



DONALD TURNBULL

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An experienced defence specialist with extensive expertise in strategic planning and capability delivery with 31 years' service in the RAF and 6 years with NATO.



PROFESSIONAL OVERVIEW

- Extensive expertise in defence planning, capability delivery, strategic planning, project management and bi-lateral and multi-lateral global stakeholder engagement.
- Large worldwide professional network.
- Thorough knowledge of NATO and EU structures and mechanisms for crisis response, including North Atlantic Council tasking, implementation of Crisis Response Measures and engagement with Operational HQs (NATO ACO C-COMC, EU(ERCC), UN OCHA, WHO).
- Former Defence Attaché specialising in Sweden, Finland and the High North.

CAREER SUMMARY

Melora Aerospace Consultancy Limited

2021-Present

Aerospace Capabilities Consultant

NATO International Staff Defence Investment

2015 – 2021

Deputy Head of Aerospace Capabilities Section in NATO International Staff with responsibility for capability development of Joint Air Power across the Armaments and Aviation Planning Domains.

- NATO Air Armaments programmes (Weapon Effectiveness, Mission Survivability, Air Mobility, Joint ISR, Joint C2, Joint Vertical Lift and Joint UAS).
- Joint Air Power Strategy: Interoperability and coherence through cross-domain engagement.
- Emerging Disruptive Technologies, Innovation and Rapid Acquisition.
- Climate Change (Operational Energy & Resilience).
- Air-to-Air Refuelling (AAR) – Global AAR Strategy Team; NATO Representative to the global Aerial Refuelling Systems Advisory Group (ARSAG); NATO/EDA engagement.
- Multi-National Initiatives: MN Multi-Role Tanker Transport Fleet (MMF); Next Generation Rotorcraft (NGRC) project; NATO Flying Training Europe (NFTE) project.
- Rapid Air Mobility (RAM); NATO Deployable Air Bases (NDAB/DAAM).
- Modelling & Simulation; Mission Training through Distributed Simulation (MTDS).
- Total System Approach to Aviation (TSAA); Airworthiness and Airspace Management;

NATO Allied Command Transformation – Defence Planning

2013 – 2015

Development of NATO capability requirements and assignments to Alliance members and Partners through the NATO Defence Planning Process (NDPP).

- Analysis of Alliance and Partner forces, national plans and infrastructure.
- Assessment of suitability of national contributions set against Alliance minimum requirements.
- Development of business processes and structures for NATO Defence Planning.

UK Defence Attaché to Sweden & Finland

2010 – 2013

Representative of the UK MOD at senior political and military level to further the UK military relationship with Sweden and Finland.

- Negotiated signature of the UK/Sweden Exercises & Training MOU.
- Engagement on participation in the EU Battle Group including evaluation through Ex VIKING.
- Facilitated training: operational pre-deployment, Littoral Manoeuvre and Submarine Rescue.
- Enabled UK participation in the maritime Surveillance Cooperation Baltic Sea (SUCBAS).
- Influenced industry engagement and enabled export licences for military equipment (€150m).
- Promoted and enabled training using distributed mission simulation.

UK Ministry of Defence – Royal Air Force International Relations

2008 – 2010

Management of bi-lateral international relations, including the global RAF Exchange Officer programme and multi-lateral relations with NATO and the EU.

Previous Military Experience

1984 – 2008

- Squadron Commander. Directed and managed day-to-day worldwide operations with a fleet of 25 C130J Hercules aircraft and 150 staff, including training.
- Capability Development and Airworthiness of RAF Air Transport and Air-to-Air Refuelling fleets, including the development of capability for airlift and airborne operations.
- Member of UK MOD Operations Planning Team.
- Officer Commanding Forward Mounting Base in Pakistan and Theatre Airlift Commander.
- Qualified Air Battle Staff – participation in Ex BLUE FLAG as a JFAC Planner.
- Developed training and exercise plans for Tactical Air Transport (Fixed Wing and Rotary Wing) in support of 16 Air Assault Brigade.

KEY SKILLS

- Conceptual thinker, creator and initiator.
- Strong analytical and methodical approach to problem solving with attention to detail.
- Team builder and project manager with a pro-active and resilient approach.
- Seeks natural synergy and the development of stakeholder engagement.
- Expertise in International Relations, sensitive to national differences and cultures.

QUALIFICATIONS

- UK security clearance up to NATO SECRET (valid until Oct 2029).
- Qualified Air Battle Staff (QAB).
- Qualified Flying Instructor (QFI CFS)
- Graduate of Joint Advanced Staff College (India)
- MSc (Distinction) Defence & Strategic Studies, University of Madras (2005).
- BSc Computer Science, Paisley College of Technology (1984).
- Fellow of the Chartered Management Institute (CMI) (2014).
- Fellow of the Institute of Leadership & Management (FInstLM) (2014).
- Swedish & French language skills – café survival level.

LEISURE INTERESTS

- Cycling, skiing, sailing, tennis, music, cooking, wine and sabrage.