Operations with EUFOR LOT and EUFOR MTT in Bosnia-Herbegovina
Part of EUFOR LOT since 2004

20 Swiss citizens are serving in the mission EUFOR LOT.
Part of EUFOR MTT since 2011

At the most, six Swiss nationals in support of EUFOR MTT.
Bosnia-Herzegovina

The country is about five quarters the size of Switzerland.
Ethnic Distribution

1991

2005

1991

- Croats - more than 66%
- Croats - 50-65%
- Croats - up to 50%

Bosniacs
- more than 66%
- 50-65%
- up to 50%

2005

- Bosniaken
- Serben
- Kroaten

- Croats - more than 66%
- 50-65%
- up to 50%
- Serbs - more than 66%
- 50-65%
- up to 50%
Principles of a UN Intervention

Conflict

UN resolution

Consent of conflicting parties

Finances

Mandate

Troops

Deployment
UN Mandate, Armed Engagement

1. Permanent mission to UN informs MFA / DDPS

2. Provisional decision by Federal Council for an engagement

3. Report by MFA and DDPS or DFC

4. Federal Council: < 100 MAF < 21 days
   Parliament: > 100 MAF > 21 days

5. Planning, recruiting, equipment, training and deployment by SWISSINT
National Legal Basis

Swiss Military Code Article 1, item 4 and article 66:

Mission of the Armed Forces, Art. 1, item 4:
They contribute to international peace support.

Mandate related decisions of the Swiss Federal Council / Parliament

Military service regulations (DRA) ‘annex on peace support service’

Tactics Field Manual (TF) 17 chapter 10 peace support operations

Decree on

- peace-keeping operations personnel, enhancing human rights and humanitarian aid of 25 August 2009
- peace support service of 26 February 1997
Compatible with our Neutrality

1. UN-mandate;
2. Agreement of the conflict parties;
3. Legal basis Swiss military law:
   - Art. 1, Para. 3;
   - Revised article 66 (66a / 66b).
The Dayton Agreement
NATO Missions IFOR and SFOR
Tasks of the EUFOR ALTHEA Mission

1. Contributing to the EU's comprehensive support work in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

2. Contributing to a safe environment with its military presence, to prevent a resurgence of violence and enable the EU and the international community to carry out their tasks.

3. Supporting and training the armed forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina with the aim of reaching international standards.
LOT members are often on the road and talk to people.
Requirement Profile

- Swiss citizenship;
- Medical capability; no open or approved applications for joining the civil service; no current or former affiliation with any foreign military force
- Successfully completed recruit school;
- Successfully completed professional education or Swiss federal baccalaureate and at least eight years of work experience;
- Driving licence, category B;
- Excellent English language skills are a plus;
- Up to 50 years old;
- Successful completion of course (4-12 weeks);
- Available for 8 - 9 months (training + deployment).
Recruitment

Public posting
SWISSCOY / EUFOR LOT members
who extend their term of service
SWISSINT personnel pool

Recruitment procedure

Training course

Deployment
Training is conducted in cooperation with SWISSCOY.
Tasks of the EUFOR MTT Mission

EUFOR has a further mandate relating to ‘knowledge and capability building‘ (also known as ‘capacity building‘).

For this purpose various MTTs (mobile training teams) are deployed throughout the entire country in support of the armed forces in Bosnia Herzegovina (Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina AFBIH).
Swiss Participation in MTT

• The Swiss Armed Forces participate in MTT “Ammunition and Weapons Storage Management” which is concerned with issues relating to weapons and ammunition.
• Austria and Sweden are also involved.
• Switzerland is ‘lead nation’.

• Switzerland’s contribution is based on the Federal council’s decision of 16 February 2011.
• The mission is unarmed.
• Limited to a maximum of six persons deployed at the same time.
MTT Activities

- External camp security (training guard personnel);
- Internal camp safety (training for hazardous goods transports, the handling of fire extinguishers and munitions);
- Development of a specialised training cell ammunition and weapon logistics;
- Support for technical and chemical munitions analysis;
- Establishing a complete loop of life cycle management for ammunition;
- Collection, marking and registration of all small and light weapons.
Aim of MTT

By means of sustainable development of expertise and capability in weapons and ammunition management enable the AFBIH

• to completely and transparently reduce existing surplus stocks;
• to comply with international regulations;
• to guarantee internal and external camp safety at all times and managing inventories correctly;
• to prevent any misuse of munitions and weapons (e.g. illicit trafficking).
Personnel and Finances

No more than two liaison and observation teams are deployed, each consisting of eight members: four staff officers and at the most six MTT experts.

- Budget LOT 2019 CHF 5.419 million
- Budget MTT 2019 CHF 0.962 million
LOT members are always moving in a team of two.
Swiss LOT house in Mostar.
Swiss LOT house in Trebinje.
LOT: Prior to every patrol the team meets to discuss issues.
LOT: Swiss LOT members on patrol.
MTT: Training in the classroom.
MTT: Training for transporting dangerous goods.
MTT: Training in the use of fire extinguishers.
Camp Butmir: EUFOR HQ in Sarajevo.
International Cooperation

Swiss nationals are appreciated by other armed forces because:

• apart from their military expertise, Swiss soldiers also provide much civilian knowledge and skills;
• thanks to their technical expertise, the Swiss soldiers are able to contribute to the success of a mission with niche products that are in demand;
• the Swiss soldiers are multi-lingual;
• the Swiss soldiers are willing to make concessions.
Impression on Location

The local population, authorities and organisations appreciate the Swiss soldiers because:

• Switzerland is neutral;
• Switzerland has no colonial heritage;
• and Swiss soldiers are thus best suited to serve as peace-keepers.
Experiences made

The following practical experience is gained by the Swiss Armed Forces from missions abroad:

• Six months of real mission deployment abroad;
• Practical operational command with strict security conditions;
• Operational cooperation with other armed forces;
• Communication across great distances;
• Logistic supply across international borders.