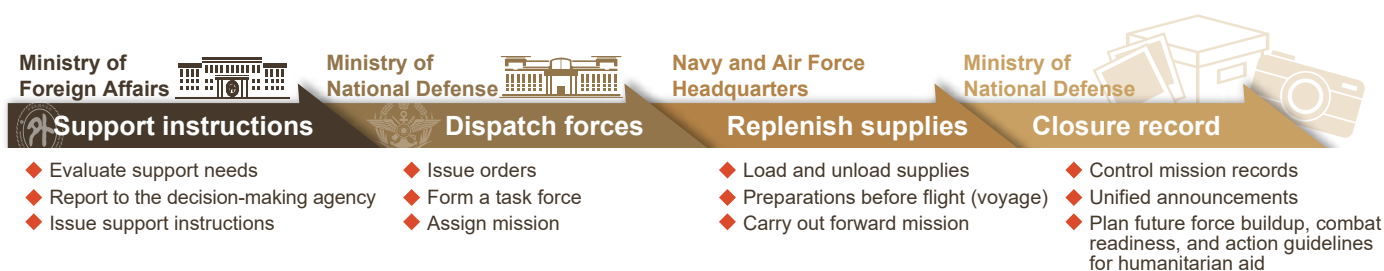
Humanitarian aid has become a consensus of countries around the world in response to the large scale natural disasters occurring due to the climate change crisis. In coordination with the nation's diplomatic policy and the Executive Yuan's policy guidance, when a major disaster occurs in a surrounding country in the Pacific, the ROC Armed Forces completes disaster relief preparations in a short amount of time through careful planning and the efforts of personnel, based on the spirit of there being no borders when rescuing people and empathizing with others, taking action to strengthen partnerships and maintaining relations with friendly countries.

(I) Operating Mechanisms

The ROC Armed Forces cooperates with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in providing international humanitarian aid, and immediately forms an international humanitarian aid task force after receiving instructions to provide support, sequentially completing the issuance of orders, task assignment and force dispatch, supplies replenishment, loading and unloading work, controlling the implementation and reporting of the task force, and jointly fulfilling Taiwan's duties as a responsible global player by working to provide humanitarian aid.

(II) Readiness and Execution

1. The ROC Armed Forces controls all missions and progress to effectively integrate disaster relief resources. After a large disaster occurs in a nearby country, a task force is immediately formed and maintains close contact with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Health and Welfare, and private charity organizations, completing plans and preparations according to the supplies that need to be delivered to the disaster area.



【Flowchart of the International Humanitarian Aid Mechanism】



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Exercise URBAN RESILIENCE verifies the capabilities of the all-out defense mobilization, civil defense, and disaster prevention systems, and strengthens the response capabilities of local governments during wartime and disasters.

2. The ROC Armed Forces rapidly dispatches air and naval assets that continuously load supplies to help the government work with partner countries in order to provide humanitarian aid, showing Taiwan's empathy and improving Taiwan's international image. These endeavors also verify Taiwan's capabilities in long distance command, control, communication, and logistics operations and strengthen bilateral relations as well as battlefield management capabilities through collaborations with partners.

V. Exchanges During Exercise URBAN RESILIENCE

Taiwan integrated Exercise WAN AN (air defense), Exercise MIN AN (all-out defense mobilization), and critical infrastructure protection exercises into Exercise URBAN RESILIENCE starting in 2025, and aligned it with the code for international exercises, verifying capabilities of the all-out defense mobilization, civil defense, and disaster prevention systems, as well as strengthening the response capabilities of local governments during wartime and disasters. During the exercise, partner countries and non-governmental organizations are invited to Taiwan for international exchanges, where they observe the exercise and share the mobilization and disaster prevention experience of each country.

Taiwan established the Whole-of-Society Defense Resilience Committee in June 2024, the European Commission announced the EU Preparedness Union Strategy in March 2025, and Taiwan proposed the overall safety preparedness plan to improve its interagency and military-civilian cooperation response capabilities. This shows that strengthening whole-of-society defense resilience is the nation's and society's response to geopolitical risks and trends in unconventional threats. Taiwan and other countries are cooperatively working towards improving response capabilities for disasters and even war to ensure the sustainability of national security and democracy.

VI. Training Exchanges

The ROC Armed Forces has acquired numerous new weapons and ISR equipment for defense operations to increase capabilities. Units that will receive the equipment selected excellent service members to receive training for the new equipment, accumulating advanced specialties so as to maximize their capabilities. The ROC Armed Forces also continues to provide training for new equipment, formulate doctrine, and engage in tactical integration training to more quickly complete the readiness of capabilities.

In addition, to enhance the operational capabilities of forces at each level, the ROC Armed Forces engages in military training exchanges under existing exchange mechanisms and policy guidance, and learns from the real combat experience, situational response, command and staff operating procedures, and command mechanisms of friendly and partner countries, so as to improve the rapid response and situational response capabilities of service members. The ROC Armed Forces gains experience through sharing and demonstrations, and includes related methods in annual exercises and training for verification. Military education and training related doctrine are then gradually revised based on the needs of defense operations, cultural background, and current conditions of the ROC Armed Forces, which serve as the basis for force training and tests, in order to comprehensively enhance the resilience of defense operations.

Chapter 6

Resilient Homeland

Taiwan faces the threat of frequent natural disasters due to its special geographic environment, and is also located at the forefront of authoritarian expansionism. Hence, Taiwan must continue to increase the resilience of its whole-of-society defense to respond to catastrophic disasters and deter the enemy from attempting to disrupt peace and stability. The ROC Armed Forces dedicates its efforts to force buildup and combat readiness, supports disaster prevention and relief in accordance with the *Disaster Prevention and Protection Act* during peacetime, and jointly carries out various missions with various government agencies and local governments to ensure the stability of society. The MND serves as the secretarial unit of the Executive Yuan Mobilization Committee and aims to implement concepts of whole-of-society defense resilience. During peacetime, it is responsible for coordinating the planning and implementation of mobilization policies of government agencies. During wartime, it combines the capabilities of all people for the ROC Armed Forces to be able to focus on combat, and for government agencies and local governments to be able to focus on maintaining core functions of society, jointly strengthening whole-of-society resilience. The MND also flexibly utilizes strategic communication mechanisms of the ROC Armed Forces to make citizens and service members more determined to defend their homeland. Whether it is facing the threat of natural disasters or authoritarian expansionism, Taiwan and other countries alike practice whole-of-society defense resilience, to leverage the capabilities of the government and private sector to jointly respond to challenges in extreme situations, with the goal of building a resilient homeland.

Section 1 Ensuring the Security of Society

Social stability is an important pillar for facing security threats, especially climate change, earthquakes, and emerging infectious diseases. Maintaining a functioning society and normal everyday life for citizens is an important issue. The ROC Armed Forces focuses on its main duties of combat training and also participates in disaster relief exercises, integrating available military resources to assist in disaster prevention and relief, anti-terrorism support, maritime patrol, emergency evacuation of offshore islands, and maintaining law and order. It carries out disaster relief, epidemic prevention, ocean conservation, and traffic dispersion missions to protect the lives and assets of citizens and ensure the security of society.

I. Assisting in Disaster Prevention and Relief

The ROC Armed Forces follows the command of the central government and meets the needs of local governments in accordance with the *Disaster Prevention and Protection Act* and *Regulations Governing the ROC Armed Forces Assisting in Disaster Prevention and Relief*, as well as the ethos of “empathy for all” to protect the lives and assets of citizens, rapidly mobilizing forces and machinery for disaster relief, and exerting every effort in disaster relief missions to minimize losses, so that the ROC Armed Forces becomes an important force safeguarding the homeland.

(I) Disaster Preparedness

1. Disaster Relief Forces

The ROC Armed Forces completes force deployment in areas prone to flooding and debris flow 24 hours in advance before a typhoon lands, and maintains forces on stand-by in barracks.

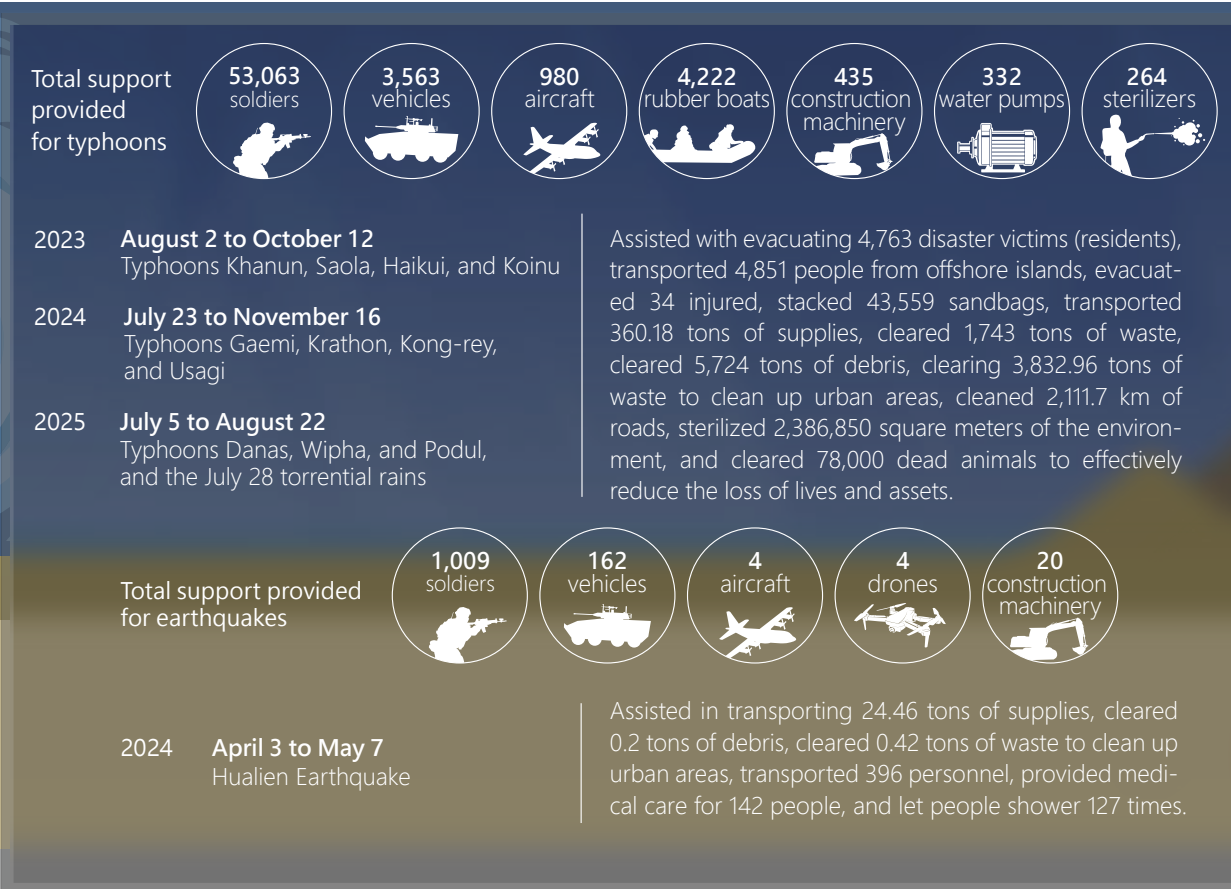
Depending on the disaster situation, areas of operations in Taiwan and offshore islands (defense commands) and reserve commands plan and dispatch intelligence officers and liaisons to be stationed in the 368 districts/townships of 22 counties/cities, establishing a communication channel with local governments, so as to assist in disaster prevention and relief missions.

2. Disaster Relief Equipment

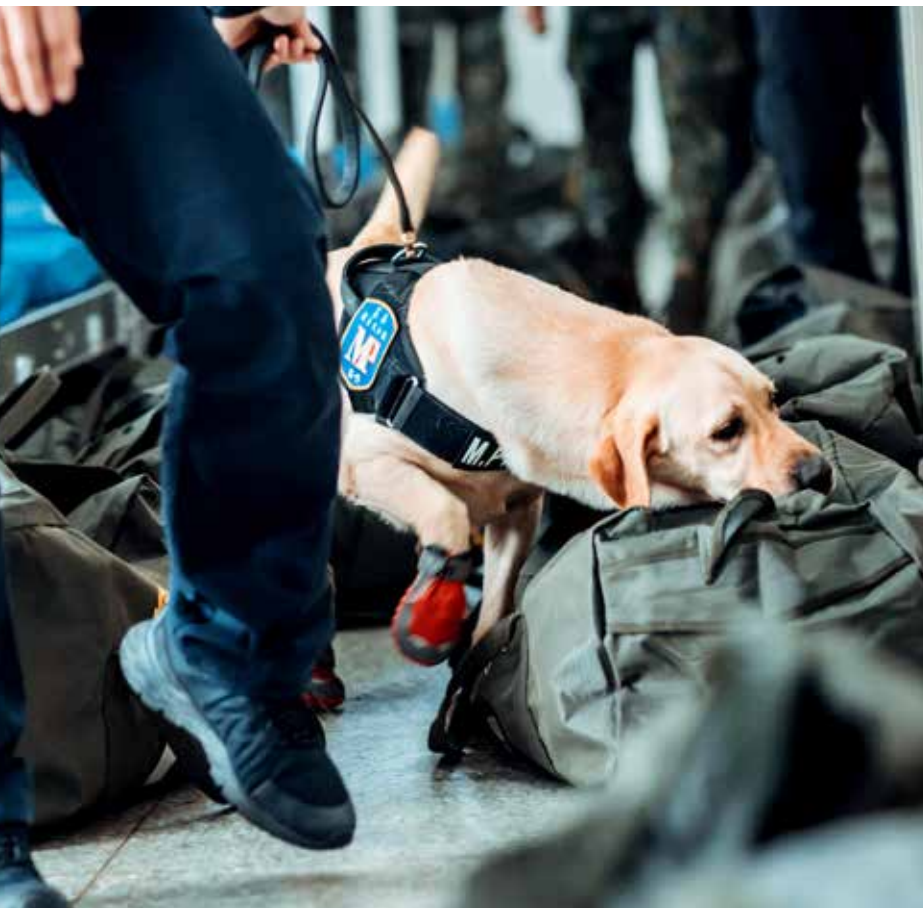
The ROC Armed Forces has over 1,990 vehicles, aircraft, and rubber boats, along with 1,130 pieces of engineering machinery, excavators, and life detectors for disaster relief, which can be immediately used for emergency relief work when a major disaster occurs.

(II) Disaster Prevention and Relief Drills

The ROC Armed Forces follows the guidance of the Executive Yuan and participates in the annual disaster prevention and relief drills of 22 municipal, county, and city governments, dispatching over 430 troops, over 80 vehicles, 3 aircraft, and over 70 pieces of machinery in the past 2 years. The ROC Armed Forces participated in the National Disaster Preparedness Day Large Earthquake Disaster Relief Mobilization Exercise in coordination with the Ministry of the Interior in Chiayi County, Chiayi City, and Penghu County between July and September 2024, strengthening cooperation and response capabilities when engaging in disaster prevention and relief with local governments.



【Achievements of the ROC Armed Forces' Disaster Prevention and Relief】



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1. The Military Police Command established sniffer dog divisions to perform access control and security inspections of the ROC Armed Forces, in order to eliminate drugs and maintain a clean social environment.
2. After a typhoon strikes Taiwan, servicemembers immediately go to each area to assist local governments with post-disaster recovery.
3. The ROCN and Coast Guard Administration carry out reconnaissance, patrol, and fishery protection operations to ensure the lawful rights of Taiwan's fishermen in Taiwan's exclusive economic zone, showing the government's ability and determination to defend fishery rights and declare Taiwan's sovereignty.

(III) Disaster Relief Results

In the past 2 years, the ROC Armed Forces carried out over 30 disaster relief missions for the major disasters caused by Typhoons Khanun, Saola, Haikui, Koinu, Gaemi, Krathon, Kong-rey, Usagi, Danas, Wipha, and Podul, the torrential rains of July 28, and the 3 April Hualien Earthquake, as well as other general emergency rescue missions in the mountains and at sea. The ROC Armed Forces contributed over 54,000 troops (person-times), over 3,700 (armored) vehicle trips, over 980 aircraft flights, 4 drone flights, over 4,200 vessel (rubber boat) voyages, over 450 construction machinery trips, over 260 sterilizer-times, and over 330 water pump-times to help with disaster victim evacuation, medical evacuation, supplies transport, environment sterilization, and city cleanup, effectively reducing the losses sustained by citizens due to disasters and restoring society to normal.

II. Anti-Terrorism Support

According to the Executive Yuan's policy guidance set forth in the *Directions for the Establishment and Operations of the Executive Yuan Homeland Security Policy Committee* and *Action Plan for the Homeland*



Security Response Mechanism, the ROC Armed Forces continues to strengthen anti-terrorism threat warning, reporting, and response mechanisms, in order to complete various contingency, readiness, and support mechanisms. According to the *Lian An Program Guidelines*, the ROC Armed Forces consolidates overall anti-terrorism response capabilities through observations, exchanges, and joint exercises and training with the Ministry of the Interior National Police Agency and Ocean Affairs Council Coast Guard Administration (CGA), ensuring that the government continues to function and society remains stable.

III. Fishery Protection Response

According to the *Standard Operation Procedures of Conducting Government's Fishery Protection Patrols* and *Protocol for General Support for Maritime Missions*, the ROC Armed Forces and Coast Guard Administration jointly protect Taiwan's maritime rights and interests, maintain maritime public security, conduct maritime rescue, conduct fishery protection patrols, and prevent unlawful incidents at sea. During the fishing season (April to June), the ROCN and CGA work closely together in fishery protection patrols, and dispatch additional forces to increase the frequency of patrols to show the government's capability and determination to protect Taiwan's fishery rights and sovereignty.

IV. Emergency Transportation

To resolve the dilemma of insufficient civilian aircraft and ships for transporting citizens from offshore islands due to poor weather conditions or during major holidays, the ROC Armed Forces sends military aircraft to carry out emergency transportation missions when needed by the Ministry of Transportation



and Communications based on the *Principles for the ROC Armed Forces to Support the Transportation of Offshore Islands* approved by the Executive Yuan, provided that it does not affect combat readiness exercises and training and does not compete with civilian transportation services. The ROC Armed Forces dispatched C-130 transport aircraft to make 96 flights in the last 2 years, helping 6,640 citizens and service members successfully return home, fully showing that the ROC Armed Forces cares about and helps citizens.

V. Maintaining Law and Order

(I) Security Inspection of Barracks

In response to the Executive Yuan's New Generation Anti-Drug Strategy, the Military Policy Command established sniffer dog divisions in Shilin, Taichung, Kaohsiung, and Hualien Military Police. Security inspections of barracks of the ROC Armed Forces and judicial cases investigated under the command of the prosecutors office amounted to 948 cases in the past 2 years, effectively preventing drug abuse and maintaining clean forces.

(II) Assisting in Maintaining Law and Order

Pursuant to Articles 229, 230, and 231 of the *Code of Criminal Procedure*, military police also serve as judicial police and investigate various criminal cases under the command of prosecutors,



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After a typhoon passes through, the ROC Armed Forces dispatches C-130 transport aircraft to support the transport of people stuck on offshore islands, so that they can successfully return home, showing that the ROC Armed Forces cares about and helps citizens.

jointly fighting crime together with the police, prosecutors, and coast guard. Military police investigated 793 cases and transferred 818 individuals in the past 2 years. During the Chinese New Year holiday, military policy intensified the maintenance of military discipline and law and order during important holidays, and carried out 1,140 operations to maintain law and order and prevent crime.

(III) Forensic Science

The Forensic Science Center of the Military Police is mainly responsible for the forensic examination of evidence from the judiciary and prosecutors office, as well as investigations of major crime scenes. Contents of forensic examination include drugs, urine, handwriting, seal imprints, ballistics, lie detection, and restoration of deleted files. A total of 1,483 forensic examinations were conducted in the past 2 years, providing military prosecutors, the judiciary, and prosecutors offices with evidence of crimes, jointly maintaining law and order.



恢復重之位

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重傷觀察區

1. 林○瑾
2. 陳○超
3. 黃○賢
4. 羅○婉

谷立言

轉運型呼吸器

Prepare for Danger in Times of Peace Resilient Society

Local governments organize Exercise URBAN RESILIENCE for scenarios and situations.



Section 2 Strengthening Whole-of-Society Resilience

National security is based on the self-defense capabilities from whole-of-society resilience. Taiwan established the Whole-of-Society Defense Resilience Committee on June 19, 2024, and integrated human and material resources nationwide to strengthen the resilience of national defense, livelihood, disaster prevention, and democracy, thereby boosting the confidence and raising the defense awareness of citizens. The ROC Armed Forces deepens cooperation through interagency collaboration mechanisms, and increases mobilization preparedness work through information system integration and material mobilization preparedness. The ROC Armed Forces is also promoting the All-out Defense Contingency Handbook to improve citizens' ability to help each other, and also verifies operations of the civil defense and disaster prevention system through urban resilience exercises, aiming to jointly build a stable, secure, and resilient society.

I. Whole-of-Society Defense Resilience

The President serves as the convener of the Whole-of-Society Defense Resilience Committee, the vice president and secretary general of the Office of the President serve as vice conveners, and experts and scholars are invited from industry, government, and academia to serve as committee members. The committee convenes quarterly meetings and listens to the recommendations of all sectors for five themes: "civilian training and application", "strategic supplies inventory and rations delivery", "energy and critical infrastructure maintenance", "social welfare and shelter preparedness", and "information, communication, transportation, and financial network security", listening to the recommendations of each sector to take a comprehensive inventory, in order to further solve problems and propose countermeasures. The MND All-out Defense Mobilization Agency is responsible for staff operations of meetings, and coordinates with government agencies and local governments to propose specific resilience measures, which are included in mobilization plans at each level. It organizes related resilience exercises for verification, and revises regulations and plans on this basis, jointly strengthening Taiwan's mobilization mechanisms and the implementation of related affairs to build a resilient and secure homeland.

II. Interagency Collaboration

The MND is the secretarial unit of the Executive Yuan Mobilization Committee, and invites central government agencies and local governments to convene all-out defense mobilization interagency coordination meetings. A total of 26 meetings were held between September 2023 and September 2025, and key points of the meetings included reviews of mobilization plans, improvement of the mobilization information system, and preparations for the annual meeting of the Executive Yuan Mobilization Committee, thus improving interagency collaboration mechanisms for more effective mobilization preparations.

III. Information System Integration

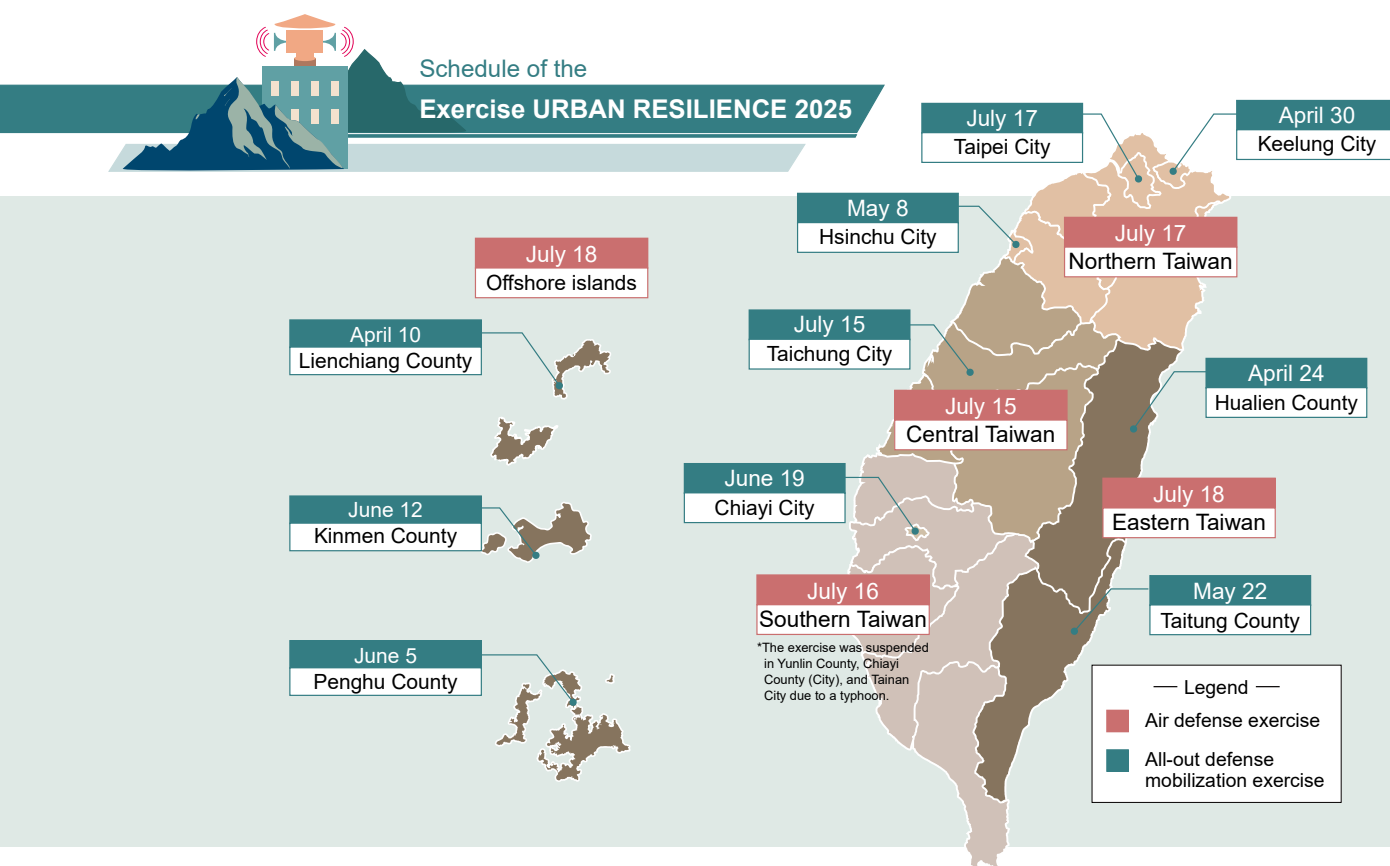
The All-out Defense Mobilization Integrated Information System integrates information on civilian defense resources, supplies and facilities, strategic supplies and air defense shelters, shelters, first aid stations, and non-gratuitous rationing stations, linking central and local government mobilization information and resources. A map platform showing all civilian resources was also established, and interfaces with local governments and capability coordination organizations in November, 2024 to improve the organization and management of mobilization and the dispatch of required supplies, thereby ensuring effective military-civilian coordination for mobilization preparations.

IV. Material Mobilization Preparation Plan

In accordance with requirements for material needed in wartime, forces at each level will procure important supplies, fixed facilities, vehicles, and machinery from the private sector. Depending on the requirements for equipment and operational requirements of forces, between February and May each year, application, review, certification, and assignment of material contracts are completed. At the same time, military supplies, military transportation, and military industry are included in the mobilization preparation plan, so that mobilization can be rapidly carried out for requisition or purchase, production expansion, and emergency repair, in order to support military operations.

V. Exercise URBAN RESILIENCE

Exercise WAN AN (air defense), Exercise MIN AN (all-out defense mobilization), and critical infrastructure protection exercises were integrated to become Exercise URBAN RESILIENCE starting in 2025. Among them, the all-out defense mobilization exercises were conducted from April to July by 10 local governments, including Taipei City, using small exercises with predetermined scenarios but no specific script, focusing on disaster relief during wartime (70% damage caused by simulated wartime events); verifying the establishment and operation of the joint response command and control center in the field, cybersecurity, non-gratuitous rationing, shelters, and first aid stations during wartime; accumulating response experience and improving operating mechanisms in hopes that government agencies and local governments will be able to serve their functions and ensure the continued functioning of society and everyday life during wartime.

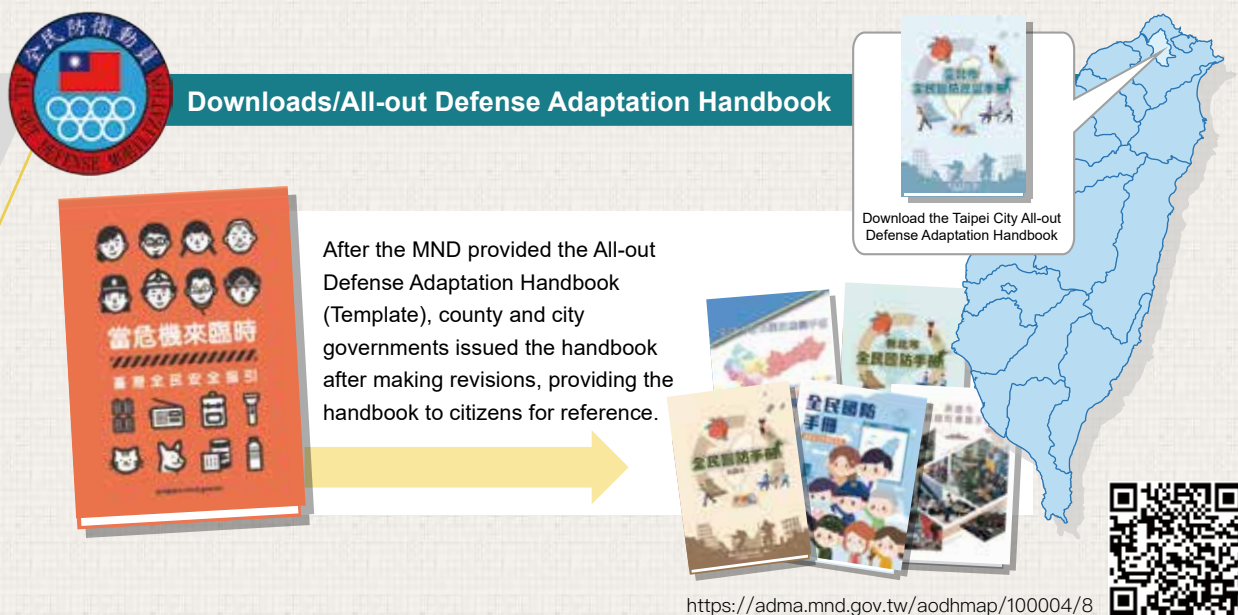


Moreover, during air defense exercises, local governments are required to comprehensively implement the control of people and vehicles within their jurisdiction, gradually expanding to each local government selecting 3 townships or districts to let citizens actually enter air defense shelters. After the air raid alert is deactivated, an additional 60 minutes is added to the exercise, during which civil defense groups transfer people to and from air defense shelters, treat patients at first aid stations, and practice wartime disaster relief, in order to strengthen the defense mechanisms of non-military departments, as well as the capabilities of the all-out defense mobilization, civil defense, and disaster prevention systems to conduct operations to protect citizens.

VI. Revised All-out Defense Handbook

On June 19, 2024, President Lai Ching-de announced the establishment of the Whole-of-Society Defense Resilience Committee, with the goal of ensuring that the government and society will all be able to continue operating normally even during emergency events. To effectively integrate with policy implementations, the MND has added whole-of-society defense resilience into the revised All-out Defense Handbook, which now includes items on the public's awareness of threats as well as the promotion of whole-of-society defense resilience. Based on past experience in formulating and revising the Handbook, the MND has collaborated with various government agencies to revise the contents, incorporating elements such as awareness of threats, self-protection by the public, and all-of-society responses.

After the publication of the All-out Defense Handbook (Template) in 2022, the Handbook was revised in 2023 to become the All-out Defense Contingency Handbook. In the face of ongoing natural disasters and emergency situations, the revised Handbook was created to strengthen the public's self-resilience; it compiles the viewpoints of members of the public and experts and scholars in Taiwan, and references similar handbooks from abroad, such as from Ukraine and Lithuania. The Handbook was created based on the specific circumstances, threats, and societal needs in Taiwan, and its new title is "In Case of Crisis: Taiwan's National Public Safety Guide."



【Diagram of the All-out Defense Adaptation Handbook Section】

Section 3 Strategic Communication

The purpose of strategic communication is to inform and influence. Strategic communication aims to integrate various information capabilities to inform the audience of the topic of communication, message, and related actions to gain their support, and further influence and change their decision. Facing the PRC's constant United Front work, gray zone tactics, and cognitive warfare, which attempt to confuse citizens, drive a wedge between Taiwan's military and civilians, and manipulate the opinion of the international community, the ROC Armed Forces continues to improve citizens' media literacy and communicate with citizens, actively providing complete and correct information for clarification, so as to prevent the spread of misinformation. Taiwan flexibly uses strategic communication mechanisms based on the concept of vaccines, and aims to make citizens and service members more determined to protect the nation by being able to clearly see the enemy threat, so that they will understand their role and duties in the nation, thus building resilient all-out defense to jointly protect national security, democracy, and a life of freedom.

I. Strategic Communication Mechanisms and Activities of the ROC Armed Forces

The MND's strategic communication mechanisms are divided into intelligence gathering and analysis, strategy planning, and operational support, with the goal of creating a favorable combat environment to safeguard national security and interests. The MND consults friendly and partner countries to provide their regional posture and opinions, and sets the theme of communication, using dissemination strategies for the Internet, radio, television, periodicals, and press conferences to support domestic and overseas dissemination by government agencies for effective communication.

(I) Deepening International Exchanges to Gain Support for Taiwan

The ROC Armed Forces have engaged in exchanges and interacted with related units of friendly and partner countries through the participation in international conferences on strategic communication in recent years, and shared examples and experience with responding to malign influence, establishing channels for strategic-level dialogue and intelligence exchange mechanisms to jointly defend the values of democracy and liberty. Furthermore, the ROC Armed Forces have established a communication channel with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs through the platform of exercises and training. Both parties have discussed politics, diplomacy, trade, and military aspects to jointly formulate strategic communication action plans to gain the support of the international community.

(II) Establishing a Public Messaging Line of Effort to Strengthen Public Confidence

1. The PRC frequently combines military activities with disinformation with the intent of influencing the morale of Taiwan's civilians and service members. In order to seek the support of the international community for Taiwan, the MND summarizes and announces harassment by PRC aircraft and vessels, as well as rocket and missile tests, on a daily basis for the international community to understand how the PRC is undermining regional peace. The MND is increasing the visibility of the ROC Armed Forces to citizens through the news and publicity, so that citizens will feel as if the ROC Armed Forces are by their side and feel more confident in the ROC Armed Forces and their country. At the same time, it shows the world that Taiwan is determined to defend the nation.

2. Exercise HAN KUANG is the most important annual combat readiness exercise of the ROC Armed Forces. According to surveys of the Public Opinion Survey Working Group of the Institute for National Defense and Security Research in recent years, 45% of citizens were satisfied with the performance of the ROC Armed Forces in exercises, and only 10.8% were dissatisfied. Further analysis showed that citizens who were “aware” Exercise HAN KUANG held a more favorable view of the exercises than citizens who were “not aware.” Therefore, the dissemination of information on exercises will improve citizens’ view of exercises. Looking back at exercises in the past, the PRC conducted cognitive warfare and spread disinformation with the intent of creating a negative view among citizens, making citizens more skeptical of the military, lowering citizens’ confidence in the ROC Armed Forces, and damaging the morale of service members. To consolidate public support for the government and ROC Armed Forces, the publicity strategy for Exercise HAN KUANG from 2024 and onward is divided into four stages: awareness, concern, understanding, and support. Videos, picture cards, and animations are produced and disseminated on the Internet, and co-branded lucky draws are held online and streamed live to give citizens a sense of participation.
3. The MND organized a series of activities for the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II under the theme of “Resist Aggression, Safeguard Our Homeland” in 2025. The activities were divided into four themes: protect ROC citizens, civilian-military unity in resisting the enemy, youth take a stand to defend the nation, and fighting together with friendly and partner countries. A variety of promotion methods were used to link the spirit of the war of resistance to safeguarding the nation, not only to provide psychological education to service members, but also foster patriotism among citizens.

(III) Expanding Publicity and Increasing Communication Capabilities

1. For specific issues and publicity themes, the MND produces a variety of strategic communication products, such as text, images, and audiovisual, and utilizes the Military News Agency, Youth Daily News, and Voice of Han Broadcasting Network to assist with dissemination on TV, newspaper, magazine, and books. Social media platforms (such as the MND and commands of various military branches) managed by the ROC Armed Forces, online broadcasts, audiovisual, and podcasts are also used for more effective promotion.
2. The MND produced promotional videos, such as Safeguarding Democracy, combined with the national defense policy, military affairs, and holidays, disseminated the videos through YouTube and the Facebook page of the MND’s spokesperson, utilized diverse channels to make public service announcements, and sent push notifications together with related units, such as the Freeway Bureau, incorporating national security concepts into citizens everyday life to strengthen the defense determination of all citizens and strengthen whole-of-society defense resilience.
3. The MND utilizes the capabilities of the industry to produce the reality TV show “Further Upgrade of the ROC Armed Forces” with celebrities and influencers, and produced the TV program “Capable of Combat! New View of the Public” with Chinese and English subtitles, broadcasting the programs overseas on online audiovisual platforms to become closer to the public, and also show the world different sides of the ROC Armed Forces to achieve effective international strategic communication.

4. The MND collaborated with the Central News Agency and launched the “Military News Online” video section on its website, providing an abundance of military videos and first hand news for more domestic and foreign media and citizens to see and learn about the ROC Armed Forces. The MND signed an MOU with Radio Taiwan International in 2025, authorizing it to repost military news and images on Youth Daily News and Military News Agency, which will help increase the reach of news on the ROC Armed Forces. Both parties also jointly produced the program “Tell Stories of Taiwan”, using various communication channels and measures to strengthen international strategic communication and seek the support of foreign nationals friendly to Taiwan and overseas Chinese communities.

II. Media Communication

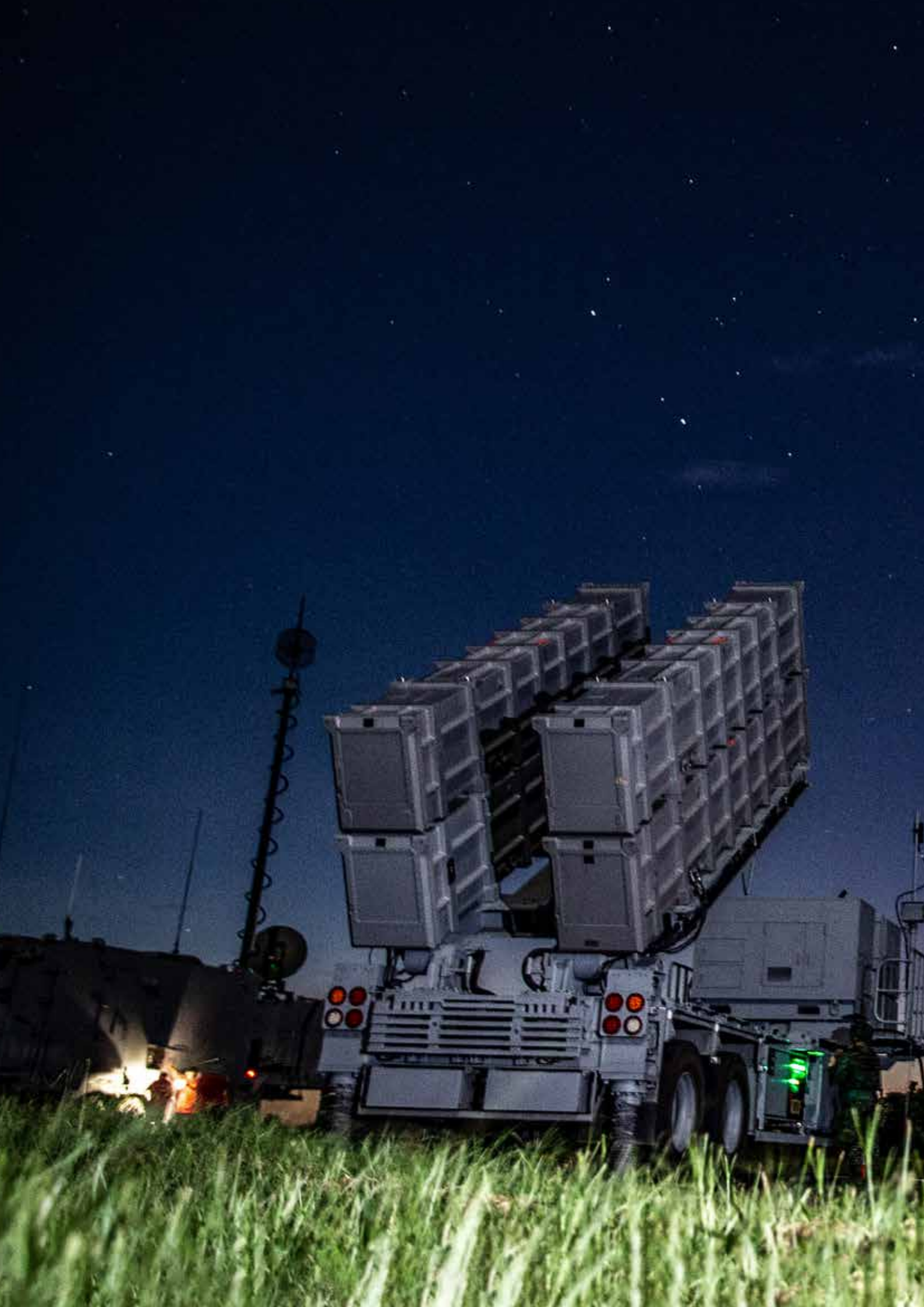
The Military News Agency engages in communication in coordination with overall defense goals and policy issues, combines the communication capabilities of public and private sectors and social media, and actively describes the defense policy in hopes of showing citizens and the international community Taiwan’s determination to defend itself, so as to build consensus among the people and gain international recognition and support.

(I) Diverse Media Communication Channels for Promoting the Defense Policy

To gain the approval and support of citizens, the MND utilizes routine press conferences and visits by the media to communicate and explain the defense policy, key points of administration, and focuses of exercises and training to the public, and also responds to topics of concern to the media. The MND immediately responds through press releases, communication picture cards, and videos on special topics. The MND also integrates social media platforms of the ROC Armed Forces, develops self-media and strategies for working with key opinion leaders, and engages in precision marketing of the defense policy by selecting suitable information and communication channels based on the characteristics of each segment, aiming to improve the ROC Armed Forces’ image, create a vision for the career of service members, and also foster solid patriotism among citizens to strengthen their support for the ROC Armed Forces and strengthen their psychological resilience.

(II) Utilizing AI Technology for More Effective Communication

The MND adopts flexible and precise communication strategies to be able to rapidly respond, actively communicate, and improve the effectiveness of international communication to gain the support of the international community. Since Exercise HAN KUANG No. 40 in 2024, the MND has utilized AI technology to create a virtual news anchor and generate videos in traditional Chinese. It has also rapidly generated shorts in 18 languages, including English, Japanese, Korean, and Russian, increasing communication capabilities across languages and cultures. The videos are disseminated on the MND’s social media, including Facebook, Instagram, Threads, X, and YouTube, which will help improve the effectiveness of international communication. Additionally, in coordination with live fire missions of each military branch, the MND produced related videos and released them on its social media, in order to expand domestic and international communication and achieve more effective international strategic communication.



A night photograph of a mobile missile launcher in a field. The launcher is a large, dark, rectangular vehicle with a smaller structure on top. It is positioned in a field of tall grass, with a line of trees in the background. The sky is dark blue with some stars visible. The text "Day and Night" is overlaid in white at the top left.

Day and Night

Standing Fast

Mobile launchers in tactical positions, awaiting orders to launch Hsiung Feng II anti-ship missiles to verify precision strike capabilities.



Open Fire

Precision Strike

35 mm twin cannons open fire in the night, accurately acquiring moving targets.







Always on the Alert Prepared at All Times

The rising sun shines on the armored vehicle (Clouded Leopard), continuing to face future challenges.



ROC
National
Defense
Report 2025

Part 4

National
Defense
Management

Chapter 7 Defense Undertakings

To improve the overall performance of defense undertakings, the ROC Armed Forces has dedicated its efforts to national defense governance, self-reliant national defense, force management reform, professional logistics readiness, stable manpower, and stronger maintenance of military discipline, properly allocating overall resources to improve the quality and performance of defense undertakings with the goal to build modernized national defense capabilities.

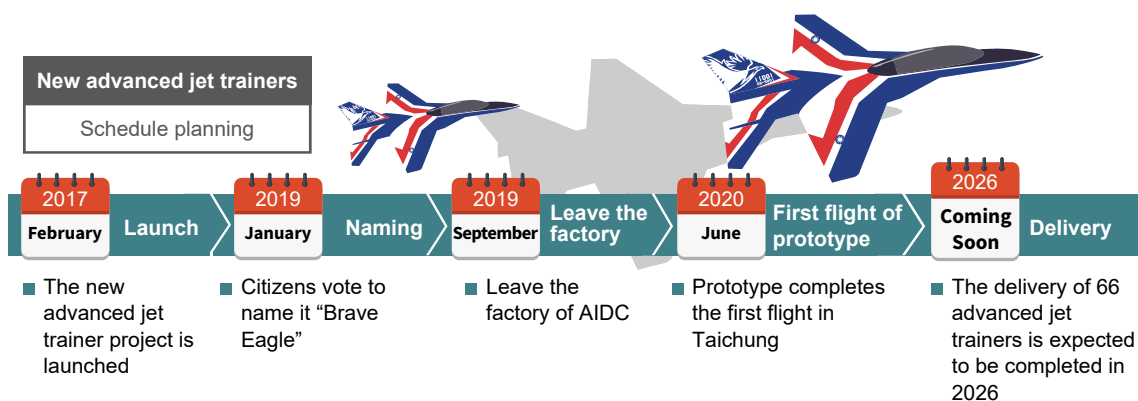
Section 1 Self-reliant National Defense

Self-reliant national defense is one of the primary themes of Taiwan's national defense policy, and a resilient defense industry is a prerequisite to building modernized national defense capabilities. The MND works with the private sector in developing the defense technology industry in accordance with Article 22 of the *National Defense Act*, and prioritizes the acquisition of locally manufactured weapons and equipment. At the same time, the MND is seeking domestic manufacturers for contract manufacturing, research and development, and procurement of weapons, and is also improving independent maintenance and repair capabilities to implement the self-reliant national defense policy and enhance self-defense capabilities. The ROC Armed Forces plans for defense requirements to drive technological development, and works with the government in implementing the Five Trusted Industries policy, namely semiconductors, AI, military-industrial complex, security control, and next generation communication, prioritizing advanced technologies and AI applications. It is establishing a Non-PRC supply chain for drones, expanding domestic demand, and propelling industrial upgrades to achieve the goal of national defense driving the economy and the economy supporting national defense.

I. Weapons Development

(I) Indigenous Aircraft Building

To strengthen overall defense capabilities, Taiwan has accumulated indigenous aircraft building capabilities with the experience of developing and building new advanced jet trainers, and is working with the domestic and overseas aerospace industry to build an aviation parts supply chain, gradually gaining the ability to build and develop various military aircraft domestically. A total of 48 new advanced jet trainers have been delivered since 2021, and the goal to deliver 66 new advanced jet trainers is expected to be achieved in 2026.



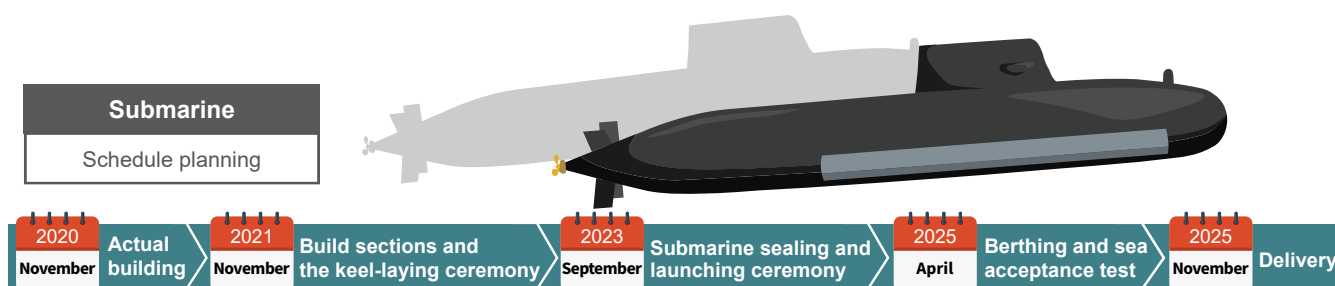


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The MND works with the private sector in developing the defense technology industry to implement the policy of self-reliant national defense. The successful development and smooth delivery of the Brave Eagle demonstrate Taiwan's technical capabilities in indigenous aircraft building.

(II) Indigenous Ship Building

The ROC Armed Forces continues to carry out various naval vessel building plans to strengthen maritime and border security. Contracts have been awarded for the construction of 6 additional fast mine-laying boats, and construction has begun. The first batch of high performance vessels has been commissioned, and the keel-laying ceremony has been completed for the second batch of 5 high performance vessels. Delivery of the auxiliary rescue and salvage ship prototype was completed in October 2024. The keel-laying ceremony for light frigates (air defense, anti-submarine) was completed in November and December 2024. The Indigenous Defense Submarine (IDS) prototype is currently undergoing its harbor acceptance test and is scheduled to be delivered in November 2025.



(III) Asymmetric Capabilities

1. Military Drones

The ROC Armed Forces plans to acquire over 13 types of military drones (military specification and commercial specification) with a total of over 5,000 drones before 2028 based on the drone requirements in different stages of operations. At present, over 1,600 drones, divided into 9 types including the Albatross, have been acquired, and various drones will be subsequently delivered to forces according to schedule, enhancing the ROC Armed Forces' overall capabilities, upgrading domestic drone technical capabilities, and driving the industry's development.

2. Precision Weapons

The MND plans to implement the Sea-Air Combat Power Improvement Plan from 2022 to 2026 and mass produce 9 types of precision missiles, including Hsiung Feng II missiles. The MND continues to supervise and control the implementation of the plan by the NCSIST through various meetings and inspections, in order to achieve the anticipated goals according to schedule, enhance national defense capabilities, implement the self-reliant national defense policy, and ensure national security.



Category	Missile
Shore-based anti-ship missile system	▪ Hsiung Feng II missiles ▪ Hsiung Feng III extended range missiles ▪ Hsiung Feng III missiles
High performance vessels	▪ Hsiung Feng II missiles ▪ Sea Sword II missiles ▪ Hsiung Feng III missiles
Wartime weapons systems installed on coast guard vessels	
Wan Chien missile system	▪ Wan Chien missiles
Combat drone system	▪ Jianxiang UAV
Hsiung Sheng standoff precision munitions system	▪ Hsiung Sheng standoff precision munitions
Land-based air defense systems	▪ Sky Bow III
Field air defense systems	▪ Land-based Sky Sword II



II. Defense Technology

(I) Advanced Technology Research

1. Organizing Defense Technology Forums and Expanding Advanced Technology Research

Six defense technology forums were organized in the top universities in Taiwan from 2023 to 2025 to combine the technical capabilities of industry, academia, and research institutes and expand the scale of advanced defense technology research. The future development and application of 25 cutting-edge defense technologies were discussed during the forums, which encouraged domestic experts and scholars to conduct research on defense technology.

As a result, the number of research projects grew from 81 projects with over NT\$109 million in funding in 2021, to 130 projects with over NT\$1,055.14 million in funding (including 15 projects commissioned by the National Defense Industrial Development Foundation with a total budget of over NT\$73.29 million) in 2025, focusing on aerospace materials, underwater detection, and high power precision electronics. The research results will continue to be applied in weapons system development, practices for managing the forces, and building R&D capabilities.

2. Gathering Scientific Research Capabilities and Systematically Cultivating Talent

Multi-year advanced technology research projects are jointly implemented with 7 research centers of the National Science and Technology Council, and the scientific research capabilities of domestic universities are combined for each topic to systematically cultivate defense technology talent. In the past 2 years, a total of 282 doctoral students and 893 master's students were invited to participate in advanced defense technology research projects.

(II) Civil-Mil General-Purpose Technologies

1. Application of R&D Results

The MND uses grants from the Executive Yuan's National Science and Technology Development Fund to implement 3 government technology development projects, including "Development and Validation of Application-oriented Intelligent Additive Manufacturing Technology," to enhance the defense technology R&D capabilities of domestic academic and research institutes, and transfer defense technologies that were developed for collaboration with the industry. Utilizing resources of the Ministry of Economic Affairs' Technology Development Program for Industry, NCSIST implemented the Civil-mil General-Purpose Industry Value-Added Key Technology Development Project using innovative applications of military technologies and outsourcing projects to assist industries with the development of new technologies. The project consolidates technological capabilities for self-reliant national defense, completes the supply chain for the defense industry, and strengthens the resilience of the defense industry.

(1) Development and Validation of Application-oriented Intelligent Additive Manufacturing Technology

To create a metal additive manufacturing process that allows quality inspections, from 2021 to 2024 a research and development project for a quality monitoring system was implemented for selective laser melting (SLM). Trial production of the defense target and quality assurance report were completed in 2024. The integrated inspection/validation procedures for engine parts of defense weapons systems have established standard procedures for the validation of additive components manufactured by domestic industry, and increased the self-reliance and technological diversity of Taiwan's defense and aviation industries.

(2) Full-body Powered Exoskeleton System Development Project

To develop a new generation full-body (knees, hips, shoulders, and elbows) powered exoskeleton system, a research and development project is being implemented from 2024 to 2027, expanding from the lower-limb exoskeleton system to the whole body by adding powered shoulder and elbow support functions. The development of upper-limb

mechanisms and key modules was completed in 2024. In terms of military applications, the exoskeleton system increases load bearing capacity, reduces the load on muscles, increases the combat time of soldiers, and expands their capabilities to carry out missions. The exoskeleton system can be used to move equipment and ammunition, operate heavy machinery, help the wounded on the battlefield, and carry out special operations. In terms of civilian industries, the system can be applied to robot arms, automobile manufacturing, logistics and warehousing, agriculture and forestry, disaster relief, and medical care, providing personnel with powered support to reduce their workload and prevent occupational injuries.

(3)Power Electronics and Radio Frequency Industry Development Project

A R&D project is being implemented from 2023 to 2026 to upgrade Taiwan's high-power gallium nitride (GaN) semiconductor technology for extreme high frequency (EHF)/millimeter waves (mmWave) communications industries. Preliminary validation of broadband component design and small component electrical properties was completed in 2024. The project also develops key technologies, including broadband radio frequency (RF) power component epitaxy and broadband Ku-band component processes, Ks/Kx-band satellite communication RF transmitter module prototype development and preliminary function validation, broadband RF component measurements and RF power module validation platforms. The basic capabilities developed are applied to high power radar signal jammers and mmWave military satellite communications. The technology can also be transferred to domestic industries for the subsequent development of applications.

(4)Civil-mil General-Purpose Industry Value-Added Key Technology Development Project

This project focuses on the development of key technologies and outsourcing, specifically the development of innovative materials and applications for civil-mil general-purpose industries, including:

a.High Hardness Bullet-proof Thick Steel Plate Project

This project promotes the development of forging technologies and semi-automatic welding technologies by domestic industries to overcome issues in the thick steel plate process and welding. The project has completed domestic R&D and achieved self-reliant key defense materials. Besides being applied to the steel plates of defense weapons and shields, it can also be applied to heavy machinery, the foundation of wind turbines, blast resistant doors, and armored vehicles.

b.Highly Protective Ceramic Matrix Composite Project

This project encourages leading companies in the domestic ceramics industry to develop SiC and SiC-B4C highly protective ceramic matrix composite technologies, which not only can be applied to armor and bullet-proof vests in national defense, but also as dental materials, ceramic cervical cages, semiconductor materials, and ceramics for solid-state thin-film batteries.

2. Industry Benefits

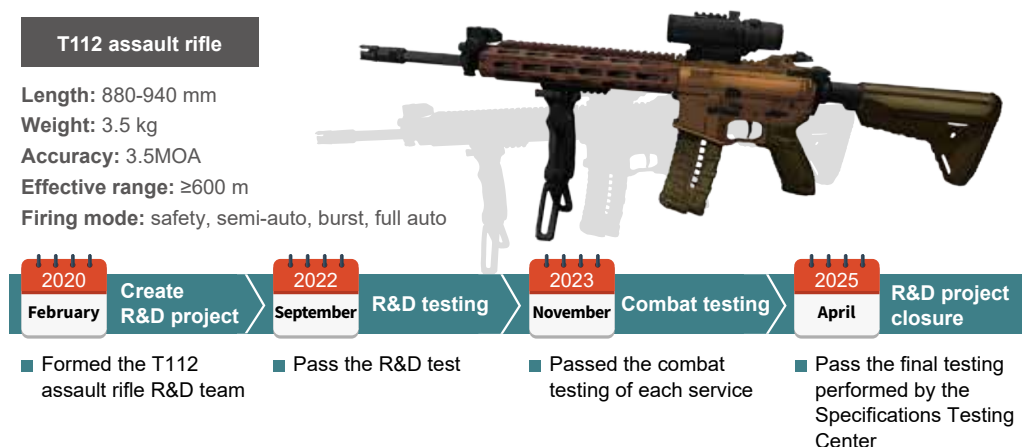
In 2024, the MND invested NT\$120 million in the R&D of civil-mil general-purpose technologies and obtained 9 patents, created 119 jobs, and attracted the industry to invest in 13 projects with a total investment amount of more than NT\$649.7 million. The MND

will continue to expand the licensing and application of patents and technologies to reap greater benefits from transferring defense technology R&D results to the industry. The high hardness bullet-proof steel and highly protective ceramic matrix composite technologies are transferred to the private sector for outsourcing mass production. This led to companies investing approximately NT\$19.22 million and NT\$25.28 million and increased output value by approximately NT\$19 million and NT\$49.83 million, respectively, effectively driving domestic demand for defense products and the development of the high tech industry. It also creates more extensive social and economic benefits (transfer of military technology for civilian application) and lays the foundation for the nation's sustainability and survival.

III. Personal Defense Weapons and Gear

(I) T112 Assault Rifle

In response to the scenarios of littoral defense, urban defense, and protection of high value targets, the new generation T112 assault rifle was developed to enhance the combat capabilities of ground combat forces in the future operational environment, providing better ergonomics, shooting precision, reliability of parts, mountings for accessories, and is equipped with a variety of optical sights to enhance long-range operation and nighttime combat capabilities. It is able to meet the requirements for fast close combat and long-range precision. It completed the preliminary operational test in November 2023, and mass production and delivery are planned for between 2025 and 2028.



(II) New Sighting Equipment

To improve the accuracy and rapid response capabilities of individual soldiers, three military products have been undergoing development since 2020: the close combat scope, the reflex internal red dot sight, and the rifle advanced laser target designator. Preliminary operational tests were completed in 2023, and manufacturing and delivery will be performed in accordance with the planned schedule for each service.

(III) New Night Vision Equipment

To enhance ROC Armed Forces soldiers' effectiveness in night combat, monocular night vision goggles and binocular night vision goggles were researched and developed based on the principles of small size, light weight, and functionality. The former was completed in 2023 and delivered to the services; the latter completed preliminary operational tests in October 2024, and will be delivered in accordance with the planned schedule for each service.

(IV) New Generation Bullet-proof Plate

In response to the threat of the PRC's 5.8 mm rifle (steel core bullets), the MND started development of new generation bullet-proof plates (2.2 kg in weight, 2.1 cm in thickness) in September 2023, which passed testing in December the same year. Manpower, machinery, and production line preparations were completed on July 31, 2024. Mass production and delivery began in 2025 according to the outsourcing agreement with each military branch, to provide service members with better protection on the battlefield.

(V) New Generation Combat Vest

In coordination with the mass production of new generation bullet-proof plates, the MND began developing modifications for new generation combat vests, and incorporated functional designs based on the needs of each service, including light weight, easy to put on and take off, optimized design of external modules, battlefield rescue handle, and breathable and comfortable. In accordance with the policy of self-reliant national defense and to support the development of domestic industries, the MND plans to manufacture the vests domestically with multiple suppliers, thus enhancing the resilience of the military-industrial supply chain.



(VI) New Generation Combat Helmet Lining

The 205th Arsenal of the Materiel Production Center, Armaments Bureau referenced the latest Advanced Combat Helmet (ACH) Specifications of the U.S. military to implement the Combat Helmet Composite Lining Optimization and Modification Project and completed the development of composite lining at the end of March 2025. Mass production will be carried out according to the outsourcing agreement of each service.



IV. Defense Industry Development

To support domestic companies in joining the defense industry's supply chain, domestic corporations, institutions, or organizations that have been established for at least 3 years, in accordance with the laws of the ROC, may apply for certification as a military materials supplier in accordance with the *Defense Industry Development Act*. An impartial third party establishes the evaluation standards, such as technology level, to determine the supplier's qualification level. With consideration to defense security, the MND conducts security inspections for personnel, facilities, and information to eliminate PRC capital and the risk of information leakage and violation of confidentiality. The MND has held 18 briefings on laws and regulations and application to promote the abovementioned application process for different levels of qualifications and to collect external opinions. A total of 1,913 companies (or representatives) participated in the briefings, and 209 qualification certificates were issued to 30 companies, which received purchase orders for over NT\$21.3 billion of qualified supplies.

V. Establishing the Defense Innovation Office (DIO)

The MND established the Defense Innovation Office (DIO) on February 1, 2024 in response to technological innovations and changes in modern battlefields. It actively introduces innovative technologies and equipment currently available in the private sector for application in military operations, rapidly building resilient deterrence capabilities to improve operational performance and gain an asymmetric advantage through innovation.

(I) Main Missions

The DIO will incorporate innovative operating concepts, conduct survey studies on the development of domestic and overseas defense industries, and make announcements or hold industry roundtable meetings to request technology solutions, including mature technologies, prototype development, and finished products, which will be acquired if they are determined to meet needs after evaluation.

(II) Priority Domains

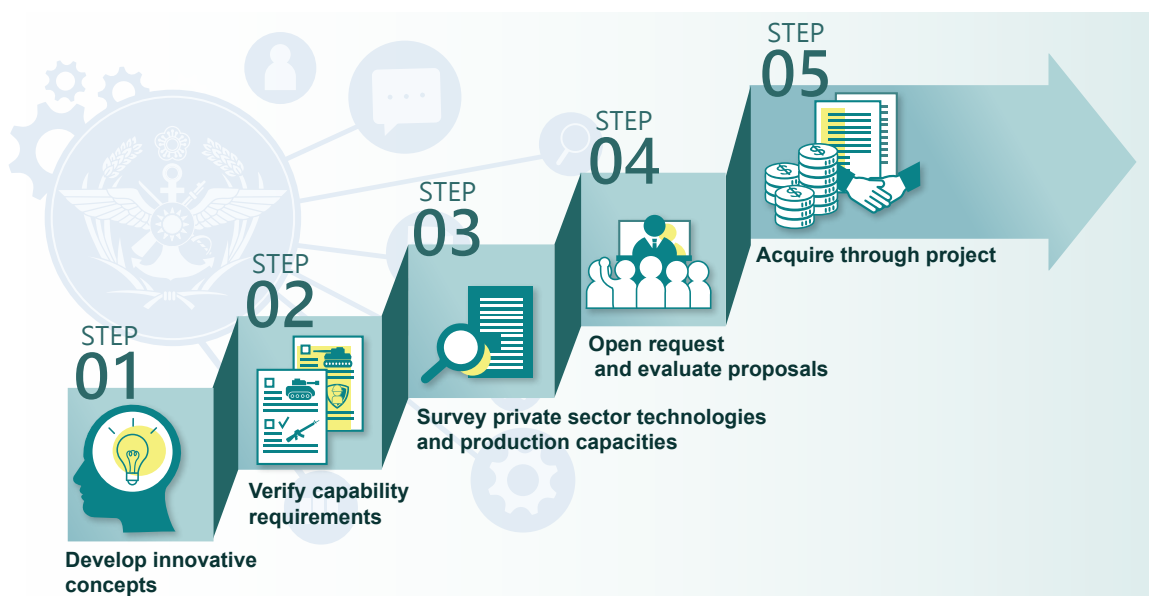
Current priorities for DIO in response to emerging national defense challenges include drone and anti-drone systems, AI applications, the resilience of communications, network security, and the replacement of software and hardware for operations. In addition, the MND continues to engage in exchanges and cooperation with the United States Defense Innovation Unit (DIU) and United States Indo-Pacific Command (USINDOPACOM) to understand development trends in defense technology as the basis for introducing technologies.

(III) Overview of Implementation

The DIO made its first announcement on the Government e-Procurement System on February 24, 2025, and made a request for proposals from private enterprises for satellite image AI recognition, augmented reality intelligent combat systems, and intelligent warehouse management systems, in hopes of utilizing the unlimited potential, innovative thinking, and professional experience of the private sector to help develop the technologies and products needed by the ROC Armed Forces, expanding the use of private sector technology solutions to accelerate national defense innovations and applications.

(IV) Future Outlook

The DIO continues to evaluate the introduction of mature technologies or equipment in high-tech warfare, and collaborates with the Armaments Bureau, MND and NCSIST to meet the demand for defense armaments and enhance military capabilities to respond to new threats.



【Flowchart for Defense Technology Innovation】

Section 2 Force Management

To effectively ensure military units can perform their functions and strengthen the combat capabilities of forces, the MND examined the organizational structure and management culture, eliminated formalism, focused on the essentials, improved leadership, and implemented pragmatic reform measures to lift the burden of formal management and administrative affairs on service members, provided that they comply with regulations at each level. This instills service members with a sense of responsibility for self-management, improves their work efficiency, and allows them to focus on their combat training, so as to enhance the overall capabilities of forces.

I. Improving Leadership

The ROC Armed Forces adopted “people-oriented” leadership so that cadre members at each level will take reasonable disciplinary measures and improve the performance of forces when carrying out missions. A total of 39,875 commissioned officer and non-commissioned officer education sessions, battalion and company commander lectures, and leadership discussions have been held in the past 2 years to improve communication among service members and for senior cadre members to pass on leadership experience. The activities are combined with case studies, practical experience sharing, problem discussions, and reports, so that less experienced cadre members can learn leadership qualities and service members will gain a sense of belonging and honor, thereby achieving greater cohesion that will be beneficial to managing the forces.

II. People-oriented Management

Under strict leadership from the organization and personnel in leadership positions, the ROC Armed Forces has adjusted its approach to trusting service members based on the principles of the self-management policy, focused on the essentials, and eliminating formalism, provided that it does not affect the combat readiness missions of forces. This approach builds cohesion and unity among service members and forces, and strengthens the resilience of organizational operations.

(I) Canceling Check-in when Service Members are on Leave

Daily check-ins while basic level service members are on leave were changed to “check in when there is something to report” from June 2024 and onward, so that they can truly enjoy their holiday without unnecessary burdens. Cadre members remind service members of matters to pay attention to during leave before departing, and instill service members with the concept of abiding by the law, thus effectively improving mechanisms for managing the forces.

(II) Lifting Restrictions on Service Members Traveling Independently Overseas

The requirement to travel with a group in the *Regulations on Overseas Travel of Service Members of the ROC Armed Forces* was amended in 2024. Service members are now allowed to travel independently overseas, and are only required to submit a detailed itinerary, pay attention to travel and epidemic warnings, and receive intensified anti-infiltration education. This provides service members with greater flexibility when traveling overseas, improves their quality of life, and also shows respect to the personal freedoms and trust in service members.



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1.2.The ROC Armed Forces continues to prepare to respond to unstable international situations and harassment and intrusions from PRC aircraft and vessels, so as to ensure national security.



(III)Resuming Normal Duty of Commanders and Deputy Commanders

In response to the unstable international situation and frequent harassment from PRC aircraft (vessels) over the past 2 years, the commander and deputy commander were required to both be present at the same time, in order to immediately respond to a crisis. Considering that cadre members at each level are able to effectively respond to the enemy situation in the surrounding areas of the Taiwan Strait, the MND has revised combat readiness response plans and mechanisms at each level, and has set forth regulations on response command and staying on duty. Starting on June 6, 2024, commanders and deputy commanders at each level resumed normal duty according to the Regulations for Handling Unexpected Situations in the Peacetime Readiness Stage, and remain ready to respond to ensure national security. This allows cadre

members at each level to rest when appropriate and take care of their families, but will also help the ROC Armed Forces retain talent.

(IV) Adjusting the Time Volunteer Service Members are Required to Return to Camp

The *ROC Armed Forces Regulations for Service Members Taking Leave* was amended on July 29, 2024 to allow voluntary service members to either return to camp before 24:00 on the day that their leave ends or before 7:30 the following morning, except when they have missions to carry out. The amendment aims to let volunteer service members get sufficient rest during their period of service, eliminate mental and physical fatigue, improve their work efficiency, raise morale, and make it more convenient to handle their personal affairs. This makes it safer and more convenient for service members to return to camp, and also provides flexibility for carrying out missions and internal management.

III. Providing Service Members with Competency Training

During the one-year conscription, conscripts are able to voluntarily participate in clubs related to vehicle maintenance as well as plumbing and electrical maintenance formed by their unit. Conscripts can learn basic vehicle inspection and troubleshooting, as well as basic plumbing and electrical maintenance skills for everyday life, when performing equipment maintenance during unit training. This will provide conscripts with basic skills for everyday life, so that they can contribute their skills to society after being discharged, which will strengthen whole-of-society defense resilience.

(I) Vehicle Maintenance

Units are encouraged to form vehicle maintenance related clubs, and provide hands-on training in coordination with weekly maintenance by the unit, as well as monthly equipment inspections by company-level commanders. Drivers or mechanics at each unit serve as instructors to teach basic vehicle inspection and troubleshooting, which will become the foundation for service members to obtain certifications and plan their future careers. A total of over 2,760 service members received training in the past 2 years, increasing the number of service members with basic vehicle maintenance skills.

(II) Plumbing and Electrical Maintenance

Each unit takes inventory of interests and needs for military camp management and plumbing and electrical maintenance, and encourages units to form clubs on plumbing and electrical maintenance, with personnel that have related professional certificates to teach service members basic plumbing and electrical maintenance skills and knowledge. Service members who show a high level of passion for learning during club activities are selected and receive guidance for obtaining civilian technical certifications, which further improve their plumbing and electrical maintenance skills. To date, 40 plumbing and electrical maintenance related clubs have been formed and more than 620 instructors have been trained, with enlisted and officers participating in plumbing and electrical maintenance clubs more than 1,060 times. This improves the plumbing and electrical maintenance skills of service members for everyday life.

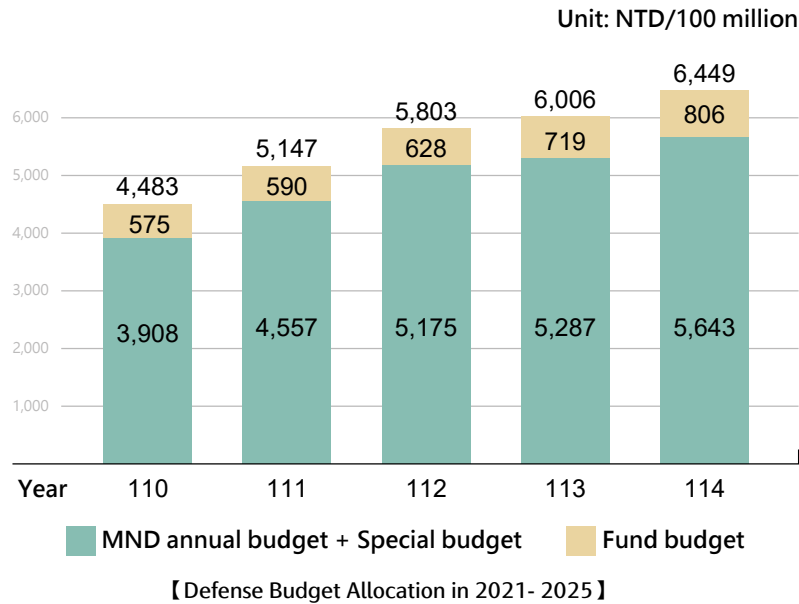
Section 3 Defense Financial Resources

Facing the PRC’s continued verbal attacks, military intimidation, and gray zone tactics against Taiwan, Taiwan’s defense budget has significantly increased in recent years with public and government support. Taiwan has properly allocated financial resources to pragmatically maintain manpower, maintain operations, and make military investments, and has strengthened financial management to make every dollar of the national defense budget count.

I. Growing Trend and Allocation of Defense Budget

(I) Trend Analysis of Defense Budgets

The defense budget includes the MND’s budget, special budget, and fund budget, and has grown from NT\$448.3 billion to NT\$644.9 billion in the past 5 years (from 2021 to 2025, including the additional budgets), showing a steady upward trend. The continued implementation of force buildup and combat readiness will help improve Taiwan’s national defense capabilities.



1. Annual Budget

Over the past 5 years, the MND’s annual budget has grown from NT\$361.8 billion in 2021 to NT\$473.9 billion in 2025. The defense budget grew by NT\$39.4 billion or 9.07% in 2025 compared to 2024, which allows Taiwan to more quickly develop asymmetric capabilities, reserve capabilities, and resilience of operations command and control, and also provide better care for service members, thereby showing Taiwan’s determination to defend itself.

2. Special Budget

The MND earmarked NT\$247.2 billion (from FY2020 to FY2026) for the acquisition of new fighter aircraft and NT\$237 billion (from FY2022 to FY2026) for acquisitions for the Sea-Air

Combat Power Improvement Plan to more quickly build capabilities. From 2026, the MND is also allocating 2 special budgets, the “Strengthening National Resilience in the Economy, Society, and Livelihoods in Response to International Situations” and the “Procurements for Strengthening Defense Resilience and Asymmetric Combat Capabilities Plans” budgets, in order to win the support of the public and the Legislative Yuan as well as continue to consolidate national defense capabilities and build up multi-domain deterrence capabilities.

(II) Overview of MND Budget for FY2025

The MND’s NT\$473.9 billion annual budget in 2025 was NT\$39.4 billion higher than in 2024. In addition to personnel expenses required by law, the budget is mainly used to make installment payments in coordination with deliveries of military investment plans and to add new military investment plans. Furthermore, the budget is divided into three parts to maintain capabilities and operations of forces, continue to meet needs for combat readiness, and intensify realistic combat training, as described below:



【 Breakdown of the MND Annual Budget for 2025 】

1. Personnel Budget

The personnel budget is NT\$186.9 billion, which is mainly calculated based on manpower and takes into account personnel recruitment, retention results, actual payroll numbers in recent years, and is reviewed on a rolling basis. The budget is allocated based on actual salaries, additional pay, insurance, and various subsidies in coordination with the raise for military personnel, civil servants, and teachers as well as the resumption of conscription to a 1-year term. The MND is also seeking funding to increase the additional pay for volunteer service members’ duties and additional pay for combat forces.

2. Operation Budget

The operation budget is NT\$148.5 billion and is mainly used to sustain the capabilities and operations of forces, acquire parts, ammunition, fuel, and personal combat equipment, and meet the basic needs of forces for operations.

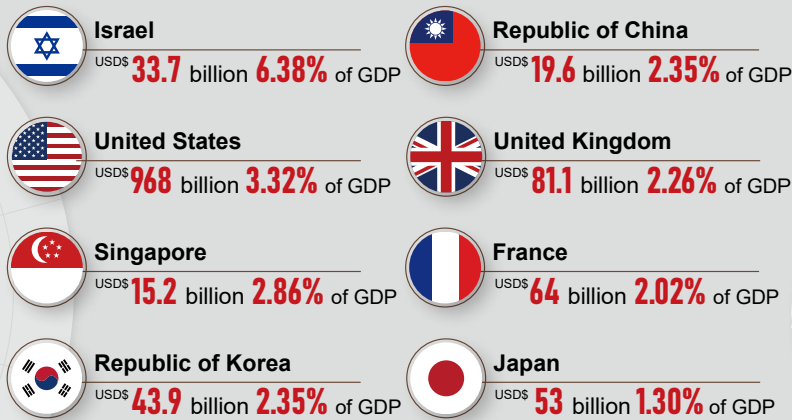
3. Military Investment

The military investment budget is NT\$138.5 billion and is mainly used to enhance asymmetric capabilities, reserve capabilities, defense resilience, and medical care capabilities during wartime. The weapons and equipment required for defense operations are acquired through domestic R&D, local manufacturing, and foreign acquisitions. The foreign acquisition (including acquisitions from U.S. Foreign Military Sales) budget is NT\$68.4 billion and the domestic acquisition (manufacturing) budget is NT\$70.1 billion, in which self-reliant national defense accounts for 50.61%. The MND continues to carry out major programs such as indigenous aircraft and ship building programs, and has accelerated defense technology innovations to drive the development of defense industries.

II. Overview of Defense Budgets as a Percentage of GDP of Major Countries

- (I) Each country has a slightly different definition when it comes to items and content of the defense budget. The defense budgets of the U.S., UK, France, Japan, ROK, and Singapore are mainly defined by the budget bill passed by their respective parliament or congress. The global annual defense budget in the past 4 years (from FY2021 to FY2024) averaged US\$2.1456 trillion. In particular, due to the impact of the Russia-Ukraine war since February 2022, Western countries have stepped up military aid for Ukraine. Authoritarian threats in Asia have created challenging geopolitical risks and threatened regional stability. As a result, governments are strengthening their defenses and increasing their defense budgets. The defense budgets of major countries reached US\$2.4327 trillion in 2024, up 9.9% compared to US\$2.2134 trillion in 2023, the highest growth since 2009.
- (II) Most countries use defense budget as a percentage of GDP as the indicator for measuring the scale of their defense budget, and the indicator is mainly influenced by the enemy threat, military strategy, regional conflicts, government finances, and the importance attached by the government to national defense. According to *Military Balance 2025* published by the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS), among major countries in 2024, Israel had the highest defense budget as a percentage of GDP at 6.38%, followed by the U.S. at 3.32%, while Taiwan sits at 2.35%.
- (III) Taiwan's MND budget for 2025 is 2.36% of GDP. According to the definition of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), defense spending includes "expenses of coast guard units with military training and equipment" and "pensions of veterans directly paid by the government." Based on NATO's definition for budgeting, if pension payments to veterans by the Veterans Affairs Council and the budget of the Coast Guard Administration are included, then Taiwan's defense spending accounts for 2.85% of GDP.
- (IV) Based on the President's national security concept of "four pillars of peace," the MND is gradually increasing defense spending in coordination with the government's overall financial planning under the premise of ensuring national security, and aims to reach 5% of GDP as it accelerates the acquisition of important weapons to show Taiwan's determination to defend the country.

Defense Budget of Major Countries as a Percentage of their GDP in 2024



Statistics of Global Defense Budgets

Unit: USD

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total	1.9088 trillion	2.0276 trillion	2.2134 trillion	2.4327 trillion
Increase	62.3 billion (3.4%)	118.8 billion (6.2%)	185.8 billion (9.2%)	219.3 billion (9.9%)

Source:

1.The GDP of the ROC is based on the data announced by the Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics, Executive Yuan on August 15, 2025. The MND budget is calculated based on the legal budget in 2024 at an NTD to USD exchange rate of 30.651:1.

2.Except for the ROC, the GDP and defense budgets of other countries is based on the Military Balance Report 2025 of the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS).

III. Financial Management

(I) Reforming Review Competencies and Improving Supervision

Taiwan has established a strict internal review network and mechanisms using IT tools and big data analysis to maximize the organization's effectiveness through hierarchical supervision and control. Furthermore, Taiwan tracks the financial data and processes of each unit to more effectively supervise income and expenses in a more cost-effective way, optimize the management of financial resources, and effectively carry out force buildup, combat readiness, and various undertakings.

(II) Strengthening Cost-Benefit Analysis to Better Meet the Needs of Military Investment Plans

To improve the effectiveness of defense resource use and achieve strategic goals, Taiwan continues to require units to conduct detailed evaluations of the cost of military investment plans, and has established a review model and system to improve the cost-benefit analysis, so as to determine the justification of funding required for military investment plans and implement the financial supervision mechanism.

(III) Rigorous Reconciliation Mechanism to Improve Financial Management

Acquisitions from U.S. Foreign Military Sales is a lengthy process and accounts for a considerable portion of Taiwan's defense budget. During financial management meetings each year, Taiwan reconciles accounts with the U.S., examines the payment schedule and delivery plan on letters of offer and acceptance (contract), and makes adjustments to payment amounts on a rolling basis to strengthen the financial management mechanism for military procurements. These efforts aim to effectively manage future budgets and financial resource allocation.

(IV) Integrating Fund Resources to Provide Better Services to Service Members

The MND strengthened capital management and resource integration for the Fund of Production and Services for Military Personnel, Fund for the Reconstruction of Old Military Dependents' Villages, Funds for Rebuilding Military Living Quarters and Facilities, and Military Education Fund of National Defense Medical Center, making overall plans for the use of financial resources and increasing external income for each fund, in order to support the renovation of old living quarters and military hospitals, and provide innovative financial management, culture and leisure, and food services to comprehensively care for service members.

Section 4 Logistics Management

Logistics management is an important pillar in military operations and directly affects unit combat power, sustainability, and mobility. Hence, readiness during peacetime is of utmost importance. The stockpile and management of war reserve material is the core of logistics management, including replenishing and stockpiling weapons, provisions, fuel, and ammunition to ensure that the needs of forces can be met at any time. Furthermore, equipment maintenance and replacement are also crucial. Aside from purchasing and manufacturing the weapons and equipment required to strengthen capabilities, the ROC Armed Forces continues to build field and base maintenance technologies and capabilities, intensify professional training for maintenance personnel, and ensure the availability of various weapons and equipment to toughen logistics support capabilities.

I. Improving Supply Measures

Supply management is the foundation of military operations. Having quality, reliable supplies raises the morale of service members and ensures units have the ability to continue operations during wartime, enhancing overall operational performance.

(I) Improving the Supply of Provisions

Due to inflation, after referencing the consumer price index for food announced by the Directorate-General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics, Executive Yuan, the budget for meal expenses of service members was increased from NT\$2,969-NT\$4,779 to NT\$3,487-NT\$5,947 in 2025. With consideration of the difficulty of supplying offshore islands during wartime and poor weather, which would affect the meals of service members, the base war reserve stock of provisions for forces was increased, and heated meal boxes, field rations, and ready-to-eat food packets were considered as options for supplying meals during various exercises and training missions.

(II) Improving Fuel Facilities

Fuel management is crucial to combat readiness and training of forces. The MND continues to replace old fuel pipes and relocate pipelines in coordination with road expansions by local governments. Since September 2023, the replacement and relocation of pipes has been completed at 12 locations including Huadong Fenglin Bridge, along with 5 other projects including the Magong Fuel Storage Pool Cleaning, replacing 3,360 meters of pipes and cleaning 26 pools to improve the quality of fuel supply and strengthen public safety.

(III) Managing Ammunition Storage

To ensure the safety of ammunition storage and make thorough plans for ammunition, total life cycle management has been implemented for ammunition, and a variety of methods are used to dispose of waste ammunitions in storage. Over 8,600 tons of waste ammunition has been disposed of in the past 2 years, eliminating potential hazards and increasing storage capacity. In coordination with annual training and exercises, small batches and relatively old ammunition are reviewed and controlled through the Ammunition Management Information System, so that they are the first to be distributed to forces for use in training. Since September 2023, over 120

million rounds of old batches of ammunition have been used to improve the effectiveness of warehouse space allocation. The MND continues to replenish the ammunition required through self-manufacturing and procurement, and properly plans storage and management to meet operational requirements.

(IV) Replacing Combat Gear

The Armaments Bureau developed personal combat gear for ground forces of the ROC Armed Forces to provide service members with greater protection during combat, and has acquired over 50,000 sets in the past 2 years, which were distributed to forces for use. The MND will continue to allocate a budget to purchase combat gear each year to meet the operational requirements of forces. In addition, the MND continues to collect usage recommendations from each level, and makes modifications and improvements on a rolling basis to meet the actual requirements.

(V) Implementing the Logistics Information System

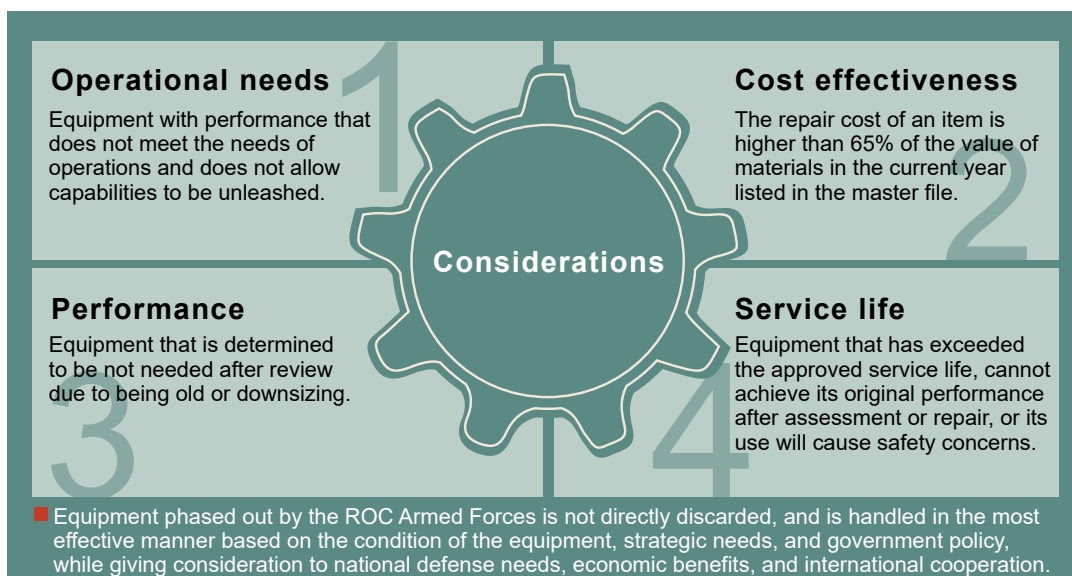
The ROC Armed Forces continues to promote the logistics information integration system based on the requirements for information system management, maintaining costs, and manpower for operations, and is enhancing and digitalizing the systems for supply and maintenance. Since September 2023, the modification of 552 functions and simplification of manual forms have been completed for 4 major categories including aviation supply and maintenance, effectively monitoring the progress of equipment maintenance, managing supply needs, and controlling maintenance cost, in order to achieve resource sharing, information transparency, and asset management goals.

II. Replacing Old Equipment

For the ROC Armed Forces to successfully carry out missions and effectively utilize defense resources, the MND is requiring units to accelerate the implementation of plans to eliminate ineffective primary and auxiliary equipment, in order to lift the burden of human, material, and financial resources on equipment maintenance and management, thereby reducing maintenance expenses and the cost of logistics. Moreover, the ROC Armed Forces reviews the elimination plan on a rolling basis each year based on the acquisition schedule of the Five-year Force Buildup Plan. The equipment received is used to replace old and ineffective equipment. Equipment that no longer meets operational needs based on the concept of defense operations is also eliminated. Between 2025 and 2029, the ROC Armed Forces plan to eliminate over 250,000 items of 1,850 types of equipment, including the CM12 tank.

III. Improving Equipment Availability

In response to the forming of new forces, the ROC Armed Forces shares maintenance resources and establishes maintenance technologies for maintenance by the user, maintenance in the field, and overhaul in base according to maintenance attributes and the predetermined plan, strictly controlling the acquisition of various weapons and equipment based on the principles of “weapons systems, equipment characteristics, and cost-effectiveness.” In coordination with the release of defense resources to the private sector, the MND actively utilizes domestic resources to establish maintenance channels, effectively shortening maintenance time while increasing the maintenance capabilities of the private sector, thereby ensuring the availability of weapons systems and establishing a cost effective maintenance support system.



【Principles for Reviewing Equipment Phased Out by the ROC Armed Forces】

(I) Building Independent Maintenance Capabilities

The ROC Armed Forces selects professional maintenance personnel to engage in exchanges with or receive training from the U.S. military or original manufacturer through acquisitions from U.S. Foreign Military Sales and project management meetings with foreign manufacturers. The maintenance personnel receive additional training and exchange experience when they return to Taiwan. Furthermore, Taiwan seeks the release of maintenance capabilities to build up the nation's own maintenance capabilities. Taiwan has developed over 200 maintenance programs since September 2023, and continues to review the development and integration of maintenance capabilities across the Armed Forces, thus strengthening the independent equipment maintenance capabilities of the ROC Armed Forces.

(II) Utilizing Technical Capabilities of the Private Sector

Taiwan has established a self-reliant national defense industry system using industry resources and the technologies of competitive industries in Taiwan, gradually increasing key module maintenance capabilities to establish local supply and independent maintenance capabilities. The MND released approximately NT\$10.4 billion in contracts to the private sector in 2024, and continued to review over 100 new types of equipment such as drones in 2025, contracting the manufacturer to perform strategic maintenance, which effectively increases equipment availability.

Section 5 All-out Defense

Article 3 of the National Defense Act states that “The national defense of the Republic of China is of all-out national defense.” Building consensus on all-out defense in pursuit of national security, survival, and development is a common goal of societies around the world, and is a common understanding among citizens. The MND continues to actively engage in all-out defense education work together with government agencies as it carries out force buildup and combat readiness. Taiwan brings citizens closer to national defense through school education; social education; on-the-job education of government agencies (institutions); protecting national cultural treasures; and research and evaluation. These endeavors raise citizens’ security awareness and increase their knowledge of national defense, building a defense consensus among citizens, and effectively integrating tangible capabilities, willpower, and private resources to form solid defense capabilities.

I. Deepening All-out Defense Awareness

The purpose of all-out defense education is to prepare all citizens for unexpected developments, provide them with knowledge about national defense, and raise their defense awareness. The MND serves as the central competent authority in accordance with the *All-out Defense Education Act*, and jointly organizes a variety of activities with a pragmatic approach together with competent authorities of target ministries, such as the Ministry of Education, Executive Yuan Directorate-General of Personnel Administration, and Ministry of Culture. The MND actively goes into campuses, townships, and society to jointly conduct all-out defense awareness education via promotion and education on protection of national cultural treasures, develop a cadre of social education instructors, and recognition of extraordinary contributions.

(I) Raising Awareness of the Enemy Situation to Clearly See the Nature of the PRC

The MND produced anti-cognitive warfare short videos, including *Media Literacy* and *Cognitive Academy*, and jointly filmed a series of videos with experts and scholars on *Clearly See the Nature of the PRC*, so that viewers will understand the current enemy threat, thereby raising citizens’ security awareness. The MND produced episodes and shorts on cases of PRC spies apprehended in recent years to strengthen counter-espionage education, and provided them to forces for promotion to improve service members’ understanding of the enemy situation. The MND provides the episodes and shorts on the All-out Defense Education website and Facebook fanpage for the public to view online. The MND also selects scholars and experts with expertise in defense security to give special topic lectures under the on-the-job and social education mechanisms, so as to provide civil servants with basic knowledge of national defense. The MND began organizing social education instructor training in 2024, and will extend the reach of social education in conjunction with village head or neighborhood leader training organized by county and city governments and cadre member education organized by state-owned enterprises. This will deepen all-out defense education work, raise citizens’ security awareness, and build consensus on all-out defense.

(II) Organizing Diverse Activities to Build Defense Consensus

The MND has co-organized numerous all-out defense educational events together with administrative agencies and schools to improve citizens' knowledge of national defense and raise their awareness of self defense. Such events include color guard competitions, winter and summer school break camps, live shooting practice for senior high school students, defense interaction events, and outreach activities on campus, rural areas, and society. The MND also utilizes TV, news ticker, and online platforms of county and city governments and agencies to expand the promotion of all-out defense education information, actively bringing the results of force buildup into campuses, society, and rural areas for citizens to come in close contact with national defense information. In addition, the MND helps the public understand the current situation of Taiwan and the force buildup results of the ROC Armed Forces through interactions and exchanges, incorporating concepts of national security into citizens' everyday life to increase their determination for all-out defense, thereby achieving the educational goal of all-out concern, all-out support, and all-out participation, and further consolidating whole-of-society defense resilience capabilities.

Ministry of National Defense All-out Defense Education Activities

No.	Activity
1	Supporting the MND in live shooting drills for senior high school students
2	Promoting all-out defense education on campus
3	Promoting all-out defense education in townships
4	Promoting all-out defense education in society
5	All-out defense education winter and summer school break camp
6	National senior high school color guard competition
7	Nansha Training Camp
8	All-out defense education online Q&A
9	Defense interaction events - Opening barracks to the public
10	Promoting all-out defense education in conjunction with civilian activities
11	All-out Defense Education Outstanding Contribution Award



All-Out Defense
Education

All-out Defense

United as One

Citizens allowed to visit the Panshih Fast Combat Support Ship during navy midshipmen cruises and training, effectively promoting all-out defense.







II. Preserving the Culture of Military Dependents' Villages

The ROC Armed Forces aims to help service members have a supportive home life and put military dependents at ease. Military dependents' villages are evidence of efforts to stabilize morale and take care of military dependents. As old military dependents' villages are reconstructed, the settlements that remain after military dependents are relocated have both historical and cultural significance. Therefore, the MND is revitalizing military dependents' villages by combining them with all-out defense education to improve knowledge on all-out defense and raise awareness to defend Taiwan, thereby ensuring national security.

(I) Promoting All-out Defense Education

The MND enacted the *Regulations for the Selection and Review of Old Military Dependents' Villages for Cultural Preservation* in coordination with the amendment to the *Cultural Heritage Preservation Act*, and selected 13 military dependents' village cultural preservation parks in Taipei City, including Zhongxin New Village, in accordance with the *Directions for Selection of Old Military Dependents' Villages Cultural Preservation Projects and Subsidies* and the *Directions for the Establishment of Cultural Preservation Review Committees for Old Military Dependents' Villages*. Combined with the 31 military dependents' villages designated and registered by county and city governments as having preservation value, a total of 44 locations were listed as cultural heritage for preservation and included in the scope of the All-out Defense Education Work Plan in accordance with the *All-out Defense Education Act*. The parks are planned as a whole with cultural displays and provide information on military culture, so that citizens can understand the noble spirit of the ROC Armed Forces sacrificing and dedicating themselves to protecting the country. This is internalized into patriotism and provides an opportunity for promoting all-out defense education, so that citizens will understand the importance of national defense and national security, and jointly defend the security of the homeland.



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1. The MND and Kaohsiung City Government jointly introduced the concept of "Resident & Reborn" for citizens to personally experience the culture and inject new life into old military dependents' villages.
2. The Xianguang Village history exhibition area has a permanent exhibition, interactive games, and a history display of Xianguang 2nd Village for visitors.

(II) Specific Methods

To accelerate the cultural preservation and pass down the historical context of military dependents' villages, the MND jointly operates the parks with local governments and brings in private investments in public construction projects. This has led to 37 military dependents' villages being open to the public, including Huangpu New Village, Mingjian New Village, and Lequn Village in Kaohsiung City, arousing citizens' love for their homeland and continuing to improve the honorable image of the ROC Armed Forces. This strengthens psychological readiness and jointly deepens efforts in the all-out defense measure to "let national defense become a part of everyday life so that citizens come and support it." Using Huangpu New Village as an example, the MND and Kaohsiung City Government jointly operate the village under the city government's Resident & Reborn policy. Citizens experience the culture of military dependents' villages for themselves by actually staying in the villages, where they go back in time and experience the camaraderie and the joys and sorrows of past residents through difficult times, collectively restoring and revitalizing the cultural assets of military dependents' villages. As they make improvements to the villages, it also allows the villages to form connections with the surrounding environment and changes their perspectives and appearance. The MND hopes that cultural preservation and revitalization of the local economy will provide overall benefits.

III. Inheriting Heritage

The MND publishes books on military history to recognize the achievements and distinguished service of the ROC Armed Forces in protecting the nation, to ensure the glory and history of the ROC Armed Forces will be passed down to future generations and to build a consensus of all-out defense among citizens. In addition, the MND translates foreign military books and periodicals for service members to learn

the latest military knowledge and latest theories from around the world, thereby enhancing the ROC Armed Forces' capabilities to ensure national security. The History Exhibition Hall of the MND displays important historical relics of the MND and ROC Armed Forces to pass down and build upon the MND's glorious history. The National Military Museum, currently under construction, carries on the legacy of and builds upon the functions of the original Armed Forces Museum, displaying the glorious history and precious relics of the ROC Armed Forces to expound its contributions to defending the homeland and protecting the people.

(I) Compiling Military History Books

The MND compiles and publishes military history books to record and preserve the ROC Armed Forces' sacrifices in combat, their loyalty and patriotism, and their glorious history and contribution to protecting the people. The MND published 7 military history books, including *Might of the Navy: Record of the Navy Midshipmen Cruises and Training*, in the past 2 years, showing the selfless dedication of service members to diligent training and protecting the people. The books also encourage service members not to relax their efforts if they are to ensure the nation's future security and prosperity.

(II) Translating and Reprinting Foreign Military Publications

To improve the military knowledge and skills of service members, understand the latest international military theories and developments, and track changes in the regional security environment, the MND has been translating foreign books and periodicals related to 8 topics, namely defense technology, military operations, military strategy, PLA studies, revolution in military affairs (RMA), leadership, regional situation, and national strategy, for service members to gain new military knowledge. The books and periodicals also allow citizens to understand new theories of national defense and gain the concept of all-out defense, so that they will support the ROC Armed Forces in completing force buildup and combat readiness goals.

In the past 2 years, the MND has published 6 translated military books, such as the *Resistance Operating Concept*, and will continue to translate publications of the latest foreign military developments and trends to improve the professionalism of the ROC Armed Forces. The MND has been publishing the *National Defense Digest* on a monthly basis, translating and introducing forward-looking articles on current international trends under 8 columns, namely special topics, strategic and international relations, military operations, military affairs, PLA studies, regional dynamics, military history review, and technologies and weapons. The articles are not only collected from the current over a dozen foreign military publications, but also a growingly wider range of sources, in hopes of collecting diverse topics that will attract service members and citizens to read the articles. Starting from 2025, the National Defense Digest has been issued electronically in coordination with the international trend of issuing electronic periodicals, and the full text of the periodical can be downloaded from the website of the MND free of charge.

(III) Displaying Military Relics

To publicize the history of the glorious endeavors of the ROC Armed Forces, the MND continues to collect historical documentation and relics from all periods and displays them to show the force buildup of the ROC Armed Forces and the development of the MND. The History Exhibition Hall of the MND displays the changes in the MND's organization, ministers over the years, history of defense policies, history of glory, and relics from military exchanges, in order to highlight the MND's key role and major contributions to performing all defense undertakings. Since the exhibition hall was opened, it has received nearly 22,000 foreign visitors, government agencies, and teachers and students from schools at all levels.



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1.2. The Special Exhibition on the 100th Anniversary of the Whampoa Military Academy showcases precious historic and cultural relics that displays an extraordinary century of the Whampoa Military Academy and the noble sentiment of martyrs who gave their lives to defend Taiwan.



(IV) Constructing the National Military Museum

The MND relocated the Armed Forces Museum in coordination with the policy of the Executive Yuan to revitalize the estates of the Armed Forces Officer's Club, and formulated a plan in 2014 to establish the National Military Museum at the defense and cultural area in Dazhi, taking on the mission to promote military history and culture, and planning a general military museum that is accessible, inclusive, diverse, and sustainable according to the definition of museums announced by the International Council of Museums (ICOM) at the Prague Conference.

The construction of the main building for the National Military Museum commenced on May 21, 2021, and contracts to purchase collections, books, displays, theater, and operating equipment were signed in July 2022. The MND has continued to carry out the construction, exhibition planning, equipment purchase, organizing relics, and relocation, and referenced the cases of domestic and overseas museums, inviting military research and museum experts and scholars to assist with review and provide consultation, so that the building will be completed according to schedule and meet quality requirements. In the future, the MND will plan learning experience activities based on the museum's collection policy and research work, and establish a historical documentation and relics research center to strengthen cooperation and exchanges with domestic and overseas academic institutions and museums. The MND will introduce the concept of cultural creative industries, and utilize local resources to build a military culture corridor to publicize the glorious history of the ROC Armed Forces, which will benefit the implementation of all-out defense education.



Historic Books and Foreign Military Publications Translated and Reprinted by the MND

Historic Books



Might of the Navy: Record of the Navy Midshipmen Cruising and Training

This book records the honorable achievements of navy midshipmen during training, friendly visits to allies, comforting compatriots, and expanding national influence, so that others will learn from them and build consensus on all-out defense.



Special Issue on 60 Years of the Armed Forces Museum

The Armed Forces Museum was opened on October 31, 1961 and closed on December 31, 2021. This book records the museum's major events, the context of development, and photos for future generations to reference and learn from.



A Century of Glory: The 100th Anniversary of Whampoa Military Academy

This book presents major events of Whampoa Military Academy, encourages servicemembers to continue the spirit of sacrifice and dedication of their predecessors, to exert every effort to defend Taiwan, and pass down the glory of Whampoa.



History of the Republic of China Military Academy Over the Past Century

This book summarizes the history of the R.O.C. Military Academy over the past century, highlights the Whampoa spirit of sacrifice and dedication to the nation, and serves as a reference for planning future military education.



Military History Review Issue 31 and 32

This publication collects studies on military theory and history, including the force buildup and development of the ROC Armed Forces, history of modern warfare, history of units in the ROC Armed Forces, and Taiwan's military history, in order to understand the development of military history.



Vanguard in the Pandemic: Record of Visits by Epidemic Prevention Personnel of the ROC Armed Forces

This book records the work experience and thoughts of servicemembers on the front lines of the fight against COVID-19 during the pandemic through interviews, and also shows the efforts of servicemembers to protect the nation and citizens.



The 6th Army of National Revolutionary Army

The 6th Army, established in 1926, participated in the Northern Expeditions, the suppression of rebellion, the Second Sino-Japanese War, and the suppression of Communist rebellion, performing excellently in every battle. This book chronicles the Army's origins, organization, and evolution, as well as the major battles it participated in.

Translated and Reprinted Publications



Resistance Operating Concept

Resistance operating concept is a defense strategy of a nation that is invaded for restoring its national sovereignty. This book lists various plans and actions, learns from the examples and experience of other countries, and can serve as a reference for the ROC Armed Forces in its homeland defense operating concept, which will further strengthen force buildup and combat readiness.



The Art of War in an Age of Peace

This book provides available information on the diplomatic policy of the United States and a feasible vision. It proposes the grand strategy of resolute restraint, and calls on the United States to avoid over contraction and expansion.



Urban Warfare in the Twenty-First Century

The main form of fighting a war in the 21st century is intermittent siege. This book starts by analyzing the characteristics of urban warfare in recent years, and discusses how changes have resulted in entirely different forms of urban warfare.



Conflict: How Soldiers Make Impossible Decisions

This book provides insight into how soldiers make difficult military decisions, and finds solutions that will help soldiers make a decision when facing similar dilemmas in the future.



China as a Twenty-First Century Naval Power: Theory Practice and Implications

This book analyzes the PRC's ambition to become a naval power, discusses the role, position, and strategic intent of its naval capabilities, the role that the Taiwan Strait might play in a potential conflict, and predicts future developments.



The Arms of the Future

This book analyzes how the risks and opportunities on the battlefield are being shaped by modern innovative weapon systems. The author's in-depth observations highlight the challenges that countries' armed forces must overcome in order to achieve victory in the wars of the future.

Section 6 National Defense Manpower

Under the national defense system with division of labor based on specialization, civilian control over the military, and unified command and policymaking, active service members and civilian officials directly part of the military organization are critical manpower to Taiwan's national defense. They are the basis of the nation's capabilities, the foundation of weapons operations, and the driver of national defense developments. In recent years, the recruitment of career soldiers or civilian officials has been challenging due to low birth rates, competition from private enterprises for talent, and the characteristics of missions of the ROC Armed Forces, which continues to secure sources of the manpower it needs. The ROC Armed Forces develops the professional competencies of service members with the application of technology in future warfare in mind, aiming to meet the manpower demand of operations and training, as well as weapons operation and maintenance. Additionally, defense civilian officials are recruited through a variety of channels, and their professional knowledge and skills are improved through on-the-job training and military-civilian exchange opportunities, jointly carrying out national defense developments to strengthen the overall capabilities of the ROC Armed Forces.

I. Securing Sources of Manpower and Developing Professional Competencies

Manpower is crucial to the capabilities of forces. Facing changes in the regional situation, the growing enemy threat, and changes in demographic structure, Taiwan resumed one-year conscription starting on January 1, 2024 to replenish the manpower of the ROC Armed Forces. At the same time, the ROC Armed Forces began recruiting voluntary service members under three themes: "salary, dignity, and future career," and has raised salaries, increased the willingness to reenlist, diversified recruitment means, and trained the professional competencies of service members. The ROC Armed Forces aims to expand the sources of volunteer service members, attract young adults and professionals to enlist, and continue to serve in the armed forces for a long period of time.

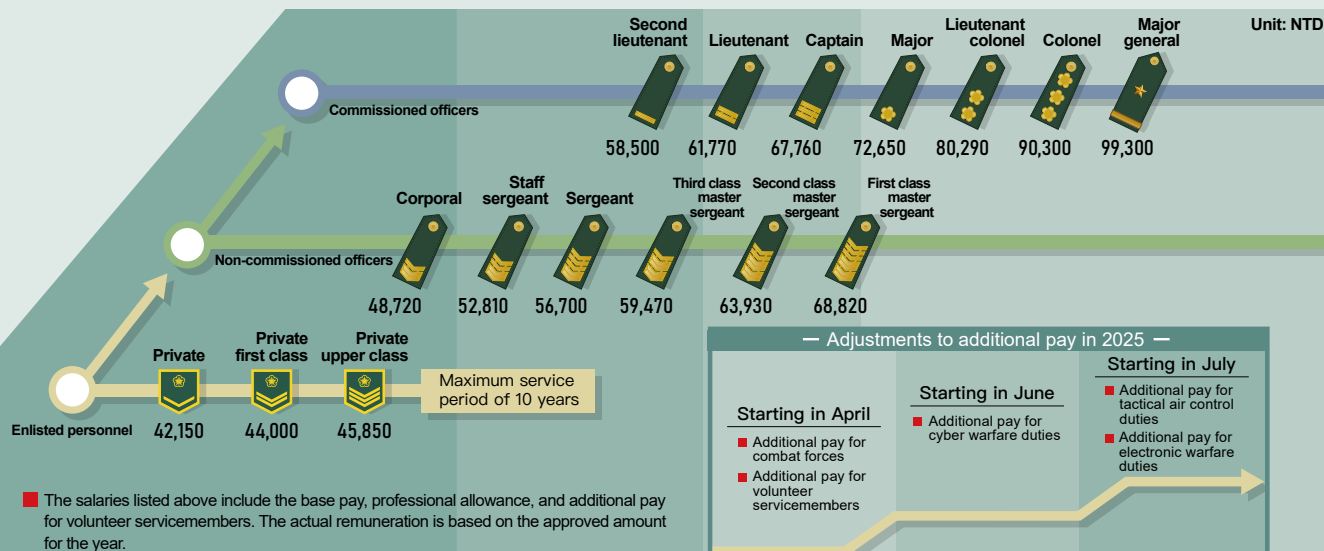
(I) Raising Salaries

Facing the trends in social developments and economic growth, the MND conducted a comprehensive review of the salary structure of service members, and added (revised) additional pay for certain regions and duties (12 items in total) in 2014 based on position, professional skills, station, and heavy workload. The pay was increased after review by the Executive Yuan. Furthermore, the salary, proficiency pay, and supervisory differential pay of volunteer service members were increased by 4% in 2024 and 3% in 2025 in coordination with the government policy to adjust the salaries of military personnel, civil servants, and teachers.

The MND proposed increases to additional pay for volunteer service members and additional pay for combat forces to increase the compensation of volunteer service members and expand combat forces. The proposals were approved by the Executive Yuan and took effect on April 1, 2025. With consideration of the hardship of service members with professional and technical duties, the MND has proposed additional pay for cyber warfare duties, electronic surveillance duties, and air traffic control duties during wartime, which were approved by the Executive Yuan and came into effect on June 1 and July 1 2025, respectively, thereby increasing the incentives for enlistment and reenlistment, attracting young adults to enlist and provide a steady source of talent for the ROC Armed Forces, which will also enhance capabilities at the same time.

(II) Increasing Willingness to Reenlist

After young adults enlist in the ROC Armed Forces to serve, reenlistment is the key to maintaining stable capabilities. The MND focuses on the essentials and reduces interference and unnecessary



Subsidies

Marriage subsidy: 2 months' salary
Childbirth subsidy: 2 months' salary
Education of children:
 NT\$500 to NT\$35,800
Funeral subsidy: 3-5 months' salary
 Subsidies for continuing education in Taiwan related to the servicemember's duties

Retention Subsidy

Reserve officer, reserve NCO, and volunteer servicemembers who sign an extension after their service period expires will receive NT\$17,000 to NT\$50,000

Preferential Treatment

Reduction of water and electricity fees for self-use residences
 Military hospital fee exemption or reduction

Veterans Affairs

Pension, education guidance, employment guidance (vocational training), medical guidance, and employment and settlement

【 Vision for the Career of Volunteer Servicemembers and Salaries 】

burdens on unit formations, while implementing people-oriented management techniques, including canceling check-ins while on leave, lifting restrictions on service members traveling independently overseas, adjusting the time volunteer service members are required to return to camp, and resuming normal duty of commanders and deputy commanders. The MND operates at its highest performance through leadership, active listening to the voices of service members, and providing timely care and assistance to create a positive atmosphere and professional environment in the armed forces.

In addition, the MND increases the willingness of service members to reenlist through reasonable salaries, benefits, guidance, facilities improvements, outsourcing, healthcare, financial planning, and vocational training for future employment. The MND encourages service members to participate in on-the-job training and obtain professional certifications during their term of service, so that they have a complete development plan for their specialty. By taking into account individual education and competencies, Taiwan is able to ensure the long-term retention of talent. The retention rate in 2024 shows an upward trend.

(III) Diversified Recruiting Means

Facing the challenge of fewer students, diverse student recruitment strategies of schools, and competition from the labor market, the MND continues to improve recruitment results through a number of measures, including improving the organization, increasing promotion on campus and through the media, adjusting selection criteria, and salary planning. The number of volunteer service members recruited by the ROC Armed Forces has remained stable in the past 3 years.



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1.2. The ROC Armed Forces pragmatically faces the manpower challenge brought by low birth rates, and continues to improve its recruitment and retention performance.

1. Expanding Student Recruitment by Military Academies

The MND has integrated the resources of the Taiwan Army theater of operations commands to launch campaigns on campuses and widely invite students to visit and experience military academies and military units under the Elite Programs and Warrior Programs. The MND actively assists students who are willing to enroll in military academies with registration, and continues to encourage students in contact groups to recommend their classmates to enroll in military academies, thereby making the campaigns even more effective.

2. Utilizing Strategic Alliances and Promotion Trains

The MND signed student recruitment cooperation agreements with 118 universities and 426 high (vocational) schools nationwide for greater exposure of its student recruitment. Each semester, 12 hours of all-out defense education courses and 40 hours of club activities are offered. The MND organized a total of 1,196 recruitment drives at university expos, defense

interaction events, county and city job fairs, service counters in employment service offices, charity events of township activity centers, booths at the national high/vocational school scout campsite, and student recruitment events in central Taiwan, and the 2025 Taiwan Lantern Festival, in order to attract young adults to enlist in the ROC Armed Forces.

3. Encouraging Conscripts to Become Volunteer Service Members

Boot camps expanded the recruitment drives and widely invited forces of each service to set up booths to display special equipment, put up promotional materials, showcase the results of clubs, and create a lively atmosphere. Arrangements are made for the family members of conscripts who are willing to become volunteer service members to visit them at their posts. A total of 169 recruitment drives were planned in 2025, 124 have been carried out, over 35,200 conscripts participated, and over 3,300 became volunteer service members, effectively increasing the willingness of conscripts to become volunteer service members.

4. Adjusting the Selection Criteria and Restrictions

Over the past 2 years, the ROC Armed Forces have appropriately reviewed the selection criteria and restrictions for young adults who wish to enlist. Starting from 2025, the ROC Armed Forces have conditionally allowed individual with color-blindness to enlist as volunteer service members, individuals with tattoos to sign up for commissioned officer or NCO courses, conditional reenlistment of service members discharged due to unsuitability for active service, and relaxed height requirements of service members. The implementation results will be used as the basis for making future policy adjustments and applications. Regarding conditional reenlistment of service members discharged due to unsuitability for active service, the MND provides former service members who used the exit mechanism for early discharge with an opportunity for reenlistment. If the financial or family reasons at the time of discharge have been resolved, and the discharge did not involve any moral violations, former service members will be allowed to apply for reenlistment 1 year after being discharged, and the selection criteria, e.g., age, physique, and performance before discharge, will remain unchanged.

(IV) Service Member Development

1. Basic Education

In response to modern warfare, military academies have included courses on “basic knowledge of networks,” “drones,” and “weather balloons” as general courses during winter and summer training, and courses on “battlefield applications of new technologies” will be added for AI and drones, stepping up the development of professional and technical personnel to improve military technology application capabilities. To improve the practical competencies of forces, starting in 2025, full-term class students will be attached to forces for 18 weeks in the 8th semester, so that they become familiar with combat readiness, training, logistics, internal management, and military discipline and security practices. This will lay the foundation for becoming a commissioned officer, and enable them to immediately adapt to the environment and work once they are assigned to forces in the future.

2. Further Education

Aligned with current events and concepts of modern warfare, National Defense University incorporates the 4 major policies of the ROC Armed Forces: “mission command, decentralized operations, battle rhythm, and rules of engagement,” along with 5 emerging topics—AI,

weather balloons, drones, Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellites, and net zero emissions—into strategy and command and staff education courses. It aims to incorporate actual operational scenarios, combat progress, and military strategy into courses, so that the courses replicate the actual battlefield situation and current status of regional security, elevating the understanding and innovative thinking of operations.

3. Full-time and Part-time Continuing Education

Outstanding volunteer service members are selected to receive full-time training in Taiwan and overseas each year, allowing them to gain new science and technology knowledge, increasing the number of lecturers available for military academies, and meeting the demand for professional talents in defense technology, strategy research, and R&D. The MND encourages service members to pursue degrees, certifications, and specialties in their free time, developing personnel by enhancing their professional technical capabilities and qualities. A total of 36,000 service members participated in continuing education in the past 2 years.

4. Conducting Research at the Institute for National Defense and Security Research (INDSR)

The MND selects generals and colonels to conduct research at the INDSR each year to cultivate mid-level and high-level officers with an international perspective and profound understanding of strategy. While conducting research at the INDSR, special topic lectures, war games, visits to government agencies, and visits to industry museums are arranged for the officers to improve their understanding of the current situation, in order to enhance overall strategy research capabilities, and accumulate strategy research and analysis talent capable of determining the overall regional situation, formulating action plans, and making decisions. A total of 24 generals and 86 colonels were selected to receive training in since 2023.

II. Recruiting and Cultivating Civilian Officials

Civilian personnel are appointed to participate in defense undertakings in accordance with the *National Defense Act* and *Organization Act of the Ministry of National Defense* to realize the philosophy of democratic countries with civilian control over the military. The MND recruits outstanding talent to join the ranks of defense civilian officials through diverse recruitment channels, and provides on-the-job training, professional military training, and language training for them to utilize their expertise and participate in the planning and implementation of defense undertakings together with service members.

(I) Recruiting Through Diverse Channels

1. Recruiting Examinees who Qualified in the Civil Servant Examination and Personnel of Other Government Agencies

The MND lists vacancies in coordination with civil servant examinations held by the Ministry of Examination each year, and negotiates with other government agencies to transfer outstanding talent into the MND's civilian official system. The MND promoted 23 personnel internally and appointed 54 defense civilian officials assigned through examination or from other government agencies in the past 2 years. The MND will continue to extensively recruit outstanding talent into the national defense system to serve the country.

2. Young Adults Becoming Defense Civilian Officials

Since 2018, the MND has provided an appropriate number of internship slots in coordination with the Public Sector Internship Program for Undergraduates of the Youth Development Administration, MOE, allowing students to become familiar with the operations and work of the MND, so that they will register for civil servant exams and join the ranks of defense civilian officials. The MND provided 46 internship slots in the past 2 years and will continue to encourage units and subordinate agencies to provide internship opportunities, to achieve the purpose of cultivating defense civilian officials from the bottom up, while providing young students with different career options.

(II) Cultivating Civilian Officials

1. On-the-job Training

The MND organizes orientation training for new personnel each year, and improves learning performance through e-learning and the mentor system, so that civil servants who join the defense civilian official system can quickly adapt to the environment and become familiar with defense undertakings. The MND organizes on-the-job management training to cooperate with important government policies. More than 930 participants completed training in the past 2 years, effectively elevating the cognitive ability of personnel.

2. Professional Military Training

To develop mid-level and high-level civilian officials with a high level of military expertise, professional courses are organized for junior rank and senior rank personnel to enhance their core competencies, which will help them participate in the formulation and implementation of national defense policies. More than 560 participants completed training in the past 2 years. At the same time, mid-level and high-level civil servants are selected to participate in on-the-job courses on strategy and command and staff education at National Defense University, during which they learn together with service members to improve their literacy in military affairs, which can be evaluated for future promotions. Since 2017, 8 civil servants have graduated from the on-the-job course of War College, and 8 people have completed the on-the-job courses at command and staff colleges. The MND also selects mid-level and high-level civilian officials to conduct research at the INDSR, and arranges special topic lectures, war games, and courses on diverse topics for them to engage in military exchanges. A total of 3 civilian officials were sent to receive training in the past 2 years.

3. Bilingual Proficiency Training

To support the government's bilingual policy, the MND has established regulations on subsidies for taking English proficiency tests. Since 2017, the MND has offered English courses and provided a number of external training channels, with 76 participants completing training in the past 2 years. As of the end of August 2025, a total of 112 civil servants (44.98%) at the MND have passed English proficiency tests, improving the English proficiency of MND personnel and enhancing their competitiveness.

Section 7 Oversight Effectiveness

To properly carry out defense undertakings, the MND has assembled related units to form special project inspection teams, which oversee and verify the status of defense undertakings, military discipline, flight safety, and installation security in related units, in order to achieve early discovery of difficulties and offer advice for improvements. The MND hosted training courses, educational tours, control meetings, service member forums, and questionnaire surveys to improve the effectiveness of oversight and strengthen the combat power of forces.

I. Oversight and Verification

Oversight and verification are carried out from an independent and objective position to achieve early discovery of risks derived from policies, laws and regulations, programs, and operating procedures, and provide improvement advice for the difficulties that are encountered. Follow-up and improvements are then controlled on this basis to achieve administrative goals and effective risk mitigation.

- (I) Oversight and verification have been carried out for a total of 58 items in the past 2 years, including defense undertakings, exercises and training missions, flight and voyage safety, military discipline, ethics, and risk management. The MND prioritizes prevention and sets time limits for improvement of deficiencies, to reduce preventable incidents and ensure the safety of personnel and equipment.
- (II) In response to the Force Structure Adjustment of All-out Defense, the MND carried out oversight and verification of the implementation of 1-year conscription, defense capabilities of infantry brigades, and force buildup. The MND visited boot camps and units that completed training in 2024 to inspect the training and operations of forces with respect to BMT for 1-year conscription, assignment situation, and mental condition. The MND holds discussions with service members assigned to forces after completing BMT, summarizes difficulties reported by service members during training and combat readiness tasks, and proposes oversight recommendations to improve the military service system.

II. Maintaining Military Discipline

Maintaining military discipline is a task that the ROC Armed Forces continues to carry out. Following adjustments to the military service system, the MND helps service members correctly understand military law and discipline when they are transitioning from civilian to service member, so as to maintain strict military discipline. The MND utilizes a variety of channels to promote various laws and regulations and interact with service members, including daily and weekly military discipline reminders and monthly military discipline and security discussions, educating service members on laws and regulations, as well as their individual duties and responsibilities, so that they will fulfill their duties as service members to jointly maintain military discipline and security, and thereby ensure the combat power of forces.

- (I) The MND has prepared military discipline education materials, produced lessons on common violations of the law and discipline, as well as common types of injuries, and authored anti-fraud comics, which are included in the Chu Kuang TV Program sessions, Youth Daily News, and the MND's website, disseminating knowledge and skills related to military discipline and security in hopes of achieving more effective education. The MND launched a military discipline awareness campaign in each theater of operations, irregularly holds discussions on maintaining military discipline, and invites prosecutors and police officers to teach courses at military installations, including common types of crime in society and how to prevent them, military case studies, and



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The MND has organized numerous military discipline awareness sessions, and raises awareness of military discipline through cases, TV sessions, and comics, helping servicemembers correctly understand military law and discipline, so as to maintain strict military discipline.

announcement of important orders. The education, promotion, and discussion model instills cadre members with management concepts and strengthens military discipline among service members, effectively improving the management performance of forces.

- (II) A total of 25 sessions of the military discipline awareness campaign were held in the past 2 years with more than 7,250 participants. Each service subsequently organizes training to deepen education. The MND produced 13 TV sessions on topics related to military discipline (including military discipline reminders), published 55 articles, reports, and statistical analysis reports on military discipline, and authored 15 anti-fraud comics for units at each level to use to raise awareness, developing the moral character of service members to abide by the law.

Theme in 2024 Anti-fraud Brotherhood

10 issues

Anti-fraud comics

Theme in 2025 Anti-fraud force



Issue 1 Pretending to be family and friends

Issue 2 Online shopping fraud

Issue 3 Serial fraud

■ Please see the MND website for the latest updates.

【 Topics of MND Anti-fraud Promotional Materials 】

III. Risk Management

The MND upholds the spirit of identifying problems early, and incorporates risk management into daily operations and decision-making. With consideration of the risks to force buildup and combat readiness, the MND set various goals and strategies, identified and assessed risks, and adopted internal controls to reasonably ensure that administrative goals are achieved.

Furthermore, the MND continues to improve the risk management knowledge and skills of personnel at each level, incorporates concepts of risk management into the daily operations and decision-making of personnel at each level, and enhances the risk management capabilities of units to create a high quality and secure work environment. The implementation methods include military education and training, in which risk management concepts are incorporated into the common courses of education programs at academies, and training is provided for supervisors of units, specific affairs, and responsible persons. A total of 191 risk management training sessions with over 19,900 participants were held in 2023; 467 training sessions with over 39,300 participants were held in 2024; 5 training sessions with over 1,050 participants have been held as of August 2025.

Education Programs at Academies



Military academies incorporate the concept of risk management into common courses at each stage of education.

MND Education and Training



Education and talent training is mainly organized for high level cadre members of the MND and level 1 subordinate units, inspectors, and risk management responsible persons.

Special Education and Training



Special education and training is mainly provided to inspectors and responsible persons in subordinate units in Northern, Central, Southern, and Eastern Taiwan.

Additional Training Organized by Units



Each unit selects instructors to provide additional training to its personnel, focusing on raising risk awareness and instilling concepts of risk management.

**Implementation method
for risk management
education and training of
the ROC Armed Forces**

【 Implementation Method for Risk Management Education and Training of the ROC Armed Forces 】

IV. Diverse Measures to Prevent Crime

The MND continues to collect data on the types of crimes that service members commit and their reasons, conducts in-depth analysis of preventive measures, and provides the results to forces at each level for crime prevention. The MND aims to thereby instill service members with the right concepts of the rule of law, effectively prevent various crimes, and implement administration in accordance with the law, human rights protection, strict military discipline, and capability maintenance. In response to the PRC's attempts to infiltrate the ROC Armed Forces and espionage, the MND will comprehensively review and amend the Military Trial Act and restore the military trial system to handle cases of active service members involved in military crimes, such as insurrection, benefiting the enemy, leaking secrets, dereliction of duty, and disobedience. Specific measures are as follows:

- (I) The legal officers of units or prosecutors offices and police agencies are invited to teach courses on rule of law, focusing on common legal knowledge related to crimes and administration. The courses also include legal knowledge for everyday life and citizens, and use recent rulings of the court or news as examples to help service members know the law and abide by the law.
- (II) MND recorded the program *Legal Knowledge* on the Voice of Han Broadcasting Network and placed it in the Replays section for citizens to listen to online or download. The podcast *Legal Knowledge* was also uploaded to publicize legal knowledge among service members, using different methods, i.e., video and audio, to promote common legal knowledge for everyday life and actual cases will leave a deeper impression among service members.
- (III) Service members today generally use the Internet to gain new knowledge. The MND has set up a webpage and Facebook fanpage for service members and civilians, and regularly updates information on legal education and regulations. The MND also organizes cultural creativity competitions, Q&A, and works with private anti-drug foundations to make rule of law a part of service member's everyday life.
- (IV) In response to the PRC's attempts to infiltrate the ROC Armed Forces and espionage, the MND plans to bring military judges back to the front line and work together with prosecutors and judicial authorities in handling military crimes specified in Part 2 of the Criminal Code of the Armed Forces, in order to discover the truth and prevent and severely punish crimes. The MND will ensure that the military trial system follows the principle of fair trial and the due process of law required by the ROC Constitution, establishing a system for human rights protection and military discipline.

V. Promoting Defense Integrity and Creating a Culture of Integrity in the Armed Forces

(I) Enforcing the Sunshine Law and Avoiding Conflict of Interest

To show that the ROC Armed Forces continues to maintain its integrity and carries out administration in accordance with the law, civil servants are required to declare their properties and are subject to substantial review. A total of 3,137 and 3,007 people declared their properties in 2023 and 2024, respectively, and a certain percentage were randomly selected for substantial review in February of the next year, comparing their properties declared with those of the previous year in order to demonstrate Taiwan's full administrative transparency. The MND announced the *Guidelines on Recusal of Military Personnel Due to Conflicts of Interest* in January

2025 to comply with the *Act on Recusal of Public Servants Due to Conflicts of Interest*. Applicable personnel of the ROC Armed Forces are required to comply with the guidelines. In addition, the MND continues to organize lectures on the *Act on Property-Declaration by Public Servants and Act on Recusal of Public Servants Due to Conflicts of Interest*, and conducts joint supervision (guidance) visits to inspect the implementation status of each unit, thereby raising awareness and creating a culture of integrity and transparency in the ROC Armed Forces.

(II) Establishing an Anti-Corruption Platform and Strengthening Cross-Domain Mechanisms

The MND established the ROC Armed Forces Ethical Procurement Platform on July 11, 2022 to show its determination to maintain integrity in defense undertakings, and ensure major construction projects of the ROC Armed Forces are completed according to schedule while meeting quality requirements. The MND selected the ROCA's Hanyang Military Installation Construction Project under the Xin An Program, and adheres to the spirit of "cross-domain cooperation, public-private partnership, administrative transparency, and civil oversight." The MND invited representatives from the District Prosecutors Office, Executive Yuan Public Construction Commission, experts, and scholars to participate and help solve existing problems and eliminate security risks. Three cross-domain communication meetings were held between 2022 and 2024, in which the third cross-domain communication meeting was held on September 20, 2024 and invited the Executive Yuan Public Construction Commission, External Procurement Audit Committee members, implementation units of the MND, contractors, experts, and scholars to attend, establishing a public-private partnership and cross-domain cooperation model for discussing existing problems and providing feasible recommendations for better supervision of major projects, which will reduce corruption and violations.

(III) Ingraining Integrity Through Education

The ROC Armed Forces continues to ensure integrity education takes root according to the *ROC Armed Forces Guidelines for the Implementation of Integrity Education*, in order to comply with the *United Nations Convention against Corruption*. A variety of events promoting integrity are planned each year, and 2 to 8 hours of integrity education courses are arranged by military academies and training centers. Additionally, to instill the ROC Armed Forces with the right concepts of law, three forums for basic level personnel were held in October 2023, and supervisors and dedicated personnel who actually participate in procurement and projects of each service were invited to attend. The MND and Taiwan Association for Schools of Public Administration and Affairs co-organized an international academic exchange forum in May 2024, four campus integrity lectures between August and October, a seminar on the *Guidelines on Recusal of Military Personnel Due to Conflicts of Interest* in December, produced Chu Kuang TV Program sessions on topics related to integrity, 3D animated series for integrity education of the ROC Armed Forces entitled- "Robot Dog Hunt", and Volume 4 of the *Guidelines for Anti-corruption of Military Personnel* in 2024, following Volumes 1 to 3 in 2020 to 2023. These enrich the teaching materials for anti-corruption promotion in the ROC Armed Forces, and use vivid, easy-to-understand, and diverse marketing methods to deeply embed the concept of integrity in the ROC Armed Forces, creating a national defense organization culture of integrity and transparency.



(IV) Integrity in Administration and Strengthening Risk Warnings

To manage high-risk undertakings and lower integrity risks, the MND has implemented a review mechanism for corruption cases that occurred in the past, taken anti-corruption measures, formulated specific improvement measures, and made recommendations for reform. The MND conducted a thorough inspection for corruption cases that occurred in the past, proposed corresponding internal control and anti-corruption measures based on the findings, and assisted agencies with subsequent reviews and improvements to protect their rights and interests and achieve the core objective of defense integrity.

VI. Auditing Procurements of the ROC Armed Forces

Adhering to the MND's principles of transparency and integrity in procurements, and urging subordinate units to handle procurements in accordance with the Government Procurement Act, professional personnel from the National Defense Procurement Office, Office of the Inspector General, Department of Legal Affairs, and Ethics Office, along with experts and scholars from other government agencies form the Procurement Audit Team. The team selects units to inspection based on audit frequency, level of risk, appeal investigation and control, violation patterns, and public opinion. The inspected units then undergo procurement audits regularly, irregularly, or on a case-by-case basis. The supervision and guidance for procurements allow personnel to become familiar with and continue to professionally make procurements based on rule of law, enhancing and maintaining capabilities and resilience, strictly abiding by procurement discipline, and promoting integrity in military culture.

The MND audited a total of 694 procurements by 108 units with a total budget of over NT\$25,747,980,000 in the past 2 years. The audit frequency averaged approximately 29 procurements by 5 units per month, effectively urging subordinate units to handle procurements in accordance with the law, lowering the operating risks of procurements when appropriate, and preventing deficiencies from repeatedly occurring in similar procurements.

Chapter 8

Attending to Service Members

Combat readiness is an “all-weather, all-around” mission, and attending to service members is an important task for maintaining stable morale. The ROC Armed Forces is actively renovating living quarters, improving benefits, protecting the rights and interests of service members, and raising salaries and bonus pay to build cohesion among forces and give service members a stronger sense of commitment, so that they can focus on combat training. Cadre members show concern and provide assistance to service members with difficulties in life, and refer them to civilian counseling institutions to provide service members with better mental care, thus achieving “no physical or mental harm, no damage to rights and interests” and ensuring the capabilities of forces.

Section 1 Service Environment

To create a modernized, high quality service environment for service members, the MND implemented the Xin An(Peace of Mind) Program to accelerate the renovation of buildings, and continues to renovate living quarters each year to enhance capabilities and raise the morale of forces, aiming to help members have a stable home life and ease dependents’ minds.

I. Renovating Living Quarter Environments for Service Members

The MND established the Xin An(Peace of Mind) Program in 2017 to accelerate the renovation of buildings, giving priority to offshore islands, mountain and remote areas, and the main forces. At present, the MND is implementing 103 projects, and has completed 87 projects including Kaotan Barracks, as of the end of 2024. All projects are expected to be completed before the end of 2029 and will benefit 82,731 service members, providing safe, comfortable, and pleasant multi-functional living spaces and leisure facilities that service members can enjoy. Moreover, in accordance with the President’s policy of taking care of military personnel, the Zhan Xin(Revitalization) Program has been planned for 2026 to 2031, in which 16 projects will be implemented for renovating service members’ barracks and work buildings. In the future, the MND will review the implementation of new projects on a rolling basis based on the availability of the Funds for Rebuilding Military Living Quarters and Facilities, in hopes of benefiting even more service members.

II. Renovation of Living Quarters for Service Members

The MND has a total of 8,014 housing units. Starting in 2017, units have been using their general budget and the Funds for Rebuilding Military Living Quarters and Facilities to renovate old living quarters, and have completed the renovation of 3,349 housing units to date, providing an excellent living environment. The MND built living quarters in 7 locations, including Fu Hsing Kang Barracks, with a total of 1,104 housing units to expand care for service members and military dependents. These include Pingyi Living Quarters with 80 units, Haigong New Village with 180 units, and Zhenghe Living Quarters with 120 units. The three projects have been completed with a total of 380 units and are available for service members to apply for residence. In coordination with the social housing policy, the Ministry of the Interior is handling the construction of four locations, including the Guanghua Living Quarters, on behalf of the MND with a total of 486 units. The Shenjian Barracks Living Quarters and



1.2. Through the implementation of the Xin An Program, the MND is gradually renovating living quarters to improve the quality of living and leisure spaces.

Longxiang Barracks Living Quarters, with 233 units in total, have been completed and are available for service members to apply for residence. Moreover, in accordance with the policy of taking care of service members and military dependents, the Zhan Xing(Revitalization) Program is planning the Sanchuku Living Quarters, which comprises 9 projects and totaling 680 units. These projects meet the housing needs of service members and military dependents, thus achieving the goal of “helping members settle and easing dependents’ minds.”

III. Uniform Supply

The ROC Armed Forces implemented uniform reforms to meet the needs of service members for uniforms, and established base exchanges (BX) or post exchanges (PX) for the Army, Navy, and Air Force starting on March 15, 2021, providing a variety of convenient channels for service members to choose from.

(I) Diverse Options

There are 24 physical BXs/PXs and 4 locations nationwide. Service members may make purchases in person or online using the smartphone app and have the items they purchased delivered to a designated location. This allows service members to place orders through diverse channels for uniforms that meet their individual needs within their quota, which will help them perform their duties.

(II) Functional Modifications

The MND is designing uniforms with composite functional fabrics and multiple layers to wear during the summer and winter, in order to provide greater comfort and more options for service members to choose from. Fast-drying, durable, and warm functional clothes are available for service members to choose from, and 115 styles of 59 items including the red-orange flying suit have been modified recently and are now available. In addition, the ROC Armed Forces regularly convenes work growes to visit the BXs/PXs and logistics centers to provide guidance. The opinions of service members are collected and included in the regulations of BXs/PXs to meet the actual needs of service members.

Section 2 Providing Access to Counseling

Counseling at the ROC Armed Forces is broken down into three distinct levels, level 1 is to discover and prevent, level 2 is to intervene and provide consultation, and level 3 is professional treatment. There are clear responsibilities and treatment processes for each level, and civilian consultation and healthcare resources are also incorporated to form a close-knit network. Mental health education and basic level cadre member training are utilized to improve service members' concepts of mental health and adaptability in life, reducing their mental issues and helping them adapt to life in the Armed Forces. Furthermore, the MND provides service members with psychological support through professional counseling and referrals to healthcare resources, guiding them to have a positive mindset to reduce their risk factors. At the same time, the MND is strengthening professional training for counselors, improving the quality of level 2 and level 3 counseling services, and improving the performance of prevention through "discovering issues and assisting in counseling," working together to care for the mental health of service members.

I. Improving the Effectiveness of Counseling

The ROC Armed Forces utilizes various opportunities to provide mental health education, promotes the concept of self-help and helping others, educates service members to face their troubles and bravely seek professional assistance, and actively provides access to civilian counseling resources, providing complete counseling channels to maintain physical and mental health. In addition, the safety warning mechanism effectively utilizes organizational functions to identify personnel showing abnormal symptoms, so that immediate intervention can be conducted by providing counseling or medical care. The ROC Armed Forces also works with the family support system of service members to jointly help them face their difficulties and reduce risk factors.

(I) Constant Mental Health Education

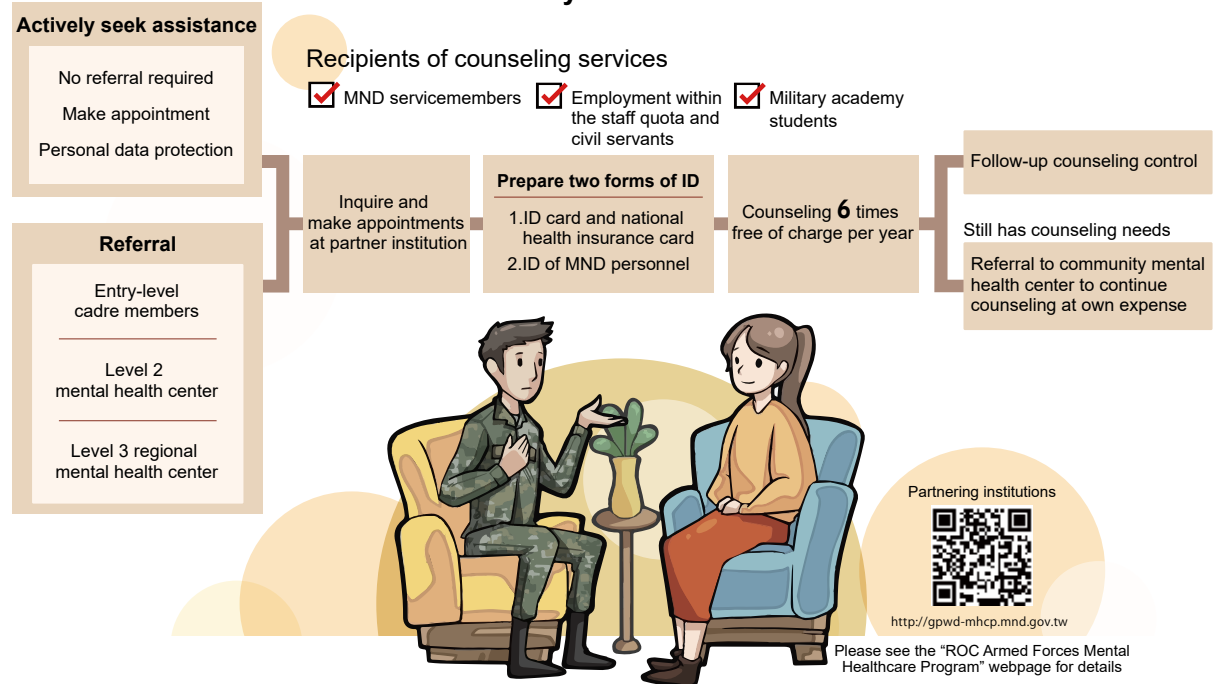
Mental health education for boot camp and regular forces, special topic lectures, and practical training for preventive counseling are provided to improve the mental health of service members and make basic level cadre members more effective in providing risk warnings. Individuals with professional certifications in psychology and social work or counselors are invited from the private sector to teach courses, in hopes of improving service members' ability to adapt to stress, embed the concept to actively seek assistance, and provide them with the knowledge and skills to identify risks. Starting in 2024, the MND has employed the medical resources of the ROC Armed Forces to organize a tour promoting the spirit of military medicine, and organized 137 sessions with over 19,660 participants in the past 2 years. Psychiatrists help service members detect psychological issues and seek assistance sooner under the theme: "Introduction to mental illness and suicide prevention," in order to maintain the physical and mental health of service members.

(II) Consolidating Professional Counseling Capabilities

The ROC Armed Forces has planned channels to systematically train professional personnel. When counselors are first appointed, they receive training in the ROC Armed Forces Counseling Reserve Cadre Member Class, and then regularly receive on-the-job training and professional supervision each year thereafter. Instructors are also invited from the private sector to teach courses to strengthen the professional counseling competencies and practical abilities of counselors. The MND offered the Counseling Psychologist and Social Worker Professional Certification Training Class in coordination with the national examination schedule to provide counselors with knowledge of theories and encourage them to obtain professional certificates. Over the past 2 years, 19 people have obtained certificates and the MND will continue to develop professional

ROC Armed Forces Mental Healthcare Program

Dual-track system



counselors in the ROC Armed Forces, in order to strengthen the psychological resilience of service members and consolidate the capabilities of forces.

(III) Mental Healthcare Program

The issues of service members arising from generational changes have become increasingly complex. The MND thus implemented the ROC Armed Forces Mental Healthcare Program in 2025, and expanded cooperation with the 328 professional counseling institutions registered with the Ministry of Health and Welfare, making it more convenient to access the program. The MND encourages service members with mental health issues to bravely seek help based on the core strategy of "no referral needed, make reservations by themselves, actively seek help, and personal data protection." Service members are able to conveniently use the services in a confidential and friendly environment free of charge 6 times per year, thus increasing their willingness to actively seek help. Service members have used the program a total of over 4,460 times in the past 2 years. It is hoped that they will be able to seek help without any worries and receive wholehearted care for their physical and mental health.

(IV) Link to the Safety Warning Mechanism

Units at all levels utilize the organization to link information on signs of safety risks, and the process linking counseling to the safety warning mechanism helps units at each level identify service members in need of care, so that they can immediately intervene and provide counseling, thereby improving response measures. Over 480 service members in need of care were identified in the past 2 years. The MND promulgated the *MND Directions for Suicide Prevention and Rewards for Personnel who Contribute to the Identification of Signs of Safety Risks* in 2024 so that service members will be able to better show concern for each other. The MND provides rewards according to the severity of the situation based on the principles of "early discovery, immediate preventive treatment, and quick rewards." Since the directions were implemented, the MND has approved 13 rewards on a case-by-case basis, thereby creating a culture of mutual help to eliminate potential risks.



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The MND implemented the Mental Healthcare Program to connect with private sector resources and provide diverse, self-managed channels. The entire process does not require any referral, servicemembers make appointments on their own to actively seek assistance, and their personal data is protected, thereby meeting the counseling (guidance) needs of servicemembers.

II. Refining the Counseling Mechanism

As the psychological needs of basic level service members continue to grow, the ROC Armed Forces continues to strengthen the counseling mechanism based on the three-level counseling network of “basic level forces, counselors, and professional support.” The mechanism enhances the psychological resilience of service members, stabilizes the morale of forces, and prevents psychological crises, thereby enhancing the overall capabilities of forces.

(I) Increasing Basic Level Counseling Capacity

To rapidly increase the professional counseling capacity of basic level forces, the MND has planned two stages of recruitment in 2025 and 2026 to recruit personnel with professional psychology or social worker qualifications from the private sector to serve as counselors in the ROC Armed Forces. The counselors will provide consultation and counseling to service members in unit-level formations in order to maintain their mental health.

(II) Looking Towards the Trend of Smart Management

In 2024, the MND completed the modification of functions on the counseling platform, optimized the operating system for counselors, and established the ROC Armed Forces Mental Healthcare Program Management System to provide a wide range of counseling services, aiming to improve counseling performance through information technology, reduce the workload of cadre members at each level, and improve the administrative efficiency of forces.

(III) Periodic Mental Health Assessments

Starting from July 1, 2024, psychiatrists, psychologists, or social workers at the 15 hospitals of the Armed Forces, such as the Tri-Service General Hospital and Kinmen Hospital, conduct interviews with service members during annual physical check-ups to identify cases with safety risks and immediately report them to the mental health center of their unit, so that it can intervene by providing counseling or medical care. Over 1,100 cases that required care were identified in the past 2 years, of which over 360 cases were referred for medical care and effectively reduced risk factors.

Section 3 Protection of Rights and Interests

The MND integrated a number of internal remedy channels and established the *Act Governing the Rights and Privileges of the Service Members of the Armed Forces* to protect the right of service members to employ internal remedies. Furthermore, the MND also integrated salary transfer for service members, and works with financial institutions to provide preferential financial measures, providing comprehensive protection for the rights and interests of service members to build cohesion and stabilize morale.

I. Legal Remedies

The MND established the *Act Governing the Rights and Privileges of the Service Members of the Armed Forces* according to the intent of Interpretation No. 785 of the Judicial Yuan to protect service members in legal disputes with the government through proper and thorough remedy procedures provided by the law, and abide by Article 19 of the National Defense Act: "The rights of servicemen shall be legally protected when infringed by unlawful or unjust treatments." When service members face a dispute over their rights and interests, the Act provides a number of effective means of redress, showing the government's determination to protect the rights and interests of service members, and further protect their right to institute legal proceedings. This is an important milestone in the legislation of civil rights of service members.

(I) Legislation Process

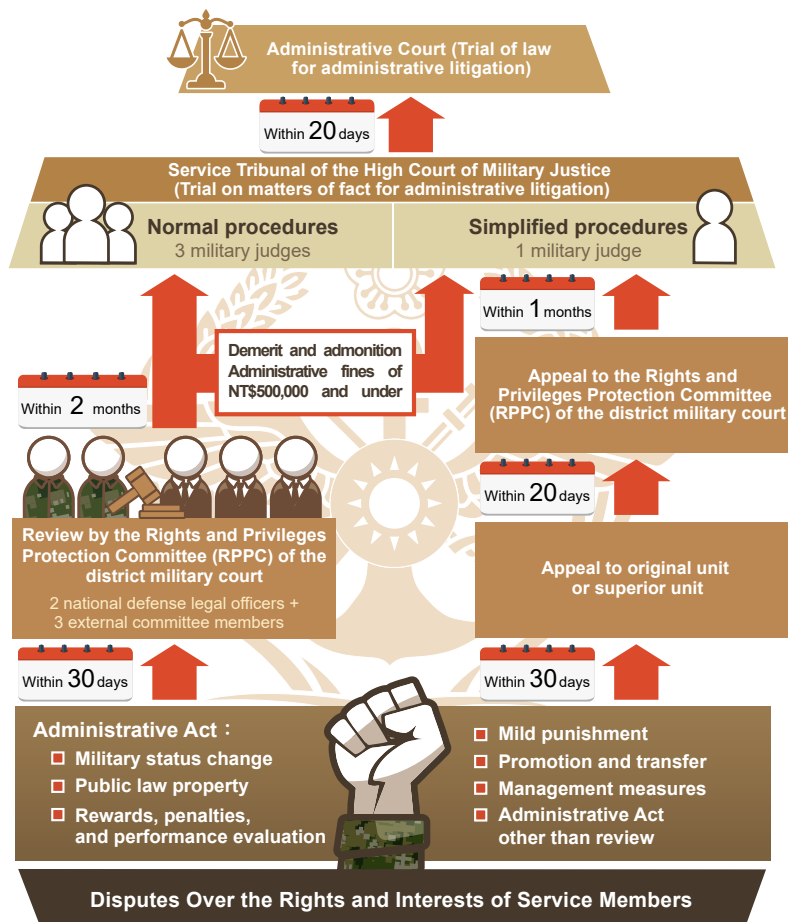
The *Act Governing the Rights and Privileges of the Service Members of the Armed Forces* was sent by the Executive Yuan to the Legislative Yuan for deliberation on April 22, 2024. The Legislative Yuan held a public hearing on May 6, 2024, and deliberated on each article from May 8 to 9 the same year. After the Act passed the third reading on July 15 the same year, the President promulgated the full text of 78 articles on August 7 the same year; the Act took effect on August 6, 2025.

(II) Remedy Procedures

Service members may request an appeal if they believe changes to their status, property claims according to public law, punishments, or administrative acts related to performance evaluations are unlawful or clearly unjust. If service members believe that administrative acts or management measures other than second reviews are unlawful or unjust, they may file an appeal with the authority with jurisdiction. If they are unwilling to accept the results of the appeal, they may file a second appeal. The Rights and Privileges Protection Committee (RPPC) at each level of the Armed Forces no longer conducts reviews and second reviews of cases involving the protection of service members' rights and interests. The MND established a Rights and Privileges Protection Committee (RPPC) at district military courts with national defense legal officers and external experts and scholars to jointly conduct reviews and second reviews. The service court established in the High Military Court is the court of first instance for public law disputes between service members and the government. If service members are unwilling to accept the ruling of the service court, they may file an appeal with the High Administrative Court.

(III) Expected Benefits

After the Act takes effect, it will integrate multiple remedy channels for protecting service members' rights and interests (e.g., appeal, grievance, protection of service members' rights and interests, or other internal remedies), and make remedy procedures more economical so that service members are protected by open, fair, and adequate remedies. At the same time, it allows citizens to understand that the protection of service members' rights and interests is open and transparent, so that they will further support national defense and the people in service of our nation.



【 Flowchart for Handling Service Member Relief 】

II. Grievance System and Effectiveness

The MND's 1985 consultation service hotline establishes a communication channel and provides consultation services for grievances, in order to protect the lawful rights and interests of service members and dependants. The hotline adheres to the philosophy of "no calls missed during peak hours and all calls picked up during off-peak hours," providing services 24 hours a day and year-round for service members and their family members to report their difficulties within the system. At the same time, the MND continues to improve the effectiveness of the grievances system through "promotion of the grievances system," "basic level service member questionnaire survey," and improving the service quality of the "1985 consultation service hotline." From the time service members enlist in the Armed Forces, units at all levels are required to promote the contact method and the scope of services of the grievance channel using the general defense education teaching material *Let's Serve!* and various gatherings and education opportunities, in hopes of effectively helping service members solve their problems in a timely manner.

A total of 58,620 grievance and consultation calls were received in the past 2 years, more than 3,160 grievances were accepted, in which the majority were related to military-civilian disputes, internal management, and the discharge from service. The situations were all handled and questions were all answered within the time limit. The handling unit adheres to confidentiality measures throughout the process and actively shows concern toward complainants. Verification personnel are responsible for replying to complainants, and supervision departments at each level conduct follow-ups one year after receiving a complaint to see if cadre members or colleagues in the same unit retaliated against the complainant, so as to ensure that the complainant's identity remains confidential and personal safety is protected.

III. Consultation Services for Legal Action

The MND established the *ROC Armed Forces Directions for Providing Guidance for Taking Legal Action* to protect the lawful right of units and service members of the ROC Armed Forces to institute legal

proceedings. When service members or their dependents encounter any legal issues, the MND appoints a publicly appointed lawyer to provide legal consultation services to protect the lawful rights of the service members and their dependents, effectively and quickly solving legal disputes.

The legal departments of units subordinate to the MND received a total of 686 applications (including 151 existing cases) from service members or their dependents for guidance and legal consultation over the past 2 years. Of the cases, 458 were closed with 148 cases receiving a ruling in favor, 119 cases settled (mediated), 74 cases receiving a ruling against, 15 cases withdrawn, and 102 legal consultations.

IV. Enactment and Amendment of Laws and Regulations

The MND submits laws and regulations to be enacted or amended to the Executive Yuan for approval, which are then sent to be reviewed and passed by the Legislative Yuan. The *Military Installation Safety Protection Act* and *Act Governing the Rights and Privileges of the Service Members of the Armed Forces*, as well as the amendment to the *Armed Forces Punishment Act*, were promulgated by the President. Amendments to 28 regulations including the *Regulations Governing the Establishment Permission and Supervision of National Defense Corporations* were also completed. The MND continues to invite experts and scholars to participate in reviews during meetings of the Regulations Committee, and enacts or amends laws and regulations in a timely manner to meet the needs of units for their missions, thereby strengthening the resilience of the defense organization.

In response to the abovementioned laws taking effect, the MND reviewed and identified relevant laws and regulations that need to be amended. The thorough review of laws and regulations is included in the annual plan to identify national defense laws and regulations, so that the MND can implement various national defense policies and achieve force buildup goals in accordance with the law. In particular, for the *Military Installation Safety Protection Act*, the review of 7 bills including the *Measures for the Organization and Operation of Investigation Teams for the Use of Weapons or Equipment by Military Agencies* was completed, in order to maintain the security of military installations and ensure that military exercises, training, and combat readiness missions are smoothly carried out.

V. Emergency Loans for Service Members

To alleviate the financial issues of service members, their spouses, and their direct relatives caused by emergencies, thereby ensuring that they can live without worries and focus on their military duties, the Emergency Loans for Service Members project was created by referencing the Central Government Civil Servant Emergency Loan System. The project was approved by the Executive Yuan on July 3, 2025, and will be implemented starting in 2026. It is expected to enhance the care provided to service members.

VI. Strengthening the Financial Management Knowledge and Abilities of Service Members

In response to the frequent financial fraud cases, the MND brings in professional agencies and institutions, such as the National Police Agency and Taiwan Academy of Banking and Finance, to give in-person lectures, and also produces education programs for service members on the Chu Kuang TV Program, reducing service members from being defrauded or taking out inappropriate loans, and lowering the risk of service members leaking confidential information due to financial problems. In addition, the Armed Forces Partner Saving Department (AFPSD) utilized the collective bargaining power of service members and current organizational functions of the ROC Armed Forces to integrate salary transfers through strategic alliances with financial institutions. The AFPSD engages in mutually beneficial cooperation with financial institutions and seeks preferential mortgages and credit loans, small amount remittance, and insurance and wealth management product referral services. It also increased the limit on the amount of time deposits eligible for preferential interest rates, thereby providing service members with better financial services and benefits.

Section 4 Benefits and Care

The MND has implemented comprehensive care measures for the children of service members in coordination with the government's childcare policy, and expanded services for service members and their dependents, so that they will not have any worries and be able to focus on their military duties. At the same time, the MND provides shopping services for everyday life, and requests military personnel discounts from companies, among other benefits. The MND also amended the *Indemnities Act for Military Personnel* and adjusted the benefits of accident insurance to better care for service members, so as to help members and dependents feel protected.

I. Services and Care for Military Dependents

The ROC Armed Forces continue to promote housing services, public educational and childcare measures, education subsidies for children of service members, and water and electricity subsidies for military dependents, fully showing the spirit of service of the Armed Forces for service members to focus on their military duties while taking care of their families.

(I) Improving Housing Services

Following the policy guidance of the Executive Yuan, the MND provided 39 sites used for the reconstruction of military dependents' villages to the National Housing and Urban Regeneration Center to build social housing. The sites cover a total area of over 40 hectares and were used to build 15,355 housing units. Pursuant to the *Regulations for Renting Social Housing of the Ministry of Interior*, 1,134 housing units were retained for service members ranked major and under (inclusive) to apply for residence, taking care of service members and their dependents.

(II) Expanding Public Education and Childcare

In coordination with the government's policy for public childcare and a complete childcare environment, the MND selected 15 buildings and 16 sites for the reconstruction of military dependents' villages in 10 counties/cities around Taiwan to establish 31 non-profit kindergartens and education and childcare service centers, which have a capacity of over 1,400 children. The facilities will be able to take care of the children of service members and also benefit surrounding residents, building good military-civilian relationships and creating win-win situations, thereby ensuring that the government's commitment to take care of children can be fulfilled. The MND will work towards local and affordable childcare services to lift the burden on families of service members.

(III) Providing Care for Military Dependents

The MND has provided education subsidies that benefited over 87,000 children of service members in the past 2 years, and subsidized the water and electricity fees of over 540,000 households of military dependents, providing real assistance to service members and their dependents in everyday life. Moreover, service members and their dependents enjoy preferential fees or sometimes no fees at all when they go to a military hospital, discounts on products sold in BXs/PXs, and lodging discounts at Hero Houses, providing comprehensive care for service members and their dependents through high quality services.

II. Unpaid Parental Leave

The government has been promoting the policy of unpaid parental leave in response to the low birth rates in Taiwan. The MND has revised related laws and regulations according to the policy guidance, and allocated a budget to properly handle unpaid parental leave of service members, so that they can balance work and family responsibilities, and further increase their willingness to reenlist.



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The MND continues to provide service member housing services and public education and childcare measures to achieve the goal to “help members settle and ease dependents’ minds.”

(I) Policy Guidance

After reviews of financial issues encountered during unpaid parental leave, starting on July 1, 2021, the Ministry of Labor used its general budget to provide subsidies equal to 20% of salaries, which would bring the average monthly insured income replacement rate to 80% during the unpaid parental leave period. Furthermore, on January 18, 2022 an amendment to the *Employment Insurance Act* took effect, allowing parents to apply individually or together for 6 months’ allowance. The MND has also promulgated an amendment to the *Directions for the Issuance of Unpaid Parental Leave Allowance and Salary Subsidies for Military Personnel*, which states that starting on July 1, 2021, the general budget is used to provide salary subsidies during unpaid parental leave; the amount of the subsidy is calculated based on 20% of the average insurance payment base in the previous 6 months. In addition, the MND amended Articles 9-1 and 22 of the *Act of Assignment for Officers and Noncommissioned Officers of the Armed Forces*, Articles 6-1 and 16 of the *Act of Military Service for Volunteer Enlisted Soldiers*, and Articles 16-1 and 25 of the *Act of Insurance for Military Personnel* to provide better protection of the rights of both husband and wife to apply for unpaid parental leave, including receiving allowances.

On August 19, 2024, the Executive Yuan approved an extension to the *Program to Counter Low Birth Rates in Taiwan (2018-2025)*. The MND continues to plan and allocate a budget to provide subsidies equal to 20% of salaries during unpaid parental leave, and handles applications for subsidies for unpaid parental leave as well as budget planning and allocation. With regard to extending paid parental leave, when both parents have received 6 months of unpaid parental leave allowance, the MND will allow them to apply for and receive an additional one month’s salary during unpaid parental leave. These matters will be handled by the MND in accordance with the policy guidance of the Executive Yuan.

(II) Implementation Results

Over the past 2 years, military personnel of the MND, Ocean Affairs Council Coast Guard Administration, and NCSIST have received childcare allowance and subsidies a total of 13,955 times with a total of over NT\$292.85 million, effectively lifting the financial burden of childcare on service members, so that they can take care of family and work at the same time.

Furthermore, a total of 3,102 military personnel (1,434 male and 1,668 female) applied for unpaid parental leave. After the replacement rate was increased to 80% with the unpaid parental leave allowance and subsidies, the ratio of male to female applicants increased to 4.6:5.4. It is clear that male service members are more willing to pay extra when the amount of allowance is increased. The MND will continue to support the government's policy to increase the birthrate by promoting and implementing this measure.

III. Career Transitioning

To help service members quickly enter the workforce after discharge or retirement, the MND encourages service members to develop a second specialty during their free time and obtain certificates related to their position, provided that it does not affect their military duties. The MND and Veterans Affairs Council (VAC) co-organize briefing sessions on employment resource integration for retiring service members, career personality aptitude system and career consultation services, survey on schooling, vocational training, and employment needs, introduction to vocational training resources, and career lectures. The MND provides practical courses, such as aircraft maintenance, indoor wiring, and power configuration, together with professional training institutions to help retiring service members find employment and obtain professional certifications suitable for the civilian workplace. The MND organized 319 employment service events with over 8,420 participants and over 3,480 service members receiving vocational training in the past 2 years, helping service members transition to a different career path and guiding them back into the workplace, thereby fully utilizing human resources.

IV. Care for Military Survivors

Before the *Indemnities Act for Military Personnel* was amended in June 2023, military survivors received annual compensation based on the standard for indemnity at the time of death. As a result, the annual compensation received by survivors of service members who died early on is no longer sufficient to cover living expenses. The Executive Yuan on October 24, 2024 approved the "additional compensation for underage children of deceased service members," "further compensation for underage children of service members who died during combat, exercises, training, or disaster relief," and "minimum annual compensation for survivors of service members who died early on," retroactively effective from July 1, 2023, recognizing the sacrifice and dedication of service members by providing better care for their survivors.

"Additional compensation for underage children of deceased service members" is additional monthly compensation for each underage child of a deceased service member until the child reaches adulthood. "Further compensation for underage children of service members who died during combat, exercises, training, or disaster relief" is monthly compensation for each underage child of a deceased service member, in addition to the abovementioned compensation, until the child reaches adulthood. "Minimum annual compensation for survivors of service members who died early on" makes up the difference in annual compensation for survivors of service members who died early on to reach the minimum annual compensation. The MND distributed the 3 types of compensation on December 24, 2024, which benefited 3,070 survivors. The MND will continue to take care of military survivors to further improve the quality of the compensation system.

Education Guidance, Employment Guidance, and Vocational Training for Veterans

 Education Guidance		Unit:NTD
Admission by Recommendation	Recommendation to study in two-year junior college, four-year junior college, and undergraduate.	
Education Subsidies	Tuition and miscellaneous fees subsidies of NT\$20,000 to NT\$80,000 per semester for studying in a domestic college or overseas graduate institute. (For veterans receiving a pension, the subsidy is equal to half the amount of the pension)	
Performance Incentives	An incentive of NT\$10,000 is provided to veterans in public and private schools for achieving a semester score of 80 points and above in junior college and college/90 points and above in graduate school.	
Education Allowance	A monthly living allowance of NT\$5,900 is provided to veterans in medium low or low income households during the semester.	
Continuing Education Subsidies	Veterans formerly ranked colonel and under studying in continuing education credit programs or open university (college) may apply 3 times per year, up to 12 times in total for a total amount of NT\$120,000.	
Examination Subsidies	Veterans formerly ranked colonel and under may apply for subsidies for cram school and books (courses) to take national exams or state-owned enterprise entrance exams once a year, up to 4 times in total for a total amount of NT\$50,000.	
 Employment Guidance		
Employment Matching	Provide job opening matching.	
Career Consultation	Provide career personality aptitude assessment and career consultation services.	
Employment Allowance	I. Employment allowance after receiving training: Veterans: NT\$12,000 per month for the first six months, and NT\$8,000 per month for the following six months. Type 2: NT\$6,000 per month for the first six months, and NT\$4,000 per month for the following six months. II. Employment allowance for referral: Veterans: NT\$8,000 per month. Type 2: NT\$4,000 per month. III. The two types of allowances will only be provided for a total of 12 months.	
Entrepreneurship Guidance	Professional consultants are arranged to provide guidance to those intending to start their own business.	
Entrepreneurship Subsidy	For those already receiving government entrepreneurship loans, 50% of the annual interest is subsidized, up to NT\$60,000 each time, once per year, up to 5 times.	
 Vocational Training		
Professional Skills Training	Participation in vocational training of the Veterans Affairs Council free of charge 4 times, and at 20% of training expenses starting from the 5th time, limited to twice a year.	
Vocational Training Subsidies	NT\$80,000 to NT\$120,000 of training expenses is subsidized for vocational training programs announced by the Veterans Affairs Council, limited to twice a year. Dependents may use up to 1/2 of the aforementioned limit on training. The veteran must be the applicant, and the number of times and amounts are combined for the veteran and dependent.	
Notes: 1. Veterans formerly ranked colonel and under and Type 2 veterans (served for 4 years or more but less than 10 years) enjoy all of the privileges above. Type 2 veterans must submit their application within the guidance period. 2. Veterans formerly ranked general are not eligible for continuing education subsidies and examination subsidies. 3. Dependents enjoy the same employment matching, career consultation, professional skills training, and vocational training subsidies.		

Source: Summarized from the Education Guidance, Employment Guidance, and Vocational Training for Veterans announced by the Veterans Affairs Council in July 2025, see the latest announcement for details.



Benefit Adjustment Plan for Group Accident Insurance of the ROC Armed Forces

	Before adjustment	After adjustment
Group Insurance for General Duties	Maximum benefit of NT\$3.5 million for death or disability due to performing official duties	Increased to NT\$10 million
	Maximum benefit of NT\$2 million for death or disability not due to performing official duties	No adjustment
Group Insurance for Special Duties	Flights, submarine, ammunition manufacturing, and underwater explosion personnel	
	Maximum benefit of NT\$10 million for death or disability due to performing official duties	Increased to NT\$20 million

See the *Regulations Governing Group Accident Insurance of the ROC Armed Forces* and the *Rules for Group Accident Insurance of the ROC Armed Forces* for details

V. Service Safety Insurance

The MND began providing group accident insurance for service members in 1998. If service members are killed while performing general duties, the maximum benefit was NT\$3.5 million. If service members are killed while not performing duties, the maximum benefit is NT\$2 million. If service members are killed while performing special duties, such as flights, submarines, ammunition manufacturing, and underwater explosions, the maximum benefit was NT\$10 million. Considering the rising consumer price index in Taiwan over the past several years, the insurance amount is no longer sufficient to cover the living expenses of injured service members or their survivors.

The MND formulated a benefit adjustment plan for group accident insurance of the ROC Armed Forces, increasing the amount of benefits. The plan was approved by the Executive Yuan on March 18, 2025 and formally took effect on June 1, 2025. The maximum benefit for death and disability due to general duty was increased from NT\$3.5 million to NT\$10 million. The maximum benefit for death and disability due to special duty was increased from NT\$10 million to NT\$20 million. The maximum benefit for death not due to performing official duties was maintained at NT\$2 million. The adjustments provide better care for injured service members or their survivors.

VI. General Welfare (Shopping) Services

Aiming to improve the quality of general welfare services for service members and their dependents, the MND is actively developing digital and intelligent services in response to the development of digital technologies and e-commerce, and thus established the website “General Welfare Services of MND,” introducing smart vending machines and working with e-commerce companies to provide convenient and diverse shopping options. These efforts ensure that service members can enjoy immediate access to general welfare services at a discount.

(I) Promoting the Online Shopping Platform

The General Welfare Services of MND provides a wide range of products to choose from online, and also has a voucher section with meal vouchers, lodging vouchers, and hot spring and entertainment vouchers at a discount for service members. At the same time, the MND announces the latest discounts on social media and its official website to increase participation of service members, and optimized logistics ensure that service members in all stations and remote areas will be able to quickly receive their purchases.

(II) Setting up Smart Vending Machines

The MND set up smart vending machines in military installations, training grounds, and dormitory areas to meet the everyday needs of service members with food, drinks, and daily necessities



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On Armed Forces Day on September 3, the ministries under the Executive Yuan and corporate groups jointly launched promotional activities at well-known convenience stores, tourist attractions, and social education and exhibition venues, thereby demonstrating society's and enterprises' love toward the ROC Armed Forces as well as strengthening officers' and soldiers' sense of commitment.

readily available from unmanned vending machines. This not only improves the efficiency of buying daily necessities, but also reduces the burden of manpower required for BXs/PXs and further improves the immediacy and convenience of general welfare services.

(III) Working with Companies to Provide Discounts for Service Members

The MND is working with major corporations in setting up designated sections with exclusive discounts for service members, including daily necessities, consumer electronics, home appliances, and office supplies, providing more options for service members to choose from. A total of 169 companies with 8,821 stores participated in the Salute to our Armed Forces event in 2024. Furthermore, the Ministry of Transportation and Communications collaborated with China Airlines, EVA Air, STARLUX Airlines, Tigerair Taiwan, Mandarin Airlines, and UNI Air to offer exclusive priority boarding for service members from July 1, 2025. Furthermore, for Armed Forces Day on September 3, 2025, the Executive Yuan and its agencies worked with corporate groups to provide special promotions at well-known convenience stores, tourist destinations, and social education and exhibition venues. This demonstrates society's and enterprises' care and support toward the ROC Armed Forces, and is an expression of the highest respect toward service members. Some county and city governments have taken the initiative to organize events to show respect to the ROC Armed Forces in recent years, recognizing service members for their sacrifice and contribution, effectively increasing good interactions between the military and civilians, and giving service members a greater sense of commitment.

Section 5 Staying Healthy to Safeguard the Nation

Education and R&D, military hospitals, and health services of forces are the three pillars of the military medical system. The MND continues to develop digital and intelligent information systems, establish standardized training modules for combat casualty care, and attaches importance to health promotion, preventive healthcare, and health management of service members, creating a friendly and healthy workplace to improve the health of service members and thereby achieve the goal to benefit both service members and civilians.

I. Promoting Smart Military Medicine

(I) Smart Healthcare

In light of domestic and foreign medical institutions investing in the comprehensive smart healthcare industry and creating an innovative AI ecosystem, the National Defense Medical Center, Tri-Service General Hospital, and Quanta Computer signed a contract with civilian vendors starting from August 1, 2023 to implement the Electrocardiogram AI Interpretation Platform, which utilizes AI technology for rapid and accurate interpretation of electrocardiograms. A single electrocardiogram can help effectively diagnose over 50 diseases, effectively protecting public health.

(II) Medical R&D Results

1. In response to the trends in healthcare policy and to promote the features of military medicine, the Medical Affairs Bureau and its subordinate units participated in the Healthcare+ Expo sponsored by the Institute for Biotechnology and Medicine Industry and co-organized with the Ministry of Health and Welfare, Ministry of Science and Technology, and Ministry of Economic Affairs. It set up the Military Medical System Exhibition Area featuring "Military Medicine," "Advanced Technology," and "Innovative Medicine"; 36 and 40 topics were displayed in the past 2 years, respectively in the "Medical Institutions" exhibition area, showcasing features of military medicine, results of smart hospitals, and innovative R&D and military medicine results, engaging in good interactions with citizens to improve the image of the ROC Armed Forces.
2. Corresponding to the spirit of "Staying Healthy to Safeguard the Nation and Pioneer in Smart Healthcare," the National Defense Medical Center, Tri-Service General Hospital, and Hualien Armed Forces General Hospital participated in the 20th and 21st National Innovation Awards organized by the Institute for Biotechnology and Medicine Industry, winning 12 innovation awards and 14 innovative improvement awards. This shows the abundant medical capacity and technology upgrades of the military hospitals, and utilizes the core competencies of military medicine to care for the health of service members and civilians.
3. Military hospitals subordinate to the MND have participated in the Symbol of National Quality (SNQ) organized by the Institute for Biotechnology and Medicine Industry to continue improving the quality of their healthcare services. The Tri-Service General Hospital (including its branches), Kaohsiung Armed Forces General Hospital, Taichung Armed Forces General Hospital, Taoyuan Armed Forces General Hospital (including its branches), Hualien Armed

Forces General Hospital, and Zuoying Armed Forces General Hospital participated in the 26th and 27th SNQ and jointly passed 58 certifications. The Tri-Service General Hospital won the silver award for its extraordinary performance in “AI Electrocardiogram Guardian: Reducing Deaths Caused by Cardiovascular Disease.”



Military Medical System 2023 List of SNQ Winners

Hospital	Theme
Tri-Service General Hospital	Doctors visit patients - Localized cardiovascular surgery in Penghu
	Tri-Service General Hospital Organ Donation Encouragement and Transplant Team
	Major trauma bleeding: Integrated intervention strategy for injured blood vessels
	Innovative surgery pain control - Reducing pain from hemorrhoid removal using botulinum toxin
	Precision medicine for carbapenem-resistant acinetobacter baumannii - From diagnosis to prevention and treatment
	Measuring skin-fold thickness to assess the risk of metabolic disease in Type 2 diabetes patients
	The future of gynecological surgery - Tri-Service General Hospital Da Vinci Surgery Center
	Photorefractive keratectomy project for pilots and cadets of the ROC Armed Forces
	C-cloud CPR applications in long COVID patients
	Stroke treatment using rTMS
	Precision joint cancer care by Chinese and Western medicine
	Autofluorescence system-assisted surgical treatment of medication-related osteonecrosis of the jaw (MRONJ)
	Reduction of head and neck cancer recurrence by metronomic chemotherapy for longer life expectancy
	High quality medication management for safer clinical trials
	New Realm of Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangiopancreatography
	Realistic scenarios for handling emergency situations in psychological assessment
	Digitalization of radiation therapy information
	Care process using a ventricular assist device
	Art therapy and care for hematopoietic stem cells transplant patients
	High quality kidney care
Tri-Service General Hospital Penghu Branch	AI-assisted super micro-invasive therapy for thyroid tumor
Tri-Service General Hospital Beitou Branch	Vocational rehabilitation driving school for finding a direction in life
Taichung Armed Forces General Hospital	Treatment of colorectal cancer by a medical team comprising multiple departments
	Evaluation of the effectiveness of mild to moderate sedation endoscopy
	Central Taiwan Toxicology and Lab Medicine Center
Hualien Armed Forces General Hospital	Advanced Technology AI Pharmacy - Comprehensive Medication Safety



Hospital	Theme
Tri-Service General Hospital	The rise of multidrug-resistant bacteria: Lab analysis of Elizabethkingia to clinical treatment recommendations
	The use of a temporary ventricular assist device to save patients in cardiogenic shock
	Blood saving operation: Using blood transfusion strategies for blood management in liver transplant patients
	Chain of survival: Saving postpartum hemorrhage patients to safeguard mothers and babies
	Guided bone regeneration in the fight against cancer - Prostate cancer bone metastasis team
	Regain control: High-tech bionic arm rehabilitation
	Improving radiologic examination performance through structural reports and integrated services
	Innovative application of cloud Q&A module in blood sugar management health education strategy for diabetes
	Military casualty cadaver workshop
	Videos on atopic dermatitis: Multimedia videos assist in sharing and executing decisions on atopic dermatitis
	Incorporating practice on virtual patients into education and practices of holistic health care
	Application of live laboratory pig surgery teaching platform in ventricular assist device implant training
	Virtual experience, real learning of pharmacology
	Taiwan's AI automated hemodialysis system
	Chemotherapy at home keeps you safe at all times - High quality outpatient chemotherapy care
	Anti-Blue - Comprehensive care for depression patients
	Innovative oral healthcare PROM process protects the health of residents
	Implementation cycle of hospital social responsibility: Health promotion in Matsu and green channel for medical transport of emergency and critical patients
Tri-Service General Hospital Beitou Branch	Recover day by day, home of recovery
Tri-Service General Hospital Penghu Branch	Application of the WMN care model to provide excellent care for mothers and babies
Kaohsiung Armed Forces General Hospital	By your side away from drugs and towards a healthy new life - Integrated treatment model for drug addicts
	Ending hepatitis C in 2025 - Mobilization of corrective agencies (final version)
	Goalkeeper for mental health - Using the simplest and most convenient way to effectively reduce emergency medical evacuation due to self-injury or suicide
Taichung Armed Forces General Hospital	New hope for knees: Seamless nursing care services
Taoyuan Armed Forces General Hospital	1A2B3 Innovation for ligaments: Pursuing the best 1A2B ACL reconstruction team
	New application of tsunami warning, unveiling the reform of pharmacies: AI team for creating excellent workplaces that treat patients like family!
	Excellent surgeries!
Taoyuan Armed Forces General Hospital Hsinchu Branch	By your side on the path of recovery from addiction, establishing an integrated alcoholic patient care model
Hualien Armed Forces General Hospital	Heartwarming and pragmatic services, guardians of community mental health
Zuoying Armed Forces General Hospital	Smart drug evaluation clinical decision-making system for end-stage renal disease
	Comprehensive care for every step to prevent falls
	Thoughtful long-term care to create a friendly and heartwarming big family



Winners of the 27th National Biotechnology and Medicine Care Quality Award

Hospital	Theme
Tri-Service General Hospital	Silver Award - AI Electrocardiogram Guardian: Reducing Deaths Caused by Cardiovascular Disease



List of National Innovation Award Winners

Unit	Award-winning theme in the 20th Awards
National Defense Medical Center	Using human organs as a platform for developing antiviral medications for treating encephalitis
	AI prediction system for weaning
	Cationic lipid nanocarriers produced using single-step microfluidic method as a highly effective targeted drug delivery system and vaccine adjuvant
	Application and development of IgY in preventive medicine
Tri-Service General Hospital	Medical generation of blood exosome: New biomarkers for diagnosis and prognosis of Parkinson's disease
	Innovative perioral aerosol removal device (PARD)
	Application of ex vivo physical anticoagulation device in epidural blood patch treatment
Unit	Award-winning theme in the 21st Awards
National Defense Medical Center	Innovative earphone with multi-functional physiological sensors, including blood pressure and smart healthcare applications at home
	Using a deep learning model to assist in the diagnosis of hypertrophic obstructive cardiomyopathy using electrocardiograms
	Chikungunya virus neutralization test for new rapid test
Tri-Service General Hospital	Next generation AI precision medicine - Application of Drosophila cancer model drug combination high throughput screening in human multigene mutation cancers
	Spine MIS with robotic assistant system

List of National Innovative Improvement Award Winners

Unit	Award-winning theme in the 20th Awards
National Defense Medical Center	Rapid development of LCC18 as a candidate drug for chronic kidney disease
	AI-assisted electrocardiogram system for rapid determination of lethal hyperkalemia/hypokalemia without requiring a blood sample
Tri-Service General Hospital	Innovative 3D root canal treatment simulation system
	Innovative 3D brain surgery training simulation system
	Subthreshold brain stimulation: New technology for treating schizophrenia
	Application of new multiplex nucleic acid detection platform for rapid pathogen detection - In the case of lower respiratory track infection
Hualien Armed Forces General Hospital	Multi-functional turn-over, movement, and relief aid pad
	Development of MR CPR+AED teaching system
Unit	Award-winning theme in the 21st Awards
National Defense Medical Center	Using Rho protein to accelerate the development and application of drug screening technologies for emerging infectious diseases
	Application and development of IgY in preventive medicine
Tri-Service General Hospital	Innovative perioral aerosol removal device (PARD)
	Innovative 3D brain surgery training simulation system
	Subthreshold brain stimulation: New technology for treating schizophrenia
	Medical generation of blood exosome: New biomarkers for diagnosis and prognosis of Parkinson's disease

II. Managing the Health of Service Members

The MND formulated the “Health Management Plan for the ROC Armed Forces” to improve the health of service members and ensure the unit readiness. The deputy commander of each unit serves as the team leader and appoints members from military medicine, logistics, training, and political warfare to jointly implement management measures, including physical check-ups, balanced diet, exercise consultation, and individual interviews.

(I) Physical Check-up and Follow-up on Abnormal Results

Starting in 2024, service members receive annual physical check-ups according to their month of birth, and the physical check-up system controls service members with abnormal results to return for follow-up, ensuring that their abnormal condition is properly handled, which benefits resource allocation and case management.

(II) Weight Management

Depending on the characteristics of each military branch and the basal metabolic rate of service members, a healthy diet and daily nutritional requirements are recommended. Individual physical training plans are designed and the body mass index (BMI), body fat percentage, and waistline of each service member are measured on a weekly basis, with the changes recorded, thereby achieving a healthy physique.

(III) Balanced Diet and Group Health Education

Professional nutritionists at each level and NCOs responsible for nutrition (food service) jointly prepare a nutritious and balanced menu, and encourage low use of oil, salt, and sugar cooking methods to provide service members with a healthy and balanced diet. A total of 583 group health education sessions were organized by units in the past 2 years, providing individual diet guidance 17,610 times to help service members better manage their health.

III. Creating a Friendly and Healthy Workplace

(I) Establishing Health Management Guidelines

1. Pursuant to the *Guidelines and Instructions of Promoting Healthiness Management*, the 7 elements: weight management, regular exercise, balanced diet, high quality sleep, mental health, physical check-up management, and tobacco and betel nut prevention are combined with practices to build a consensus on health promotion among service members, creating a friendly and healthy environment to strengthen the combat power of the ROC Armed Forces.
2. The MND monitors service members with abnormal physical check-up results through the ROC Armed Forces Health Management Information System, making sure that they return for follow-up, verifying the cause, and providing suitable treatment. For service members with a high risk of sudden cardiac death, the MND established a continuous tracking and monitoring mechanism, and service members regularly return for follow-up. The mechanism helps improve the health of service members, in hopes of achieving early discovery, early intervention, and early recovery.

(II) Implementing the New Annual Physical Check-up System for Service Members

1. Starting on January 1, 2024, the annual physical check-up is scheduled in the birth month of the service members so that they get into the good habit of regular physical check-ups, in hopes of achieving early discovery of abnormal results and immediately providing treatment.
2. Starting in 2024, the annual physical check-up for all service members also includes a blood type (ABO) test, Rh factor test, and Anti-HCV test for service members who are 40 years old and above. Service members who are 40 years old and above also receive an HbA1C test and are screened for 5 cancer markers, including CEA, AFP, CA199, PSA (male service members only), and CA153 (female service members only).
3. In 2024, 98.9% of service members received their annual physical check-up, 93.4% of service members with level 2 abnormal results returned for follow-up, and 97.5% of service members with level 3 abnormal results returned for follow-up. Abnormalities were all discovered and treated in time.

(III) Strengthening Medical R&D Capabilities

Depending on their respective characteristics, the National Defense Medical Center, military hospitals, health service training centers, Institute of Preventive Medicine, and health service units of the Armed Forces focus on military medicine, aviation medicine, diving medicine, AI applications and smart healthcare, mental health and suicide prevention of service members, research on PTSD, and recommendations to revise the physical standards. They actively analyze policy applications, operating procedures, and the suitability of equipment, medicine, and healthcare materials. A total of 520 defense medical research and development projects were approved in the past 2 years; 2,231 papers were published in Science Citation Index (SCI) journals, 43 patent applications were submitted, and 13 technologies were transferred. The MND continues to strengthen medical R&D capabilities to meet the needs for implementing defense policies and undertakings.

The MND is responding to major military reforms and enhancing the reciprocity of exchanges between the National Defense Medical Center and medical schools at home and abroad, while also enhancing the development of military medicine and providing support to military readiness. To this end, the MND is consolidating existing academic departments, subjects, graduate institutes, and centers within the current organizational structure, establishing six medical colleges and one liberal arts college: the College of Medicine, College of Oral Medicine, College of Pharmacy, College of Nursing, College of Public Health, College of Biomedical Sciences, and Yuanyuan Liberal Arts College. This makes the organizational structure of the National Defense Medical Center more comprehensive. Starting from the 2025 academic year, the National Defense Medical Center was officially renamed the National Defense Medical University, which will benefit the recruitment and development of students, faculty, and R&D personnel in the future, which are essential parts of education.

IV. Healthcare

The military medical system includes 14 military hospitals, which continue to conduct innovative medical research, integration, and provide new medical services. The military hospitals are also building new medical buildings and purchasing new medical equipment, and jointly provide long-

term care services with social welfare units to achieve the goal of “Staying Healthy to Safeguard the Nation.” Military hospitals provide citizens and service members and their dependents with outpatient (emergency) services, hospitalization, and physical checkups, providing diagnosis and treatment services to over 16.1 million patients in the past 2 years.

(I) Improving Medical Services

1. To provide better medical services, the Tri-Service General Hospital established the Sports Medicine and Smart Recovery Center, Women’s Pelvic Functional Medicine Center, and Center for Osteoporosis Care, and also established the Endoscopy Center, Neurology Department Examination Room, and Women’s Health Center in its Dingzhou Branch to meet the healthcare needs of local residents and provide complete emergency and critical care services.
2. The ROC Armed Forces established the Cardiac Intensive Care Unit, Cardiovascular Center, and Center of Sleep Medicine through the southern and northern medical alliance, and transferred key technologies, such as Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangio-Pancreatography (ERCP), Coronary Angiography (CAG), and Repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (rTMS), improving the overall capacity and quality of medical care in the military medical system to provide proper care for service members and their dependents.

(II) New Medical Devices and New Medical Building

1. Military hospitals continue to purchase and install advanced medical devices to improve emergency and critical care services, including angiography x-ray machines and hybrid operating rooms, cardiac catheterization machines, robotic arm minimally invasive surgery systems, linear accelerators, multifunctional suction devices, and CT scan machines, thereby creating a better healthcare environment in military hospitals.
2. The current buildings of military hospitals are becoming old. Hence, the MND is allocating a budget from its funds each year to build new medical buildings, so as to enhance the competitiveness of military hospitals, provide a safer healthcare environment, and achieve the core goal of “Staying Healthy to Safeguard the Nation.” The new medical buildings will improve the overall quality of medical care at military hospitals, offer greater incentive when the ROC Armed Forces are recruiting personnel, and effectively integrate regional medical care capacity, improving the standards and quality of medical care to provide service members, their dependents, and local residents with a wide range of comfortable medical services for all purposes.



【 Overview of New MND Medical Buildings 】

Agile and Resilient ROC Armed Forces Resolutely Defend Our Nation

Students in the underwater explosion program bravely move forward without looking back.





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