

Mr. President / Mr. Chairman (*bitte geeignete Anrede wählen*),

ladies and gentlemen,

I thank you for the opportunity to clear up the question, from the point of view of a German relief organization, in what way NGOs can contribute to the European Security and Defence Policy.

I do so from the perspective of the Johanniter-Unfall-Hilfe, which operates on both the national and international level, but I hope that I can also speak for the other diversified relief organizations in Germany that have a similar structure.

Who are we?

The Johanniter-Unfall-Hilfe was founded in 1952 as an affiliate of the evangelical Johanniter Order. The spirit in which the help is offered is expressed in the preamble of the statute of our association. The preamble states: "In the awareness of the tradition of Christian Charity, to which the Johanniter have been committed for centuries, and challenged by the distress and dangers in the world, Johanniter-Unfall-Hilfe, in responsibility before God, will assist suffering people of our time. Our association is a non-profit organization. It is a recognized voluntary relief association seeking to improve the fate of the wounded and ill and of the armed forces in the field. We regard this status as fundamentally right and essential.

Currently, the JUH has more than about 10,300 full-time aid workers and approximately 22,000 volunteers. Volunteer work is particularly encouraged, and when an individual is selected for carrying out a

specific operation the selection criterion is not if he or she is a full-time or part-time aid worker but rather if he or she has the required skills and is psychologically and physically fit for the operation.

Further statistics are given on the slide.

Specifically in Germany, the relief organizations work according to the principle of subsidiarity. This means that the state draws upon the skills of the relief organizations while, by mutual agreement with the “Humanitarian Aid Coordination Committee”, the administration and management are handled by the relief organizations. The state steps in only when they reach the limits of their capabilities. Each foreign assignment is coordinated by this Coordination Committee of the Foreign Office and corresponds to the individual specialized skills of the individual relief organizations. What is requested, however, is that the capabilities and cooperations be combined and interlinked, as has been done by the Johanniter-Unfall-Hilfe by developing a special alliance with the Federal Agency for Technical Relief (THW = Technisches Hilfswerk), an institution of the Federal Ministry of the Interior. In this context, the two organizations aim at a joint international certification. Examples of joint activities include an operation carried out in Goma and a relief mission in New Orleans in 2005.

The funding of NGO operations includes a variety of factors. In Germany the logistic, personnel and operative costs are usually pre-financed by the relief organizations. The next step is a partial financing through the German Foreign Office, arranged by mutual consent. This is followed by further contractual agreements on the international level with the UNO or ECHO. One essential factor that must be mentioned as the main driver

for the activities of the relief organizations in case of disasters or operations abroad are the unbelievable donations from the population. Let me just recall the tsunami disaster or the fabulous way in which the operation in the earthquake disaster area in Pakistan was financed.

What are the tasks that the NGOs want to accomplish during the operations?

Medical help and care is only the second task to be addressed. The first priority is basic medical care – sufficient clean drinking water, sufficient food supply, sanitary equipment, shelter. Medical help and care, which I as a medical man consider extremely important, have rarely been required in recent years because the medical know-how available in the affected areas was sufficient to cope with the problems by itself. One of the problems is caring for the rescue dogs and ensuring the supply at the place of operation. What is required here is transportation to referral hospitals on district level.

There are training and educational activities performed together with international partners following a specific and well-defined pattern. One of the training aspects, for example, is providing medical care for rescue dogs, which is quite a significant factor of the training if you look at the time needed to deal with this topic.

As a basic principle, the JUH immediate aid operations are always carried out in cooperation with partner organizations so that the core competences of others can be drawn upon and the JUH's own core competences can be used by others. The big advantage of the Johanniter-Unfall-Hilfe is that, in addition to the necessary networks needed in the specific situation, it can use the connections of the Johanniter Order such as, for example, the cooperation with the St.

Jones Ambulance in the United Kingdom and our sister association in Austria, Hungary, Finland and the Netherlands.

We are well aware that we can be strong only through cooperation.

The tasks to the relief organizations are presented in picture no. 6.

Again, they show that medical help and care is only a secondary task, allowing us to make careful use of our resources in terms of operative specialists. Beside immediate aid, the work also includes emergency aid, rebuilding aid and development cooperation. Here our dialogue partner is the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development.

Looking at the health sector in particular, we specialize in our orthopedic programs for mine victims.

By the way, the Johanniter-Unfall-Hilfe is currently active with more than 100 projects in 31 countries.

Let me just mention the malaria aid in Chad, basic health care projects, mobile outpatient clinics in Georgia, Israel and Kenya, first aid programs in Afghanistan.

As part of the strategic alliance with the THW, the Federal Agency of Technical Relief, we ensured medical care for the 94 THW aid workers in New Orleans. Our relief organization readily cooperates with the Bundeswehr, the German armed forces, especially as many aid workers in leading positions are former Bundeswehr members. This is why the cooperation of the Bundeswehr with the Johanniter-Unfall-Hilfe is to be acknowledged in the first place. Without the Bundeswehr the relief organizations would be unable to work in Afghanistan.

Now let me get onto the subject of the cooperation with the Bundeswehr:

The Bundeswehr transported Johanniter relief goods to Macedonia.

We took over and operated a medical point that had been established by the Bundeswehr in the Neprosteni refugee camp in Macedonia. In Kosovo, rebuilding aid and famine prevention were provided together with the civil-military unit of the German KFOR troops.

By all means, I want to draw your attention to one danger point of the cooperation, namely the neutrality and impartiality that we demand, which in Iraq and Afghanistan has diminished the population's trust in the relief organizations. The "embedded" NGOs, as the US military wants to have them in Iraq, maybe comply with the former CIMIC strategy but, in my view, are not compatible with modern peace policy. They even inhibit the activity of relief organizations, as we can currently observe in Afghanistan.

I don't want to address the advantages and disadvantages of the military operation and the relief organizations right now. I would rather like to point out in what way the NGOs can contribute to the European Security and Defence Policy. NGOs should enter into contracts only upon agreement with national bodies or in international collaboration with UN suborganizations and, in the first place, should be certified.

The relief organizations acting in small groups consist of well-trained specialists who can work either on a full-time or on a volunteer basis.

They are assigned to perform differentiated tasks according to their specialized skills and fulfill the statutory requirements of the individual relief organizations. As an example, let me mention the provision of the population with basic supplies, medical care. Further relief measures can be agreed upon and carried out on the basis of contracts. I only mention here the Johanniter field hospital in Kataplain in Pakistan that was successfully handed over to the Pakistani authorities in April 2006. These unbelievable achievements are possible, too. The relief organizations should ensure the sustainability of what they do though the time of their operation is limited.

Apart from a wide array of disadvantages that we are well aware of and that we keep working on, there are several advantages that the military may well leverage. The NGOs get to the place of operation very quickly. They principally find broad acceptance among the population. The resources of the specific country are being used, and the operation of the relief organizations is extremely flexible.

The NGOs should not go on any mission on their own initiative but only when requested to do so by state authorities on a national and international level so that chaotic action and ensuing unnecessary turbulence will be avoided. The scope of duties should be defined in advance in order to achieve efficient job performance. The operation should be clearly defined, particularly in terms of the duration and the sustainability of the mission. All this is indispensable in order to ensure that every single NGO will become a calculable partner in the afflicted country.

We take into account that peace enforcement, peacekeeping and strengthening peace-building are essential tasks of the armed forces. Durable security can be achieved neither solely nor primarily by military means but requires the close coordination of civil political elements, humanitarian, economic as well as military and police elements. The developments in Kosovo and Afghanistan, for example, show us how important it actually is to understand this. Cooperation therefore is a fundamental necessity. The relief organizations are willing and prepared to make their contribution.

I hope I have been able to provide you some insight into the capabilities of the relief organizations and thank you for your attention.

Johanniter-Unfall-Hilfe e.V.

International Assistance



What can NGOs contribute to European Security and Defence Policy?

Professor Horst Wilms

Medical Director



Johanniter-Unfall-Hilfe

- Enterprise of the protestant order, founded in 1952
- Solely founded for charitable and non-profit purposes
- Is recognised as a voluntary relief organisation in accordance with the first Geneva Convention, dated August 12, 1949
- Professional association of „Diakonisches Werk“ of the „Protestant Church in Germany“ (EKD)

Johanniter-Unfall-Hilfe in numbers

- 10,333 full-time aid workers
- 21,907 volunteers
- 1.5 million members
- Approx. 580 million Euro revenue
- 9 national associations
- Approx. 220 regional and district chapters

7 Principles of ICRC adapted by German NGOs

- Humanity
- Impartiality
- Neutrality
- Independancy
- Voluntariness
- Unity
- Universality

Financing a NGO-Mission

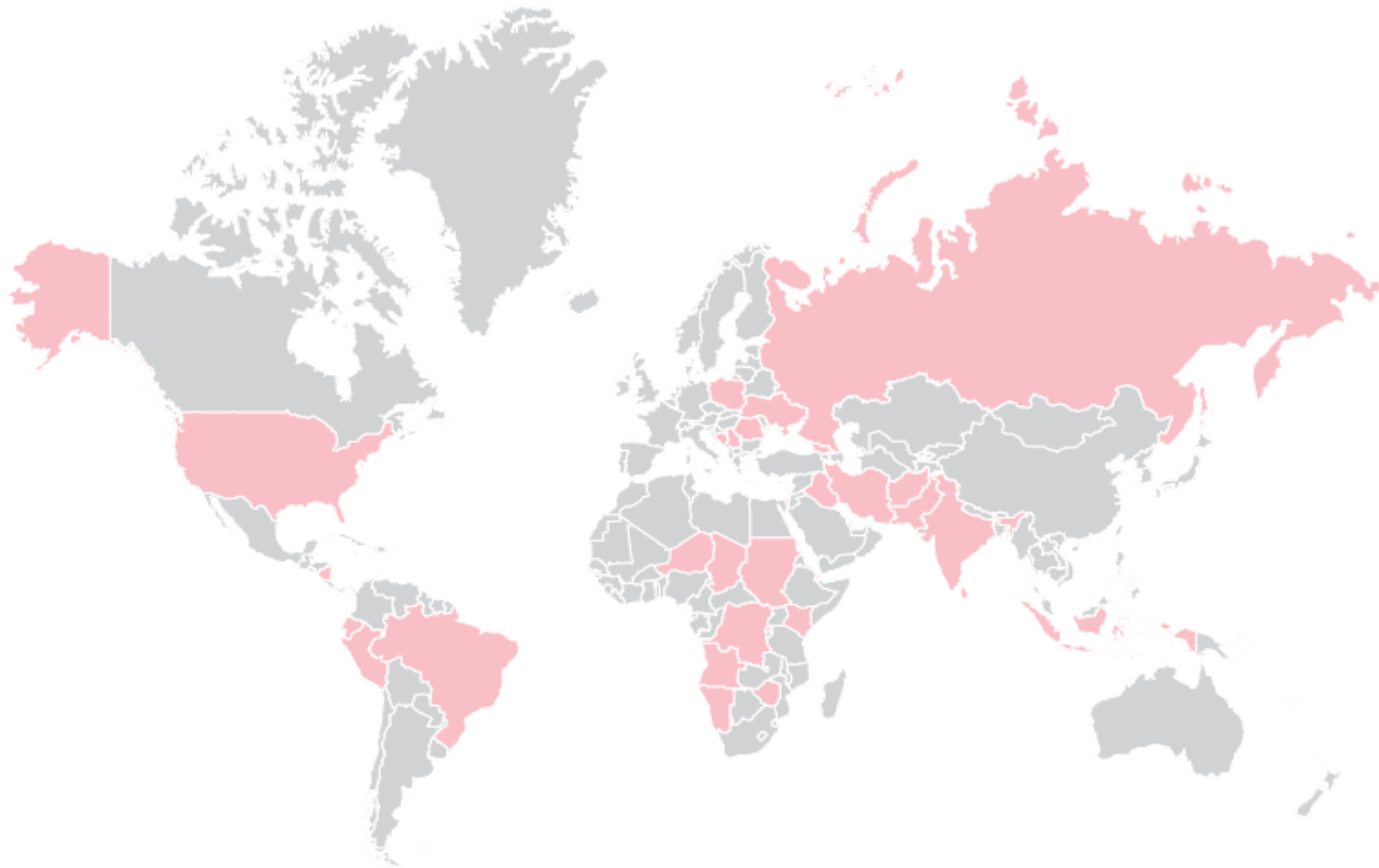
- Start-up financing
- Timely partial financing by German Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Contract arrangements with UN / ECHO
- Donations of the populace

Tasks of NGOs

Basic medical care

- potable water
- sufficient food supply
- installation of hygienic units
- shelter
- medical attention
- canines
- On-site support
- transportation of patients to referral hospitals

Projects World-wide



US Disaster Relief Following Hurricane "Katrina"



As part of a strategic alliance, Johanniter provided medical care for 94 THW aid workers stationed in New Orleans.

Kosovo



Afghanistan



How the NGOs can contribute to the European Security & Defence Policy

- NGOs only upon request by the state authorities on a national and international level
- Deployment of NGOs according to their specialized skills and statutory tasks (for example, provision of the population with basic supplies, medical care)
- Further aid measures (field hospital, for example)
- Guarantor of sustainability
- Limited time of operation



www.thejohanniter.de