

## NATO Summit in Washington: Focusing on Asia

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*Some of the summit's decisions point to the growing interconnections between the alliance and a number of Asian states.*

Although NATO is formally limited to the Euro-Atlantic region, the tentacles of this aggressive alliance extend to [the Middle East](#), [Africa](#) and the Pacific region. The anniversary NATO summit in the United States showed that cooperation with Washington's satellites will take place not only through AUKUS and QUAD, but also through the headquarters in Brussels. The goal is obvious - the incitement of Asian partners against Russia, China and North Korea. So far, through various cooperation projects and the creation of provocations. Potentially - using them as 'cannon fodder' in a possible conflict.

On the very first day of the NATO summit, it was reported that the alliance and US partners in the Indo-Pacific region - Japan, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand (the leaders of all four countries attended the summit) - will launch four new joint projects to deepen cooperation. This was announced by US **National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan** at a meeting of representatives of the defense industry on the first day of the NATO summit in Washington. The projects will focus on Ukraine, artificial intelligence, disinformation and cybersecurity.

[According to him](#), "each initiative is different from the others, but the main goal is the same: to use the unique advantages of highly effective democracies to solve common global problems," and "what is happening in Europe affects the Indo-Pacific region and what is happening in the Indo-Pacific region affects Europe".

At the same forum, US **Deputy Secretary of Defense Kathleen Hicks** said that "the transatlantic defense industrial base is at a turning point" and that cooperation with

Indo-Pacific partners such as Australia, Japan and South Korea on joint arms production and joint maintenance of ships and aircraft will benefit everyone.

Clearly, this should also be regarded as sending weapons and ammunition to the Kiev regime, which the West continues to use against Russia.

In the declaration of the summit, [it was stated](#) in one of the paragraphs that “the Indo-Pacific region is important for NATO, since events in this region directly affect Euro-Atlantic security. We welcome the continued contribution of our partners from the Asia-Pacific region to Euro-Atlantic security. We are strengthening dialogue to solve interregional problems and expanding our practical cooperation...”

It should be noted that Japan’s interaction with NATO has already become a routine phenomenon, and after the signing of new agreements between Russia and the DPRK, all kinds of phobias have noticeably increased in Tokyo. Last year, Japan expanded its partnership with NATO by signing an individually developed partnership program. This document emphasizes that Japan is a natural partner of NATO and that both NATO and Japan agree to expand security cooperation in all areas of warfare.

In addition to NATO, Japan is also actively negotiating and signing new Reciprocal Access Agreement (RAA) in the field of military training and capacity building with NATO member countries. Japan signed the RAA with the United Kingdom in early 2023. Negotiations are currently underway to conclude such an agreement with France. Japan and Italy also have an Action Plan for 2027, which includes various economic and defense issues, as Italy is also a key partner of Japan in developing the next generation fighter.

Although the United States [notes](#) that “Japan’s partnership with NATO has limits. The organization will not be able to stand up for Japan, even if it comes into conflict with Russia, China or North Korea. But NATO member states, especially the United States, could certainly provide Japan with military and non-military support, if necessary.”

South Korea is also limited in its ability to cooperate with NATO and its members. However, there are a number of opportunities for trilateral cooperation between the United States, Japan and South Korea.

Japan is already planning to hold joint military exercises with the forces of Germany and Spain, members of NATO, in July. They will take place on the island of Hokkaido, which is located south of the Kuril Islands. Russia has already [protested](#) against the upcoming exercises and announced adequate countermeasures.

It was also [noted](#) that in less than six months, Japan has conducted about 30 such maneuvers with 14 countries. This indicates Tokyo’s clear desire to escalate.

This cannot be said, for example, about the Philippines, which has begun to distance itself from interaction with the United States. The day before, the military of this country announced that they would bring out American medium-range missile systems. In June 2024, the Chinese Defense Minister warned that the deployment of such weapons in the region harms the security regime. Although the Philippines have been working closely with Washington lately, it seems that they have begun to realize that the Yankees just want to use them against China. And in Manila, they began to think more rationally, thinking about the consequences.

As for Australia and New Zealand, being Anglo-Saxon entities, these two countries have long been following in the wake of the United States, also being in the intelligence community of the “Five Eyes” along with Canada and Britain.

On the final day of the summit, on July 11, all heads of the Asian states met with the NATO leadership, at which Stoltenberg individually complimented each of them and pointed out their own regional opponents, such as China, North Korea, Russia and even Iran, emphasizing the importance of future joint work.

As for the areas that will overlap in the field of interaction with Washington’s Asian agents, it should be noted that at the NATO summit they also [agreed](#) to open a new integrated cyber defense center, [agreed on](#) a defense industry development plan and [adopted](#) an updated artificial intelligence strategy.

It is also known that NATO countries are [planning](#) to develop the first-ever commercial space strategy to accelerate the introduction of new technologies into their armed forces, based in part on recommendations prepared by a government-industrial working group sponsored by NATO and the US Chamber of Commerce.

It is significant that on the eve of the NATO summit on July 4, the new member of the alliance, Sweden, [adopted](#) the first-ever military space strategy. Given these factors, most likely, work in the space sector, albeit with commercial cover, was previously agreed among the participants of the military bloc.

All these signals cannot but cause concern not only to Russia, as well as China, North Korea and Iran, but also to the vast majority of countries and their citizens. After all, the lessons of history have shown that NATO is an aggressive military bloc that does not care about the norms of international law (the experience of Yugoslavia), and its intervention extends far beyond the Atlantic (the experience of Libya). And since the world economic center has already shifted to Asia, NATO’s interest in this region does not bode well. And only a powerful counter-alliance, such as the SCO and other less formal associations, can help to contain their insinuations.

P.S. While Washington was talking about the future of Ukraine and interrelated issues of “security“, the Russian military freed several more settlements in the Donbass, previously controlled by the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

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