

## Joint Declaration between Iceland and Norway on defence cooperation

Iceland and Norway, Allies in NATO and strong regional partners, will work together and with other NATO allies and Nordic Partners in meeting the security challenges facing the Euro-Atlantic area.

We firmly support NATO's adaptation and strengthened deterrence and defence posture, based on a 360-degree approach and strong transatlantic unity. Both Iceland and Norway are contributing to this shared effort.

There are increasing challenges in the maritime domain across NATO's area of responsibility, including in the North-Atlantic. As North-Atlantic maritime Allies, Iceland and Norway have a significant role to play in monitoring and responding to increasing military activities that have implications for Euro-Atlantic security. In particular, we need to strengthen NATO's ability to maintain the transatlantic sea lines of communications.

Norway is making significant investments in new maritime capabilities, including submarines, ships and maritime patrol aircraft. Iceland is increasing funding for defence-related activities and is committed to providing host nation support for Allies operating in the region.

We will continue to actively contribute to reinforcing the Alliance maritime posture and presence, given its prevalence for NATO's credible deterrence and defence, not least in the North-Atlantic.

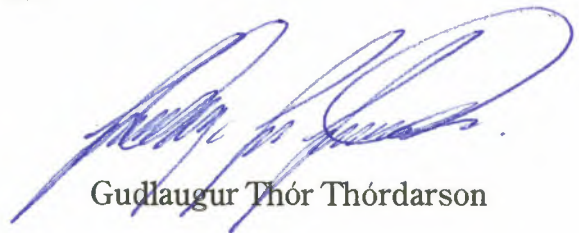
We are working closely together in preparing for NATO's High Visibility Exercise 2018, Trident Juncture, focusing on the defence of Norway, Iceland and the North-Atlantic.

The longstanding defence cooperation between Iceland and Norway, based on our NATO membership and our bilateral agreement on Security, Defence and Civil Preparedness, continues to evolve, taking into account emerging challenges and threats. We will explore further opportunities for joint exercises, information sharing, training, education and cooperation on strategic communications.

Oslo, 22 March 2017



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