



MINISTÈRE
DES ARMÉES
ET DES ANCIENS
COMBATTANTS

*Liberté
Égalité
Fraternité*



ORION 26 :

Ready to act, determined to protect

Press briefing January 22, 2026



ORION 26

Large-scale exercise in a multi-Domain Environment



By its scope, scale, and nature, ORION 26 prepares the French Armed Forces for high-intensity warfare in a multi-domain environment against a peer adversary. It demonstrates the Nation's ability to engage massively by deploying a powerful force, assuming the role of framework nation in a coalition, and mobilising both state institutions and the population.

ORION 1 OPERATIONAL PLANNING

Breaking down political decisions into a credible, comprehensive, and sustained military operation.

ORION 2 TROOP DEPLOYMENT IN COALITION

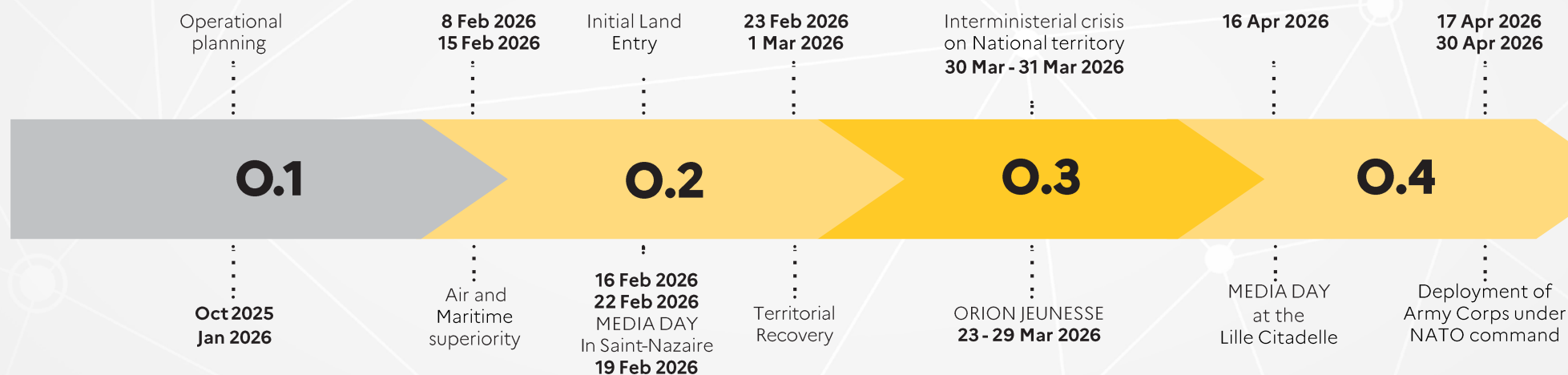
Demonstrating France's ability to conduct and lead theatre entry with allies during a high-intensity operation.

ORION 4 TROOP DEPLOYMENT IN NATO

Affirming France's ability to fully integrate into a NATO operation.

ORION 3 INTERMINISTERIAL WARGAME

Assessing interministerial coordination in response to national repercussions of a major overseas engagement of the French armed forces. In parallel, "Ex ORION JEUNESSE" delivers activities to raise awareness and conduct situational exercises around defense issues.





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FICTION IN THE SERVICE OF REALITY



A fictional but credible scenario, inspired by NATO standards, to recreate all forms of modern combat, from hybrid threats to high intensity, and to test our forces in some of the most realistic combat conditions.

SCENARIO

In Europe, Mercure, an expansionist nation, seeks to destabilise its neighbour Arnland to maintain its regional influence and prevent Arnland's accession to the European Union. Throughout 2025, Mercure escalates hybrid actions and increases support for militias operating within Arnland's territory. On 6 January 2026, France assumes leadership of the ORION coalition to defend Arnland and preserve European stability. ORION 26 embodies this escalation, from invisible war to high-intensity confrontation. It represents the ultimate test for Europe, France, and its allies.





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Significant national and international commitment

Inter-service, interministerial and allied mobilisation



Headquarters at the Corps and Divisional level with 10 Joint Brigades

MOD

90 separate Commands,
Joint Support units
and Organisations



a Carrier Strike Group and Amphibious Task Group

12 500

Commitment
to European
allies and
NATO



and a wide range of aircraft, drones, air defense.



15 REGIONS



12 MINISTRIES INVOLVED



**MINISTÈRE
DE L'EUROPE
ET DES AFFAIRES
ÉTRANGÈRES**

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**MINISTÈRE
DE L'INTÉRIEUR**

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**MINISTÈRE
DE LA JUSTICE**

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COMBATTANTS**

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**MINISTÈRE
DE L'ÉCONOMIE,
DES FINANCES
ET DE LA SOUVERAINETÉ
INDUSTRIELLE, ÉNERGÉTIQUE
ET NUMÉRIQUE**

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**MINISTÈRE
TRANSITION ÉCOLOGIQUE
AMÉNAGEMENT DU TERRITOIRE
TRANSPORTS
VILLE ET LOGEMENT**

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**MINISTÈRE
DE L'AGRICULTURE,
DE L'AGROALIMENTAIRE
ET DE LA SOUVERAINETÉ
ALIMENTAIRE**

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**MINISTÈRE
DE LA SANTÉ, DES FAMILLES,
DE L'AUTONOMIE
ET DES PERSONNES HANDICAPÉES**

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**MINISTÈRE
DE L'ÉDUCATION
NATIONALE**

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**MINISTÈRE
DE L'ENSEIGNEMENT
SUPÉRIEUR
ET DE LA RECHERCHE**

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**MINISTÈRE
DES SPORTS,
DE LA JEUNESSE
ET DE LA VIE
ASSOCIATIVE**

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**MINISTÈRE
DE L'AMÉNAGEMENT
DU TERRITOIRE ET DE
LA DÉCENTRALISATION**

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