

## EU countries in NATO. Part I

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**Abstract:** *According to the Clingendael Report – New Treats, New EU and NATO responses – from July 2015 issued by the Netherlands Institute of International Relations, the changes in the security environment of Europe ask for a prudent response from the part of EU and NATO member countries. Since the adoption of NATO’s new Strategic Concept at the Lisbon Summit in November 2010, which identifies the need for the Alliance to address emerging security challenges, several new areas of cooperation with the EU are taking place, besides strategic issues, political consultation, capabilities and terrorism, in particular energy security issues and cyber defense.*

**Key-words:** *EU, NATO, security*

### 1. Introduction

The EU member countries that are also part of NATO are, in alphabetical order of the country code: Belgium (BE), Bulgaria (BG), Czech Republic (CZ), Denmark (DK), Germany (DE), Estonia (EE), Greece (EL), Spain (ES), France (FR), Croatia (HR), Italy (IT), Latvia (LV), Lithuania (LT), Luxembourg (LU), Hungary (HU), Netherlands (NL), Poland (PL), Portugal (PT), Romania (RO), Slovenia (SI), Slovakia (SK), United Kingdom (UK).

The rest of the EU member countries (except Cyprus) – Austria, Finland, Ireland, Malta and Sweden are part of the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council (EAPC).

### 2. Material and Methods

Countries are ranked by Military Strength (2016) – the Global Firepower List (GFP) that makes use of over 50 factors to determine a given nation’s Power Index score. Ranking does not solely rely on the total number of weapons available to a country and nuclear capability is not taken into account.

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Also current political/military leadership is not considered. Geographical factors influence the final ranking and natural resource reliance (use/production) is taken into account. Also the current economic health for each country is a factor.

Land-locked nations are not penalized for lack of a standing navy but naval powers are penalized for limited naval capabilities.

Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) serves as an economic theory used in determining the amount of adjustment required between the exchange rate of two countries when purchasing similar goods. This can have an effect on both domestic currencies in question as well as supply-and-demand of the goods in question.

### 3. Results and discussions

The data for the 21 countries part of NATO and EU (except for Luxembourg) are shown in the tables below.

By analysing the data in the tables we made a ranking of the EU countries in NATO taking into consideration the 3 factors: Military Strength Rank (MSR), Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) and Defense Spending Budget (DSB). We have considered that the MSR is the most important.

Country	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	EL
PPP (mil USD) (2015)	483300	129100	315900	250700	3748000	36780	285300
Defense Spending Budget (mil USD) (2015)	5085	700	2220	4440	36300	335	6540
Military Strength Rank (2016)	55	67	29	39	8	108	60

Table 1. PPP, DSB and MSR for the first 7 countries

Belgium ranks 10<sup>th</sup> on the MSR, 9<sup>th</sup> on the DSB and 8<sup>th</sup> on the PPP.  
 Bulgaria ranks 17<sup>th</sup> on the MSR, 18<sup>th</sup> on the DSB and 16<sup>th</sup> on the PPP.  
 Czech Republic ranks 6<sup>th</sup> on the MSR, 12<sup>th</sup> on the DSB and 10<sup>th</sup> on the PPP.  
 Denmark ranks 9<sup>th</sup> on the MSR, 10<sup>th</sup> on the DSB and 13<sup>th</sup> on the PPP.  
 Germany ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> on the MSR, 2<sup>nd</sup> on the DSB and 1<sup>st</sup> on the PPP.  
 Estonia ranks 21<sup>st</sup> on the MSR, 20<sup>th</sup> on the DSB and 21<sup>st</sup> on the PPP.  
 Greece ranks 14<sup>th</sup> on the MSR, 8<sup>th</sup> on the DSB and 11<sup>th</sup> on the PPP.

Country	ES	FR	HR	IT	LV	LT	HU
PPP (mil USD) (2015)	1572000	2591000	88730	2135000	48360	79930	247100
Defense Spending Budget (mil USD) (2015)	11600	35000	958	34000	280	430	1040
Military Strength Rank (2016)	38	6	62	16	87	92	59

Table 2. PPP, DSB and MSR for the next 7 countries

Spain ranks 8<sup>th</sup> on the MSR, 5<sup>th</sup> on the DSB and 5<sup>th</sup> on the PPP.  
 France ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> on the MSR, 3<sup>rd</sup> on the DSB and 2<sup>nd</sup> on the PPP.  
 Croatia ranks 16<sup>th</sup> on the MSR, 16<sup>th</sup> on the DSB and 17<sup>th</sup> on the PPP.  
 Italy ranks 4<sup>th</sup> on the MSR, 4<sup>th</sup> on the DSB and 4<sup>th</sup> on the PPP.  
 Latvia ranks 18<sup>th</sup> on the MSR, 21<sup>st</sup> on the DSB and 20<sup>th</sup> on the PPP.  
 Lithuania ranks 19<sup>th</sup> on the MSR, 19<sup>th</sup> on the DSB and 18<sup>th</sup> on the PPP.  
 Hungary ranks 13<sup>th</sup> on the MSR, 14<sup>th</sup> on the DSB and 14<sup>th</sup> on the PPP.

Country	NL	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	UK
PPP (mil USD) (2015)	808600	959800	281400	393800	61560	153200	2569000
Defense Spending Budget (mil USD) (2015)	9840	9360	3800	2190	790	1025	55000
Military Strength Rank (2016)	37	19	57	56	99	61	5

Table 3. *PPP, DSB and MSR for the last 7 countries*

Netherlands ranks 7<sup>th</sup> on the MSR, 6<sup>th</sup> on the DSB and 7<sup>th</sup> on the PPP.  
 Poland ranks 5<sup>th</sup> on the MSR, 7<sup>th</sup> on the DSB and 6<sup>th</sup> on the PPP.  
 Portugal ranks 12<sup>th</sup> on the MSR, 11<sup>th</sup> on the DSB and 12<sup>th</sup> on the PPP.  
 Romania ranks 11<sup>th</sup> on the MSR, 13<sup>th</sup> on the DSB and 9<sup>th</sup> on the PPP.  
 Slovenia ranks 20<sup>th</sup> on the MSR, 17<sup>th</sup> on the DSB and 19<sup>th</sup> on the PPP.  
 Slovakia ranks 15<sup>th</sup> on the MSR, 15<sup>th</sup> on the DSB and 15<sup>th</sup> on the PPP.  
 United Kingdom ranks 1<sup>st</sup> on the MSR, 1<sup>st</sup> on the DSB and 3<sup>rd</sup> on the PPP.

We have also calculated the correlation coefficient between the PPP and the DSB, between the PPP and the MSR, and between the DSB and the MSR for the 21 countries taken into consideration in the current analysis.

The formula that we have used is:

$$r = \frac{n \sum_{i=1}^n x_i y_i - \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \sum_{i=1}^n y_i}{\sqrt{[n \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2 - (\sum_{i=1}^n x_i)^2] \cdot [n \sum_{i=1}^n y_i^2 - (\sum_{i=1}^n y_i)^2]}}$$

As you can see in the table below, there is a strong correlation between the PPP and the DSB and there is a direct statistical link between the 2 variables.

Also between the PPP and the MSR, and between the DSB and the MSR is a strong correlation, but an indirect statistical link.

r (PPP, DSB)	0.916
r (PPP, MSR)	-0.788
r (DSB, MSR)	-0.761

Table 4. *Correlation coefficients*

We can visualise those links also on the 3 figures below:

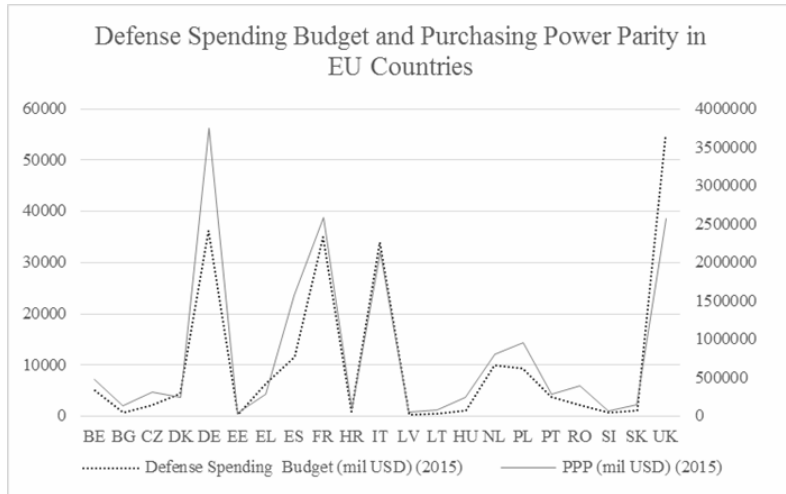


Figure 1. DSB and PPP in EU Countries

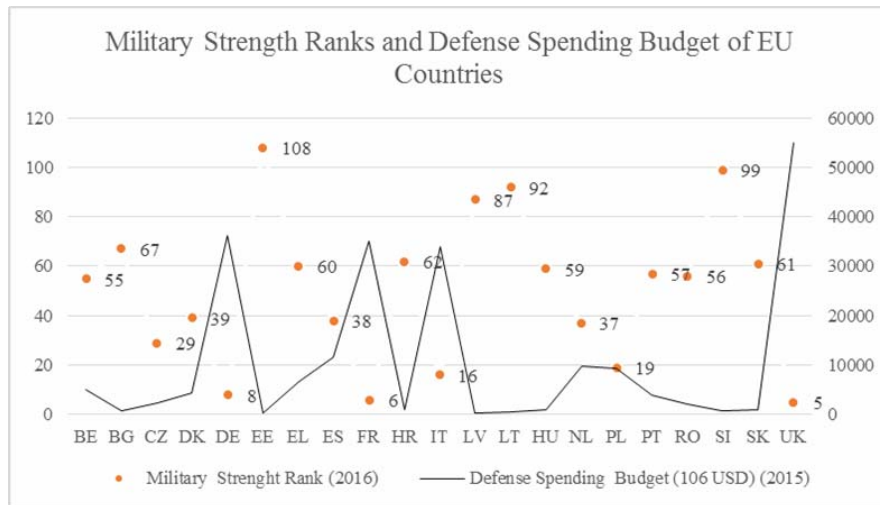


Figure 2. MSR and DSB in EU Countries

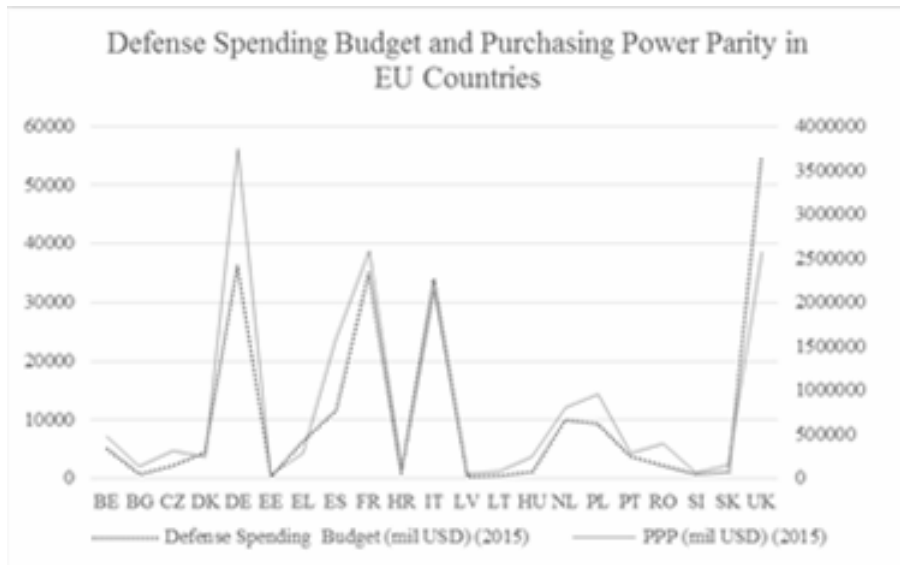


Figure 3. DSB and PPP in EU Countries

#### 4. Conclusions

The main issues of common interest for NATO and the European Union are the strategic interests concerning crisis management, capability development and political consultations.

NATO's Strategic Concept clearly states that an active and effective EU contributes to the overall security of the Euro-Atlantic area.

The European Union's Treaty of Lisbon (in force since 2009) provides a framework for strengthening the EU's capacities to address common security challenges.

NATO and the EU can and should play complementary and mutually reinforcing roles in supporting international peace and security. The Allies are determined to make their contribution to create more favourable circumstances through which they will:

- fully strengthen the strategic partnership with the EU
- enhance practical cooperation in operations throughout the crisis spectrum
- broaden political consultations to include all issues of common concern
- cooperate more fully in capability development, to minimise duplication and maximise cost-effectiveness.

Close cooperation between NATO and the EU is an important element in the development of an international “Comprehensive Approach” to crisis management and operations, which requires the effective application of both military and civilian means.

The Chicago Summit in May 2012 reiterated these principles by underlining that NATO and the EU share common values and strategic interests.

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