

USAWC STRATEGY RESEARCH PROJECT

PROPOSE THE US STRATEGY TO ENCOURAGE NATO
COUNTRY INTEGRATION INTO MULTINATIONAL
OPERATION – SLOVENIA EXAMPLE

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ABSTRACT

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For an entire decade, Slovenia had two main strategic goals: to join NATO and to join the EU. As a new NATO member, the Slovenian Armed Forces main task will be to become reliable partners in the alliance. Slovene Armed Forces anticipate realizing this goal by participating with other alliance members, especially with the help of the United States. According to the Slovenian Governments Accession Plan, the NATO integration goal will be fully realized, with Slovenian Armed Forces and NATO certification to perform all required military task as part of the alliance, by year 2012. From that date onward, Slovene Armed Forces will be able to perform all required tasks as part of the alliance, as authorized and approved by the Slovenian Parliament. But even before that date, Slovene Armed Forces may also be certified and authorized to perform certain NATO tasks under employment limitations, those including the requirement that only properly trained and certified units may be tasked and authorized for NATO missions. To date, progress is being made according to the plan and no additional US assistance is needed, but the US involvement associated with this remarkable transformation was noteworthy. The Slovenian Armed Forces example could be instructive as a way ahead for enlarging NATO country integration into multinational operations.

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PROPOSE THE US STRATEGY TO ENCOURAGE NATO COUNTRY INTEGRATION INTO MULTINATIONAL OPERATION – SLOVENIA EXAMPLE

A superpower is a state with the ability to influence events or project power on a wide scale. In modern terms, this may imply an entity with a strong economy, a large population, and strong armed forces, including air power and satellite capabilities, and a huge arsenal weapon of mass destruction. Superpowers often have colonies, or satellite states.¹

After the WW II started the big competition between United States and Soviet Union to take over the position of first super power on the world. It was a race for first place on the world, sometime the race for the survival, not to lose the balance and gave to other side enough advantage for victory or total destruction.

United States won this battle with his great Grand Strategy and defeat Soviet Union on all spheres. It was a battle on political, economical and military sphere, where became the winner on first place the democracy and the world of human rights, and on second place the capitalist system with free market. An advantage on these two spheres made USA economically much stronger, so they became the advantage on military sphere, and dictated strong development, which was unattainable for weak economy of Soviet Union. The failure of communism in Europe was unavoidable, although the communist regime tried to put up more “human face” in the end of his existence or tried to improve his economy and even the human rights in some countries. Collapse of Soviet Union changed the World forever. Bipolar world order is over and the first place without any rivalry took over the United States.²

United States as country with unparallel military and great economic and political influence asserted in The National Security Strategy that they will not use its strength to press for unilateral advantage. United States proclaim peace, prosperity and liberty. They also will be based on a distinctly American internationalism that reflected the union of American values and national interest. Their goals are also political and economic freedom, peaceful relations with other states, and respect of human dignity. Over viewing of America’s international strategy we can find eight chapters which is maintaining this statement.

1. Champion Aspirations for Human Dignity. Essence of this chapter is that America must stand firmly for the nonnegotiable demands of human dignity: the rule of law; limits on the absolute power of the state; free speech; freedom of worship; equal justice; respect for women; religious and ethnic tolerance; and respect for private property.

2. Strengthen Alliances to Defeat Global Terrorism and Work to Prevent Attacks Against US and Our Friends. Essential part of this chapter is that “The United States of America is fighting a war against terrorist of global reach. The enemy is not a single political regime or

person or religion or ideology. The enemy is terrorism-premeditated, politically motivated violence perpetrated against innocents.

3. Work With Others to Defuse Regional Conflicts. The main idea is that Concerned nations must remain actively engaged in critical regional disputes to avoid explosive escalation and minimize human suffering. In an increasingly interconnected world, regional crisis can strain our alliances, rekindle rivalries among the major powers, and create horrifying affronts to human dignity. When violence erupts and states falter, the United States will work with friends and partners to alleviate suffering and restore stability.

4. Prevent Our Enemies From Threatening Us, Our Allies, and Our Friends with Weapon of Mass Destruction. Essence of this chapter is that the collapse of Soviet Union caused huge change in world security environment and the former enemies should co-operate against global terrorism and not responsible country which spread or try to use the weapon of mass destruction.

5. Ignite a New Era of Global Economic Growth Through Free Markets and Free Trade. Main idea of this statement is that United States will promote economic growth and economic freedom beyond America's shores and "All governments are responsible for creating their own economic policies and responding to their own economic challenges. We will use our economic engagement with other countries to underscore the benefits of policies that generate higher productivity and sustained economic growth.

6. Expand the Circle of Development by Opening Societies and Building the Infrastructure of Democracy. The main idea of this statement is to help poor people who are living under the level of human dignity on proper way and maintaining the states economies that respect the human right and free market.

7. Develop Agendas for Cooperative Action with the Other Main Centers of Global Power. The United States consider that there is a little consequence to accomplish in the world without the sustained cooperation of its allies and friends. For this reason America will organizing coalitions of states able and willing to promote a balance of power that favors freedom. Very important is that America understand that there coalitions requires clear priorities and appreciation of all interests, and consistent consultations among partners with a spirit of equality.

8. Transform Americas National Security Institutions to Meet the Challenges and Opportunities of the Twenty – First Century. That is the task of all democratic country all over the world. Challenges are to build up forces that will be able to defend our countries and cooperate together against threats of 21st century. The main task of United States strategist

are, assure allies and friends, dissuade future military competition, deter threats against its interest, allies, and friends, and decisively defeat any adversary if deterrence fails.³

Over viewing the Slovene Resolution of Strategy of National Defense, we can see that the national security policy is a balanced set of activities and programmes comprising, in particular, foreign, defense, economic, environmental, social and cultural policies. The most important goal of national security policy, deriving from the permanent vital and strategic interests and values of the Republic of Slovenia, is to ensure the security of the Republic of Slovenia, to protect and preserve the national identity and to cooperate in the strengthening of peace, security and stability at the regional and global levels. For the purpose of achieving this goal Slovenia is actively participating in regional and global security institutions such as the UN, NATO, the EU and the OSCE. Moreover, Slovenia's foreign policy goals, including consolidation of the country's international position and reputation, good and stable relations with its neighbors, membership of the EU and NATO, membership of the OECD, active participation in the UN, the OSCE and the WTO, closer cooperation with the countries of Central Europe, in the Central European Initiative, active participation in the stabilization of South-East Europe and strengthening economic cooperation, to an important extent directly determine the national security policy of the Republic of Slovenia. As a small country with limited resources, Slovenia must ensure its long-term security primarily through constructive cooperation with its neighbors and inclusion in the Euro-Atlantic integrations. Slovenia is endeavoring to establish and strengthen relations with countries in the region and beyond based on mutual trust and intensive, multifaceted cooperation. The changing strategic environment and the unpredictability of security risks and threats mean that national security policy must put in place effective security mechanisms and instruments for ensuring an adequate level of national and international security. In view of these circumstances, the main strategic goals of national security policy in the future will be:

- to ensure national integrity and prosperity by means of an active role in the international community and in the globalize world;
- protection and preservation of the national identity;
- to pursue Slovenia's interests through a system of democratic decision-making;
- active participation in the NATO Alliance;
- cooperation in the European Security and Defense Policy (ESDP);
- cooperation in the OSCE and, in particular, in the UN which, as well as ensuring national security, also makes an important contribution to protection of human rights,

respect for international law, ensuring international economic and social development, protection of natural resources and reducing class divisions in society;

- preventing and tackling crises, mutual assistance in the event of natural and other disasters, and carrying out joint international humanitarian and relief activities.
- Comparing the both Strategy, Slovenian and United States, we can concluded that both country share the same interests and values, and future for Slovenia is in Transatlantic and European Alliances.⁴

SLOVENIAN DECISION TO JOIN NATO AND EU

Slovenia decided to join NATO and EU very early. In 1994 was establish Partnership for Peace, as a framework for cooperation between NATO members and other partner country. Slovenia became a member of this organization. At the same time, arise a decision that Slovenia must become a NATO member. The decision was strong support from all imported political parties on position and opposition. This important decision was not support from some marginal parties and only one was at this time a member of parliament. The goal of membership has not been accomplished in 1997, although Slovenes thought that Slovenia was good prepared. Slovenian believed that it was political decision, however it has been regarded as a heavy blow to its government. Decision to join NATO was so strong that Slovenia continued with efforts and qualify in the second round of NATO expansion in 2004.⁵

Slovenian parliament in 1997 worked out and passed Strategy of Slovenian Uniting to EU and NATO. EU should provide to Slovenia its political, economical and monetary interest. NATO should provide to Slovenia its security necessity. Furthermore, Slovenian Parliament passed Action Plan of Slovenian Uniting which was an annual national plan, under the control of Parliament.⁶

Slovenia is one of the state which saw its full membership in NATO as one of its main political goals. Why should Slovenia join NATO is not only a security reason, because at this moment there is not any serious threat. Slovenia believe that as NATO member can protect their democracy and market economy in future. Both NATO and the European Union represent frameworks in which such principles and values were share. Slovenia is also small country with limited economy and military power and as a member of multinational alliances as NATO and EU can assure its interest and could be heard its voice. There is also responsibility to cooperate with democratic countries in security building in area and around the world.⁷

Slovenia could not to assure its long-term development of democracy and economy without membership in NATO and EU. Slovenia was the member of Partnership for Peace, but

this didn't give it any warranty of national security which is also important for the national economy development.

USA was a founder of NATO with the powerful countries that won the second world. USA was a most important country in this story from the first steep till now. According to the rules, USA is one of the member with one voice. That is the theory. In real life, USA exercises more influence in decision making than others, and without their approval important decisions cannot be made. The United States spends much more on defense than any other member state and has a much more powerful armed force on the world. Furthermore, the United States contributes more to NATO budgets than any of the other larger member states. In this concept we can understand the statement of Italian Prime Minister Romano Prodi at the 1997 Madrid Summit that there is no NATO without the United States.

HISTORY OF SAF IN MULTINATIONAL OPERATIONS

Slovenian Armed Forces was established in 1991 and its development was very fast. After a six years existence it was able to contribute on its first international operation. Until now, Slovenian Armed Forces had quite good experience in international operations. Slovenian contribution on international operations started in 1997. It was a humanitarian operation Sun Rise, which was in international force structure in Albania. Slovenian Armed Forces first contingent were from a medical unit and four liaison officers. The task of 21 Slovenians from medical unit was medical treatment of international forces. This operation was under the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe. Next very similar task was operation Allied Harbor, AFOR Albania. Tasks from this 26 member medical unit were medical treatment of international forces and refugees from Kosovo. This operation was led from NATO.

In September 1997 Slovenia continued its contribution in UNFICYP, a peace keeping operation on Cyprus. Slovenian battalion was part of United Nations Austrian- Hungarian- Slovenian Battalion and their tasks were controlling the border line between two hostile parties. Operation lasted from September 1997 to June 2001, under the command of UN.

Slovenia took part also in Bosnia. In operation led by UN named OHR in Bosnia and Herzegovina from July 2001 to January 2003. Slovenian officers had there different task in representative body for refugees.

Very interesting and important was also an operation UNMIK on Kosovo in Mine Action Co-ordination Centre. Operation content mine field reconnaissance and cleaning. The operation was led from UN, from October 1999 to December 2001.

Slovenian Armed Forces took part in Concordia, which was an operation in Macedonia under the control of EU. Short operation occurred in March 2003. From November 2003 to May 2004 Slovenian Forces contributed also in operation Joint Guardian in Kosovo as a part of Multinational Land Force under the command of NATO with various tasks.

Slovenian Armed Forces certainly continue with their contribution in different multinational operations.

Slovenia interested for peace and stabilities in their own region. Bosnia and Herzegovina is doubtlessly the nearest focus of crisis and Slovenian Armed Forces contributing there with their biggest forces.

Slovenia is contributor in Stabilization Forces (SFOR) in Bosnia and Herzegovina with almost 200 soldiers. The peace-keeping operation in Bosnia took over the EU from NATO on December 2nd 2004 and changed the name of operation in EUFOR. The Slovenian forces in Bosnia and Herzegovina and their tasks are:

- national support element which supported all Slovenian Forces in Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- a light armor company as a part of Multinational Brigade North which take care on security in assigned region and care for safety environment to develop economy and culture;
- officers and non commissioned officers in the HQ of EUFOR;
- medical company which operated in military base in Sarajevo and giving a medical support;
- company of military police which is part of Multinational Specialized Unit and perform military police task all over Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- aviation unit for some specialized transportations.

The next current operation where Slovenia contributed is a peace-keeping operation in Syria. It is United Nations Truce Supervision Organization, UNTSO, Under the UN control. Slovenian Armed Forces contributed in this operation from October 1998 with two observers. Their task are to control a ceasefire and respect agreements.

The following peace-keeping operation is Joint Guardian in Kosovo. Operation is under the NATO control. Slovenia contributed from January 2000 to October 2004 with six officers and from October 2004 with company of military police and with national support element. The task of coy is the traffic control on all Kosovo territory and the task of National Support Element is supporting the unit.

The last and the most interesting operation for Slovene Armed Forces is an International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan. The most interesting is because is different for Slovenian Armed Forces and they did not have experience in those kind of operations. Operation is extremely faraway from Slovenia, what is new experience for logistic. The level of danger is also higher as earlier was and the tasks of Slovenian contingent are more complex. Operation is under the UN control. Slovenian contribution started on February 2004 with a special operation platoon. Their tasks are to ensure the security environment in area of responsibility, to erect and protect the Afghan authority, to enhance the Afghan Police and Armed Forces, perform a force protection and gathering information.⁸

INTEREST OF SAF TO JOIN THE MULTINATIONAL OPERATIONS

At the same time Slovenia decided to join NATO and EU became very clearly that Slovenia will also contributed in multinational operations under the UN or NATO lead. To be the part of internationals organizations, mean sharing benefits and profits on one hand and obligations and commitments on other hand. If we would like to understand the interest of Slovenia to join the multinational operations, we have to understand the interest join to NATO and EU. This interest was explained into one of previous chapter. What is the interest to contributed Slovenian Armed Forces into the multinational operations is a different question. First reason is that it is obligatory for Slovenian Armed Forces to accomplish all obligations to Slovenian Parliament. That means , to realize all agreements of Parliament. Second is that contributing in multinational operations Slovenian Armed Forces testing its preparedness and ability. With contribution in those actions Slovene Armed Forces improve his qualifications and equipped. These are also reasons why Slovenian Armed Forces started in less pretentious operations and with smaller units. With increasing skills, better equipment, and more experience, Slovenian Armed Force took over more complicated and bigger tasks. Slovenian Armed Forces doesn't decide in which multinational operation will take a part. That is the task of policy. The authorities of Slovene Armed Forces prepare proposal of ability and really do not care if the multinational operation will be led by UN or NATO authority. The main task of policy is however that the operation is legal and according to the international laws and Slovenian interest. However in Slovenia frequently raised the question, why NATO to take measures without of UN Security Counsel authorization. On official web pages of Slovenian Ministry of Exterior we can found the explanation. NATO doesn't take measures without of UN Security Counsel authorization. NATO refer to 51st article of Charter of the United Nations that allow to each country right to individual or collective defense. In December 1992, the foreign ministries

of NATO countries declare that NATO will perform international operation under the UN authority if they will support international peace and stability. After this statement, NATO performed some of international operations under the UN authority that stopped wars, saved lives and stabilized the peace all over the world. The most credible operations for Europe was performed in Kosovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia. All these NATO operation contributed peace and Stability on Balkan Peninsula and all of them was supported from UN and their resolutions.⁹

REORGANIZATION OF SAF TO AIM AT JOINT NATO (AND RISE CAPABILITY FOR MULTINATIONAL OPERATIONS)

Slovene Territorial Defense started with reorganizations immediately after the independence war in 1991. The aim of first reorganization was established the Slovene Armed Forces from Slovene Territorial Defense, which had only obligatory reserve units and some small headquarters with some of professional officers it had no education and training capabilities, logistics, equipment, maneuver capabilities and experience. After first reorganization and name changing from Slovene Territorial Defense to Slovene Armed Forces didn't become it a modern armed forces and still had a lot of deficiency and not able to join NATO or take over tasks in multilateral operations at all. Insufficiencies were too many reserve units, total defense strategy, badly trained, without experience, no operations outside the country. Additionally, their interoperability, employability, sustainability, and survivability were insufficient.

After the Slovenian decision to join NATO, started the new bunch of reorganizations to become a Slovene Armed Forces right size and capable organization able to take over the challenges of coming century. The future size and formation of SAF was adapted for membership into the NATO and if Slovenia did not become the NATO member have changed the course of reorganizations and equipping of SAF. SAF was also conscript armed forces and after the decision of the Slovenian Parliament that SAF had to become a professional armed forces with contract and no obligatory reserve, SAF started with new project which is Profesionalization of SAF. This is a long-term project and will last for 10 years and it was started in year 2000.¹⁰

The last project started from SAF was Accession and Integration of SAF into the NATO. This project actually has two levels. First level is an accession process and was performed before Slovenia became the NATO member and facilitated the process of association. After association into the NATO was started the second level that is Integration and it is also the long-term project or according to experience of old NATO countries, the never ending story. However

SAF sign an arrangement with NATO when will achieve it full capability. The name of document is Slovenian Force Goals and has more stages. According to Slovenian Force Goals the full capability will be achieved in year 2012, however the end of complete reorganization according with General Long-Term Program for Development and Equipping of SAF (2004 – 2015) will take place in year 2015.¹¹

The future engage of armed forces will be in collective, combining, international and joint operations where have to be able the joint international forces for dynamic and fast accommodation to the battlefield. The main characteristic of future armed forces should be: fast reaction and intervention in new situation, fast deployment on the crisis area, and readiness for fighting, sustainability of forces and capability to maintaining the forces for longer struggle, qualified to perform a variety of difference tasks, survivability of forces in hard environment and capability of force protection. SAF will perform these future reorganizations in according to these principles. SAF must be able in future to fighting in described environment and against different threats, which caused unstable states, terrorism, organized crime, asymmetrical threat, and modern equipped forces. SAF must have the same goal in their future development. SAF must be able to assure military national defense and collective defense as the NATO member; moreover, it must be able to assure forces for multilateral operations. SAF obliged to carry out all these tasks to 2015, according to plans. The main operational capabilities, according to General Long-Term Program for Development and Equipping of SAF are: on-time availability of forces, effective intelligence assurance, mobility, effective operations, capable system of C3, assurance of secretly operations, sustainability and survivability of forces.¹²

ASSISTANCE REQUIRED FROM NATO AND USA TO FACILITATE JOINING NATO

Decision and support from United States and its policy was the most significant for NATO enlargement. "NATO leaders and more importantly, politicians in Washington, have committed themselves to further expand the Alliance. In June 2002 President George W. Bush signed a measure supporting NATO's enlargement. In October 2002 the U.S. House of Representatives passed a resolution which recommended a "big bang" expansion at the Prague NATO Summit in the following month."¹³

The interest of Slovenia to join NATO is quite clear and it was mentioned. However, the NATO and the United States as a lead nation in NATO have to have their own interests. NATO and USA had three main reasons for enlargement. First is a collective defense need of European and transatlantic security. Second is that NATO membership provides to new members strengthen their democracy, respect human rights and global oriented, free economy,

and finally, the new members could resolve disputes peacefully and will contribute to multinational and especially peacekeeping operations. Moreover the representatives of United States and the supporters of NATO enlargement had numerous arguments favoring enlargement. Some of them are that enlargement is investment in democracy, strengthen democracy against future threats, strengthen an unstable and insecure east of Europe, building a stable economy environment, civilian control over the armed forces and more capable armed forces able to deal with security challenge in local environment. Significant for United States is also, that as a recognized NATO leader could pursue its interest in East-Central and Southeastern European political developments and security. Furthermore there is an ascertainment that only NATO is able to guarantee East European security.¹⁴

After the United States recognize Slovene independence in April 1992 began the support and help of United States to Slovenian strategic goals. The most important issue in Slovene – US relations was NATO membership of Slovenia. The most helpful were the former secretaries of defense William Perry, and William Cohen and Senators Joseph Biden and George Voinovich. “During his 1995 tour of Eastern Europe, Secretary Perry said that of all these countries. I believe that Slovenia has made perhaps the greatest progress in the transition to democracy, the transition to a market economy, and the smooth turnover of the military to civilian control. On the eve of his first European trip as president, George W. Bush hailed Slovenia as “an example of what can happen if freedom-loving people insist upon institutions that free people support.”¹⁵

Slovenia’s NATO campaign began in 1993 when the legislature adopted a Resolution on the General Principles of National Strategy, which is the first formal document of Slovene intention to join NATO.

In 1993 Slovenia joined to International Military Education Program (IMET). “IMET program is a low cost, key funding component of U.S. security assistance that provides training on a grant basis to students from allied and friendly nations. Authority for the IMET program is found pursuant to Chapter 5, part II, Foreign Assistance Act (FAA) 1961. Funding is appropriated from the International Affairs budget of the Department of State. It is a key component of U.S. security assistance that provides U.S. training on a grant basis to students from allied and friendly nations. The IMET program is an investment in ideas and people which has an overall positive impact on the numerous students trained under the program. For a relatively modest investment, it presents democratic alternatives to key foreign military and civilian leaders.”¹⁶ IMET Program, is one of the most helpful military program which was received in SAF from United States. In 1990 was also established an Expanded International Military

Education Program (E-IMET). "The Expanded IMET Program is a part of the overall IMET Program, but is different from the traditional IMET Program, which emphasizes military-to-military ties. Expanded IMET trains military and civilian officials, including civilian personnel from non-defense ministries and personnel from the country's legislative branch who are involved in military matters. These personnel are trained on methods of defense resource management, in promoting civilian control of the military, and in creating and maintaining effective military justice systems and military codes of conduct, in accordance with internationally recognized human rights."¹⁷ E-IMET Program also helped a lot for civilian in Ministry of Defense and non-defense ministries in Slovenia to understand a new role of military in democracy and how should the "system" work.

Very useful and helpful is also a programme Military to Military, (MtM) launched from United States in 1992. The United States sponsor for Slovenia in this project was the Colorado National Guard. The main idea of the project is building the Slovenian military interoperability to NATO. Slovenian Minister of exterior Dr. Rupel received Bill Owens, Governor of the State of Colorado at April 6, 2001. On this occasion raised this article on internet that described the successfully co-operation between SAF and Colorado National Guard. "The talks focused primarily on Slovenia's integration into NATO and the strengthening of friendly relations with the U.S. Since 1992, Slovenia has been cooperating very successfully with the State of Colorado in the military area - within the scope of the "Military to Military" programme - with the Colorado National Guard. The cooperation is particularly aimed at the strengthening of interoperability with NATO. Slovenia also counts on the support of the senators of this State in the U.S. Senate in making decisions on new NATO members. Governor Owens assured his interlocutor of full support and cooperation and stressed that in the last ten years, Slovenia has achieved impressive results in its development. He added that the U.S. greatly appreciated the friendship with Slovenia and he also favorably assessed the possibilities of strengthening economic cooperation between Slovenia and Colorado."¹⁸ MtM programme is still running and help to SAF achieve a military compatibility of forces that will co-operate in NATO, especially in NATO Response Forces (NRF) and in international operations. In year 2005 will American partners performed for SAF the most significance military training for ABC Battalion, MP Battalion and Light Armor Battalion. These units will play the main role in future NRF and international operations.

The last, but also very important program is Partnership for Peace (PfP). This program was very useful for SAF especially in time of accession to NATO. PfP was launched at January 1994 when NATO invited on cooperation the member of NACC and OSCE. Members

established the individual partnership cooperation with NATO according to needs. In the framework of PfP the SAF established huge and profitable cooperation with USAF. United States provided to SAF in the framework of Warszawa Initiative finance for realization the Individual PfP. In past were accomplished approximately 200 events per year. There were various events from military exercises , educations, trainings, NATO working groups to language trainings. SAF established also a Military Language Training Center in Slovenia.¹⁹

All this help and assistance from United States and NATO caused that Slovenia was prepared and able to join NATO, and that SAF is ready for contribution in most of the military multinational operations. However, SAF will achieve his full capability according to its integration plan in the time period from 2012 to 2015.

ACHIEVING THE FULL CAPACITY FOR MULTINATIONAL OPERATIONS IN SAF

SAF general full capacity and full capacity for multinational operations are described in three documents, these documents are Strategic Defense Review from 2004, Resolution of Long-Term Development and Equipment of SAF from 2004 and finally SAF Force Goals for NATO which was signed after Slovenian enter to NATO in summer 2004. Achievement the full capacity will be implement in described defense reforms, which are in progress. The main aim of these reforms are: "to provide trained motivated combat ready and interoperable defense force which, under the clear leadership that is change-oriented and based on knowledge, experience and positive tradition, supplemented by modern doctrine and technology will effectively pursue clear strategic goals. This is what the defense forces of the Republic of Slovenia must be if they are to be recognized as trustworthy at home and abroad and capable of fulfilling there national and international role."²⁰

To fulfill the international obligations and according to size and capability to cooperate in international and multinational full spectrum operations; the SAF must to be able contributed in small extended operation with platoon; in middle extended operation with coy, in large extended operation with battalion or battalion battle group; and in very large operations, defending there national interest or interest of alliance, whit al disposable forces, that will be the size of two brigades without of general mobilization in Slovenia.

SAF have to be able contemporary contributed in two middle extended operation without time limit; contemporary contributed in one large extended operation with time limit and in one middle extended operation without time limit; in one large extended operation without time limit.

According to this task SAF must trained and equipped for all spectrum of fighting these units. A light armor battalion (LAB) must be ready to the end of 2006, the next LAB to the end of

2007, and the last LAB to the end of 2009. The battalion task force unit must be ready to 2012. NBC decontamination platoon is ready and deploy in NRF. NBC decontamination coy must be ready to the end of 2005. The reconnaissance coy must to be ready to the end of 2007 and the whole NBC battalion must be ready to the end of 2009. A light transport coy (medium trucks) must to be ready to the end of 2005 and the special CIMIC group to the end of 2006. Finally, the In Theater Air Lift Aero-Medical Evacuation Group (ALAMEG) must be ready to the end of 2008. All these units will be part of NATO response forces and except the Transport Coy and the ALAMEG, will be high response forces. However at this time SAF is well qualified with two light battalions and with MP battalion to executed the peace keeping operations under the UN or NATO mandate and according to NATO standards.

INTEREST OF USA TO ENCOURAGE NATO COUNTRIES TO JOIN MULTINATIONAL OPERATIONS

SAF with their size can not be very interesting for USA and their huge Armed Forces, however, if SAF will achieve all it's goals, would be a small and capable Armed Forces also interesting for USA because of different reasons. Slovenia will be able to offer their high qualified units and political support according to common values and interest. United States interest in global and asymmetric world is to maintain and improve their relationships with big and small allies. United States interest to encourage NATO countries and other allies to join multinational operations are double. First is discharge the United States Armed Forces and economy. However USA is a superpower, but no with unlimited resources in economy or in armed forces. Second, United States need political support and legitimacy for their operations. Unilateral operation, although righteous, again to global terrorism, weapon of mass destruction, tyranny and to support of democracy and human rights, must have legitimacy if we would like to live in legally world. Unilateral operations reduced reputation and popularity of USA around the world.

HOW CAN THE USA HELP?

The help of USA should focus into these directions. The most important help for SAF should be on the following spheres:

1. Preparation of battalion battle group for all spectrum of fighting, using own combat support and combat support in international brigade composition. From the summer 2004 is running the preparations and training on squads, platoon, and coy level under the assistance of British TRADOC.

2. United States started in 2004 with development, training and equipment of NBC battalion. The successful cooperation should continue.

3. Successfully cooperation in NATO integration air defense system. SAF is not able to perform complete control of air space. SAF have helicopters and do not have a Air Forces including jet fighters plans. Italian Armed Forces performed the training of air-control crews, NATO performed the air space control with jets, what is temporary solution, because they do not have any authority on Slovene sky. Legal solution should be found from Slovene Government. On this sphere is very imported task the integration of air defense of SAF in NATO air defense system.

4. The next important task is to assure the communications and information system into SAF and into alliance. SAF is buying the technical systems. Training and education of crews should be continue in Unaided States.

5. United States should continue to help developed of basis and advanced training for all military personnel in SAF.

6. SAF must develop they intelligence and security capability. USAF should be the best partner according to there great experiences.

7. Training and education for Slovenian military personnel they will take over the tasks in alliance. These activities continuously flow in different United States schools and should to go on or to be deeply engaged in.

8. Improvement of command and control to highest level. The USAF has definitely the best knowledge and experience on this sphere and it's help to SAF could be great.

9. The next task where USAF could help is improvement and development of national air defense system, although some cooperation is establish with German Armed Forces.

10. Very important task in future is also reestablish of NCO structure to be able take over tasks according to new challenges in multinational operations. This reorganization is continue.

9. The last two tasks that SAF recognize as a most important are reorganization of some headquarters and improvement and development the tactical vertical maneuver and transport.²¹

PROPOSED US STRATEGY TO ENCOURAGE NATO COUNTRIES TO JOIN MULTINATIONAL OPERATIONS

As we could conclude the US strategy on military sphere and help to NATO countries, especially to new NATO countries, if we make conclusions on Slovenian case is very well. Slovenia cooperate with NATO from 1992 and cooperation was successful and very useful for SAF. Programs like Military to Military and IMET should continue on the same manner. Education and training proposed in US military schools, units and institutions made a huge

improvement in Slovene military populations and also high level of understanding and respect of USAF. On my opinion we can talk also about some kind of Americanization of SAF. The confidence and trust to USAF that is building on this way in SAF is smart strategy that make SAF confident to cooperate in multinational operations together with USAF.

USAF can facilitate the SAF integration process to continue all following programs and take part in process of equipment. SAF would like to equip it self with high capable, safe, and compatible equipment and weapons with alliance. This is financial hard and long-term project for Slovenia. Slovenian Government has intention to realize this task under the circumstances that Parliament defined not to weaken the economy. Most of buying equipment and weapons must be realize with compensation. United States should find interest and possibility to involve in this business. Well equipped and properly trained SAF will have overwhelming confidence and wish to demonstration their capability in international operation with alliance.

On the other hand, the SAF is under the civilian control and cannot decide in which operation will contribute at all. This is obviously task of Slovenian Parliament, which is also depend on public opinion. On this opinion United States have influence with his policy and smart use of positive soft power, which was very well demonstrated in cold war and United States gain sympathy in all communist country in west Europe and in Slovenia as well.

Slovenian policy is divided on two sides but both side is very close to political center. Left center are the Liberal Democrat Party and the United Social Democrat Party which arisen from former Communist Party of Slovenia. This option was on power from last fourteen years with short breaks. On the last election won the rights center option. There are the Social Democratic Party, the Party of New Slovenia and the Slovene Folk Party. These Parties played the main role in Slovenian independency activity in 1991, and they gain a power on first Slovenian free election for a short time in 1991. However the right center option have more sympathy to reconciliation with United States and there policy, and they have more sympathy for closer military cooperation with United States and NATO. The new Government of Slovenia inclined to send Slovenian unit also in Iraq to help stabilization. Prime Minister Janez Jansa stated on visit of NATO headquarter, in January 2005, that Slovenia to deliberate about sending unit in Iraq. Secretary General of NATO Jaap de Hoop Scheffer was very satisfied with this statement and told that NATO appreciated this decision of Slovenian Government.²² The opposition led by former Prime Minister Anton Rop is against any involvement in Iraqi crisis and anywhere are not lead under the UN authority. His statement in Slovenian daily web pages is: "The Liberal Democratic Party will prepare and launched the referendum in Slovenia, if the Government sent SAF units in Iraq."²³

We can conclude that with a new Slovenian Government the good relationship with United States and NATO will improve but on the same time will depend on public opinion which is on the same time very European and reject excessive using of military power and the United States policy of primacy on this sphere.

CONCLUSION

United States of America is a great partner of Slovenia. Slovenian defense made a huge progress with United States help that flow on political, defense and military sphere. Propose to United State is to going on with help on the same way. There help to educated the officers and NCO's especially on additional studies, training the unit to achieve a high level of integration and ability of joint fighting in multinational operations is necessary and useful. International Military Education and Training Program are well prepared and useful. Other trainings that are not covered in this program, should be covered in Military to Military Program or in Bilateral Military Agreement between United States and Slovenia. Strategy of United States to educated and training the individuals and the units of NATO members, especially the new NATO countries is good arise. United States help to reorganize the armed forces and help to develop them is also helpful and well done under the leading of USEUCOM. What is the strategy of USEUCOM and how does it work we can read in Statement of General James L. Jones, USMC Commander, in Chapter V. United States European Command Strategic Resources.²⁴

SAF is using this offer on the right way to become capable, reliable and trusty ally, according to schedule that we made and sign in NATO. We have to ascertain that on military sphere are everything done. SAF is able to fight together with allies in multinational operations with prepared units and according to schedule, in 2012 will be ready to fight with all to NATO dedicated units.

How often and when will we fight in multinational operations and under which authority is depend on Slovenian Government, Slovenian Policy which is represent in Parliament, and Slovenian public opinion. United States should have influence on this with there foreign policy. Slovenia is a part of Europe and is comprehensive to American policy on the same way as Europe do. Europe and Slovenia as a part of it reject the United State policy of primacy as well as policy of American isolationism.²⁵ European and Slovenian opinion is that the right policy is the policy of cooperative security which is however not the perfect solution but the best for the

future World. This less aggressive policy, sharing the power with others, strengthen good relationship with Europe and United Nation as s common place for peaceful and diplomatic solve of world problems if it is possible will make the United States popular ally.

WORD COUNT=6949

ENDNOTES

¹ The term superpower appeared as a neologism in 1922. Prior to World War II, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Soviet Union, the United States, and the British Empire were sometimes labeled as superpowers, although the much more common term was great powers.

² Young W. John, *Cold War Europe 1945-1991, A Political History*, Second Edition (Arnold, Hodder Headline Group, 338 Euston Road, London NW1 3BH 175 Fifth Avenue, New York, 1996), 265-277

³ The White House, *The National Security Strategy of the United States of America* (The White House, September 17, 2002)

⁴ Ministry of Defence of Republic of Slovenia, *Strategic Defense Review* (Republic of Slovenia, Ministry of Defense, Ljubljana, May 2004)

⁵ Barany Zoltan, *The Future of NATO Expansion* (The Press Syndicate of University of Cambridge, Cambridge United Kingdom, 2003) 89-123

⁶ Government of Republic of Slovenia, *NATO Membership Action Plan 2001/2002* (Republic of Slovenia, Government, Ljubljana 2001)

⁷ Sabic Zlatko and Charles Bukowski, *Small States in the Post-Cold War World, Slovenia and NATO Enlargement* (Praeger Publishers, 88 Post Road West, Westport) 145-155

⁸ See more: <http://www.slovenskavojska.si/poklicna/misije/index.htm>

⁹ It was a frequently question to Slovenian Government and the complete answer to this question see the page <http://nato.gov.si/slo/faq/question/154-45/>

¹⁰ See more: <http://nato.gov.si/eng/press-centre/press-releases/1868>

¹¹ Col Dragan Bavcar: Briefing to Admiral Gregory G. Johnson, Ljubljana, April, 2004)

¹² See more: <http://nato.gov.si/slo/slovenija-nato/slovenska-vojska-nato/preoblikovanje-sv/> and the document: Slovenian Parliament, Ministry of Defense, Resolution on the general long-term programme of the development and equipment of the Slovene Army (Slovenian Parliament, January 2004)

¹³ Barany Zoltan, *The Future of NATO Expansion* (The Press Syndicate of University of Cambridge, Cambridge United Kingdom, 2003) 9

¹⁴ Barany Zoltan, *The Future of NATO Expansion* (The Press Syndicate of University of Cambridge, Cambridge United Kingdom, 2003) 12

¹⁵ Barany Zoltan, *The Future of NATO Expansion* (The Press Syndicate of University of Cambridge, Cambridge United Kingdom, 2003) 100

¹⁶ See more: http://www.usembassy.si/ODC/IMET_more.html

¹⁷ See more: <http://www.usembassy.si/ODC/trainnew.htm>

¹⁸ Speak of Foreign Minister Dr. Rupel received Bill Owens, Governor of the Colorado on April 2001: http://www.sigov.si/mzz/eng/news_room/news/01040601.html

¹⁹ <http://nato.gov.si/slo/slovenija-nato/slovenska-vojska-nato/oblake-sodelovanja/>

²⁰ Slovenian Parliament, Ministry of Defense, Resolution on the General Long-Term Programme of the Development and Equipment of the Slovene Army (Slovenian Parliament, January 2004)

²¹ From Resolution on the General Long-Term Programme of the Development and Equipment of the Slovene Army with author comment

²² Statement of Prime Minister of Slovenia in dally newspaper Vecer, 27 January 2005

²³ Statement of former Prime Minister of Slovenia, which is today the leader of opposition in Slovenian Parliament, on Slovenian daily web pages on 28 January 2005

²⁴ US Army War College, Regional Strategic Appraisals Volume 1, U.S. Army War College – Carlisle Barracks, PA 83 -110

²⁵ Barry R. Posen and Andrew L. Ross, Competing Visions for U.S. Grand Strategy

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