

Past, Present & Future of

Battlefield Forensics

What is Battlefield Forensics in the Contemporary World?: Developing a Collaborative Framework for Military and Civilian Forensics Capabilities on the Battlefield.

Date of presentation: 11 SEP 2024 – Soesterberg Holland.

Time frame: 2023 – 2026

Lead: Rikke RIETVELD,

PhD Project in collaboration with Cranfield University, DSTL, Danish Defence and NATO.

Funded by Cranfield University and NATO DAT-POW. Supported by Danish Defence (SOCOM).



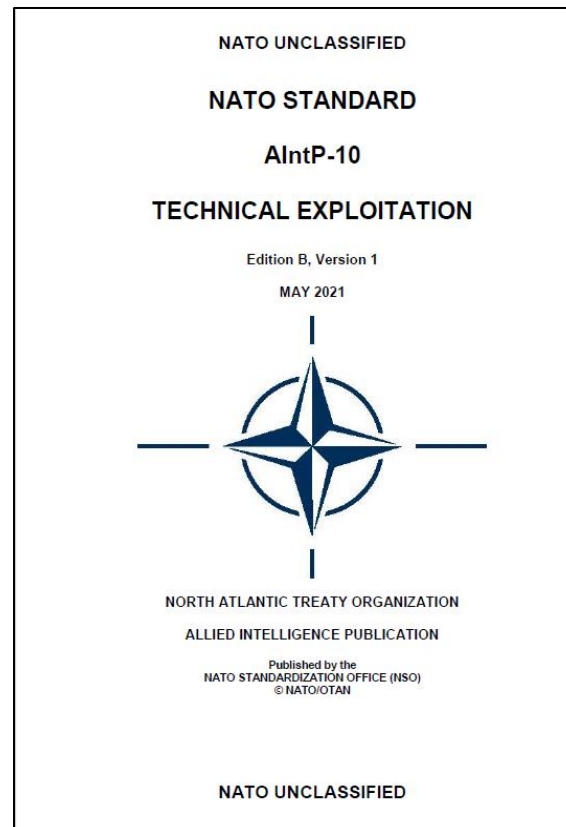
DANISH DEFENCE



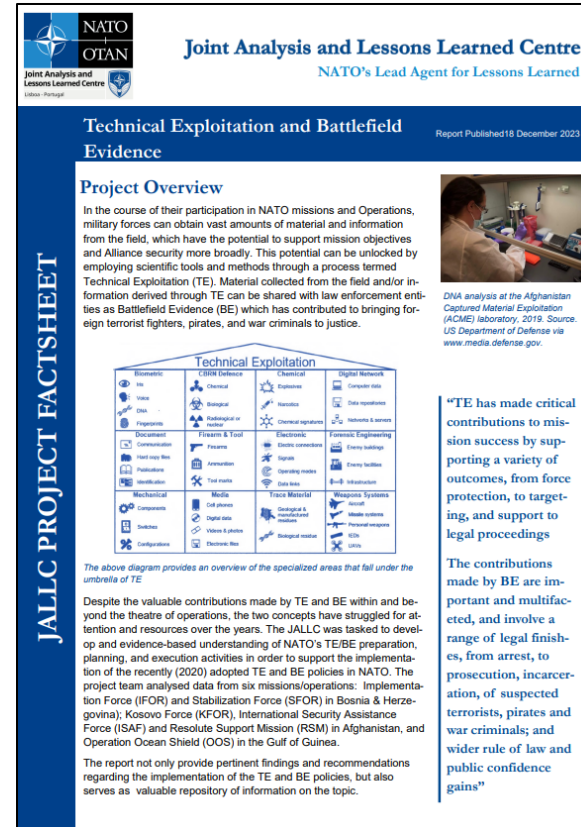
Why?



Photo credit: US NAVY

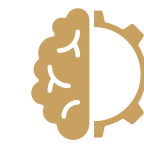


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TE and BE Report JALC DEC 2023

The identified gaps underscore the importance of addressing resource limitations, enhancing international collaboration, navigating legal and ethical complexities, and promoting knowledge sharing to overcome operational hurdles and achieve impactful results in complex security environments.



LIMITED UNDERSTANDING – WHAT IS BATTLEFIELD FORENSICS?



COLLECTIVE MEMORY LOSS IN A MILITARY CONTEXT



CHALLENGES OF LIMITED RESOURCES AND CAPACITY



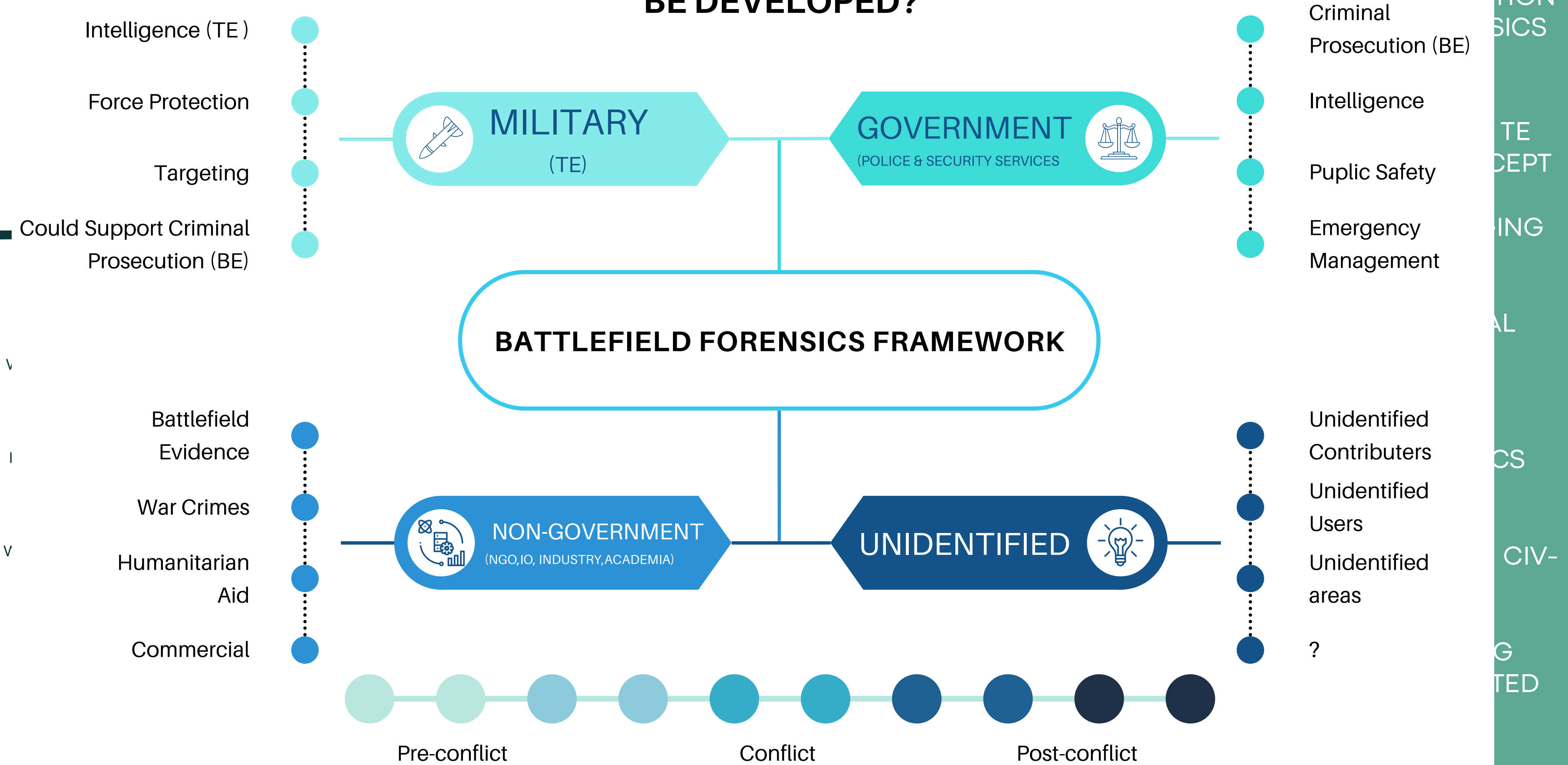
VERY LITTLE PLANNING AND PREPERATION



NEED FOR BETTER INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION & KNOWLEDGE SHARING



CAN A HOLISTIC BATTLEFIELD FORENSICS FRAMEWORK BE DEVELOPED?



Working with NATO

as a Case Study

Provide a real-world framework in which to test current NATO doctrine and concepts within TECHNICAL EXPLOITATION & BATTLEFIELD EVIDENCE and to gauge their degree of implementation in the NATO Force Structure, Operational Planning and coordination with Host Nations.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE?
WHAT IS COLLECTED?
BY WHOM?
WHO OWNS IT?
HOW DO WE SHARE IT?





NATO
OTAN

Multinational
Corps Northeast

Szczecin Poland

MULTINATIONAL CORPS NORTHEAST

Who: A Regional Land Component Command.

When: Stand-by and Ready at any Time.

What: Military Key Guarantor of Peace in the Region.



Where: NATO's North-Eastern Flank

Why: To Protect and Defend our Security, our Freedom and our common Values.

ONE MISSION - ONE AOO - ONE PLAN - ONE TEAM

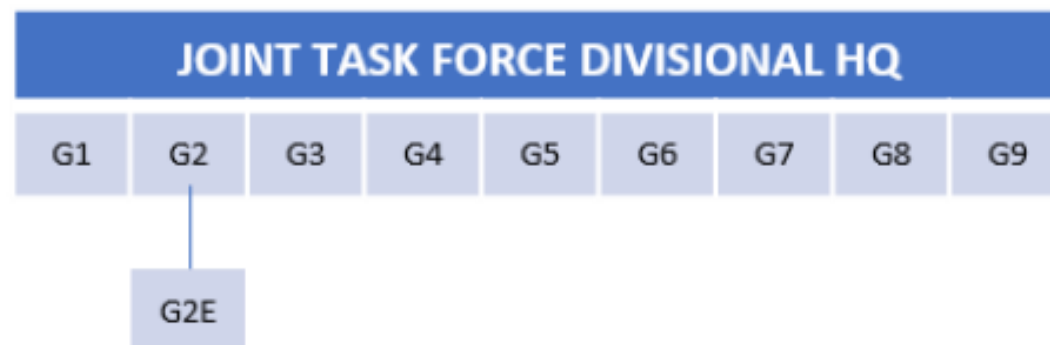
Source: Multinational Corps Northeast, Szczecin, Poland.

Ready to "Fight Tonight"

Adapting TE to the NATO Environment

A TECC may also evolve over time depending on operational requirements, resources and capabilities in theatre.

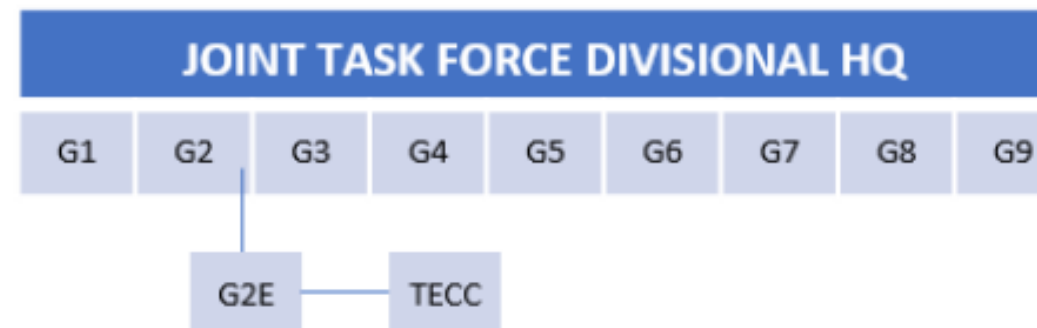
TECC “Light”



G2E performs TECC functions

- Small force structure
- Small geographical AoR
- Low level of multinationality
- Small amount of Level 1 and Level 2 TE capability in the force structure, little or no Level 3 TE reachback
- No organic Level 1 & or Level 2 TE capabilities under TECC OPCON
- Some incidental collection
- Low level of CEM flow

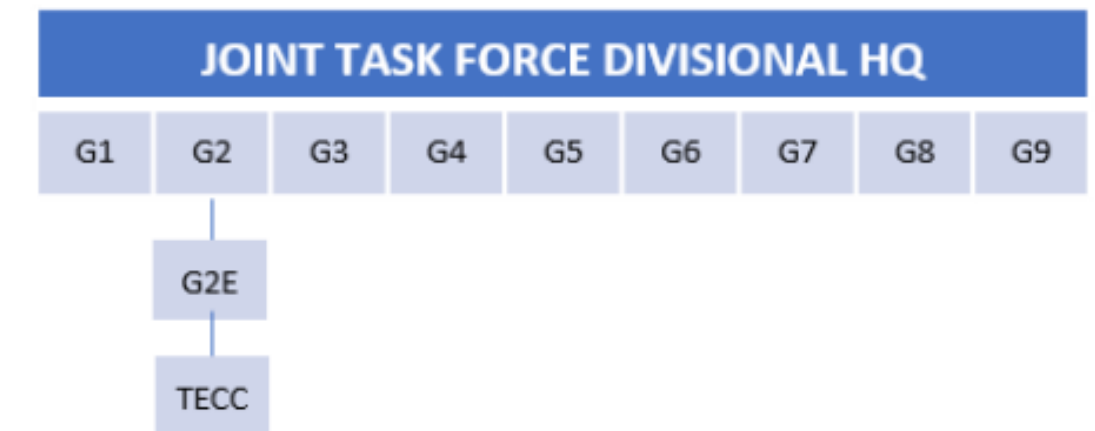
TECC “Medium”



G2E forms TECC within G2E to perform TECC functions

- Medium force structure
- Medium size AoR
- Medium level of multinationality, with some nations relying on others for TE
- Moderate amount of Level 1 and Level 2 TE capability in the force structure and possible Level 3 TE reachback
- May have organic Level 1 & or Level 2 Capabilities OPCON to the TECC
- Some to significant incidental collection
- Medium level of CEM flow

TECC “Heavy”



G2E forms TECC outside of G2E to perform TECC functions

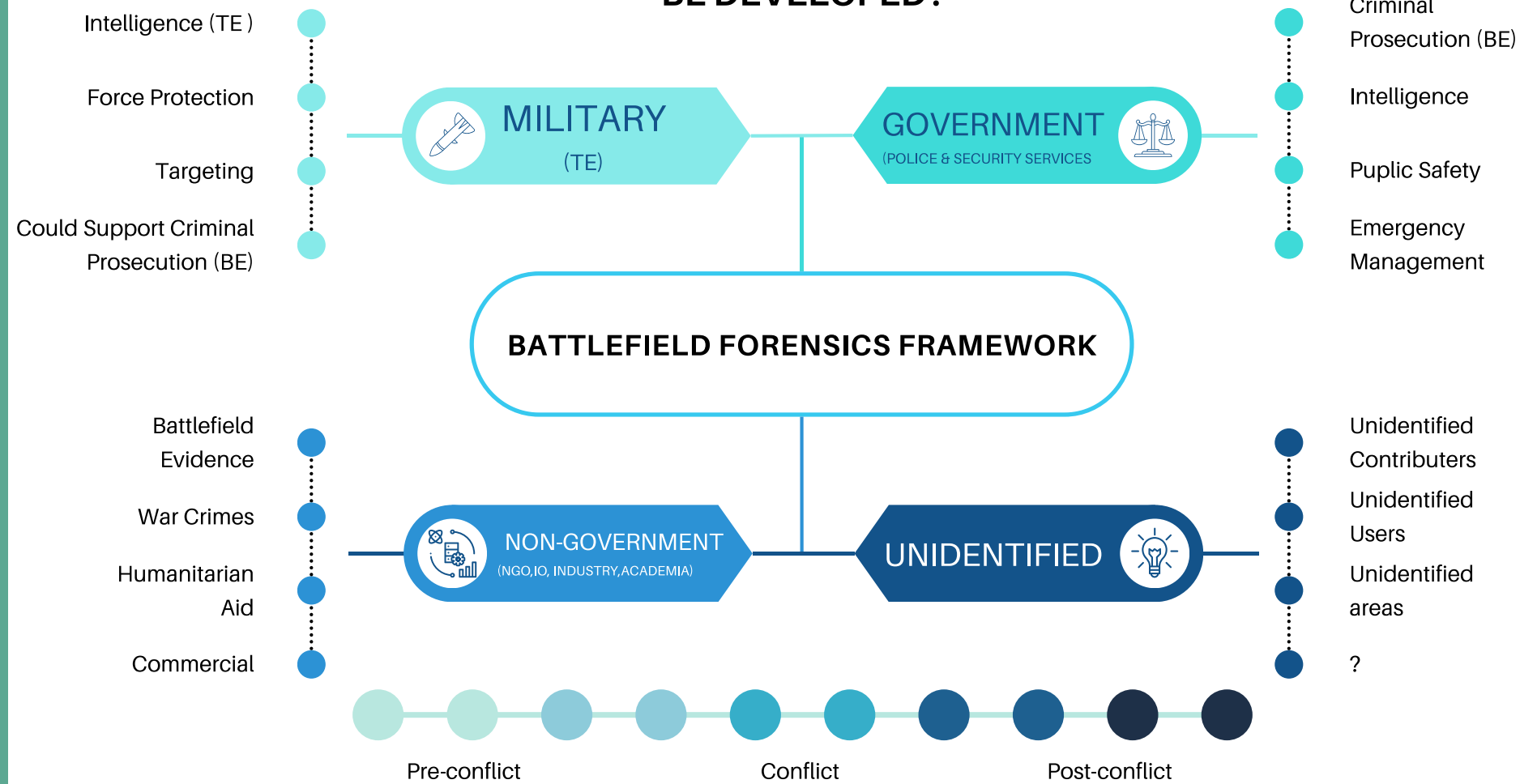
- Large force structure
- Large/complex AOR
- High level of multinationality and interdependence of TE capabilities
- Large amount of Level 1 and Level 2 TE capability in the force structure and Level 3 TE reachback
- May have organic Level 1 & or Level 2 Capabilities under TECC OPCON
- Significant incidental collection
- High level of CEM flow

ADAPTING NATO'S TE DOCTRINE TO THE DETERRENCE AND DEFENCE OF NATO TERRITORY ENVIRONMENT, WHERE THERE IS NO OR LITTLE IED THREAT, BUT LOTS OF CEM TO SUPPORT THE COMMANDER'S IR

National Case Study

DANISH DEFENCE

CAN A HOLISTIC BATTLEFIELD FORENSICS FRAMEWORK BE DEVELOPED?

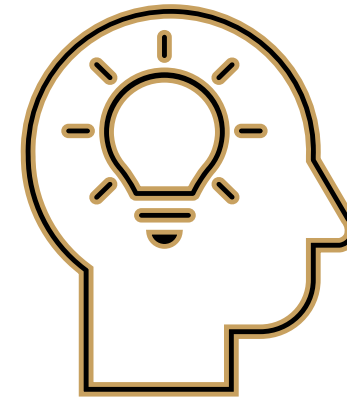


Map of the Kingdom of Denmark: Greenland, The Faroe Islands and Denmark. Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark 2024

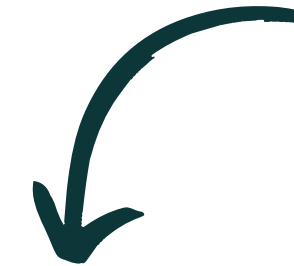
Call to Action



HOW IS YOUR NATION
CONTRIBUTING TO BATTLEFIELD
FORENSICS?



WHAT CHALLENGES ARE YOU
DEALING WITH?



SOLUTIONS AND COLLABORATIONS?



WHAT IS YOUR NATIONS
FORENSICS STRATEGIES?



Battlefield Forensics Survey – 20 minutes

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Thank you!

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SEP 2024

Let's connect!

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DSPACE

<https://dspace.org/>

Past, present, and future of battlefield forensics. What is battlefield forensics in the contemporary world?: Developing a collaborative framework for military and civilian forensics capabilities on the battlefield - Presentation

Rietveld, Rikke

2024-09-11

Joint Deployable Exploitation and Analysis Laboratory (JDEAL)

<https://eda.europa.eu/news-and-events/news/2024/09/13/teaching-art-of-counter-ied-eu-facility-looks-ahead-after-first-decade>

Rietveld R. (2024) Past, present, and future of battlefield forensics. What is battlefield forensics in the contemporary world?: Developing a collaborative framework for military and civilian forensics capabilities on the battlefield - Presentation. Presented at: Joint Deployable Exploitation and Analysis Laboratory (JDEAL) 10th Anniversary Special Joint Academic Session, 11 September 2024, Soesterberg, The Netherlands