



U.S. SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND EUROPE

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U.S. Special Operations Forces and NATO Allies Prepare for Arctic Exercise

Adamant Serpent 26

NORWAY – U.S. Special Operations Forces and NATO Allies will unite in the High North for Exercise Adamant Serpent 26 on 12-29 October. Conducted since 2021 and led by U.S. Special Operations Command Europe, this annual exercise is designed to enhance readiness and interoperability with Allied special operations forces.

This year's exercise will focus on U.S. SOF and NATO Allies applying modern tactical warfighting techniques throughout Norway and Sweden. Nearly 400 U.S. Danish, Norwegian and Swedish forces will participate, demonstrating advanced operational integration to rapidly deploy units to arctic and subarctic environments.

"Adapting to modern warfare requires a united front," said Lt. Gen. Richard Angle, Commander, U.S. Special Operations Command Europe. "Exercise Adamant Serpent demonstrates the robust partnership between the U.S. and our NATO Allies as we collaborate to address challenges in the High North."



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The exercise will demonstrate the U.S. and NATO Allies special operation forces' unique ability to deter and defend through rapid response in a coordinated approach.

"Our Special Operations Forces are a key enabler," Angle said. "They will provide critical capabilities that address complex security challenges in response to adversarial aggression."

The integrated approach of Adamant Serpent is fundamental to exercise success. For example, essential infrastructure and training areas are provided by Norway, which is critical for maintaining readiness and facilitating complex operations.

"Adamant Serpent is a very strategic exercise and with current global security dynamics, this gives a realistic backdrop," said Brig. Gen. Thomas Harlem, Warfare Center, Norwegian Air Force. "The interoperability with U.S. and Allied forces, combined with air support, is important to secure the High North. It's ideal for training in high-readiness, joint-forces operations. We are pleased to have U.S. forces at Rygge Air Base during the exercise and will provide good support and hospitality."

The interoperability of NATO Allies exemplified by Norway's contributions is further enhanced by Sweden's role in providing critical training areas that prepare forces for the challenges of a rapidly evolving multi-domain battlespace.



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“Hosting exercises such as these is important for us for many reasons,” said Lt. Gen. Carl-Johan Edström, chief of the Defense Staff, Swedish Armed Forces. “It enhances our operational effect, and it shows our shared commitment to the security of the Baltic Sea Region and the High North.”

Adamant Serpent 26 aims to reinforce NATO Allies’ ability to deploy, fight, and win as a unified, multinational force, emphasizing preparedness that cannot wait until conflict arises.

For more information about Adamant Serpent 26, contact the U.S. Special Operations Command Europe Public Affairs Office at +49 (0) 711-7073-4048, or via email at soceurlistpaoall@socom.mil.