

## Land Forces

The Land Forces represent the biggest part of the Armed Forces of the Czech Republic. In coordination with other services, they are organized to defend territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Czech Republic. They are intended to meet tasks in favour of the Police of the Czech Republic as well as tasks of crisis prevention and response in both national and Allied scope.

Under a crisis situation and under state of war, they form the keystone of operation task force and they become part of the allied joint force. They are complemented by mobilized units and formations.

The Land Forces cooperate with state administration authorities, with representatives of local governments and businesses, with schools, and other institutions, organizations and associations. They contribute to significant projects and events organized for the general public.

Development and further build up of the land forces' units and facilities is aimed at achieving the target operational capabilities. It means that the development must proceed so they may perform the following missions:

- Participation in performing the missions at securing the defence of state and in fulfilling other tasks of the armed forces on national territory based on country's constitution (defensive and offensive combat activities, protect communications, buildings and premises beyond the area of direct combat activities, and monitor situation in the assigned area);
- Participation in combat operations in accordance with international treaties (keeping peace and order and protecting civilian population in peacekeeping operations (Washington Treaty non-article 5) and other non-standard operations beyond national territory, enhancing protection of the national border, guarding of important facilities).

Modern Ground Forces have to be developed in harmony with the country's economic resources as a relatively small but highly effective force. It should satisfy the requirements set upon the formation of purpose-built groupings (task forces). These are formed depending on the kind of threat in order to be interoperable with other allied forces. Decisive part of the ground forces is to be located in backbone military garrisons nearby military training areas. Newly, psychological operations (PSYOPS) and Civil-Military Cooperation (CIMIC) Centre were introduced as elements of the ground forces.

### **Structure:**

#### **4th Rapid Deployment Brigade at Zatec**

- 41st Mechanised Battalion at Zatec
- 42nd Mechanised Battalion at Tabor
- 43rd Airborne Battalion at Chrudim
- 44th Light Motorised Battalion at Jindrichuv Hradec

#### **7th Mechanised Brigade at Hranice**

- 71st Mechanised Battalion at Hranice
- 72nd Mechanised Battalion at Praslavice
- 73rd Tank Battalion at Praslavice
- 74th Light Motorised Battalion at Bucovice

### **13th Artillery Brigade at Jince**

- 131st Artillery Battalion at Jince
- 132nd Artillery Battalion at Jince

Resource: <http://www.army.cz/scripts/detail.php?id=6819>;

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#### **Exercises:**

##### **1. Answer the following questions.**

1. Can you characterize the very nature of the ground forces?
2. How may the structure look like?
3. What are the basic missions of the ground forces?
4. What requirements should they satisfy?
5. What are the new elements of the ground forces?

##### **2. Match the words with their meanings.**

**to meet** - fulfil or satisfy what is required,

**readiness** - the state of being ready or prepared, as for use or action

**allies** - One that is allied with another, especially by treaty:

**task force** - a temporary grouping of military units or forces under one commander for the performance of a specific operation or assignment.

**decisive** - having the power to decide; conclusive; characterized by decision and firmness; resolute.

**to complement** - Something that completes, makes up a whole, or brings to perfection

**sovereignty** – the quality of being an independent self-governing country

**treaty** - a formal agreement between two or more countries

**deployment** - spreading out, using or arranging for action, esp. for military action

**integrity** - the quality or state of being complete; unbroken condition

##### **3. Fill the gaps in the following text with words from the choice.**

**train            national        task            hostilities        agreements**  
**fulfillment    decisive        territory        meet            allied**

The Land Forces are the main and \_\_\_\_\_ force of the Army of the Czech Republic. In cooperation with other services they are capable of defending the national \_\_\_\_\_ as a whole in compliance with the Articles 3 and 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty. In emergency situations and in the event of \_\_\_\_\_ they constitute the core of operational groupings and they become part of the allied grouping operating on the territory of the country. They are built up by mobilized units and formations. The Land Forces are also designed for \_\_\_\_\_ of commitment ensuing from international \_\_\_\_\_.

To be able to \_\_\_\_\_ their tasks, the Land Forces have relevant organizational structure modeled after that of Western armies. The organizational structure makes it possible to prepare and \_\_\_\_\_ military professionals for national defence \_\_\_\_\_.

In compliance with the new Concept of the Build-up of the ACR, the Land Forces will continue to be the core of the operational forces designed for \_\_\_\_\_ defence, or they will operate as part of the \_\_\_\_\_ force structure.

**KEY:** 1 decisive; 2 territory; 3 hostilities; 4 fulfillment; 5 agreements; 6 meet; 7 train; 8 task; 9 national; 10 allied.

**4. Complete the chart with suitable nouns, verbs and adjectives.**

<b>Noun</b>	<b>Verb</b>	<b>Adjective</b>
<i>decision</i>	<i>decide</i>	<i>decisive</i>
cooperation		
	defend	
		allied
	contribute	-----
operation		
	commit	-----
	govern	

**Key:**

<b>Noun</b>	<b>Verb</b>	<b>Adjective</b>
<i>decision</i>	<i>decide</i>	<i>decisive</i>
cooperation	<b>cooperate</b>	
<b>defence</b>	defend	<b>defensive</b>
ally	ally	allied
<b>contribution</b>	contribute	-----
operation		
<b>commitment</b>	commit	-----
<b>government</b>	govern	<b>governing</b>

**5. Fill in the gaps in the text with appropriate expressions from the choice.**

*training      defend      located      territory      courses      bases*  
*territorial      foreign countries      subordinate      non*  
*headquarters      tasks*

Land Forces form the basic and decisive part of the Army of the Czech Republic (ACR). They are established to defend .....1..... integrity and sovereignty of the Czech Republic.

The .....2..... of the Land Forces was established as an operational level of command on November 1, 1997. It is an authority for a complex command and control of the Land Forces on the .....3..... of the Czech Republic being directly .....4..... to the ACR General Staff.

To be able to fulfil their .....5..... the Land Forces have the necessary organisational structure which is adapted to the structure of the western armies.

It consists of brigades, training and mobilisation .....6....., independent units and facilities. The organisational structure enables to train conscripts to .....7..... our fatherland: they apply the knowledge learned at the beginning of their service when they serve in individual units .....8..... all over the Czech Republic.

Main emphasis of the co-operation is put on mutual exchange of units at joint training, expert discussions about the staff work, exchange of study visits in .....9..... sending of our officers-observers to .....10..... and our .....11..... -commissioned officers of extended service to upgrading study stays abroad.

The knowledge and experience increase the quality of .....12..... in the units.

**Key:** 1) territorial, 2) headquarters, 3) territory, 4) subordinate, 5) tasks, 6) bases, 7) defend, 8) located, 9) foreign countries, 10) courses, 11) non-, 12) training.