



Nordic Response 2024 – fact sheet

- What:** Nordic military winter exercise based on the Norwegian exercise Cold Response. Cold Response has a long history and takes place in Northern Norway every other year. Thanks to the NATO expansion with Finland and now Sweden, we are expanding Cold Response to a Nordic Response. The exercise is part of the NATO's Steadfast Defender and also closely connected to the UK-led naval exercise Joint Warrior.
- When:** The field exercise lasts from 3 to 14 March 2024 but there will be military activity in the weeks before and after this. Some of the allied forces arrived in Norway in January and February to prepare for the exercise.
- Where:** Northern Finland, Norway, and Sweden. In Norway, the exercise will mainly take place in northern Troms County and the west of Finnmark County. There will also be maritime activity along the coast of northern Norway.
- Who:** 20,000 soldiers from 13 countries. Norway participates with 8,000 troops. Other large nations are Finland, Germany, Sweden, the UK, and the USA. Approximately 10,000 of the participants will be on land and will be the most visible during the exercise. Around 110 aircraft and 50 vessels will take part, along with several civilian organisations in Finland, Norway and Sweden.
- Why:** At Nordic Response 2024 we train on defending and protecting the Nordic Region and our territories. We need to be able to fight back and stop anyone who tries to challenge our borders, values and democracy. With the current security situation in Europe, the exercise is extremely relevant and more important than ever before.
- Why here:** The Nordic Region and our areas in the High North comprise an important and strategically located flank of NATO. At the same time, NATO is also the backbone in the defence of the Nordic Region. This makes it vital for us to train together with allied forces in the region. The exercise increases Nordic preparedness and our capability to conduct large-scale joint operations in challenging weather and climate. We, and our allies, need to know our own terrain and conditions. This is fresh knowledge that needs to be trained on regularly. This region also offers great exercise areas, which makes it well-suited for a major exercise like Nordic Response.

Safety and environment

The Norwegian Armed Forces have extensive experience with large-scale military exercises in Norway. This includes environmental protection and damage prevention. All participants are thoroughly briefed on where they are allowed to operate, drive and train. We have also established restricted areas where military activity is prohibited. Should damage still occur, the Armed Forces have efficient compensation schemes. We also have a contact centre that will answer any relevant questions, and receive and handle reports of damages.



The Norwegian Armed Forces have a close collaboration with the civilian transport sector and the Norwegian Public Roads Administration. We will run public traffic safety campaigns in connection with the exercise. We will also inform locals where military traffic may appear.

In addition, Norway, Finland, and Sweden have established separate no-fly zones with restrictions on the use of aircraft and drones. This is done to prevent dangerous situations and accidents in the air. Read more about the restrictions [here](#).

Transparency

Nordic Response is a defensive exercise and the goal is to train on defending our countries. The Norwegian Armed Forces strive for transparency around our military exercises. This is important for preventing misunderstandings, tensions and escalation of conflicts. We comply with international agreements, and through official channels we have informed all relevant countries – including Russia – about the exercise.

Media

Nordic and foreign press are welcome to cover the exercise. The Norwegian, Finnish and Swedish Armed Forces will create events for the media to cover, and we will make arrangements for reporters to meet and interview participants and soldiers. Several of the allied participants have also created media events for the media to cover. You can find all the available events [here](#).

For press enquiries, please call the Nordic Response Press Centre on +47 40 43 80 83 or e-mail: info@mil.no.

- More information about Nordic Response can be found at <http://www.mil.no/nr>
- The Norwegian Nordic Response site can be found at <http://www.forsvaret.no/nr>