

GSOFF has just completed our inaugural Indo-Pacific Irregular Warfare Symposium, and preparing for our 8th European symposium in Bratislava, Slovakia. These events bring focus on the globally deployed U.S. and partner SOF - and our **Theater Special Operations Commands (TSOC)**.

Theme: SOF in the Indo-Pacific Theater

“The time is now to get the SOF enterprise focused in the Indo-Pacific ... it’s time to invest in SOF. The more cultural experiences that we can exchange, the more access to geography that we can exchange, the more access to information that we can exchange, the better off we are. Our shared experiences among allies and partners are absolutely indispensable to the effectiveness of special operations.”

Admiral Samuel Paparo, Commander, U.S. INDOPACOM

Theme: Countering gray zone activities in the Indo-Pacific

“This is an era of converging waves, global challenges that require an international SOF convergence. We must create new partnerships - unite existing partners - into a more resilient, powerful and capable network, woven together in this region by a shared vision of a free and open Indo-Pacific.”

General Bryan Fenton, Commander, U.S. SOCOM

“SOC PAC troops are working tirelessly every day in order to prevent conflict in the region, not provoke it. The dangers of a conflict with China could see a crash of their GDP by up to 25%, while U.S. GDP could fall 10% – that could lead to a massive economic global crisis.”

Rear Adm. Jeremy Williams, Commander, U.S. SOCPAC

Theme: The European TSOC and Russia

“In Europe, SOF’s decades-long commitment to building capacity and enhancing interoperability with allied and partnered SOF continues. Three decades of training with Ukrainian Forces contributed to the development of a non-commissioned officer corps and special operations capability. Following the start of Russia’s aggression against Ukraine in 2014, SOF supported multinational training efforts that included critical resilience and resistance capabilities.”

General Bryan Fenton, Commander, U.S. SOCOM

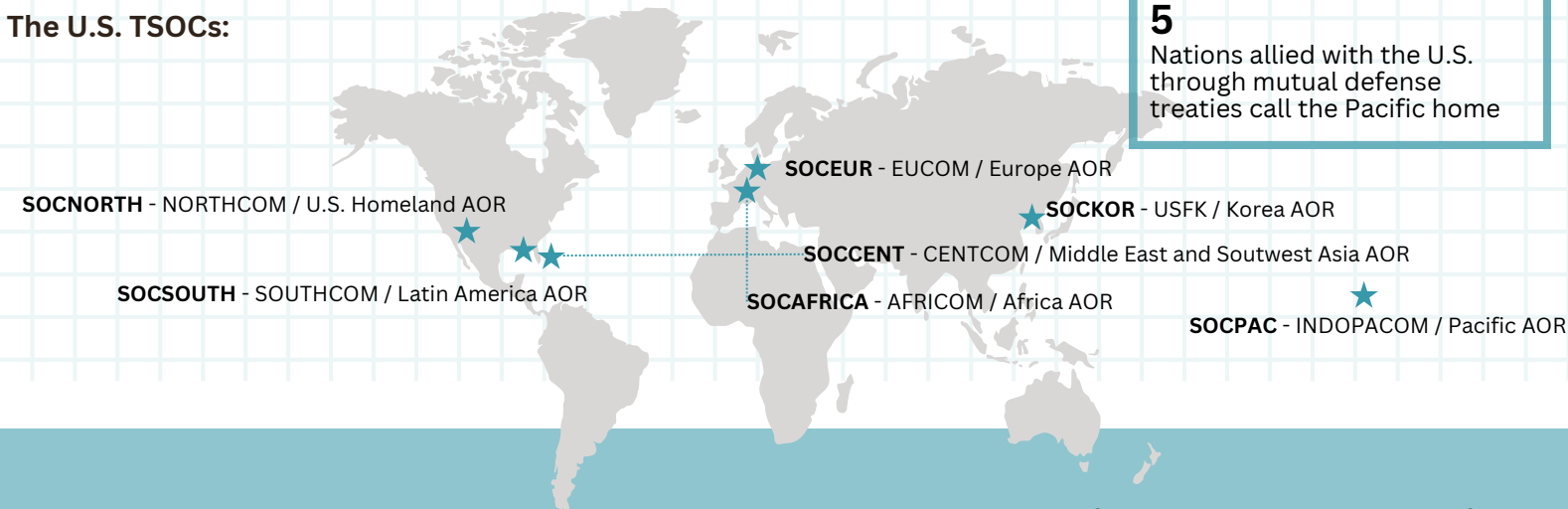
TSOC Deep Dive

TSOCs, under the operational control of Geographic Combatant Commands (COCOM), provide the majority of SOF’s access and placement, and exercise many of SOF’s authorities abroad. Through the establishment of forward elements such as special operations cells-forward, SOF liaison elements, joint special operations task forces, or special operations joint task forces, TSOCs have the capability to fulfill all requirements of operations, campaigns, and contingencies.

On any given day, SOF personnel are deployed to more than 85 countries conducting special operations missions, training, and exercises supporting the Joint Force while campaigning for military advantage in all domains. The facilitators of that engagement are the TSOCs.

Over the past four years, SOF support to COCOMs to counter coercion and deter aggression has more than tripled—comprising nearly 50% of SOF’s deployed and forward presence in FY 2023.

The U.S. TSOCs:



Why Integrated Defense in the Indo-Pacific is critical:

38

Nations comprise the Asia-Pacific region

60%

of the world's population, lives there, speaking 3,000 different languages

5

Nations allied with the U.S. through mutual defense treaties call the Pacific home