



Please contact NORAD and USNORTHCOM Homeland Defense Strategy Team (J521) at [n-nc.peterson.n.ncj5.mbx.j52-omb@mail.mil](mailto:n-nc.peterson.n.ncj5.mbx.j52-omb@mail.mil) for questions or additional information.



# NORAD and USNORTHCOM **STRATEGY** UNCLASSIFIED KEYNOTES

## NORTH AMERICAN AEROSPACE DEFENSE COMMAND

MISSION: The North American Aerospace Defense Command conducts aerospace warning, aerospace control and maritime warning in the defense of North America.

## UNITED STATES NORTHERN COMMAND

MISSION: Defend our homeland – deter, detect, deny, and defeat threats to the United States, conduct security cooperation activities with Allies and partners, and support civil authorities.



**DEFEND THE HOMELANDS  
STRENGTHEN THE NETWORK  
ADVANCE THE WORKFORCE**



## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### NORAD AND USNORTHCOM STRATEGY

SIPR Portal Homepage -> CCDR's Corner -> CCDR Comms: Strategy and Posture

### JOINT STRATEGIC PLANNING SYSTEM (JSPS) STRATEGIC GUIDANCE LIBRARY (NDS, NMS, NSS, etc.)

SIPR Portal Homepage -> Directorates -> J5 -> J52 -> J521

### OPERATIONS

NORAD - <https://www.norad.mil>

USNORTHCOM - <https://www.northcom.mil>

PUBLIC AFFAIRS - <https://www.northcom.mil/contact/>

### INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT

N&NC Industry Engagement Team – [n-nc.peterson-ncj8.mbx.st-engagements-synchronization@mail.mil](mailto:n-nc.peterson-ncj8.mbx.st-engagements-synchronization@mail.mil)

### ACADEMIC RESOURCES & OPPORTUNITIES

North American Defense and Security Academic Alliance (NADSAA) – <https://www.northcom.mil/Educational/North-American-Defense-and-Security-Academic-Alliance/>

N&NC Volunteer Student Internship Program (VSIP)  
<https://www.northcom.mil/Educational/North-American-Defense-and-Security-Academic-Alliance/#internships>

Homeland Defense Institute (HDI) -  
<https://www.linkedin.com/company/homeland-defense-institute>

Ted Stevens Center (TSC) – <https://tedstevensarcticcenter.org/contact/>

The Watch – <https://thewatch-journal.com>

# RISK & CONCLUSION

## RISK

Our adversaries have made capability advancements and modified their strategic approaches. If left unchecked, this produces two types of risk that this strategy seeks to address. First, there is physical risk to our nations posed by adversary weapons if we lack conventional capabilities to deter and defeat them. Second, such attacks on our nations imperil our ability to project power and therefore effectively respond and prevail abroad. This strategy is a means to mitigate these risks. We must have a globally integrated approach to continental defense. Successful execution of this strategy, including continued development of necessary information and protection capabilities will mitigate risk not only to those at home, but also our ability to protect our Allies and advance our interests abroad.

## CONCLUSION

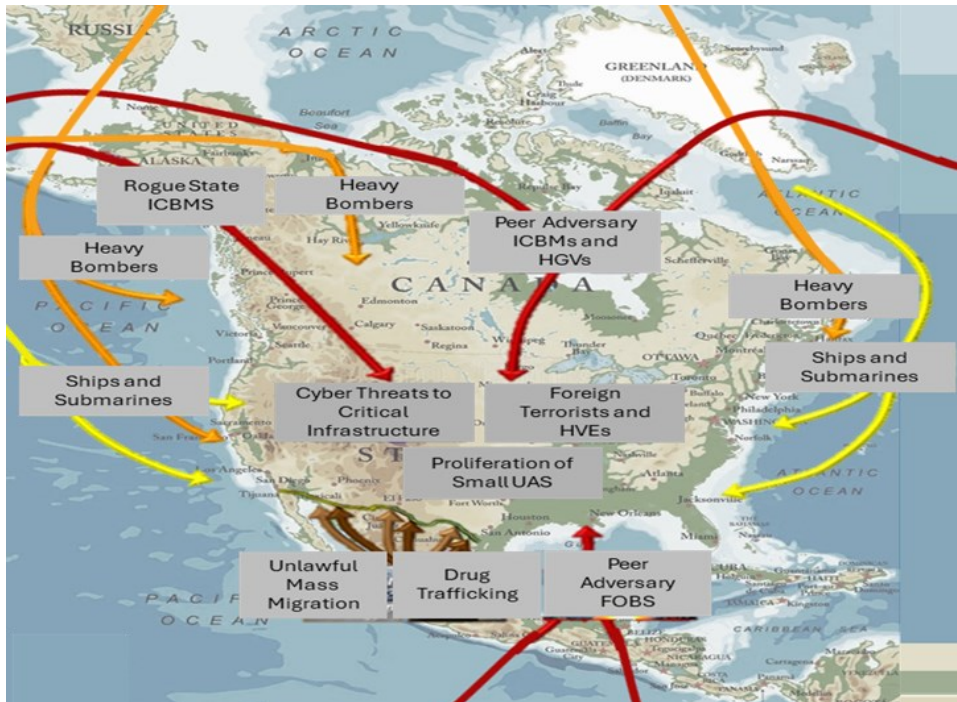
NORAD and USNORTHCOM must continually adapt to a dynamic strategic environment to remain relevant. Achieving strategic advantage requires the utilization of the Strategic Principles to drive a threat-informed time-of-need approach and seek a by-design homeland defense architecture. In the rapidly evolving strategic environment, integration and strong partnerships are crucial to assuring common national security interests and achieving competitive advantage. NORAD and USNORTHCOM place a premium on the U.S. and Canadian binational relationship and on domestic and regional partnerships across the Whole-of-Government. NORAD and USNORTHCOM will continue to strengthen the relationships across the constellation of mission partners to integrate and synchronize efforts in meeting mutual security challenges and look to the future to enhance both nations' shared contributions to the defense of North America.





# STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENT

Threats to North America are growing more complex and diverse. Strategic competitors are developing new ways to threaten North America above and below the nuclear threshold, aiming to deter strategic attack, discourage Western intervention, and limit crisis response options. Adversaries are pursuing capabilities that undermine strategic stability by restricting warning and narrowing leaders' decision space. While strategic competitors seek to avoid a direct military conflict with the United States and Canada, potential flashpoints worldwide could escalate into strategic conflicts. The advent of cyberattack tools and intercontinental-range weapons enables our adversaries to pose a persistent threat to North America in multiple domains and from multiple vectors. Additionally, Russia, the PRC, the DPRK, and Iran have built stronger ties that could quickly evolve into coordinated military operations that advance each adversary's ability to threaten North America. The continent is no longer a sanctuary.



## GLOBAL INTEGRATION

Global integration means communicating across silos and leveraging Allies' and partners' strengths to ensure defense of the continent. It requires identifying existing networks for integration, curating relationships, and establishing new relationships.

## ENHANCED DOMAIN AWARENESS

Enhanced domain awareness is accomplished through investment in service-life extensions of still-viable but aging capabilities, new capabilities, inclusion of existing systems, and non-DoD/DND, Allied, and partner nation capabilities.

## INFORMATION ADVANTAGE

Information advantage is gained by connecting data from sensors, translating it into information, and rapidly disseminating synthesized information to leaders and warfighters at echelon.

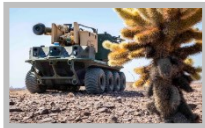
## DECISION ADVANTAGE

Decision advantage is created on the speed, veracity, and fidelity of decisions and decision processes to outpace adversary decision and targeting cycles. Decision advantage gives leaders valuable time for more effective and efficient decisions.

## DECISIVE ACTION

Decisive action increases the resilience and security of critical systems and sites by implementing multiple layers of protection, including redundancy, dispersal, and deception.

## THEORY OF ADVANTAGE & STRATEGIC PRINCIPLES (WAYS)



### THEORY OF ADVANTAGE

The theory of advantage emphasizes the importance of global integration, strong relationships with Allies and partners, and whole-of-government cooperation. This approach is essential for defending the continent and our forces, as well as projecting power. NORAD and USNORTHCOM will work together to support coordinated efforts across defense and security activities, focusing on binational deterrence across North America. This binational integration is a model for global integration and has been a successful template for working with Allies and partners for over 60 years. To achieve persistent advantage, we must integrate all instruments of national power and be able to adapt quickly to changing circumstances. This requires a high degree of flexibility and the ability to respond to emerging threats in a timely and effective manner.

### STRATEGIC PRINCIPLES

The strategic principles of global integration, enhanced domain awareness, information advantage, decision advantage, and decisive action define the foundational ways NORAD and USNORTHCOM employ the theory of advantage towards the enduring conditions. Global integration multiplies the effects of enhanced domain awareness, information advantage, and decision advantage, with the output as decisive action (shown right).



The People's Republic of China (PRC) leadership has embarked on a modernization program that is advancing its North America-threatening capabilities at an alarming pace.



Russia has gained operational experience with its long-range precision-strike weapons in Ukraine and is testing advanced nuclear delivery systems that threaten the U.S. and Canada.



Iran continues to demonstrate hostility toward the Western-led international order through materiel support to Russia, political support to Hamas and Hizballah, and sponsorship of attacks on U.S. interests.



The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) is rapidly advancing its strategic weapons program and has successfully tested missiles with sufficient range to threaten all of North America.



Foreign terrorist groups retain aspirations to conduct mass-casualty attacks in North America, while Homegrown Violent Extremists pose a persistent and diffuse threat that is difficult to detect and interdict.





## ENDURING CONDITIONS



### ***1. HOMELANDS DEFENDED FROM THREATS AND ADVERSARY INFLUENCE COUNTERED***

NORAD and USNORTHCOM will defend the United States and Canada against aggression from malign actors and strategic competitors through a commitment to integrated defense with supporting CCMDs, CJOC, Allies, and partners across all domains and the competition continuum. NORAD and USNORTHCOM's combined deterrence posture incorporates deterrence by denial, deterrence by cost imposition, and enhanced resilience.

### ***2. THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA OUTPACE COMPETITORS TO BUILD ENDURING ADVANTAGE THROUGH A FOCUS ON THE INHERENT STRENGTH EACH NATION BRINGS TO THE ALLIANCE***

NORAD and USNORTHCOM will identify, invest in, and continually assess areas of competitive advantage for opportunities to outpace strategic competitors through active campaigning. Each nation in the alliance brings unique strengths to bear on the defense of the continent and these strengths bring synergy to binational defense.



### ***3. THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA'S NATIONAL SECURITY ENHANCED AND REGIONAL STABILITY MAINTAINED THROUGH STRENGTHENED PARTNERSHIPS***

Strong and enduring partnerships are forged through security cooperation to accomplish the Commands' missions. Robust relationships with Allies and partners, international and interagency mission partners, industry, the private sector, and academia are key to expanding the competitive space and enabling a layered defense of North America across the competition continuum.

### ***4. RAPIDLY PROVIDE PRECOORDINATED CAPABILITIES IN SUPPORT OF EFFECTIVE DSCA AND CSMO EM-BRACED BY THE WHOLE-OF-GOVERNMENT TO IMPROVE COLLECTIVE RESILIENCE IN NORTH AMERICA***

USNORTHCOM supports partners during natural and manmade crises through integrated planning and prioritized effects that enable civilian and private sector organizations. These events also establish the conditions for Whole-of-Nation partners to leverage their capabilities in assisting NORAD and USNORTHCOM with mission accomplishment.