

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:	<p><u>OPEN People.</u> 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.</p> <p><u>OPEN Products.</u> 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.</p> <p><u>OPEN Processes.</u> 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 <i>The Views of Others</i>. Success is achieved when an OPEN product successfully collates <i>The Views of Others</i> on topics that intersect with the Alliance's interests.</p> <p><u>OPEN Technology.</u> 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 <i>The Views of Others</i>.</p>
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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