



Main titles from the study:

- ***About terrorism in general***
- ***CBRN threat***
- ***NATO's place and role in the international system of the fight against terrorism***
- ***NATO activities***
 - *Application of Article 5*
 - *Operations*
 - *Political dialogue*
 - *Abilities*
 - *Challenges and opportunities*
- ***Probability of the use of weapons of mass destruction by terrorists***
- ***Bibliography***

Annotation

The study of the possibility of attacks with non-conventional weapons and their analysis by experts received a new impetus after the events of September 11th. After the events in New York, the nightmare of the use of weapons of mass destruction became more real, although there was no doubt before that terrorists were already making such attempts (like the 1995 sarin gas attack on the Tokyo subway by the Japanese sect Aum Shinrikyo). Terrorists who pose a “new” threat, do not set a specific, short-term political goal, seek to reach a large number of victims and at the same time intimidate the civilian population, would obviously take advantage of the opportunities offered by CBRN weapons. Analysts agree that the possibility of such an attack cannot be ruled out, however, individual assessments differ as to its probability and timing.

NATO's role in the fight against terrorism should be examined in the context of the Alliance's transformation process; differing views on NATO's place and role in the international system inevitably have an impact on the extent of its commitment to the fight against terrorism. And while there is a consensus within NATO to view international terrorism as a real threat to the security of the entire Euro-Atlantic area, this is far from the way to address the challenges.

Due to the complexity of terrorism, NATO does not have direct competence in many areas, so it must find its place within its existing capabilities; however, this may go beyond strict military action and allow for active, effective contributions in a number of other areas (eg consequence management, scientific programs, civil emergency planning).

The transformation needed to fight terrorism is an important factor in capacity and structure development. One result of this is the transformation of the command structure, with the creation of the Allied Command Transformation, which, in addition to the ACO (Allied Command Operations), focuses on the effective conduct of NATO's transformation.