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State Partnership Program

The State Partnership Program has been successfully building relations for 30 years and now includes 88 partnerships with 100 nations around the globe.

The SPP evolved from a 1991 U.S. European Command decision to set up the Joint Contact Team Program in the Baltic Region with Reserve component Soldiers and Airmen. A subsequent National Guard Bureau proposal paired U.S. states with three nations emerging from the former Soviet Bloc and the SPP was born, becoming a key U.S. security cooperation tool, facilitating cooperation across all aspects of international civil-military affairs and encouraging people-to-people ties at the state level.

This cost-effective program is administered by the National Guard Bureau, guided by State Department foreign policy goals, and executed by the state adjutants general in support of combatant commander and U.S. Chief of Mission security cooperation objectives and Department of Defense policy goals.

Through SPP, the National Guard conducts military-to-military engagements in support of defense security goals but also leverages whole-of-society relationships and capabilities to facilitate broader interagency and corollary engagements spanning military, government, economic and social spheres.

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State Partnership Program 101

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State Partnership Program Map

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Securing the Nation
One Partnership at a Time

As critical alliances and partnerships around the globe give the United States an unmatched advantage over our competitors, maintaining and expanding these alliances for their full future strength has to be a priority of our national effort. In 2011, the 25th anniversary of the National Guard's State Partnership Program (SPP) and its world-leading role in the partner countries the SPP makes it making the US and its allies and partners to provide security and stability around the world.

Securing the Nation One Partnership at a Time

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Maryland National Guard, Estonia Partner in Overseas Exercise

6 days ago

Saber Guardian 23 Begins with Opening Ceremony in Slobozia

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External Links

[Defense.gov: Building Partnerships Around the Globe](#)

SPP Publication

