



**LETTER OF INTENT
BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF FINLAND
AND
THE VIRGINIA NATIONAL GUARD**

THIS LETTER OF INTENT reflects a partnership between the **Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Finland** and the **Virginia National Guard**.

TOGETHER, we intend to forge a mutually beneficial relationship founded on the needs and interests of both militaries.

WE INTEND to share our mutual expertise and strengthen our capabilities through military and civilian exchanges.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE North Atlantic Treaty done at Washington, April 4, 1949; the Agreement between the Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty regarding the Status of Their Forces, done at London, June 19, 1951, and the Defence Cooperation Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Finland, signed at Washington D.C., December 18, 2023.

WE STRIVE for an enduring partnership between the Ministry of Defence of Finland and the National Guard of the Commonwealth of Virginia; which inter alia may include the following areas:

The forthcoming cooperation will be capability driven. We intend to focus our cooperation primarily on Army, Air Force and cyber domain. In addition, the cooperation will include inter alia electronic warfare, reconnaissance, surveillance, targeting, joint effects and voluntary defence training. The cooperation will consist of mutual training, exercises and cooperation between different military branches. Cooperation activities under this Letter of Intent will be subject to separate national decisions when needed.

WE INTEND to annually coordinate the individual activities in the above-mentioned areas of cooperation.

THIS LETTER OF INTENT does not create any legal or financial obligations under national or international law and is not a legally binding agreement.

For the Ministry of Defence
of the Republic of Finland

Antti Häkkinen
Minister of Defence

Major General James Ring
The Adjutant General of Virginia

Governor Glenn Youngkin
The Governor of Virginia

Helsinki Finland 22th of May 2024