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## Do we Need a New Approach to Overall Defence? – Perspectives from the Finnish Comprehensive Approach

### 1) Total Defence – small country's survival method

- The end of WW2 left Europe divided. Finland thought it was a Western democracy, but its freedom was challenged by the mighty neighbor, superpower Soviet Union.
- Finnish Total Defence concept was developed during the cold war. Greatest development was achieved in the field of security of supply. Finland created concepts for private-public partnership with companies critical for nation
- Conscription, territorial defence and collaboration by all the sectors of society created basis for the future collaboration model. The overall security planning was led by the MOD until the beginning on this millennium

### 2) The Finnish Concept for Comprehensive security

- What is the difference between Total Defence and Comprehensive Security? Some say that it is only rhetorical. I say otherwise. There is a big difference in the mindset in how to cope with collaboration.
- The comprehensive security is a competent authority based planning and implementation concept. It is based on rule of law and authorities' legitimate tasks. The case of a war is no longer the only major threat scenario to plan the society's security. The model can be described as all-hazards model.
- The shift from the Total Defence to Comprehensive Security has been a great success for Finnish concept. It has allowed broader approach towards preparedness planning, which helps to counter for example hybrid threats.
- The Comprehensive Security concept offers more possibilities for private companies and organizations to participate in joint preparedness planning and exercising.

### 3) New approach – new skills

- Cyber does not recognize state borders nor traditional border control mechanisms.
- The hybrid phenomenon offers no significant new aspects for indirect and direct influencing for society's vital functions. Yet it is a good framework to collaborate and to understand interdependencies of critical infrastructure elements.



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- Both cyber and hybrid require efficient collaboration from different security sectors. The Finnish Concept suggests security collaboration forums at every operational level, from municipalities to regions and state level.
- At the State level, the Security Committee has a vital role discussing and suggesting collaborative preparedness solutions. The Committee represents the National Preparedness Report every year to the president of Republic and to the government.
- Currently we are improving our capabilities in analysis and planning and upgrading collaboration skills. These examples show how the Finnish Comprehensive Security Concept has developed but also keeps developing in the future for the safety and security of our Nation.

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