

Standardization within NATO

# Guiding Documents and NATO Standardization Products

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Warsaw, 15 September 2025

# Topics

**Important Guiding Documents for  
NATO Standardization**



**NATO Standardization Products**

# **Important Guiding Documents for NATO Standardization**

# Guiding Documents

## AAP-47

### NATO STANDARD AAP-47 ALLIED JOINT DOCTRINE DEVELOPMENT

Edition C Version 1  
FEBRUARY 2019



NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION  
ALLIED ADMINISTRATIVE PUBLICATION

Published by the  
NATO STANDARDIZATION OFFICE (NSO)

## AAP-03

### DIRECTIVE FOR THE PRODUCTION, MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT OF NATO STANDARDIZATION DOCUMENTS

Edition K Version 2  
OCTOBER 2022



NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION

ALLIED ADMINISTRATIVE PUBLICATION

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## MC 0020/11



COMITÉ MILITAIRE DE L'ATLANTIQUE NORD

27 April 2015



MC 0020/11 (Final)

## NATO STANDARD

## AAP-32

### FORMATTING NATO STANDARDIZATION DOCUMENTS

Edition C, Version 1  
JULY 2025



NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION

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NATO



PRIVATE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL  
SECRETARIAT INTERNATIONAL  
CABINET DU SECRÉTAIRE GÉNÉRAL

NATO UNCLASSIFIED  
Releasable to EAPC and IP

17 December 2021

To  
From

## Intellectual Property Rights Policy for NATO Standardization Documents

DOCUMENT  
J0476  
Ends:  
30hrs

1. I attach the revised Intellectual Property Rights Policy for NATO Standardization Documents, as agreed by the Committee for Standardization (CS).
2. In NATO's Coherent Implementation Strategy on Emerging and Disruptive Technologies, the Council tasked the Committee for Standardization to update the Alliance's Intellectual Property Rights Policy for NATO Standardization Documents. The resulting proposal at the annex takes account of lessons identified by multiple committees<sup>1</sup> to help NATO better manage intellectual property, which is at the centre of standards development.
3. Due to its nature, the approved IPR policy is intended to be available to the public.
4. I do not believe this policy requires discussion in the Council. **Unless I hear to the contrary by 15:30 hrs on Friday, 7 January 2022**, I shall assume that the Council has approved the Policy agrees to its public release.

# NATOTerm

# AAP-03

**AAP-03**  
**DIRECTIVE FOR THE PRODUCTION,  
MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT  
OF NATO STANDARDIZATION  
DOCUMENTS**

Edition K Version 2

OCTOBER 2022



NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION

ALLIED ADMINISTRATIVE PUBLICATION

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- Contains procedures mandatory for TAs/DTAs, WGs, **custodians**, ...
- Defines NATO standardization documents
- Describes NATO standardization process
- Addresses roles/responsibilities of standardization actors
- Provides guidance for **selection of cover documents**, content of SP and ST, **determination of promulgation criteria**, content of **implementation paragraph**
- **Templates for** SP, SP inquiry, ST, **STANAG**, **STANREC**, ...

# AAP-03 Edition K, Version 2

## Directive for the Production, Maintenance and Management of NATO Standardization Documents

- Approved by Allies in the Committee for Standardization
- Endorsed by all senior committees overseeing the development of NATO standardization documents\*
- Approved by the Council
- Edition K promulgated on 28<sup>th</sup> Feb 2018
- Version 2 promulgated 17<sup>th</sup> Oct 2022

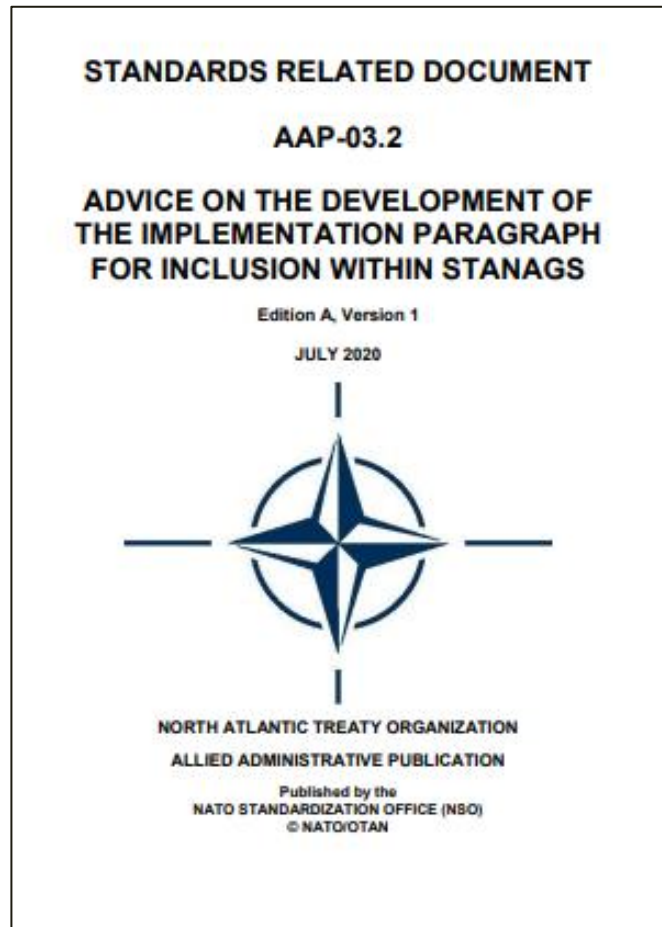
\* Tasking Authorities (TAs) / Delegated Tasking Authorities (DTAs)

# SRD AAP-03.1



- Types of civil standards and civil SDOs
- **Advice for development, adoption and use of civil standards**
- **Roles/ responsibilities of TAs/ DTAs and custodians when engaging in SDO activities**
- **Criteria for transfer of NATO standardization Documents to civil SDOs**

# SRD AAP-03.2



- **Guidance for the development of implementation agreements in STANAGs**
- Provides **Examples**



# AAP-32

**NATO STANDARD**  
**AAP-32**  
**FORMATTING NATO**  
**STANDARDIZATION DOCUMENTS**

Edition C, Version 1

JULY 2025



**NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION**

**ALLIED ADMINISTRATIVE PUBLICATION**

Published by the  
NATO Standardization Office (NSO)  
© NATO/OTAN

- Up-to-date NATO standardization documents templates
- New guidelines for drafting NATO standardization documents
- Recommendations on the submission of NATO standardization documents in a machine-readable format, where possible
- Requirement for custodians to provide and maintain metadata (abstract and keywords for all APs)
- Guidance on the development of the implementation paragraph within NATO standardization agreements (STANAGs)
- Standardizes the 'Summary of Changes'
- Explains how to properly cite normative and informative references

**Endorsed by all NATO Tasking Authorities**

# AAP-47

NATO STANDARD  
AAP-47  
ALLIED JOINT  
DOCTRINE DEVELOPMENT

Edition C Version 1

FEBRUARY 2019




NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION  
ALLIED ADMINISTRATIVE PUBLICATION

Published by the  
NATO STANDARDIZATION OFFICE (NSO)

- Supplement to AAP-03
- Specific procedures for development of **Allied Joint Doctrine**

# MC 0020/11

NATO UNCLASSIFIED

 **NORTH ATLANTIC MILITARY COMMITTEE**  
COMITÉ MILITAIRE DE L'ATLANTIQUE NORD


27 April 2015 MC 0020/11 (Final)

**FINAL DECISION ON MC 0020/11**  
**MC POLICY FOR MILITARY OPERATIONAL STANDARDISATION**

1. On 24 Apr 15 the MC approved MC 0020/11.

2. This document supersedes MC 0020/10 (FINAL), 27 May 04, and clears IMSWM-0191-2015, 07 Apr 15, and all SDs thereto.

**FOR THE MILITARY COMMITTEE:**



Sir Christopher Harper  
Air Marshal  
Director General  
International Military Staff

**NOTE.** This Final Decision Sheet shall now be attached to MC 0020/11 as the top sheet.  
Page numbering of the complete document when this decision is attached is as follows:

MC 0020/11 (Final)	- Page 1
MC 0020/11 (Enclosure)	- 18 pages

Distribution: SDL Z

NATO UNCLASSIFIED


IMS Control Nr: O15002399

- Policy for development and management of NATO standardization documents under MC
- MC standardization structure (MC Standardization Boards)
- Roles/ responsibilities (TOR for MC SBs)

(Amendment IMSM-0197-2019, dtd 24 May 2019:  
addresses required positive ratification responses for  
Capstone and Keystone AJP)

# Intellectual Property Rights Policy

DISCLOSED - PDN(2022)0010 - MIS EN LECTURE PUBLIQUE

	INTERNATIONAL STAFF PRIVATE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL SECRÉTARIAT INTERNATIONAL CABINET DU SECRÉTAIRE GÉNÉRAL
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**NATO UNCLASSIFIED**  
Releasable to EAPC and IP

17 December 2021

**DOCUMENT**  
PO(2021)0476  
**Silence Procedure Ends:**  
7 Jan 2022- 15:30hrs

To : Permanent Representatives (Council)  
From : Secretary General

**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS POLICY FOR  
NATO STANDARDIZATION DOCUMENTS**

1. I attach the revised Intellectual Property Rights Policy for NATO Standardization Documents, as agreed by the Committee for Standardization (CS).

2. In NATO's Coherent Implementation Strategy on Emerging and Disruptive Technologies, the Council tasked the Committee for Standardization to update the Alliance's Intellectual Property Rights Policy for NATO Standardization Documents. The resulting proposal at the annex takes account of lessons identified by multiple committees<sup>1</sup> to help NATO better manage intellectual property, which is at the centre of standards development.

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4. I do not believe this policy requires discussion in the Council. **Unless I hear to the contrary by 15:30 hrs on Friday, 7 January 2022**, I shall assume that the Council has approved the Policy agrees to its public release.

(Signed) Jens Stoltenberg

- Covers IPR related to NATO standardization document development activities:
  - how to use IP in the development of NATO standardization documents
  - management of NATO IP

# References on NSO Website



NATO STANDARDIZATION OFFICE  
Public Web Site

OTHER NSO WEBSITES ▾



NSO | TASKING AUTHORITIES | STANDARDS | TERMINOLOGY | EDUCATION AND TRAINING | LINKS | HELP



The NSO initiates, coordinates, supports or administers all those standardization activities that are conducted under the authority of the Committee for Standardization, provides standardization management support and standardization advice for the standardization community and supports the Military Committee Standardization Boards.



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Available now! Standardization Course on-line

10 April 2021

# References on NSO Website



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NSO | TAS - DTAS | STANDARDS | TERMINOLOGY | EDUCATION AND TRAINING | LINKS | MEETING SCHEDULE | HELP



The NSO initiates, coordinates, supports or administers all those standardization activities that are conducted under the authority of the Committee for Standardization, provides standardization management support and standardization advice for the standardization

SEARCH FOR STANDARDS

🏠 > Documents > Important Standardization Documents



➤ Important\_Standardization\_Docs

15

# References on NSO Protected Website

🏠 > Documents > AAPs and Templates



## AAPs and Templates

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📁 > AAPs and Templates

> 📁 AAP-03 and Templates

✓ 📁 AAP-32 and Templates

📄 AAP-32 EDC V1 E.pdf

31 July 2025

📄 AP TEMPLATE E.docx

31 July 2025

📄 FORM FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF ABSTRACT AND KEYWORDS METADATA.docx

01 August 2025

📄 SRD TEMPLATE E.docx

31 July 2025

📄 STANAG TEMPLATE EF.docx

31 July 2025

📄 STANREC TEMPLATE EF.docx

31 July 2025

> 📁 AAP-47 and Templates

List of files was generated on 19 August 2025



# **NATO Standardization Products**

# Fields of Standardization



# Fields of Standardization

Source: AAP-3, Edition K



## Operational

- Doctrine
- Tactics, Techniques and Procedures
- ...

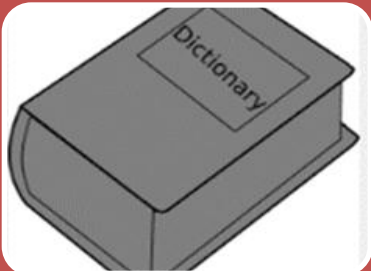
## Procedures



## Materiel

- Weapon-systems and sub-systems
- C3 systems
- Interfaces
- Components, spare parts and consumables

## Designs



## Administrative

- Terminology
- Human resources
- Military ranks
- ...

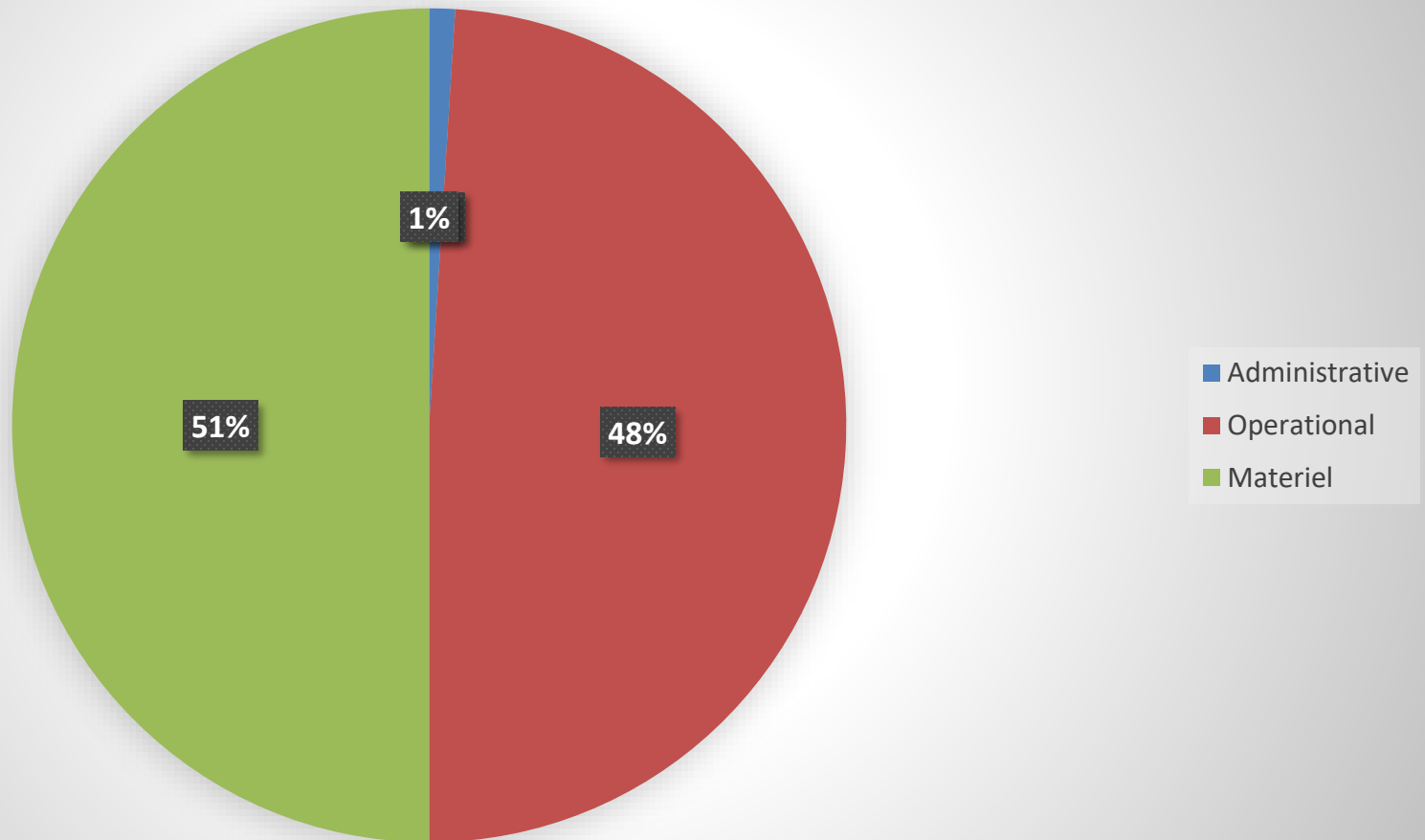
## Terminology

# Fields of NATO Standards

1577 “active” Allied Standards (20 May 25)

Source: NSDD

Fields of Standardization by Percentage



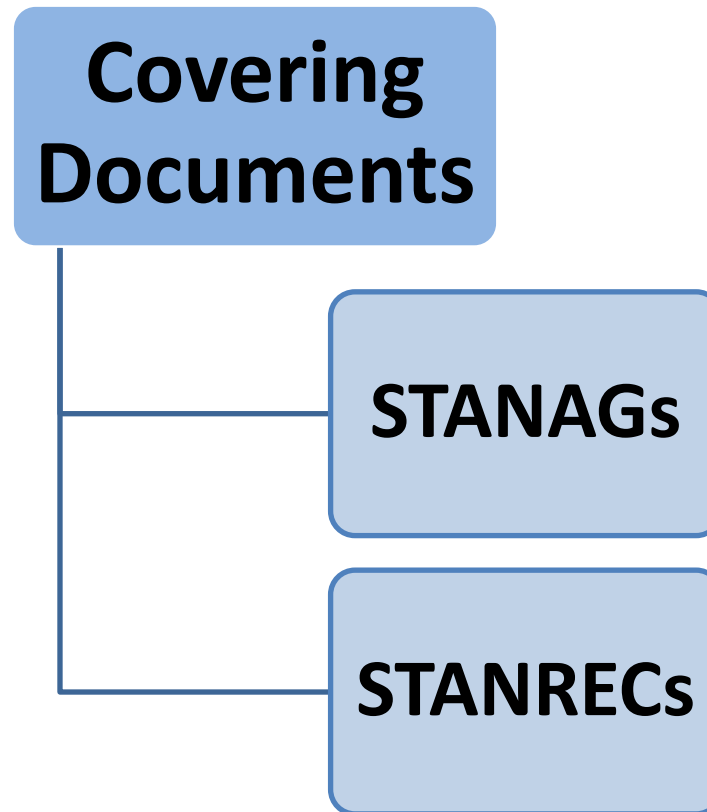
# Types of NATO Standardization Documents

Source: AAP-03, Edition K



# Covering Documents

Source: AAP-03, Edition K



# Covering Documents

Source: AAP-03, Edition K

## **STAN**dardization **AG**reement:

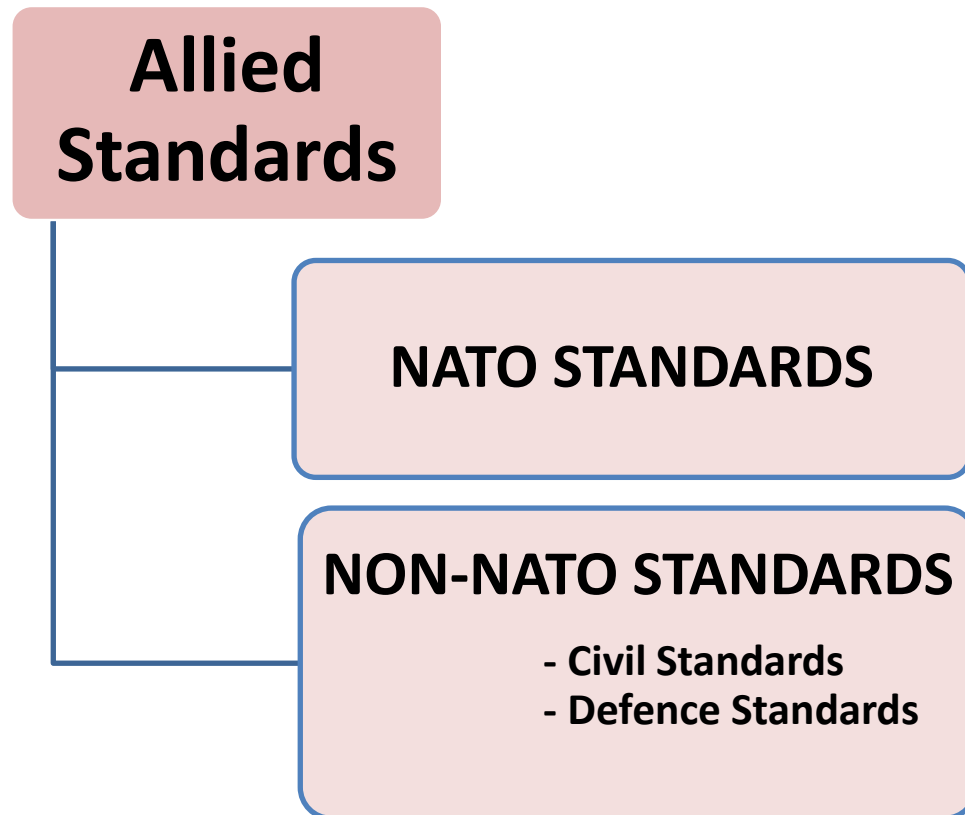
- specifies the agreement of member nations to implement Allied standards required **to meet an interoperability requirement**
- requires national ratification process resulting in a **'formal' national implementation statement**

## **STAN**dardization **REC**ommendation:

- used exclusively in the materiel field of standardization
- relevant to a specific Alliance activity **unrelated to interoperability**
- **non-binding**

# Allied Standards

Source: AAP-03, Edition K





# Allied Standards

Source: AAP-03, Edition K



## NATO STANDARD:

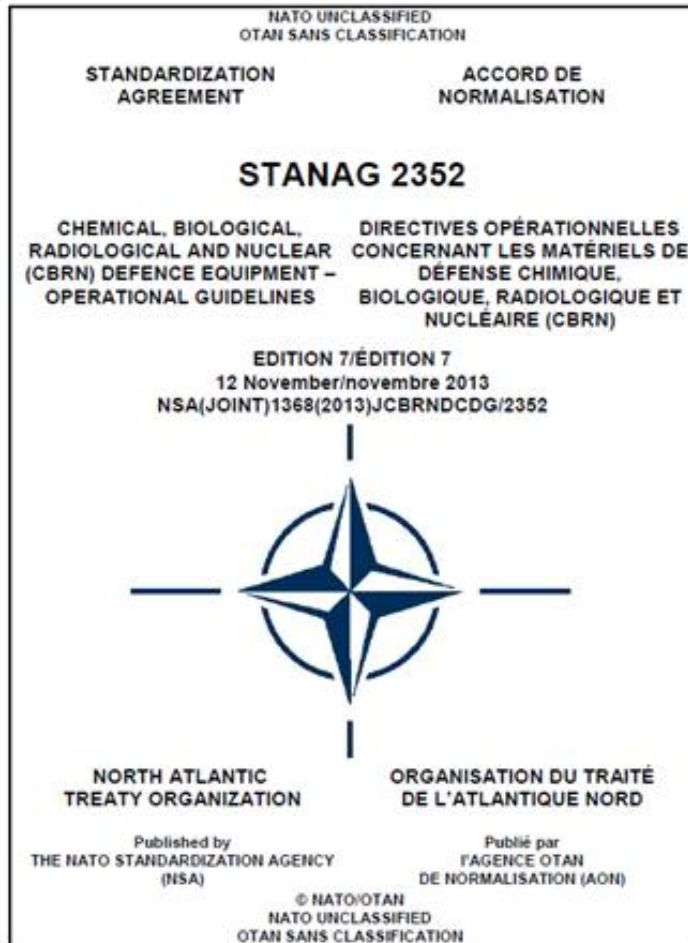
A NATO standard is a standard developed and promulgated in the framework of the NATO standardization process.

## NON-NATO STANDARD:

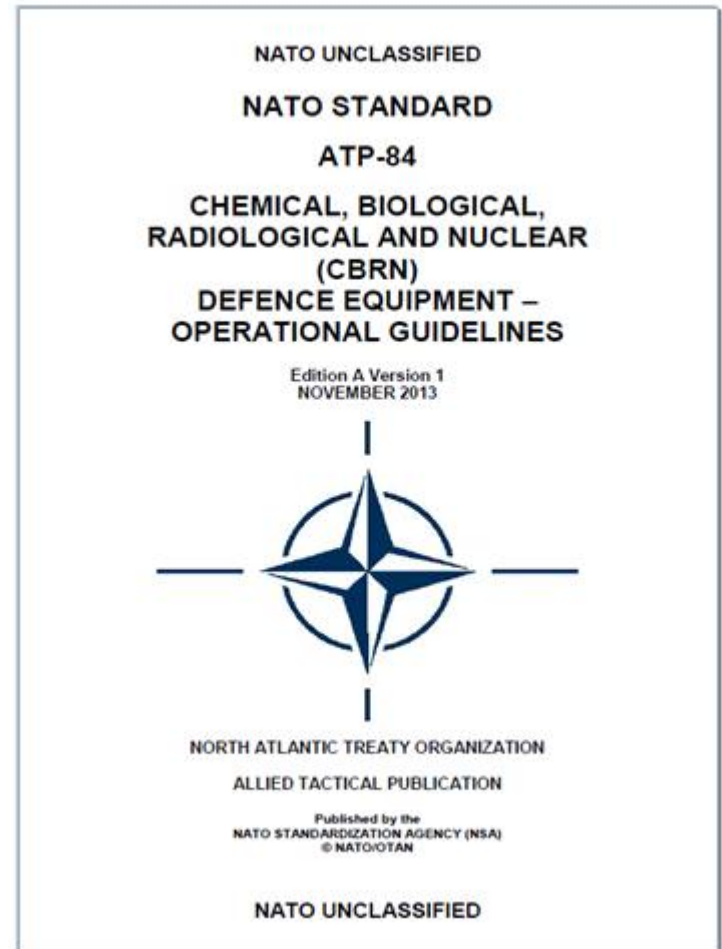
A non-NATO standard is a standard developed outside NATO. Non-NATO standards include civil standards, national and multinational defence standards. Non-NATO standards become Allied Standards when adopted by NATO.

# Promulgated NATO Standards

## COVERING DOCUMENT



## ALLIED STANDARD



# Covering Document Selection

Source: AAP-03, Edition K



Criteria: Scope of the Allied standard(s) covered,  
contribution to interoperability & intended use

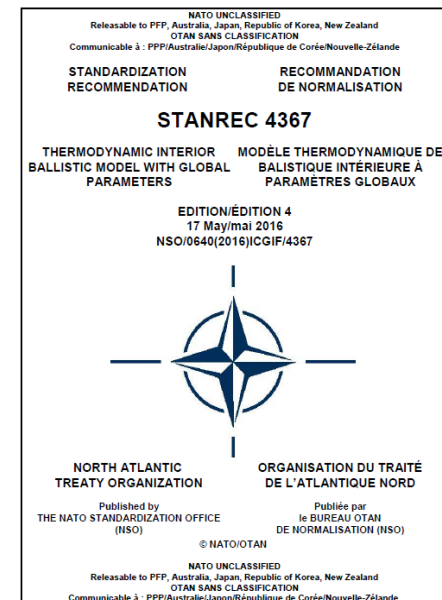
Enhancing **interoperability**

## STANAG



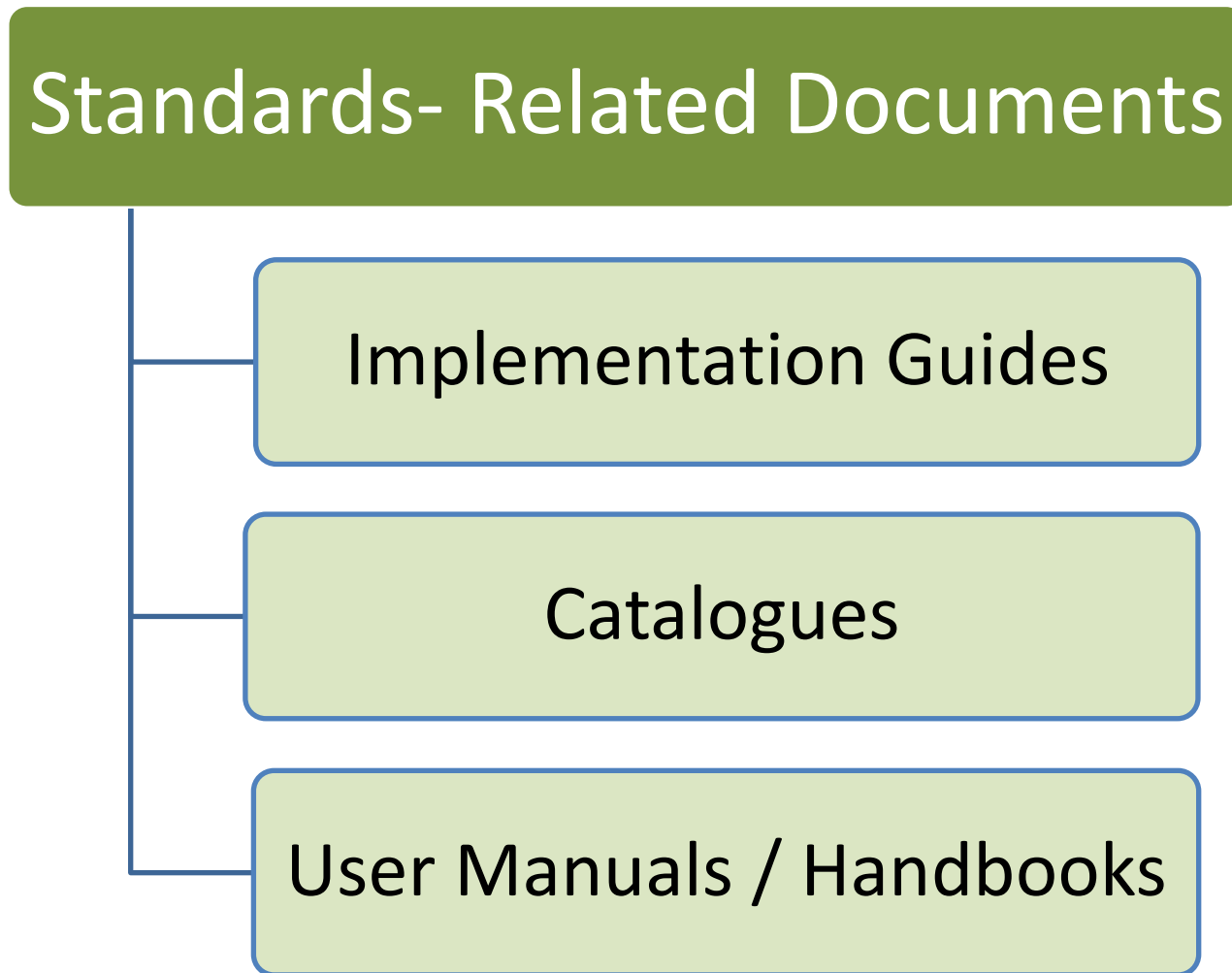
Recommending **useful practices**

## STANREC



# Standards-Related Documents

Source: AAP-03, Edition K



# Standards-Related Documents

Source: AAP-03, Edition K

- facilitate understanding and implementation of one or more Allied standards
- may provide additional data and information to support the management and implementation of Allied standards.

Examples:

national data catalogues, standards implementation guides, etc.

# Allied and Multinational Publications



Allied Standards and Standard-Related Documents  
are also called AP and MP

## ALLIED PUBLICATION (AP)

Examples:

AJP - Allied Joint Publication, ATrainP - Allied Education and Training Publication



**EXTRACT FROM AN AP**  
FOR DISTRIBUTION AND USE OUTSIDE NATO

## MULTINATIONAL PUBLICATION (MP):

Example:

MPP - Multinational Procedural Publication

# Time for your questions...

