

NATO Allied Command Transformation Operational Experimentation



Fact Sheet – The OPEN Experiment

Description: The Open Perspectives Exchange Network (OPEN) experiment explores benefits, methods and resources of non-classified human networks in which views and ideas on important issues or challenges are exchanged freely among NATO and non-NATO people and organisations.

Mission: Explore the means by which NATO might improve its strategic understanding and anticipation, while improving NATO's ability to federate with non-NATO actors.

Methodology: The OPEN experiment focuses on unclassified information gathered through collaboration with non-NATO actors. OPEN seeks wide distribution to obtain view and ideas from experts located around the world. All subscribers -NATO and non-NATO, military and civilian - can benefit from enhanced understanding.

Components:

OPEN People. OPEN's success is built upon the relationship between NATO experimenters, non-NATO authors, and a wide global audience consisting of academia, non-governmental organisations, international organisations, etc.

OPEN Products. OPEN products focus on complex challenges, wicked problems, and existential and anticipated crises. OPEN examines subjects from non-NATO perspectives, favouring diversity, innovative thinking, and substantiated reporting.

OPEN Processes. NATO must interpret global developments 365 days a year. OPEN helps NATO achieve awareness by providing alternate views on evolving developments and crises through a non-NATO, non-military lens, also known as *The Views of Others*. Success is achieved when an OPEN product successfully collates *The Views of Others* on topics that intersect with the Alliance's interests.

OPEN Technology. Internet-based platforms comprise a central commercial off-the-shelf website, networked with a flexible array of social and business media streams. These non-specialist, ubiquitous technologies combined with social media platforms ensure that OPEN is accessible and open to the *The Views of Others*.

Duration: Authorised to experiment in the 2017 & 2018 NATO experimentation programme; subject to the findings of the experiment, extended development is possible.

Headquarters: NATO Allied Command Transformation, Operational Experimentation Branch

Publications: A dynamic and growing set of media products is available online.

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