

The Finnish Defence Research Agency

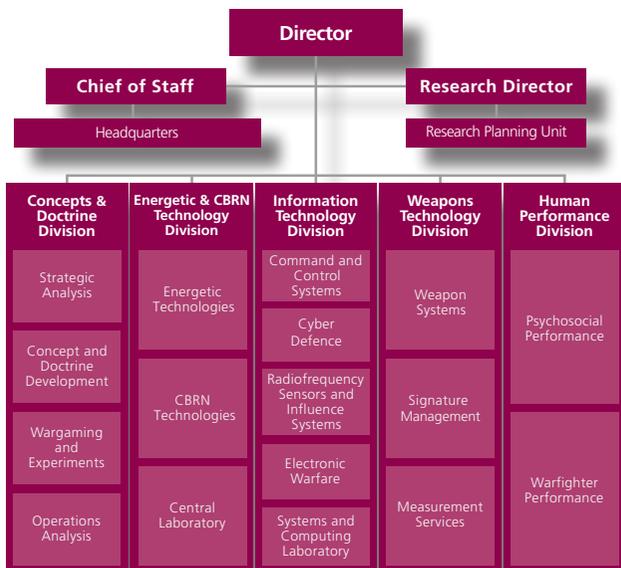
The Finnish Defence Research Agency FDRA is a multidisciplinary organisation that provides demanding defence research, development and testing services in strategy and warfare, behavioural sciences and different technologies.

The FDRA is a modern organisation with highly qualified personnel. The mission of the FDRA is to produce information to support decision making related to defence and to develop strategic and operational level operating models, methods and technical solutions for the Finnish Defence Forces, and ensure their functionality, compliance and compatibility.

The FDRA has five highly specialised research divisions. They are

- ▶ Concepts & Doctrine Division
- ▶ Information Technology Division
- ▶ Energetic & CBRN Technology Division
- ▶ Weapons Technology Division
- ▶ Human Performance Division.

The FDRA studies technologies, human performance and the ways in which the military operates. In order to effectively respond to current and future defence challenges, the FDRA employs a multi-disciplinary approach to research. From an administrative standpoint, the FDRA is a military institution under the authority of Defence Command Finland, with approximately 200 employees.



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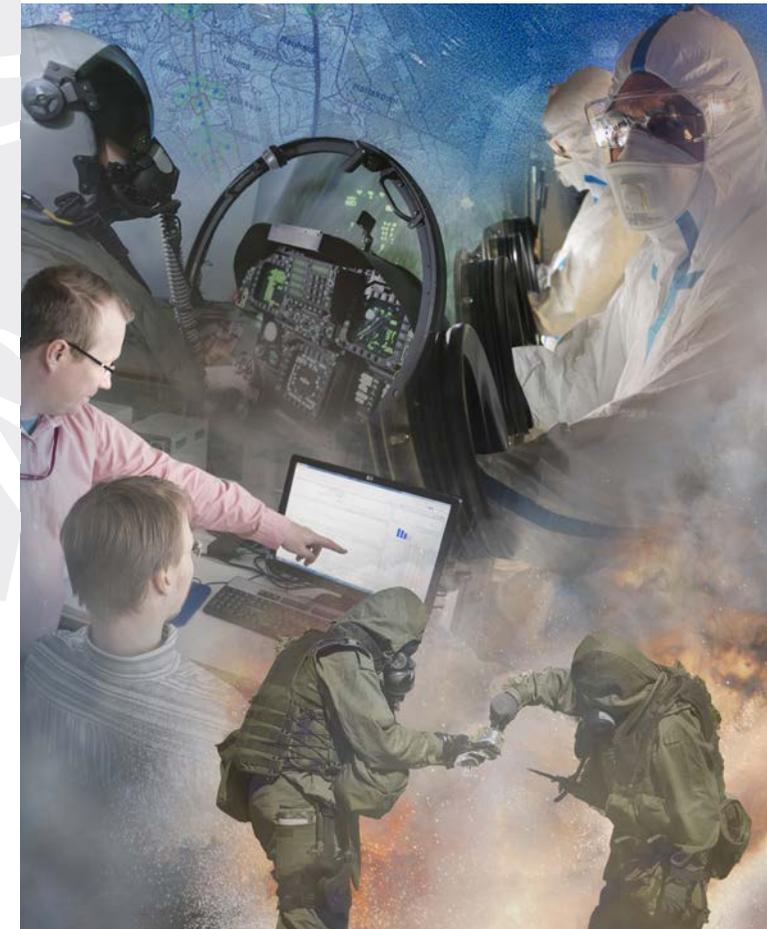


The Finnish Defence Forces
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The Finnish Defence Research Agency

Comprehensive defence research



Comprehensive defence research

The Finnish Defence Research Agency FDRA is a multidisciplinary research organisation bringing together research and development activities related to warfare defence material and human performance under its five divisions.

Concepts & Doctrine Division

The Finnish Defence Forces' doctrine describes the way in which the military operates. The Concepts & Doctrine Division evaluates the operating environment of the future and its impact on Finland's defence system. Based on this evaluation the division analyses different options for ways in which the Finnish Defence Forces should respond to new challenges.

The Concepts & Doctrine Division develops new concepts and operating methods for the Finnish Defence Forces. The ways in which the division evaluates different options in regard to operating methods include the organisation of testing events, which provide opportunities for the different actors within the Finnish Defence Forces to participate in the development of solutions. The division's daily work is characterised by operations analysis reviews as well as modelling and simulation methods.

Information Technology Division

The division supports the building of the Finnish Defence Forces' joint capabilities and produces research information to support the fight for networks and the electromagnetic spectrum.

The Information Technology Division researches radiofrequency sensors and influence systems, electronic warfare, network-centric warfare and command and control systems.

The division provides computational science and modelling expertise as well as calculation and systems laboratory services.

Energetic & CBRN Technology Division

The Energetic & CBRN Technology Division is responsible for the following research areas: energetic technologies, CBRN technologies and related chemical technologies and materials.

The division researches materials, equipment and systems used by or to be procured for the Finnish Defence Forces and monitors the development of the technologies falling under its area of expertise.

In the field of energetic technologies, the research focuses on safety and the maintenance of performance throughout the lifespan of explosives. In the field of CBRN, research focuses on CBRN reconnaissance and protection. The chemistry expertise of the division's Central Laboratory is used for the division's own needs and to support other units of the Finnish Defence Forces.

The FDRA manages military explosive duties assigned to operators under the Chemical Safety Act. The division participates in the research operations of the CBRN Field Laboratory, supports training activities, and is one of the central actors of the CBRNE Reach Back Centre.

Finland's single small scale facility in accordance with the Chemical Weapons Convention also operates in connection to the division. The Energetic and CBRN Technology Division maintains good connections with civilian security authorities.

Weapons Technology Division

The division is responsible for research into weapon systems and signature management in the Finnish Defence Forces. The performance of weapon systems is assessed in a comprehensive manner, starting from target acquisition using electro-optic sensors all the way to weapon impact and protection against it.

The division's research into ballistic protection covers the entire field from personal protection to battle tanks.

In the field of electro-optics, the division's research focuses on verifying the capability of sensors and their susceptibility to countermeasures in Finnish conditions. The division's field of research also includes laser technologies.

In the field of signature management, the aim is to adapt the signatures of vehicles, aircraft and ships to blend into their backgrounds in the band of the electromagnetic spectrum ranging from ultraviolet to radar frequencies. In addition to this, camouflage is supported through diversionary fake equipment.

Human Performance Division

The main task of the Human Performance Division is research related to the assessment and development of the aptitude and performance of the Finnish Defence Forces' personnel, conscripts and reservists.

The operations of the division are based on the following disciplines: military psychology, human factors research, military sociology as well as sport and health sciences.

One of the division's main multidisciplinary areas of interest is the performance of soldiers in mentally and physically demanding and increasingly technological circumstances.

The Human Performance Division is responsible for all the psychological aptitude tests and surveys needed by the Finnish Defence Forces. The division's research is utilised in the development of the Finnish Defence Forces' working communities, personnel and conscript training. In addition to this, the division's research is utilised to improve the operational preconditions of people as part of technological systems.

