



The Commander of Multinational Corps Northeast (MNC NE) Lieutenant General Rainer Korff participated in the annual Bi-Forces Command Corps Commanders Conference I/12, held in Lille, France, from 13 to 15 March 2012.

The first meeting this year of the commanders of all NATO Force Structure Corps and both Force Commands, Heidelberg and Madrid, was chaired by the Force Command (FC) Heidelberg and conducted at the Headquarters' of the French Rapid Reaction Corps in Lille.

Like already during the last conference in 2011, the overwhelming topic was the ongoing structure review of the NATO Command Structure (NCS) and its implications for the Corps of the NATO Force Structure (NFS). To meet all the different needs for information and to have fruitful discussions, a busy and tight agenda was prepared by FC Heidelberg.

Most of the Conference was conducted by representatives from different bodies and Headquarters of the NCS in order to inform the conference participants about the current situation and the way ahead.

How to cooperate in the future between the different headquarters, how to contribute to NATO's Level of Ambition and which requirements need to be fulfilled in order to gain as much interoperability as possible were discussed. Another major topic was the role of the future Land

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Command in Izmir, Turkey, which will be set up from summer 2012 on. The LC assumes to be a vocal point in the future cooperation and coordination amongst the NFS.

The next conference will be chaired by the FC Madrid and will be conducted in Solbiate Olona where the HQ of the NATO Rapid Reaction Corps-Italy is located. Most likely this will be the last Bi-FC conference since both FC will be disbanded in 2013. For that conference in October again the LC Izmir and the new Joint Task Force HQ will be on the agenda.

Photo by French Rapid Reaction Corps