



A study of

**THE NORWEGIAN – LED PRT IN MEYMANEH, AFGHANISTAN, AND
IT'S CONTRIBUTION TO SECURITY.**



Lill-Hege Nergård

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Faculty of Social Science

University of Tromsø

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Preface

Working with this thesis has been a long and instructive process. The theme of the thesis is of very great present interest and under constant change and development, which has made my work difficult and challenging. Therefore, now that I am finished, the feeling is indescribably good.

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Abstract.

Today, Norway contributes to the ongoing international operation in Afghanistan, in order to fight insurgency and to reconstruct and contribute to development for the Afghan population by building a democratic state built on the principles of human rights and the rule of law.

However, the political and strategic rationale for Norway to be present in Afghanistan must also be seen in light of our engagements as a NATO ally and as a means in order to protect our selves and western allies from happenings such as the September 11, 2001 ever happening again. This assignment will therefore focus on the conflict in Afghanistan and how civil-military cooperation, through the use of Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRTs), and then especially the Norwegian led PRT in Meymaneh, Faryab province, has become an important part of the security dimension. Analytical tools used in this thesis, will be the state security concept, with a widening and a deepening of the security concept moving towards societal and human security. Here, the use of human security will be of most focus when analyzing the PRT Meymanehs contribution to security.

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1. Introduction

1.1 Theme and background for the research question.

The world's security picture has changed dramatically since the end of the Cold War. With new types of emerging threats, the focus on human security has become more and more evident in academic debates during the 21st Century. This indicates a shift from the traditional state security aspect, towards a recognition that individual citizens are also being exposed to security threats (Fierke, 2007: 5). This thesis will focus on the widening of the security concept and examine, how it can be used to analyse the Norwegian contribution of building security and peace in Afghanistan, with a particular focus on the Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) stationed in Meymaneh. Further explained as *“a joint, integrated military-civilian organization, staffed and supported by ISAF member countries, operating at provincial level within Afghanistan”* (PRT Handbook, 2007: 3).

Today, Afghanistan is ranked as one of the world's poorest and most dangerous countries to live in and the country's humanitarian crisis is being characterized as one of the world's biggest. As a result, the creation of a safe and secure environment in Afghanistan is extremely important and very challenging. It contains a complex situation where the mission to establish security is very difficult. The establishment of security in Afghanistan is important for the safety of the Afghan population, but also because it plays a very important role for global security, which is the main reason for the international presence in the country. Due to terrorism and Afghanistan being ranked as a failed state, it presents great danger for the international community's security situation as well. The situation in Afghanistan stands as the Norwegian government's highest priority when it comes to foreign politics, both at the strategic and operational levels. The international community's commitment in Afghanistan is also extremely important. Without international help, the unstable Afghan government doesn't have the strength or the resources to provide proper security for its population.

Further, I will present my research question, give a brief account of the Norwegian contribution to Afghanistan, the PRTs and the concept behind it. But before this, it is necessary to briefly mention the Afghan history from modern times, more specifically the 20th Century, to the 21st Century in order to explain the reasons why Norway and the international community are present in Afghanistan.

A brief historical aspect of Afghanistan`s modern and recent history.

After Afghanistan gained its independence from British occupation in 1919, the country moved towards a period of stability, with a relatively weak monarch and strong regional leaders that lasted until 1973, when King Zahir Shah was removed from power¹. After this, Daoud, the King's cousin, replaced King Zahir Shah as the ruler of Afghanistan. However, his government only lasted until 1978, when a communist party came to power in Afghanistan (Nilsen, 2006: 15). This led to revolutions in 1978 and 1979. The Russian Communist regime on request from the relatively weak Afghan government invaded Afghanistan to support and help them resist the growing opposition².

In 1989, the Russians finally retreated after being beaten by an Afghan Islamic resistance movement with assistance from the USA. The country was left in ruins with over a million casualties and over 6 million people that had left the country`s borders. After this, the communists were constrained to pull down from government in April 1992, and the Taliban³, which was a group of Islamic fighters, soon became very powerful in Afghanistan. By exploiting the sitting government`s instability, the group in 1998, managed to seize power in Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan.

When the Taliban regime came to power in Kabul in 1998, they did little to rebuild the country and their repression of women did not help their popularity. The Taliban government was also harbouring the Al-Qaeda terrorist network, which became strong in Afghanistan under the support of the Taliban regime⁴. The terrorist-attacks against the United States on the September 11, 2001, led by the Al-Qaeda network and Bin Laden, was soon after characterised as an article 5 response operation. It therefore inflicted the fact that the attack was not only a threat towards the USA, but also towards the rest of the western world and NATO allies. It therefore automatically engaged all NATO member countries to take part in the war against Afghanistan that was to come, and Norway was no exception. Norway had to fulfill its responsibility towards the alliance and the USA.

¹ The Embassy of Afghanistan, Afghanistan in brief:

<http://www.embassyofafghanistan.org/brief.html>

² <http://www.embassyofafghanistan.org/brief.html>

³ The Taleban is a sunni-muslim nationalistic-movement (www.globalis.no: Afghanistan, August 30, 2007) that also was a part of the Mujahedin, the holy warriors that fought and won over the russian occupants (Nilsen, 2006: 17).

⁴ <http://www.embassyofafghanistan.org/brief.html>

But before the actual intervention took place, the United States demanded that Bin Laden was to be handed over and brought into U.S custody. Nevertheless, it was not until the Taliban refused to do so, that a military force led by the USA and Great Britain went to war against Afghanistan on October 7, 2001 under Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF)⁵ (NUPI, Høgseth: Hvor hender det, 2006). It took no longer, than two months before the Taliban was overthrown⁶ and an interim government represented by President Hamid Karzai was put in place. In addition, during the democratic elections in 2004, Karzai was also chosen among the Afghan population as sitting president with the majority of votes (Barth, 2008: 62), which he still holds today. After the Taliban were ousted from government, Afghanistan was left with a damaged infrastructure and one of the poorest countries in the world because of decades of war and repressive rule under the Taliban. Afghanistan was also in 2006 ranked as one of the worlds most heavily mined country.

The Agreement in Bonn, Germany.

The Bonn Agreement came as a result of the Bonn Conference in Germany on December 2001, after the Taliban regime was overthrown⁷. This was an agreement between Afghan and international leaders on the guidance of Afghanistan towards peace and stability, national reconciliation and respect for human rights⁸. In accordance with the Bonn Agreement, the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) were created to assist the new Afghan Transitional Authority to maintain security in Kabul and surrounding areas after the Taliban`s fall. As a result, UN personnel and the new governmental structure could conduct their activities in a safe and secure environment⁹. ISAF is also present in Afghanistan on a request from the Afghan government¹⁰. Today, ISAF is under NATO-command and operates under a peace-enforcement mandate endorsed in Chapter VII of the UN Charter¹¹. ISAF operates throughout Afghanistan and its main mission is to support the Afghan Government in expanding its authority throughout the country.

⁵ OEF is a military operation led by the USA, in order to defeat terrorism and destroy the Taliban and Al Qa`ida (Høgseth, 2006).

⁶ Globalis: <http://www.globalis.no/Konflikter/Afghanistan>

⁷ NATO briefing: <http://www.nato.int/issues/afghanistan/index.html>

⁸ The Embassy of Afghanistan, Afghanistan in brief: <http://www.embassyofafghanistan.org/brief.html>

⁹ NATO briefing: <http://www.nato.int/issues/afghanistan/index.html>

¹⁰ The Bonn Agreement, 2001: http://www.afghan-web.com/politics/bonn_agreement_2001.html.

¹¹ ISAF was established on December 6 2001, and its mandate is endorsed in the UN Security Council Resolutions (UNSCR) 1386, 1413, 1444, 1510, 1563, 1623, 1659 og 1707 (Norwegian Army, forsvarsnett: ISAF, 2007 – <http://www.mil.no>).

Norway`s contribution in Afghanistan.

Due to the war against terrorism, the international community`s presence in Afghanistan has over the last years reached enormous hights and as of November 2008, the number of ISAF soldiers operating in Afghanistan is 52 700 from 40 contributing states¹². Approximately, of these, 500 soldiers come from Norway¹³. Through ISAF, Norway has as one of its main tasks to support the Government of Afghanistan (GoA) in maintaining and providing a secure environment so that reconstruction and development can take place within the country. This ISAF-led operation in Afghanistan is Norway`s main priority when it comes to military commitment outside of our own borders¹⁴. The Norwegian forces are present in northern Afghanistan, where approximately 300 of the 500 Norwegian soldiers are stationed within the Norwegian-led PRT contingent in Meymaneh. The rest of the soldiers are divided between other forces such as the Norwegian National Contingent Commander (NCC), the National Support Element (NSE), as well as to provide personnel to The Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team (OMLT). Their tasks are related to the training, support and advising of the Afghan National Army (ANA). The Norwegians also have officers at Isaf`s Headquarters in Kabul (Isaf HQ)¹⁵, in addition to a special trained force in the same area¹⁶. Other important areas where Norway earlier participated was the programme of Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration of the old Afghan Security troops in the new Afghan army or other civil jobs (DDR), and the Disbandment of Illegal Armed Groups (DIAG) process. Training of the Afghan National Police (ANP) still stands as a priority for Norway through the European Police Mission (EUPOL) and the Norwegian Police project¹⁷.

Why a Norwegian contribution to Afghanistan: The political aspect.

The Norwegian contribution to the “war against terror” in Afghanistan could be looked upon as a defence of our own national territory. The Norwegian soldiers operating in Afghanistan, and thereby risking their own lives, is not only there for humanitarian reasons, but also for the safety and security for our own country and fellow countries in the west (Mood, Samtiden 3-2008: 75). After the Cold war, the world`s security picture has changed dramatically and the

¹² Forsvarsnett: <http://www.mil.no/fo/afg/start/fakta/>

¹³ Forsvarsnett: <http://www.mil.no/intops/start/>

¹⁴ Royal Norwegian Embassy in Kabul: <http://www.norway.org.af/prt/security/security.htm>

¹⁵ Forsvarsnett: <http://www.mil.no/fo/afg/start/styrken/>

¹⁶ Norwegian Government, overview 2008.

[http://www.regjeringen.no/nb/dep/fd/tema/internasjonale_operasjoner/oversikt_2006.html?id=85733,](http://www.regjeringen.no/nb/dep/fd/tema/internasjonale_operasjoner/oversikt_2006.html?id=85733)

¹⁷ Norwegian Embassy in Kabul: <http://www.norway.org.af/prt/security/security.htm>

events of September 11, 2001 changed the western world's way of thinking upon security politics. Due to Afghanistan's geographic position by being neighbour with unstable countries like Pakistan and India, it also presents great threats to the world because of Pakistan's possession of nuclear weapons, as well as it having an on-going conflict with India, which also is a nuclear-power (Mood, Samtiden 3-2008: 75). Moreover, by being present in Afghanistan it is easier to guard these opposing threats, which is only a few out of many. As Moerk (ICARE, number 1, 2008: 3) says, the war in Afghanistan could also be looked upon as part of a bigger conflict, namely a global civil war. By this, he means that whatever happens in Afghanistan has consequences for the whole world, and affects our daily life because it evolves matters such as oil, Norwegian prescription, Pakistan's stability as well as NATO's future as a transatlantic alliance.

In a Norwegian government document (St.melding 15, 2008-2009) it is stated that Norway's military contribution to international operations can be looked upon as international solidarity. And that it also is important to acknowledge the fact that our country's own state security is closely attached to international security due to globalism, which makes it very necessary to defeat the challenges in this regards where they occur, such as in Afghanistan. Further, Norwegian defence- and security policy has as an important goal to make the lives of individuals better in a world-wide perspective, but the Norwegian army is still being looked upon as an instrument to protect and front national interests, sovereignty and territorial integrity (Rottem 2007: 42).

In an article by the Norwegian magazine "Samtiden", Robert Mood (2008: 73) says:
"We are present in Afghanistan in order to give the Afghan population a chance for a better future".

However, despite the great effort given in Afghanistan by the international community, the progression is not as wished, which serves as good arguments against the ongoing war in the country. Nevertheless, Afghanistan's future is also closely linked to the western world's security, and therefore stretches far beyond reasons such as to help the Afghan population. The rational reason for the Norwegian soldiers operating and risking their own lives in a far-away country is therefore in order to secure our own state's future and security by stabilizing Afghanistan (Mood, 2008: 74). However, the brutal fact is also that Norway is dependent upon support from NATO and its allies in order to defend our own territory as well as natural

resources, due to a small defence (Mood, 2008: 75). Therefore, in other words, by supporting the allies within NATO, such as in Afghanistan, we contribute to make others wanting to help Norway if a crisis-situation should occur (Rottem 2007: 50).

Individual security is also closely linked to the aspect of state security and vice versa. If a state does not follow international norms for human rights and democracy this could lead to commotion within that state, which eventually could lead to insecurity beyond that states boundaries (Rottem 2007: 51). Therefore, as one could see, a great link between securities at different levels therefore exists.

1.2 Research question

Failed states are where the government no longer manages on it's own to protect it's population from external and internal threats due to a lack of important state mechanisms like state security forces and a legal system built on the rule of law not being present. In light of the Afghan government and the international community's commitment to create peace and security for the Afghan population aided by the Bonn Agreement, the PRTs were established to assist the local governments in the providance of security. This facilitates reconstruction efforts taking place in their Area of Operation (AOO). In addition, Norway serves as the Leading Nation (LN) for one PRT in Meymaneh in northern Afghanistan. My research is as follows:

- ***What are PRT Meymanehs tasks?
How can the tasks and the activities related to them be seen in regards to the creation of security at the operational level, and what are the PRTs most important challenges regarding security to accomplish their mission?***

As mentioned earlier, the security situation in Afghanistan is difficult. I will therefore, due to the limited frame of my thesis, focus on how PRT Meymaneh and its activities can be related to the establishment of security on the ground. It will also focus on the Afghan population in Meymaneh, the civil element of the PRT and different Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) operating in the AOO. Links will be drawn between the security of the Afghan state and its society.

In order to answer my research question, my qualitative method of science is based on the gathering of information through different national and international political and military sources. Sources such as Norwegian governmental journals and articles, Norway`s official website in Afghanistan, NATO and ISAF`s own websites. Other important articles and sources related to news gathered from different internet databases, both international as well as national, will be used. In addition to the study of documents, I will also carry out some interviews with selected respondents as an important source of information. A more thorough account based on the methods will come later on in the assignment. When it comes to analytical tools, I have chosen to focus extensively on the widening of the security concept with particular emphasize on the human security concept. To some degree the discussion will also be in light of the traditional state security aspect and societal security.

1.3 Definition of concepts

The most important concept in this thesis is the concept of Provincial Reconstruction Teams, and linked to it, the concept of civil-military cooperation. The PRTs consist of a civil and a military component as well as being an institution framed to cooperate with and assist the Government of Afghanistan, and the different NGOs in the designed Area of Operation. Civil-military cooperation is therefor an important concept to clarify as well.

1.3.1 The PRT-Concept.

The first eight PRTs in Afghanistan were established by the U.S and the UK under the OEF in March 2003. It originated from so-called Coalition Humanitarian Liaison Cells (CHLCs) established after the Taliban had been overthrown in 2002 (PRT Handbook, 2007: D-2-1/2). The cells mission was to implement small projects in order to win the population`s confidence and trust, also referred to as a “Hearts and minds” ideology, as well as to gather information in regards to humanitarian needs (PRT Handbook, 2007: D-2-1/2). In the beginning, ISAFs mandate was primarily limited to the providance of security in Kabul and its surrounding areas. In October 2003 the mandate was extended by the UN to cover the whole of Afghanistan. This initially lead to the PRT concept being launched also by ISAF, and in December that same year ISAF took command over its first PRT, PRT Kunduz (PRT Handbook, 2007: D-2-2).

Today, there are 25 PRTs stationed and operating in Afghanistan and they are all under ISAF command¹⁸. They are being led by 13 different nations (PRT Handbook, 2007: 1). Out of the 34 provinces in Afghanistan, there are PRTs currently present in 25 of them¹⁹. ISAF is divided into five Regional Commands (RCs) which the PRTs serves with and belongs to; RC South, RC East, RC West, RC North and RC Capitol²⁰. The PRT in Meymana belongs to RC North, and its location is marked in the map below.



Map showing the different PRTs’ location in Afghanistan²¹.

By the use of PRTs, the international community and Norway tries to give the Afghan people the opportunity for a better future. In order to achieve this goal, the creation of security, the building of institutions and education of the new generations is in focus (Mood, Samtiden, number 3 – 2008). The PRT’s mandate is closely linked to the Afghan priorities stated in the Afghanistan Compact and in the Afghan National Development Strategy (ANDS)²², and is being used as a tool in assisting the Afghan government achieve the Development Goals established. As stated in the PRT Handbook (2007) the PRT mission statement sounds as follows: “*Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRTs) will assist The Islamic Republic of*

¹⁸ Forsvarsnett: <http://www.mil.no/fo/afg/start/fakta>
¹⁹ Royal Norwegian Embassy in Kabul, PRT Maimana, 2008. <http://www.norway.org.af/prt/faryab/faryab.htm>
²⁰ Forsvarsnett: <http://www.mil.no/fo/afg/start/fakta/>
²¹ NATO’s website. http://www.nato.int/isaf/docu/epub/pdf/isaf_placemat.pdf
²² Further information in Appendix 3.

Afghanistan to extend its authority, in order to facilitate the development of a stable and secure environment in the identified area of operations, and enable Security Sector Reform (SSR) and reconstruction efforts”.

According to the PRT Handbook (2007), the PRT concept was launched in order to solve the problem with areas being too insecure and unstable for civil development agencies to operate in. They were therefore not able to move the development of the country any further, because the military did not have the capacity or the expertise to manage development tasks on their own. The PRT consists of both a civil and a military component that works together. It is able to both penetrate and stabilize the more insecure and unstable areas. When the military component has done its task by opening up conflict areas for development, by providing security within the operational area, it can retrieve so that the civil component of the PRT can operate through traditional means in order to develop these areas (PRT Handbook, 2007: 5).

The PRT concept is built on the idea not to act as a substitute for, or as an alternative to the Government of Afghanistan, but instead work towards improving the GoA's capacity to govern on its own. Within the PRTs mandate, they are supposed to play an important role in assisting the Government of Afghanistan in those areas where its presence is lacking due to weakness. In this way, they can manage the problem of insurgents and instability challenges (PRT Handbook, 2007: 3).

The PRT's role is also to establish an environment that is safe enough for the different civil actors, such as the local authorities, the UN, NGOs and other humanitarian organisations to work with reconstruction and development projects (PRT Handbook, 2007: 3). All PRTs run by NATO have different mandates and are organized in different ways. They are not being led by one sole nation, but by the different contributing nations which all have their own respective strategic goal by being in Afghanistan (Jakobsen, DIIS Report, 2005: 14). They are all present in Afghanistan because the Afghan government (Jakobsen, DIIS Report, 2005: 14) has invited them. The PRTs are also organised in a different manner with regards to the size of their security element or force protection element depending on how insecure the security situation is in the designated area. In southern Afghanistan, the security situation is worse than in the north. The need for a more compound and bigger force protection element is therefore necessary.

Focusing on security for the Afghan population, who, in conflict and war situations often become a very vulnerable group is also part of the PRT's mandate. This is being done through tasks such as *"The improvement of the security environment for the Afghan people through dialogue with regional leaders and confidence building activities and mitigating likely areas of conflict, to monitor, assess, advise on and support SSR activities in close coordination with UNAMA, SSR lead-nations and bilateral programmes. As well as to provide a visible presence in assigned Area of Operations (AOO) and to monitor and assess the military, political, and civil situations with the AOO"*²³.

1.3.2 Civil Military Cooperation.

Civil-military cooperation revolves around different degrees of cooperation and coordination between the civil and military components operating in a specific area. The concept of civil-military co-operation exists in different definitions, depending in which context it's being used. Examples of these definitions, are the one's being used by NATO and the EU, but due to my focus on NATO and the limited frame on my thesis, I will not elaborate more on the EU concept. Within the Norwegian total defence concept²⁴, civil-military cooperation is defined as "all interaction between the civil and military components at all levels", and in the Norwegian St.prp.nr.42 (2003-2004) it is stated that the concept's content is to a high degree dependent on the situations occurring and that it involves many different actors.

A specific term called CIMIC (civil-military co-operation) is used when referring to civil-military cooperation in international operations under NATO-Command. This term is through NATO's own CIMIC doctrine, AJP-9 (2003) being defined as *"The co-ordination and co-operation, in support of the mission, between the NATO Commander and civil actors, including national population and local authorities, as well as international, national and non-governmental organisations and agencies"*. It is therefore, due to it being in support of the mission and used within international operations, important to point out that the CIMIC-concept thereby does not include all types of civil-military cooperation at all levels. In Afghanistan, most of the PRTs have their own specific CIMIC-team specially designed for civil-military related issues, but Norway does not have this. However, one can argue whether CIMIC activities play a great role in their missions or not. I will elaborate more on this in my empirical chapter.

²³ NATO website, ISAF, PRTs: <http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/index.htm>

²⁴ The Norwegian Ministry of Defence: "Det moderniserte totalforsvarskonseptet" (2007).

1.4 Structure of the thesis.

The thesis is further structured as followed: Chapter 2 will present the theoretical frame chosen as the thesis analytical tool. Here, assumptions will be presented in line with the security theories, which I will seek answers too based on my empirical data. In chapter 3, I will present the thesis methodological approach. Chapter 4 is my analytical chapter, where my empirical data also will be presented. The chapter is further divided into three sub-chapters, concerning every part of the empirical research question as previous presented. Sub-chapter 4.1 charts the PRT Meymaneh's mission and overarching tasks, while 4.2 concerns how the PRTs tasks and related activities can be seen in regards to the creation of security, and 4.3 presents the PRTs most important challenges in order for it to complete its mission, also seen in a theoretical perspective. At last, concluding remarks will be presented in chapter 5, followed by a bibliography in chapter 6.

2. Theory

Ken Booth says (2005:41) that due to the events of September 11, 2001 the need for a wider concept and understanding of security is needed. Today's concept of security contains a lot more than the traditional focus on states as the main object that need to be secured. The state is no longer the only object that is being threatened, individuals and the environment are also being threatened (Fierke, 2007: 5). Due to the September 11 events, the way of looking at security has changed. Security is now being seen lesser as a narrow military definition and more as part of a bigger picture which includes a broadening and a transformation of the term (Fierke, 2007: 5). The traditional state security with the military as a power – maximizing actor and threat to other states in a power rivalizing act as seen during centuries and up till the cold war, is no longer enough to explain this complexity of events in the post – Cold War era. There is a great need for a wider and deeper conceptualization of security, moving towards societal security and human security. This is what I am going to focus on in this theory chapter, along with the basic meanings of the traditional state security concept. Thus, the concept of human security will have a greater focus than the state security concept and societal security. But first, the explanation of the term security is needed.

2.1 What is security?

The definition of security is: “security means, simply, the absence of threats”, and implies a condition of both being and feeling safe (Booth, 2005:21). One can also look at security as something we try to obtain in order to eliminate or handle the case of insecurity (Fierke, 2007: 5). Booth also states (2005:21) that security is more than a state of purely *animal survival*. By this, he means that one can survive without being secure, as is the case in many countries where war is present, leaving people without the possibilities to explore their human values and rights (Booth, 2005:22). In international politics, the traditional definition of security is “*the protection of the territory and core values of states against foreign imposition*” (Booth, 2005:23). But Booth himself has a much deeper definition to the term security, saying that:

“Security in world politics is an instrumental value that enables people(s) some opportunity to choose how to live. It is a means by which individuals and collectivities can invent and reinvent different ideas about being human” (Booth, 2005:23).

Fierke also states in her book that security in the narrow definition is to be safe from harm and danger (Fierke, 2007: 13). But still, today's security politics have evolved from being state and military centered to becoming more and more society and individual oriented security issues²⁵. This is also what I want to highlight in my thesis, by focusing on civil-military co-operation in Afghanistan through the work of PRT Meymaneh.

Globalization has led to the fact that political issues that are internal within one country have become an issue also for the world outside (Hough, 2004: 2). And this also goes the other way around, making external issues now also become part of one state's internal politics. An example of this would be health and rights, which traditionally have been a part of domestic policy becoming more prominent in political agendas around the world. For example when events like disasters or massacres take place in other states, it is very likely for these events to will now affect the politics of countries that are not directly affected (Hough, 2004: 2).

It is because of these changes and the fact that inter - state war is not as prevalent now-a-days as it used to be, that the theorists of International relations argue whether Security Studies should continue to "maintain its traditional emphasis on military threats to the security of states" (Hough, 2004: 2), or if it should look beyond this focus and widen its field of study.

Some have argued strongly that the discipline should either extend its field of research so that it also includes non - military threats to states. Another alternative is to deepen the security aspect a bit further and include the security of all actors, no matter what threats they are exposed to, being military or non - military (Hough, 2004: 2). The widening of the security concept could therefor be seen along two different dimensions. The first one concerning new and different threats to states becoming prevalent and the latter that other actors than the states also needs to be secured. In accordance with this, I will continue this chapter by introducing some of the central perspectives in the field of International Relations and Security Studies, which stretch from traditional threats to security, a so called "state - centered" security, to wider and deeper conceptions of security, like societal and human security. Here, human security will be of greater focus in accordance to my research question.

²⁵ Forsvarsnett: Valler, 2002. http://www.mil.no/felles/ifs/start/presentasjon_ifs/article.jhtml?articleID=98032

2.2 State security: internal and external enemies

There are different paradigms when studying International Relations which represent different political directions in security politics. They all have somewhat different ways of thinking about security and what is to be looked upon as threats to security and the issues reflecting it (Hough, 2004:2). We must also look at whom and what is to be secured and what to do in a critical security situation (Booth, 2005: 21). Traditional approaches see security as something that is within a state's property. They either have or do not have security, and are or are not secure (Fierke, 2007: 5). *Realism* and the *realists* are the main traditional thinkers in this aspect as well as being the leading paradigm in Security Studies. It is also the approach used by governments in leading their foreign policies (Hough, 2004:2).

It was in the aftermath of the World War II that security studies and realism emerged as a subfield of International Relations, with the intension of explaining state behavior (Fierke, 2007: 17). Classical realism became known in the 1940s, and the actors in this view were states (Hough, 2004:3). Alliances were also made between states for the sake of mutual comfort. These were known as Inter - governmental Organizations (IGOs). International Non - Governmental Organisations (INGOs) on the other hand, were not seen as important at that time (Hough, 2004:3). International Relations are being defined as the study of political interaction between various actors (Hough, 2004:2). And in this the actors are states based upon a state system, and therefore it is referred to as "power politics". Everything in this term was looked at as the state's interest to serve and pursue their national interest in the best way possible (Hough, 2004:3).

The distinction between "high" and "low" politics was very important for the realist point of view. "Low" politics affects individuals in areas such as health and welfare, and should be held separate from state security policies (Hough, 2004:4). "High" politics concerning state security should therefore not be blended together with individual concerns on the "low" politics level, which belonged to the domestic affairs.

2.2.1 Political ends and military means.

A relationship exists between the concept of political ends, which is to be achieved, and military means used in order to achieve a goal. This brings us to the strategic level (Fierke, 2007: 14). The famous military theoretician Clausewitz states in his book *On War* from 1832 that war is simply a way to carry on political activity by the use of other means, such as the military. He simply means that war cannot be seen separated from political life (Fierke, 2007: 14). The use of war and military power is relevant when the discourse and bargaining process is no longer influential or possible. Security is always political, because it is defined in a political context and it is also closely attached to change which is something that is often seen in a political theatre (Fierke, 2007: 15).

2.2.2 Pluralism

Another paradigm called pluralism is quite contradictory to the realist point of view. *Pluralists* mean that there is more to international politics than the pursuit of military and economic power, believe that there is a lot of different actors in the world and that the states aren't the only one (Hough, 2004:4). This leads towards a widening of the security concept. "Low" politics were also considered as important in the international political arena, and have become a part of the international political issues. In light of this, there is a new issue - based approach that says, "many non-military issues are legitimate concerns of International Relations and they might be contended over without reference to military power on an increasingly busy world stage" (Hough, 2004:5). I therefore, in line with the realist and the pluralists point of view, and due to this concept being based on security within the states property and not primarily security for the society or people within that state, *assume to find that the PRT in Meymaneh contributes to make Afghanistan able to defend itself against foreign imposition and enemies such as others states, but also against internal threats, which a widening of this concept inquires.*

2.3 Towards a widening of the security concept.

As the traditional security concept has always focused on "state – centred" security and on the military aspect such as military threats from other states, a wider and deeper concept of

security has evolved after the Cold War period, stating that a broader and varied range of other threats to humankind, exist (Hough, 2004:6).

This wider concept of global security flourished in the 1990s, and in the wake of the Cold War. It is a fact in the world today that military threats aren't the only ones, as mentioned above. In fact, as Fierke states (2007), the state may sometimes be the protector of its population but also the source of threat to a group or individuals. An Example of this is the Taliban in Afghanistan during their anarchical power in the 1990s until the U.S invasion in October 2001. Even though the Taliban does not hold governmental power today, they still pose a threat to the population.

The Independent Commission on International Development Issues (ICIDI), with Willy Brandt at the front stated in a report called The Brandt Report in the 1970s, that a widening due to the security concept is necessary by writing that; *“An important task of constructive international policy will have to consist in providing a new, more comprehensive understanding of ‘security’ which would be less restricted to the purely military aspects... Our survival depends not only on military balance, but on global cooperation to ensure a sustainable biological environment based on equitably shared resources”*(Hough, 2004: 12).

In the traditional security concept states are the ones that react to security issues that occur and are supposed to secure the state and the inhabitants. It is a fact that states and their own security agents, such as the police for internal affairs and the army for external affairs, in many cases aren't able to protect the citizens due to the fact that they aren't able to deal with the security problems which occur. Instead they often end up as the reason for them happening in the first place (Hough, 2004: 9).

In the book Understanding global security (Hough, 2004: 9) Buzan agrees with this, but his opinion is that this does not include every state. Some states are able to protect individuals against insecurity. These are called “strong states”, characterized by being democratic and through the development of human rights (Hough, 2004: 9). The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan therefore needs help from the international community to establish a safe and

secure environment throughout the country, and thereby making it possible to create a community that is for example based on democratic values such as human rights and international law.

Theorists Ayoob, Peterson and Sebenius made another important point when claiming that internal threats are as important as external threats. Peterson and Sebenius for example stated that when an economic underclass and a crisis in education are evident they should be seen as a threat to security (Hough, 2004:7). It was not until after the Cold War that there was a shift in international security politics from the traditional security aspect with a focus on military issues and state-security, to non-military issues and actors also becoming evident on the global stage (Hough, 2004:13).

The terror attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001 illustrates that there is a greater need for a widening and deepening of the security concept (Booth, 2005:27). This event can't be looked at as purely a traditional military issue, but also requires that non-governmental military actors are taken into consideration, such as Bin Laden's Al-Qaida in front of this security issue. In this sense, the events had a great impact on the debate regarding the need for a widening of both the security concept and the development of security theories. These threats represented something that was not seen as a traditional security issue because Al-Qaida is not a state, but in fact a non-state organization where the chain of command is not as obvious and clear as in today's modern democratic western states. The enemy is not as clear as it was before. Due to globalization, large network groups and organizations with different goals have emerged. They aren't always easy to negotiate with because they do not have the same interests as states often have (Booth, 2005: 32).

One of the biggest security challenges today is terrorism. A term often used in situations when non-state forces carry out illegitimate acts of violence (Booth, 2005: 62). There are different types of non-state actors threatening the world security today. In Afghanistan, criminal groups are as much evident as the politically motivated violent non-state actors (Hough, 2004: 63), such as Al-Qai'da and Taliban.

2.3.1 Societal security.

The term societal security evolved from the Copenhagen School approach²⁶ by Wæver and Buzan, and defines a security situation when a particular society is being threatened. It distinguishes itself from both the traditional security aspect where the state is the main referent to security and the deeper human security approach where the individuals are the main focus. The concept also represented a shift in placing societal security at the front of security analysis, but though not replacing the focus on state security (Booth, 2005:34).

Martin Shaw strongly emphasized this, by arguing that nor the state or the individual should be the object of security studies. Instead the society should be in focus, being a kind of “middle” dimension between the traditional security aspect and a deepening of the concept (Booth, 2005:33). The end of the cold war indicated that the European community had changed and the traditional security concept with the focus on states as the main security object was no longer enough in security studies. In light of this, Buzan and Ole Wæver gave security studies a new framework for analyzing, which was called societal security.

As stated by Hough, “Societal security concerns the ability of a society to persist in its essential character under changing conditions and possible or actual threats” (Hough, 2004:106). Here, different forms of social identity can also pose a threat to the security community. An example would be the Al-Qa‘ida and Taliban, which belongs to certain ethnic groups in the state of Afghanistan today (Hough, 2004:109), as well as religion and gender issues. Societal security focuses on identity. This means a society should be able to maintain “its traditional patterns of language, culture, religion, national identity and customs” (Booth, 2005:34). I therefor, in light of what characterize societal security, *expect to find that the PRT in Meymaneh’s activity is directed towards helping the Afghan society and different groups to maintain it`s identity and security.*

²⁶ The Copenhagen School approach came to knowledge by the work of Buzan in the 1990s, and also his work with the book *Security* together with Wæver and De Wilde (Hough, 2004:8). With this approach came a new framework for how to analyze security matters, and went a step further in considering what can be a security matter by still including non – military issues as a threat, but they also ment that states aren’t the only actors that can pose a security threat or be threatened (Hough, 2004:8).

The “Speech Act”.

Within the Copenhagen School approach, a term called “securitization” was introduced by Wæver. By this he means that an issue can be labeled as a security issue by the use of something he forcefully calls a speech act (Booth, 2005:34). What is meant by speech act, is that when saying that something is a security issue, one makes it very important and often indicates that certain measures are necessary to deal with the threat opposed, and those measures can be unorthodox and being legitimized even if they are not in line with the way to deal with the issue in the usual political process (Booth, 2005:34).

The “speech act” requires that the security issue can be talked about and discussed. In some cases, such as Afghanistan, talking about the security issue and securing it is not possible (Booth, 2005:37). A dialogue with Al-Qai‘da and Taliban has not yet been built up. However, in other areas, such as women’s security, the conditions have become better. I therefore, in light of this, *expect to find that the PRT undertakes measures in order to establish a dialog and thereby making it possible to talk about certain security issues, especially with and within areas where it is able to achieve something, like an improved security situation.*

2.4 The human security approach.

“The pursuit of human security must have at its core the satisfaction of basic material needs of all humankind. At the most basic level, food, shelter, education and health care are essential for the survival of human beings” (Hough, 2004: 84, quotation from Thomas 2000: 7).

Human security is a concept that is defined as a deeper approach to the study of security than that of the Copenhagen School approach. This means that it is each individual person or group within a state that should be protected (Hough, 2004:8). In other words, we should consider the smallest piece of what the society contains as the most important to protect. A broader approach to security, like human security is needed because the traditional security concept concentrated on explaining wars between states, is no longer as relevant. This is because more

than 95% of the world's armed conflicts are within states and not between them (Human Security Report 2005: VIII). Therefore a greater focus on individual security should be more important. Because the war and humanitarian situation in Afghanistan is strongly affecting the Afghan population; I have chosen to give this theoretical concept the greatest attention in this thesis.

According to the *Human Security Report* from 2005, the concept of human security is used to describe the complex of interrelated threats that is associated with the displacement of populations, genocide and civil war. The distinction between national security and human security is important, because national security focuses on the defence of the state from external threats, while human security focuses on the protection of individuals (Human Security Report, 2005: VIII). One may believe that secure states automatically mean secure people but this is not entirely the case. While protecting the citizens from attacks coming from a foreign state other threats, such as violent acts, towards the population coming from their own government has been evident during the past 100 years (Human security Report, 2005: VIII).

Falk describes security as “the negation of insecurity as it is specifically experienced by individuals and groups in concrete situations” (Hough, 2004:8). The concept of human security will also be my main theoretical focus in this assignment.

The United Nations (UN) has also, because of their focus on human rights, given individuals the same right to peace as states, and therefore moves towards a deeper concept of security with human security in the front (Hough, 2004:13). In a report from United Nations development Programme (UNDP) from 1993 they stated that “ *The concept of security must change – from an exclusive stress on national security to a much greater stress on people's security, from security through armaments to security through human development, from territorial to food, employment and environmental security* “ (Hough, 2004:13).

Another statement from the African Leadership Forum from 1991 also stresses the importance of human security by stating that “*The concept of security goes beyond military*

considerations. It must be construed in terms of the security of the individual citizen to live in peace with access to basic necessities of life while fully participating in the affairs of his/her society in freedom and enjoying all fundamental human rights“(Hough, 2004:13).

The need for human security and a focus on the individual came in the 1990s at the end of the Cold War along with “failed states”, which can be seen as a product of the decolonization process (Fierke, 2007: 144). These states were consumed with intra-state wars and these challenges required new forms of analyzing security situations. The concept of Human security is one of them and was part of The UN *Human Development Report* from 1994, which states: Human security is meant to focus on individuals and not on state security. Human rights, sustainable development and safety from violence were the main points of reference (Fierke, 2007: 144).

In today`s wars, civilians often become the casualties of violent battles being carried out. And more often than not, since the end of the Cold War, civilians have become direct targets for violent acts. The point of this concept, is *“that people`s rights are at least as important as those of the states”* (Fierke, 2007: 145). Security and development were also main focuses; because underdevelopment can be very dangerous if it exists in failed states filled with violent conflicts. Fierke therefore stresses the importance that these rigid societies be transformed into liberal democracies, with the help of the international community and mainly the United States, which has taken on this responsibility (Fierke, 2007: 144).

The idea of a concept based on human security comes from several other concepts, which are based on sustainable development and human development. The first one stresses the importance of environmental protection being very important for humanity to survive and manage. The second which was stated in the United Nations Development Programme in 1990, said that *“people must be at the center of all development”* (Fierke, 2007: 145).

Different areas have been emphasized along with this concept, such as human rights, the rule of law and the idea of keeping the populations safe. Sustainable development has also been a theme in focus. The first one is based on the fact that all individuals have a basic right to “life,

liberty, and the pursuit of happiness”. This is based on personal, political, civil and legal rights (Fierke, 2007: 146). The next one consists of safety for the people, which simply means that the main task is to make groups that are vulnerable in wars safe and to protect them from harm by humanitarian relief and emergency assistance. Other aspects include helping to build peace and to prevent conflicts from happening in the future as well as to make the living conditions for refugees better (Fierke, 2007: 146).

2.4.1 ‘Narrow’ and ‘broad’ approach to the concept.

When it comes to which threats the individuals should be protected from, they are divided into a ‘narrow’ and a ‘broader’ definition. Within the narrow concept of human security, violent threats to individuals are the focus (Human Security Report 2005: VIII). This is also being stated by former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan as ‘the protection of communities and individuals from internal violence’ (Human Security Report 2005: VIII). These threats are also strongly associated with a lack of state capacity and poverty, as well as political inequity²⁷. In accordance with this theoretical outlining, *I expect to find that the PRT in Meymaneh’s activities are directed towards deminishing violent threats to individuals.*

Due to my focus on Afghanistan, international terrorism and the “war on terror” has created great human security concerns in Afghanistan, as well as in Iraq. And even though terrorism over the last 30 years has killed fewer than 1000 people a year, the war on terror and the US-led counterterror campaign can be seen in regards to high levels of anti-Americanism among muslims, which to an extent could lead to more terrorists being recruited due to their hatred against the U.S (Human Security Report, 2005: 6). Due to wars, the civilians suffer great costs such as their lives being at risk because of battle-deaths, people being displaced, destroyed infrastructure and badly living standards is also a problem. When it comes to deaths among citizens, the poor countries are the ones that suffer the most. This is because they experience the most wars, they do not receive sufficient humanitarian assistance and because their health system is too fragile and lacks of money (Human Security Report, 2005: 7). Presumed this is the case in Afghanistan, *I also expect to find that the PRTs activities are directed towards contributing to a better human security condition for the Afghan population by promoting development.*

²⁷ Human Security Centre: What is Human Security, 2005:
<http://www.humansecurityreport.info/index.php?option=content&tas>

A broader definition focuses on natural disasters, hunger and disease as threats to the humankind, for one simple reason, that is the fact that they kill far more people than terrorism and war altogether (Human Security Report 2005: VIII). The proponents for this point of view also mean that economic insecurity should be looked upon as an important threat to individual security. But due to my focus on Afghanistan, my focus will mostly lie upon the narrow definition of the concept, and to a smaller extent upon the broader.

2.4.2 The Gender security approach

Buzan and Waever's approach to the societal security does not involve gender security as an important part of the discrimination against civilians. Lene Hansen criticizes this. She makes a good and solid point when claiming that the speech act theory by the Copenhagen School does not fit in relation to the gender discrimination made throughout the world. In order for the speech act to be influential it requires an existing situation in which speech is possible (Hough, 2004:111). This is not the reality in every case. This becomes particularly evident in violent actions against women as in the case of Afghanistan. Due to the fact that women are discriminated in many Muslim societies and therefore do not have the human rights they are supposed, makes them to a lesser extent able to securitize their own threat and situation and therefore their voices are not heard (Hough, 2004:111). They have no rights within their society to participate in the speech act process. In light of Lene Hansen's critique, I find a particular focus on gender important when it comes to human security. Since feeling and being secure is often an individual matter. Based on this theory, *I expect to find that the PRT Meymaneh in it's work, is addressing women and their human rights in relation to security.*

Military security threats and wars have throughout time made innocent victims suffer in states' brutal hunt for honour and victory. But in the wars and conflicts fought throughout the world today, women and children have now become targets for the enemy, whether it is through military threats or non-military threats to security. As Hoogensen and Stuvøy state in their article on human and gender security in the Security Dialogue (2006: 210), traditional security has also been masculinist and seen within patriarchal structures. However, now the need for seeing security in a gender or possibly a feminist way is needed.

Security is often context and structurally dependent because being and feeling secure or not is many times dependent upon social structures and could be caused by states. Afghanistan is an example where women have been oppressed by the Taliban regime for many years. Structural change of political, economic and legal institutions are very important in order for security to be present (Hoogensen, Stuvøy, 2006: 214).

3. Methodological approach.

3.1 The research design.

This thesis is based on a single case-study of the Norwegian-led Provincial Reconstruction Team in Meymaneh. This is due to case-studies being used when research is focused on the study of a great amount of information about a unit or case (Thagaard, 2002: 47), and when the unit for research is organizations, persons or groups. In this case what I want to analyse is an organisation or institution based on the work being done by groups and persons within that organisation. To answer my research question on how this particular PRT's tasks and activities are related to security and to clarify the greatest challenges in order for its mission to be accomplished, I will make use of a qualitative method based on a documental review and interview survey as part of my research.

3.2 The gathering of empirical data.

3.2.1 The documental review

I have chosen to focus on documental review because a big amount of written sources is used in my thesis, coming from both military and academic sources as well as written literature on the subject chosen. In Thagaards book (2002), Scott (1990) argues that all written sources available for the scientist are to be characterized as documents. The gathering of information has therefor, in order to get a wide assortment been divided into different categories:

- Sources from the Norwegian Army and NATO and ISAFs own web-sites on the internet, as well as articles regarding the Norwegian contribution to Afghanistan and the PRT Meymaneh.
- The Norwegian Army has also been so kind to give me a great amount of information and access to official sources, such as books and articles on the subject regarding civil-military cooperation and PRTs.
- Different public documents, such as Norwegian governmental journals and articles from the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Kabul, which also is Norway's own official website in Afghanistan.
- Different news articles and media databases both on the internet and from magazines.

- Sources from academic and research institutes, which also is referred to as “quota sampling”: articles written by different academic and scientific research centres, both national and international.
- My theoretical material was mainly gathered from academical books and articles, as well as from the Human Security Centre in Canada and their Human Security Report from 2005.

Because the written literature about the PRT Meymaneh by the time being is of limited extent, the internet has been greatly used in order to gather information. I have therefore focused on using different internet databases, such as research within The Norwegian Army, NATO and ISAFs own web-sites, as well as other different research institutes such as CMI, NUPI and The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, as mentioned above.

The data is further gathered based on the fact that they are supposed to tell what kind of tasks and activities done by the PRT that can be related to the security theories selected, and also to enlight the challenges facing the PRT in it`s work in Meymaneh, Afghanistan. The documents mostly focused on are therefore the ones from different news articles, from the Norwegian Army, Norwegian Governmental journals and the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Kabul. This is because they to an extent are updated, and also because they give the greatest information about the Norwegian PRT in Meymaneh that I could find, except from the data gathered during interviews, which I will further focus on in the next sub-section below. When it comes to how the documents are studied in order to get the most relevant information on the subject, I have both read them carefully, whereas some of the documents were read rather briefly because I knew what I was looking for. This was also done in order to spare time, due to having a lot of sources on the subject Afghanistan and PRTs available, but only some of them are more relevant than others regarding documents on the PRTs tasks and activities, as well as challenges being rather limited, as previous mentioned.

3.2.2 Interviews

I have also chosen to gather information in form of interviews, from informants with relevant qualifications such as; knowledge and experience from the field on the subject chosen in accordance to my research question. My research method is therefore based upon a strategic selection when it comes to information and the informants (Thagaard, 2002: 53). Interviews is

a good method in order to get information in regards to how the informants experiences and understands himself/herself, as well as surrounding areas (Thagaard, 2002: 58).

I have also chosen to use interviews as part of gathering my empirical data, because necessary field experience as well as knowledge regarding PRT Meymaneh, civil-military cooperation and Afghanistan as such is extremely important due to a limited access of documents regarding the PRTs work at the operational level in Meymaneh, Afghanistan. I have further chosen interviews as part of gathering information, because information about this particular PRT is limited, and I therefore find interviews to be a necessary way of getting information based on the informants own, knowledge, experience and thoughts. The informants have therefore been selected based on their knowlegde about the Norwegian contribution to Afghanistan and the present situation in the country.

The total number of persons interviewed is seven, divided in three different categories depending upon their field of knowledge and experience. A further detailed list of the categories of informants is available in the reference list at the end of this thesis. All of the informants interviewed were also men; this finding could therefore be seen in light of the fact that the Norwegian Army as well as the other fields of knowledge on the subject may to an extent be male dominated. In my search for relevant informants, I also had contact with female researchers, but in some cases they relegated me to the persons interviewed, who also where the ones with relevant competence due to my field of research. Among former PRT-officers from the Norwegian army with relevant field experience, the plural number here is also men.

Regarding how the interviewes more specifically were performed, I chose a partly structured approach, also referred to as a qualitative research interview (Thagaard, 2002: 85). I had chosen certain themes for discussion, but some questions were also composed before the interviews took place. In this sense, the interviews became more like a discourse between me as a researcher and the informant directed by the themes I seeked information about. By this, I achieved flexibility in the informant's enunciation (Thagaard, 2002: 85), as well as a more or less free speech. This was also one of the reasons as to why I did not choose to record the interviews on tape, but instead focused on five interviews done in person, where I met the informants at their job location, one interview per telephone and the last one done by e-mail.

3.3 Strengths and weaknesses

I have also chosen informants from three different categories in order to get critical and idealistic information as well as different experiences and points of view, and thereby strengthen the reliability and validity of the analysis. This is also because the soldiers within the Norwegian Army serving within the PRT may not be able to criticize their own work and thereby see weaknesses regarding their contribution to security.

3.3.1 Validity and reliability

When gathering the information, I have tried to focus on information that is relatively new in time, but I am familiar with the fact that this can cause problems. This is due to the Norwegian PRT-contingent (as well as every other PRT out of the 25 present in Afghanistan) rotates every 6 months and therefore both the personnel as well as situation changes very often, which in turn could make the information's reliability change as well. But due to the strategic goal and mission of the operation stays the same, this should not serve as any big problem. Another weakness in regards to the information is that the security picture changes all the time, which in turn could weaken the information's validity over time. I therefore had to find as solid sources as possible, which was relatively new in time, and not older than a two-year period from the time of writing this thesis. This also limits the utility of academic articles and books, because a distance in time from the time of writing regarding happenings in Afghanistan will appear, due to them going through a process of review and copyrighting which requires a certain time frame.

As I mentioned earlier, it has been difficult to find reliable sources on the PRT, which has served to make me particularly critical to the sources I did find, and therefore both served as a limitation as well as strength. Limitations have also occurred in regards to the information not being updated that often. But here NATO/ISAF, The Norwegian Army and The Norwegian Embassy in Afghanistan's own Web-sites has been quite reliable and valid sources with updated news and information relatively often. Therefore, because of the changing security picture and changes within the international contribution, current information on the PRTs situation in Afghanistan could at all times be found at the Norwegian army's own website: <http://www.mil.no/intops/start/>.

Regarding the academical articles, they have gone through a process of evaluation by others within the same branch before being published, which strenghtens these sources reliability. But on the contrary, the different internet sources have not. It could therefore be difficult for me as a researcher to control if the data on the internet is reliable sources or not, and could therefore serve as limitations. Here, the database Wikipedia serves as an example. This is a source where the information published does not get quality checked, which weakens this source`s reliability. A varied number of sources therefore become very important in order to measure up for the above mentioned weaknesses by the use of internet and thereby strenghten the data`s reliability.

Further, it has been somewhat difficult to chart exactly what the PRT is doing at the operational level in some cases. Here, I have also been quite dependent upon interviews as a reliable source, and I therefore wished I hade more time and space in my assignment to carry out even more interviews to get more valid information. I have never been to Afghanistan neither, as well as not having the opportunity to do research in the field myself, because it is too dangerous and therefore too difficult to manage. Due to this subject presenting a great challenge by being very vast in volume, I chose to concentrate on certain themes and issues regarding the PRTs tasks and challenges.

4. Analysis

The Norwegian-led PRT in Meymaneh, Faryab, is, alongside 25 other PRTs, part of a crisis management operation in Afghanistan (Eronen, Volume 1: Number 5/2008) and this in turn leads to great tasks followed by even greater challenges. I will therefore, in this part of my thesis place my empirical findings in a theoretical context in order to discuss and answer my research questions, regarding *what are PRT Meymanehs tasks? How can the tasks and the activities related to them be seen in regards to the creation of security at the operational level, and what are the PRTs most important challenges regarding security to accomplish their mission?*

In order to answer my research questions, I have chosen to divide the analysis into 3 sub-chapters in accordance with every part of the research questions: 4.1 concerns the first question regarding the PRT's tasks, and will be answered very briefly in order to give the reader an understanding of the PRT Meymanehs concept as well as its mission. In sub-chapter 4.2, a more thorough presentation of the PRTs tasks and related activities seen in regards to the creation of security will follow. These will therefore be seen in light of the different theories and assumptions presented in my theoretical chapter, and is the main part of this thesis analysis. The last part of the analysis, sub-chapter 4.3, concerns the challenges facing this PRT in order for it to complete its mission.

4.1 The concept of PRT Meymaneh

4.1.1 Mission and overarching tasks.

“I would like to reiterate Norway's deep commitment to supporting joint efforts to bring about lasting peace and sustainable development for the people of Afghanistan. If we are to succeed we must be fully aware of the links between security, political, economic and social development – and that Afghan ownership of reconstruction and development activities is crucial”

(Foreign Minister Jonas Gahr Støre at the London Conference on Afghanistan, January 2006. CMI Report, Bauck with others, 2007: v).

Even though the PRTs are all operating under the same mission, to create security, the PRTs are being lead by different nations and within different areas, and could therefore vary both in size, shape, mission statements and available resources (Eronen, Volume 1: Number 5/2008). The PRT Meymaneh has its own mission statement adjusted towards its Area of Operation in Faryab saying that: *“As directed by Regional Command North and co-ordinated with national authorities, PRT Meymaneh will assist the Government of Afghanistan in Faryab province in building security, governance and promote development in order to establish a safe and well governed Afghanistan”*²⁸. Over all, ISAF and Norway has as its main mission to support the Afghan Government in expanding its legitimacy, and to promote security, development and good governance, which is decisive in the development towards a stable and secure Afghanistan. This is being done through various activities, such as supporting Security Sector Reform (SSR), monitoring the PRT’s area of responsibility, supporting better government and by enabling development and reconstruction (Eronen, Volume 1: Number 5/2008).

Through the Security Sector Reform the international community supports Afghanistan in particular 5 areas: crosscutting issues, disarmament, training and mentoring of the Afghan National Police (ANP) and Afghan National Army (ANA) and with a judicial Reform²⁹. Whereas the Norwegian-led Provincial Reconstruction Team in Meymaneh is active in some of these areas, which I will elaborate more on later. Further, I find it important to highlight the fact that the military stabilization- and security force in Afghanistan is present in the country with the purpose to help the Afghan population, not to run or govern them. This and the PRTs purpose to assist the Afghan government is therefore equal dependent upon each other, because one cannot have one without the other, and it is therefore no contrast between them in regards to the PRTs work in Afghanistan. The purpose to assist the Afghan government is therefore to be able to help the population by facilitating the establishment of a government built on the rule of law and human rights. In the end, the main aim is that the Afghan government and the Afghan population are able to take responsibility for their own security and development, so the international military contribution through ISAF over time can be reduced and in the end, retrieve entirely³⁰. This is also what in the military language is being called End State. In order for this to happen, the PRT has different taks and activites, which is important seen in light of achieving this goal.

²⁸ Royal Norwegian Embassy in Kabul, Norwegian led PRT in Meymaneh, 2008.

<http://www.norway.org.af/prt/faryab/faryab.htm>

²⁹ Forsvarsnett: <http://www.mil.no/fo/afg/start/fakta/>

³⁰ Forsvarsnett: <http://www.mil.no/fo/afg/start/fakta/>

4.1.2 Civil – military coordination/cooperation.

In a report from a seminar on Afghanistan led by the Norwegian Army in 2008, chief of the Department for operation- and planning for preparedness in the Norwegian Defence Department stated that the use of PRTs is a good concept towards giving Afghanistan a solid foundation for development, good governance and security³¹. This is due to it being based on three pillars in regards to the rebuilding of Afghanistan stated in the Afghanistan Compact, which are *security*, *development* and *good governance*. The PRT Meymaneh consists of a military component and a civil component, and is based on a comprehensive approach, as well as a clear dividence between the roles of the civil actors and the military mission. Still, a close coordination between these two components is very important for the mission to be carried out with the best possible outcome. The military component therefore has responsibility for pillar 1 based on security, to promote security, while the other two pillars are left to the civil component, with the task to promote development and good governance³².

The military component further consists of approximately 390 ISAF soldiers, whereas 300 come from Norway³³ and the remaining part from Latvia. The soldiers are mainly divided into different sectors such as: an Intelligence, Surveillance, Target Acquisition & Reconnaissance Training Group (ISTAR-TG) consisting of Mobile Observation Teams (MOTs), a Task Unit, a Force Protection – element (FP), Combat Support Service (CSS), a Medical convoy (MED coy) and a Norwegian Aeromedical Detachment³⁴, and they all have different tasks regarding security. ISTAR-TG is an intelligence unit with the main task to maintain an overview of the situation in the designed area of operation at all levels and areas at all times. This is being done by the use of Mobile Observation Teams³⁵. The Task Unit division serves as a security- and guarding troop, which operates throughout the whole of Faryab province and is also used as a force protection element in addition to having a particular task in strenghtening the Mobile Observation Teams³⁶. The Task Unit is also being used in carrying out joint operations with the different Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF)³⁷. An informant also said that the Force protection – element has as its main task to secure the Norwegian soldiers camp area in Meymaneh and to escort soldiers or other civil elements in and around

³¹ Lundes: Report from Afghanistan-seminar, 2008: 2. <http://www.mil.no/start/article.jhtml?articleID=155233>

³² Royal Norwegian Embassy in Kabul, Norwegian led PRT in Faryab. <http://www.norway.org.af/prt/faryab/faryab.htm>

³³ Dagbladet, Gjerstad: "Nordmenn ska stoppe Taliban". Sunday, January 25, 2009.

³⁴ Information from informant category I.

³⁵ Information from informant category I.

³⁶ Information from informant category I.

³⁷ Information from informant category I.

Meymaneh city whenever needed. While The CSS combat support has responsibility for the maintainance of camp Meymaneh, and the Medical convoy provides health services to the personnel within the PRT, both in and outside of camp Meymaneh as well as to having a dialogue with the hospital in Meymaneh in order to get and share information and experiences. The Norwegian Aeromedical Detachment plays an important role in carrying out medical evacuation by air³⁸.

The civilian component of the PRT consists of 12 people coming from different political departements. 1 Political Advisor (Polad) and 1 Development Advisor (Devad) from the Norwegian Foreign Department, 2 prison officers from the Norwegian Justice Department, 4 police liaison officers from the Norwegian Police Directorate, 1 Devad from the Islandic Foreign-Department, 1 combined position as both Devad/Polad from the Latvian Foreign Department and at last, 2 police liaison officers from the Latvian Domestic-Department³⁹.

Here, the civilian advisors tasks are to monitor, collect information and to keep an updated picure on the political and development situation in Faryab province among other tasks, which I will focus on later. The police liaison officers task is to train and monitor the Afghan National Police in order to strenghten their position, and at last the prison officers task is to make sure that the prisoners are safe, that their human rights are followed as well as to follow up the rule of law⁴⁰.

As one could see, the PRT consists of both a military and a civil component. But even so, with tasks and activities that are clearly going far beyond the ones originally designed for a military unit, and which requires great civilian expertise, an average of only 5% of the total personnel are civilians (Eronen, Volume 1: Number 5/2008), which in turn could make the mission difficult in some ways. I will elaborate on this later in the assignment.

When it comes to tasks and responsibilities, a clear dividence between roles within a civil-military dimension, as mentioned above, is therefore extremely important. It is also, what characterizes the Norwegian PRT-model. Therefore, when it comes to CIMIC, a concept used in NATO operations and in support of the mission (CIMIC-doctrine, AJP-9, 2003) as mentioned in the introductory chapter, it is decided at the political and strategic level that the

³⁸ Information from informant category I.

³⁹ Information from informant category III.

⁴⁰ Royal Norwegian Embassy in Kabul: <http://www.norway.org.af/prt/faryab/faryab.htm>

military element within the Norwegian-led Provincial reconstruction team in Meymaneh is not supposed to carry out such activities. Based on this, the Norwegian authorities have decided that no funds coming from the Norwegian Ministry of Defence should be used to carry out civil activities⁴¹. CIMIC-projects, or any CIMIC-activities, which could be looked upon as humanitarian aid, such as handing out clothes or food, should therefore not be carried out by the military. Such activities are reserved for civilian actors, and are decided through agreements between the United Nations Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), ISAF, the Afghan government and different non-governmental organizations. The military component's tasks are therefore only directed towards security and to support Afghan National Security Forces⁴².

Further, I will now look at the PRT in Meymaneh's contribution to security based on the empirical data related to its tasks and activities in regards to the three pillars, security, development and good governance seen in a theoretical context. The two latter pillars will be given focus based on to what extent they are important in regards to the providence of security.

4.2 PRT Meymaneh's contribution to security

In this section, I will present my empirical data in regards to the assumptions made in my theoretical chapter. I will start at the individual level with human security due to this being my main theoretical focus, and move towards the PRT's contribution in regards to societal and state security further on in this section, since they are all dependent upon each other.

4.2.1 PRT Meymaneh and the human security concept

As mentioned in my theoretical outlining, "Security means, simply, the absence of threats", and implies a condition of both being and feeling safe. This, one could claim to be a rather simple definition of the term, which only implies the most element form of the human condition, namely to stay alive. But security, as Booth (2005: 21) further states, is more than a purely animal survival. One can survive without being secure, as is the case in many countries where war is a fact, leaving people without the possibilities to explore their human values and rights (Booth, 2005: 22), such as in Afghanistan. With this meaning of the concept one

⁴¹ Information from informant category III.

⁴² Information from informant category III.

stretches towards the deepest meaning of security, namely human security, which I have chosen to start the analysis with due to it being my main analytic tool for this thesis.

The concept of human security implies that it is each individual person or group within a state that should be protected (Hough: 2004: 8), and thereby divides itself from both the state security concept and societal security. As stated by the Human Security Report (2005: VIII), 95% of the world's armed conflicts are within states and not between states, as is the case in Afghanistan, leading individual security concerns to be the highest priority.

Following, the PRT Meymaneh's military and civilian components tasks of promoting security, development and good governance will be seen in light of the assumptions made, regarding human security. Here, gender security will also be of great focus.

4.2.1.1 Does the PRT diminish violent threats to individuals?

Within the narrow definition of human security, violent threats to individuals are the focus and as stated by Kofi Annan, it is all about the protection of communities and individuals from internal violence (Human Security Report 2005: VIII). In order to create a condition where the individuals in Afghanistan are safe from harm and danger, different threats have to be diminished or even removed. Based on this, I therefore formed an assumption saying that:

I expect to find that the PRT in Meymaneh's activities are directed towards diminishing violent threats to individuals.

In accordance with the PRT's mission statement, the military component, which is part of ISAF and under ISAF Command, has as mentioned in the previous chapter responsibility for pillar 1 based on the establishment of security throughout the province of Faryab. And therefore it has different tasks and activities related to this, which I expect to find is directed towards the diminishment of violent threats to individuals.

Security Sector reform and Counter-insurgency operations.

The Counter-insurgency programme in Afghanistan is launched in order to deal with the problem of insurgents, such as the Taliban, warlords or other criminal groups in Afghanistan. These insurgents stand as occupants and a threat to the sitting government and create instability and insecurity for every part present in Afghanistan. This could therefore, be seen in accordance to the wider security concept and the pluralists, who believed that there is more

to international politics than the pursuit of military and economic power, and that there is many different important actors in the world, and that the states are not the only ones (Hough, 2004: 4). Counter-insurgency is a military term used for the combat against a certain movement of primary resistance or a rebellion named an “insurgency”. The ones terming these kinds of threats are often forces aligned with the controlling government of the territory in which the combat takes place, such as the PRTs in Afghanistan and the governments own security forces⁴³.

Norway is part of counter-insurgency operations (COIN) in Afghanistan, which is to defeat insurgents and to do something with the problem where the problem exists⁴⁴.

In a human security perspective, the struggle against insurgents like the Taleban in order to make sure that they do not get power in Kabul again, could be seen in regards to keeping the local population safe from the depression of the Taleban rule. During the Taleban rule, great parts of the population fled the country due to war and persecution. A strict Islamic governmental rule called sharia was also introduced, leading to enormous restrictions upon human rights and life quality (Barth, 2008: 58/59) for the population in Afghanistan.

In regards to this, a sub-division within the PRT, called a Task Unit, which operates as a manoeuvre-division, is often used in security-operations in order to stabilize an insecure area. It is also being used to carry out Joint Operations together with Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) such as the Afghan National Army, the Afghan National Police and the Afghan Border Police, and is in this respect part of a partnering unit with these different divisions⁴⁵. An informant⁴⁶ also said that in order to get the local government present in the districts and to create security forces as well, the Norwegian soldiers had to travel together with the ANSF into areas where they did not dare to operate or travel alone, due to it being too dangerous. Because of this, the ANSF eventually dared to travel alone, because they knew that soldiers from the PRT would assist them if necessary, and is in this respect supporting them as a part of SSR. In this manner, through cooperation with Afghan security-organizations, the PRT is part of making it possible for the civil element of the PRT and humanitarian aid workers to operate in a safe environment and thereby being able to do their

⁴³ Wikipedia: Counter-Insurgency. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Counter-insurgency>

⁴⁴ Information from informant category I.

⁴⁵ Information from informant category I.

⁴⁶ Informant category I.

job. Norway therefore contributes to the re-establishment of safe surroundings, as well as to create a foundation for growth and development for the Afghan population⁴⁷.

Threats like the Taleban and other insurgents are, as mentioned in my theoretical outlining, strongly associated with a lack of state capacity and poverty. The strengthening of the ANSF is therefore important in order to eliminate these kinds of threats, and this I will focus more on later when discussing the PRTs contribution regarding the state security concept.

A statement made by an informant⁴⁸ concerning the fact that the Norwegian soldiers had to travel together with the ANSF into dangerous areas, could also be seen in regards to the assumption saying that: "I expect to find that the PRT in Meymaneh's activities are directed towards diminishing violent threats to individuals". By this, not only towards the Afghan population, but also towards the Afghan National Security Forces as well. The PRT in this case therefore creates a better human security condition for the soldiers in the ANSF by protecting them if necessary, which automatically leads to a better security condition for the Afghan population, due to Security forces then being able to show their presence and patrol areas they haven't been able to operate in earlier. Whether this necessary protection of the Afghan Security forces in some cases could be seen as a negative finding as well as a positive one, may be a matter of definition. It is part of creating a greater human security condition either way. But it could also be seen in light of the fact that violent threats to individuals are strongly associated with a lack of state capacity and poverty, as well as political inequity⁴⁹, something that the weak ANSF not able to protect themselves and the Afghan civilians on their own also clearly shows.

Intelligence gathering and liaison.

The gathering of information and liaison with different persons within different aspects of the Afghan society stands as one of the military component of the PRT's main tasks and activities. This responsibility lies within the ISTAR TG, an intelligence – unit responsible for both gathering as well as sharing information. Within this respect, I have chosen to mainly focus on the Mobile Observation Teams (MOTs) which is a part of this division. We currently have five MOTs in PRT Meymaneh. These small units patrol in the Faryab province, which is the

⁴⁷ Forsvarsnett: Norwegian Forces in Afghanistan, 2008. <http://www.mil.no/fo/afg/start/fakta/>

⁴⁸ Informant category I.

⁴⁹ Human Security Centre: What is Human Security, 2005:
<http://www.humansecurityreport.info/index.php?option=content&tas>

PRT-Commanders area of responsibility⁵⁰. Their task is to travel out to districts and villages in order to gather information on the present situation regarding needs and wishes from different groups⁵¹. By talking to the local Afghans, they are being updated on status quo regarding security, development and the government situation in the different districts. In this regard, meetings with the local police chief in Meymaneh are an essential part of the MOTs mission⁵². The information is supposed to tell where projects and humanitarian assistance is needed, and where the security situation may be too dangerous for NGOs to operate. The information could therefore be of good use to the civil component of the PRT and other civil actors in creating greater human security. The PRTs own gathering of information is also part of controlling corruption in the soldier's area of responsibility (Nilsen, 2006: 91).

An informant⁵³ also said that liaison is a great part of the MOTs tasks. In order to strengthen the governments legitimacy outside of Kabul, as stated in the PRTs mission statement, the PRT operates on behalf of the government by giving information to the population or the government, either from the governor or from the PRT itself. The PRT thereby tries to create a greater security situation by showing visibilisation and presence on behalf of the government, where it does not manage to be itself.

By this kind of activity, the PRT tries to create security for different parts and by different manners, and then especially for the Afghan population. But as an informant expressed, the intention behind intelligence and information gathering is also to keep the soldiers themselves safe and secure from harm and danger⁵⁴. Therefore, by knowing where resistance against them could be hiding, the information is also used as force protection.

The military components task of establishing security throughout Faryab is also in order to make it possible for the civil component of the PRT, as well as different humanitarian aid workers, such as Non-Governmental Organizations and UNAMA to work in a safe environment, and thereby creating a better human security condition for them. In 2008, a total

⁵⁰ Forsvarsnett: <http://www.mil.no/stillinger/start/internasjonaleoperasjoner/article.jhtml?articleID=168163>

⁵¹ Lundes: Afghanistan-ceminar, 2008: 14. <http://www.mil.no/start/article.jhtml?articleID=155233>

⁵² Forsvarsnett: <http://www.mil.no/stillinger/start/internasjonaleoperasjoner/article.jhtml?articleID=168163>

⁵³ Informant category I.

⁵⁴ Informant category I.

number of 33 aid workers were killed in Afghanistan, which shows that the security situation for NGOs and other aid workers is very dangerous and have deteriorated over the last years⁵⁵.

Development goes hand in hand with security: they depend on each other. Without security, one cannot have development, due to the security situation in certain areas being too dangerous for humanitarian aid workers to operate. Therefore, when the soldiers patrol either in Meymaneh or in other rural areas, and thereby show their presence, they contribute to create the stability needed in order to bring these local communities necessary institutions and infrastructure such as hospitals, clean water, schools and new roads⁵⁶.

Mostly one could look upon the activity of information gathering and liaison as part of keeping the soldiers themselves, the civil element of the PRT and the civil aid workers safe from internal violence. Nevertheless, these activities could also be seen in regards to the creation of a greater human security for the Afghan population based on development and humanitarian assistance, which I will focus more on later when presenting my other assumption regarding the narrow definition of human security.

An informant⁵⁷ also told me that this intelligence group in accordance to gather information, is supposed to active make use of the information as well. And he criticizes the Norwegian soldiers for not doing this in the best manner possible. By this he ment that too little is being done with the things that has a particular effect, and the things we tend to do is more or less directed by short-term, instead of long-term goals. Here the rotation of each contingent every 6 months could serve as a reason⁵⁸. At worst this could lead to a situation where the right measures in order to create a stable and secure environment for the population isn't applied, and thereby either makes the situation worse or even in a state of no development and change to the better for the Afghans. However, another informant⁵⁹ did not support these opinions. He said that the rotation every 6th month do not necessarily create challenges. He adds that longterm plans at the local level for a period of 3 years is made, which is supposed to be followed, even if each PRT-Commander has different approaches towards achieving them. The informant further says that the problem lies at the political level in Norway: Cooperation

⁵⁵ Reuters: Batha: <http://www.reuters.com/article/featuredCrisis/idUSL6215861>

⁵⁶ Forsvarsnett: <http://www.mil.no/foi/afg/start/fakta/>

⁵⁷ Informant category I.

⁵⁸ Information from informant category I.

⁵⁹ Information from informant category I.

between the Justice Department, Police Department, the Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is not good enough and the PRTs common aim is not agreed upon at the national level.

Protection to the force and other supportive functions.

A great part of the PRTs tasks and activities are directed towards the protection of PRT personnel and other civilian parts within the PRTs area of operation, as already mentioned above. Within this purpose, the PRT has its own Force Protection – element (FP), designed to secure the soldiers camp, as well as to escort people in the surrounding areas, whether it is the soldiers themselves, the civilian element of the PRT or other people visiting the camp-area. These soldiers coming from the Latvian contribution, are also clearly visible by patrolling the streets and in this way showing their presence to the Afghan population⁶⁰, with the intended effect to scare off insurgents in order to create a stable and secure area.

As in every combat area, the PRT also has its own sanitarian unit, a Medical Concoy (MED coy), which is a very important contribution to the force. Today, this division also consists of Macedonians, and they have responsibility for everything within surgery matters. This division provides health services both within and outside of the camp area, and when it comes to the latter, personnel from the medical convoy travel with the soldiers and supports them with sanitarian services if needed. In addition to this, the medical personnel also has contact with the hospital in Meymaneh, this in order to get an overview and status update when it comes to diseases and also in regards to share experiences with the pesonnel at the hospital⁶¹.

As of 2008, the Norwegian Government decided also to contribute with a Norwegian Aeromedical Detachment to Meymaneh consisting of three helicopters⁶², which main task is to support the Norwegian soldiers and other personnel, such as the Afghan National Security Forces and other allies by carrying out medical evacuation by air if needed. This is part of saving the lives of the international and Afghan soldiers, but I was also told of another incident where these Norwegian helicopters picked up and saved the lives of Afghan civilians that were hurt after attacks by the Taleban⁶³. And even though this was not part of these

⁶⁰ Information from informant category I.

⁶¹ Information from informant category I.

⁶² http://www.regjeringen.no/nb/dep/fd/tema/internasjonale_operasjoner/oversikt_2006

⁶³ Information from informant category I.

helicopters mission, they serve as an example of saving innocent people's lives after them being exposed to violent threats.

In this sense, the force protection element and the other supportive functions mentioned above, could be seen in light of Fierkes (2007: 146) theoretical outlining; persisting safety of the people, which simply means that the main task is to make groups that are vulnerable in wars safe and to protect them from harm by humanitarian relief and emergency assistance. And thereby contribute to greater human security for the PRT personnel, other civil actors as well as the local population.

The creation of human insecurity?

As mentioned above, the PRT carries out joint operations together with the Afghan National Security Forces in order to fight insurgency. By doing this, the PRT is therefore trying to establish greater human security for several parts in the area of operation. However, according to the Human Security Report from 2005, the lives of civilians are also often at risk due to battle-deaths and the costs of war.

When it comes to operations and battle deaths, an informant⁶⁴ said that the lives of civilians should never be at risk. He also said that he had been part of operations where the soldiers were shot at. Women and children were sent in front and used as human shields by the enemy. When this occurred the soldiers pulled out from the area in order to spare the lives of civilians and not hurt them. This particular contingent, which the informant served within, also yielded positive responses because they managed to divide between the local Afghans and the insurgents⁶⁵, so that civilians wouldn't get killed. This in itself can be very difficult because the insurgents often hide among the local population. However, the critics have argued otherwise.

During operation Karez and Harekate Yolo in Badghis province in 2007 and 2008, carried out by Norwegian and German ISAF soldiers together with Afghan Security Forces against the Taliban, critics would say that there were civilian casualties and damaged infrastructure⁶⁶. But this is extremely difficult to prove or prove otherwise. During operation Karez the

⁶⁴ Information from informant category I.

⁶⁵ Information from informant category I.

⁶⁶ Information from informant category II.

Norwegian soldiers from the Telemark battalion killed 13 persons, and in operation Harekate Yolo in November 2007 approximately 50 persons were killed⁶⁷. Whether this is only Taliban soldiers, criminals, local warlords or just Afghan civilians is not mentioned. But this could at least serve as an indicator towards the fact that operations like these could create a situation of human insecurity, and not human security as intended.

As stated by the Human Security Report (2005), human security is all about the protection of individuals. Violent threats to individuals among others, is in focus within the narrow definition of human security and could also be referred to as 'the protection of communities and individuals from internal violence' (Human Security Report, 2005: VIII), and should therefore be diminished by the PRT as assumed in my assumption. However, if the case of killing civilians or any killing at all is a fact, the PRT operates as a source of threat instead of a protector as it is supposed to be.

In a Norwegian news-article⁶⁸, a researcher at the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI) also gives the Norwegian contribution in Afghanistan a lot of criticism. One of the military elements greatest tasks is to show presence among the Afghan population, by patrolling the streets and talking to the population. But this, the researcher criticizes the soldiers for doing too little of. He says that among the approximately 500 Norwegian soldiers in Afghanistan, only 100 of them operate outside the camp, and that is not enough. Due to the soldiers being too little present among the population, they do not make up their own opinion based on own experiences, but through the media instead. Moreover, in a conflict like the one in Afghanistan, cultural awareness about the enemy, how it thinks as well as how it manages to get support from the local population, is crucial for the success of the military operation, which is to create security for the Afghan population. This can only be achieved by living amongst the Afghans themselves. The soldiers therefore focus a lot on being able to keep themselves safe from harm and danger by living almost entirely inside the camp area, and not to keep the local population secure, due to a lack of presence among the Afghans. The researcher therefore also agrees upon the fact that the military contribution by this uses a lot of capacity and resources in order to achieve very little.

⁶⁷ Bore, Andersen: Dagbladet.no: <http://www.dagbladet.no/nyheter/2008/05/26/536358.html>

⁶⁸ Sævrøy, tv2 news: <http://www.tv2nyhetene.no/utenriks/afghanistan/article2588553.ece>

An informant⁶⁹ also expressed the same opinions about the PRT not being able to create security, but instead creates an unsafer security environment for the Afghan population and by this not helping them as intended. Instead of deminishing violent threats as expected according to my assumption, the PRT may instead create a condition where violent acts towards the population coming from (Human Security Report, 2005: VIII) the Taliban just as when they had governmental power, once again becomes evident. He states that when ISAF does not manage to establish security for the Afghan population over a longer period of time, this opens up for the possibility of Taliban punishing the local population more often and more crucial than before because they are supporting international troops. An example: when children wearing clothes branded by ISAFs logo gets their feet chopped off in southern Afghanistan, because they seemingly support ISAF. The soldiers in northern Afghanistan therefore aren't allowed to hand out any form of clothes branded by ISAFs logo⁷⁰.

A former interpreter for the Norwegian forces also agrees on this. She says that the Norwegian soldiers during operations are only after covering their own needs and that we are not interested in listening to what the Afghan population demands in order to manage their own life in a good way⁷¹. In this sense, even though the military components tasks are not directed towards creating development, this interpreter indirectly criticises the soldiers for not doing so when not listening to the Afghans demands. So, in accordance with the theoretical assumption saying that I expect to find that the PRT in Meymaneh's activities is directed towards deminishing violent threats to individuals, and provided that these sources are correct in their statements, the PRT therefore in this manner does not manage to eliminate the threats towards the population. Instead, it may operate as a source of threat, as well as not to promote development as intended due to an insecure security situation. However, these negative statements, which indicate that the assumption is undermined, must also be seen in accordance with the ones that do strenghten the assumption.

4.2.1.2 Does the PRT promote development?

In line with my research question regarding how the PRT in Meymanehs tasks and activities can be seen in regards to security, the civil component's tasks in promoting development and good governance is important to look at as well. I therefore formed a second assumption in

⁶⁹ Informant category I.

⁷⁰ Information from informant category I.

⁷¹ Nilssen, Aanensen: NRK News, February 7, 2009: <http://www.nrk.no/nyheter/1.6470549>

line with the narrow definition of human security, concerning the costs of war upon the civil population. As mentioned in my theoretical chapter, the poor countries are the ones that suffer the most death among citizens because they experience the most wars, they do not receive sufficient humanitarian assistance and their health system is too fragile and lack money (Human Security Report, 2005: 7). Presumed this is the case in Afghanistan and in light of what I mentioned above, the assumption is based on the following: *I also expect to find that the PRTs activities are directed towards contributing to a better human security condition for the Afghan population by promoting development.*

The civilian component has as its main overarching task and responsibility to follow matters such as reconstruction, development and good governance⁷², which could be seen in accordance with the statement from the African Leadership Forum from 1991, saying that; *“The concept of security goes beyond military considerations. It must be construed in terms of the security of the individual citizen to live in peace with access to basic necessities of life while fully participating in the affairs of his/her society in freedom and enjoying all fundamental human rights”* (Hough, 2004: 13). In this sense, security is a universal matter, even though the statement is from the African Leadership Forum. The PRTs work are therefore also closely related to the promotion and fulfilment of the Afghan populations’ basic humanitarian needs and rights and could therefore be seen in close relation to the assumption made above, as well as the establishment of human security.

As stated in the United Nations’ Human Development Report from 1994, “Human Security is meant to set the individuals in focus and not to emphasize on state security. Here, **“human rights, sustainable development and safety from violence** were the main points of reference” (Fierke, 2007: 144), which also reflect the PRTs tasks through the promotion of development and good governance.

Task: The establishment of security and safe surroundings.

As stated by Barth (2008), security is a required condition for development and increased production to be possible in Afghanistan. By this, meaning that a minimum level of security is required for aid and development to even be possible. In creating a stable and secure area, the military therefore plays a decisive role for the human security condition of the Afghan

⁷² Royal Norwegian Embassy in Kabul: <http://www.norway.org.af/prt/faryab/faryab.htm>

population in every aspect of their daily lives and well-being. This is by promoting development and good governance by making it possible for the civil element of the PRT and other civil humanitarian actors in Faryab to do their designed tasks. In addition, their work is also important by creating safe surroundings for the Afghan population and Afghan trade, business and industry⁷³, by fighting insurgency as mentioned in the previous subsection. The PRT is thereby trying to create a condition that indicates safety from violence as one of the references to human security by the Human Development Report from 1994 (Fierke, 2007: 144).

Here, one could also look upon the military components counter-insurgency campaign as an attempt to diminish threats like insurgents, which currently create wars within the country and by this destroys infrastructure as well as creating a badly living standard for the Afghan population, which serves as great indicators on human insecurity due to costs of war (Human Security Report, 2005: 7). But by this, ISAF and the United States has been fairly criticized for also killing innocent Afghan civilians, and thereby could serve as a source of threat instead, as previously pointed out. But in this regard, it is also important to mention the ideology of hearts and minds, which also becomes vital. Giving international aid to the Afghan community and carrying out development projects could also have a stabilising effect⁷⁴, by winning the populations hearts and minds and thereby winning their trust by fulfilling vital needs among them. This therefore shows how development and security is equal dependent upon each other, and how development in itself also could create safe surroundings by showing the population that we do contribute to development of their society. In this way, creating security and making development happen is mutual reinforcing in creating safe surroundings. But this, I will focus more on later in the assignment.

Norwegian development aid to Faryab.

Each year Norway supports Afghanistan with 750 million Norwegian kroner in development aid. Where 1/3 of the money goes directly to the Afghan government in Kabul, 1/3 goes to the supportment of international aid through UNICEF and other organizations, while the third and remaining part is implemented directly through the Norwegian Embassy in Kabul based on human needs necessary in Faryab province⁷⁵. Here, the recommendations of the PRT in line

⁷³ VG: Grongstad, Kvilvang, Berntsen with others, February 11, 2009.

⁷⁴ Information from informant category I.

⁷⁵ Information from informant category III.

with Afghan National priorities play an important role in regards to where the money is needed and should be used. Due to the PRT being limited not to implement development projects of its own, the aid given, is channeled by the Norwegian Embassy in Kabul and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, through organizations such as NGOs, the World Bank and the United Nations⁷⁶, and thereby implemented in development projects.

The programmes that Norway supports are divided into four different sectors:

- Education
- Water and sanitation needs
- Development of villages.
- Support to the local authorities concerning improved service, the readiness to handle crisis and the building of competence⁷⁷.

Task: The promotion of development

The PRTs civil component, with responsibility for tasks within reconstruction and development, is not under NATO-Command. Each contributing nation therefore chooses themselves how they want to organize it⁷⁸. In PRT Meymaneh, the Development Advisor operates as the Norwegian Embassy in Kabul's representative in Faryab when it comes to development matters, and therefore has a lot to say regarding where and into what projects the aid should be used. In power of this responsibility, some of his main tasks are to give advice in regards to areas one chooses to focus on. He also has a specific role in keeping contact with the local authorities, NGOs both at the national and international level and the United Nations (UN)⁷⁹. When asking an informant⁸⁰ what the Development Advisors tasks are, I was told that the Devad has responsibility for following up Norwegian Development aid to Faryab province, as well as to work as an advisor to the military component of the PRT when it comes to matters concerning development.

In practice, the Development Advisor is the one pointing out the local needs amongst the population. He contacts the NGOs, which the development aid is channelled through, he then

⁷⁶ Royal Norwegian Embassy in Kabul: <http://www.norway.org.af/prt/faryab/faryab.htm>

⁷⁷ Information from informant category III.

⁷⁸ Information from informant category III.

⁷⁹ Information from informant category III.

⁸⁰ Informant category III.

brings it to the Norwegian Embassy in Kabul, which implements the development projects. Local entrepreneurs within the different NGOs are carrying out the development activities and projects⁸¹. Local ownership is very important in order to cover basic human needs, but also in order to give jobs to the Afghan population and thereby making their daily life more meaningful and filled with human development, which is a great part of achieving human security (Fierke, 2007: 145). The establishment of local ownership and the use of local entrepreneurs is an important measure in order to address unemployment and economic insecurity, which, according to the proponents of the broader definition to human security, means should be looked upon as an important threat to individual security (Human Security Report 2005: VIII). Further, the advisors role is to make sure that the flow of information is good when it comes to the authorities' priorities, both at the local and national level. The more specific activities in this matter is based on the gathering of information, to monitor as well as report on the political and development situation in Faryab, as well as to create development activities by making contacts and sharing information with the actors relevant in this regard⁸².

Task: The promotion of good governance.

The political advisor plays a particular role in promoting good governance. The advisor also serves as the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Kabul's representative concerning political matters in Faryab⁸³. In addition to having a particular role in maintaining contact with the local authorities in Faryab and different political environments, serving as an advisor to the military component when it comes to political matters as well as to inform the embassy, ISAF and the Norwegian Foreign Department about the political situation, is part of this person's particular responsibility⁸⁴.

As mentioned when talking about the PRTs tasks in regards to the training and cooperation with the ANSF, the police liaison officers in Meymaneh play a very important role in facilitating good governance by training and mentoring the Afghan National Police, and in this way monitoring the rule of law. In addition, the military component of the PRT is also promoting good governance through its activities. By the creation of safe surroundings, liaison and talking to the Afghan population, and by sharing and handing out information to

⁸¹ Information from informant category I.

⁸² Royal Norwegian Embassy in Kabul: <http://www.norway.org.af/prt/faryab/faryab.htm>

⁸³ Information from informant category III.

⁸⁴ Information from informant category III.

the population or the government, either from the governor or the PRT itself⁸⁵, the military element assists the Government of Afghanistan and tries to establish mutual trust where the government itself isn't able to do so. If this has, any real effect could be a matter of discussion.

In accordance with my assumption made, the civil component of the PRT thereby through various measures is part creating a better human security condition for the Afghan population, and one of them is through the prison officers' role in Faryab province. These officers operate throughout the whole province⁸⁶. Their tasks is to monitor the rule of law and to make sure that the prisoners are safe and that their human rights are followed⁸⁷. This could therefore be seen in accordance to the Human Development Report from 1994, which emphasizes human rights as one of the main points of reference to human security (Fierke, 2007: 144). They also look at and map the situation in the provincial prison in Meymaneh and prisons out in the district throughout Faryab Province, with a special focus on women and their situation, which I will give a greater focus when discussing the PRT and gender security. The officers main aim on a long term is to create containment in the prisoners expiate time so that they have something to do, like certain activities. The women already have some activities, such as learning to read and write, but the men do not only have less to do, they also live under bad sanitarian conditions as well as them living 8-12 men in each prison-cell⁸⁸.

Development projects.

In a Norwegian newspaper-article⁸⁹, a number of soldiers claim that everything they do has a great positiv effect for the Afghan population. They also state that the development in Meymaneh has been enormous since Norway took over the leading responsibility for PRT Meymaneh. Among such achievements are building new schools, new roads, rise of economic life and trade, as well as to provide the population with electricity in Meymaneh city and parts of Faryab province. This is all part of creating human security for the population in accordance with the assumption made, where I expected to find that the PRTs work is directed towards contributing to a better human security condition for the Afghan population through development. The soldiers in this article also point out that the military component of

⁸⁵ Information from informant category I.

⁸⁶ Information from informant category I.

⁸⁷ Royal Norwegian Embassy in Kabul, <http://www.norway.org.af/prt/faryab/faryab.htm>

⁸⁸ Aftenposten.no, Andreassen.

<http://www.aftenposten.no/nyheter/uriks/article2913180.ece#chNum=4>

⁸⁹ VG: Grongstad, Kvilvang, Berntsen with others: "Idioti i Afghanistan?" February 11, 2009.

the PRT has not been part of these development projects, but on the contrary has contributed to a stable and secure environment so that these projects could take place.

In order to improve the humanitarian situation for the Afghan prisoners, a new prison in Meymaneh is also being built. This project is funded by the Norwegian Foreign Department, and is meant to give the prisoners a better facility and containment during their expiate time. In this regards, the Norwegian prison officers in Meymaneh play an important role due to their special competence⁹⁰.

The “hearts and minds” ideology, and a clear dividence between roles.

Based on the developments made, even though there is still a very long way to go, the Norwegian aid to Afghanistan is part of creating a greater human security condition for the Afghan population. However, as the Norwegian Minister of Defence implies in an article; when Norway contributes with a military force in Afghanistan, development aid follows as a direct result of this (ICARE, Moerk&Mjaaland, 2008: 4). She further says that the war in Afghanistan cannot be won by military means alone, and that the war in winning the Afghan populations trust, also referred to as “hearts and minds”, is just as important as winning the war over the Taliban (ICARE, Moerk&Mjaaland, 2008: 4). In order to get the local populations trust, development projects and humanitarian assistance is often used to achieve this. Development aid could therefore be looked upon as a way of winning the war in order to create global security, but also security for the soldiers present in Afghanistan. One could therefore ask if the Norwegian aid is part of a strategic goal, or if it simply is to help the Afghan population by covering their basic human needs.

In order to create goodwill among the population, such a hearts and minds ideology may sometimes serve as a main reason for the soldiers’ interfering with tasks not designed to them at all, as well. This is also referred to as CIMIC-activity. Episodes of soldiers from PRT Meymaneh carrying out aid assistance, such as handing out blankets to the population⁹¹, have happened. Even though this was in order to create greater human security for the Afghan population, such activity can also be seen as a measure in order to receive force protection. This type of activity and different development projects carried out by the military could lead

⁹⁰ Aftenposten.no: <http://www.aftenposten.no/nyheter/uriks/article2913180.ece#chNum=4>

⁹¹ Information from informant category I.

to development and thereby greater human security for the population. Still, the Norwegian forces are not allowed to interfere with such tasks, as previously mentioned in chapter 4.2.

This is because if the clarification and dividence of roles isn't followed, and the military takes over roles and responsibilities belonging to civil organizations, it could create a problematic situation. If the coordination between the civil and military component becomes too close and visible, and the local population does not manage to divide between the soldiers and the aid workers, it could lead to the local inhabitants looking at the civil aid workers as not independent from the military and therefore this could make the environment unsafer for them to operate in (St.meld.nr.39, 2003-2004: 28). But even so, if the security situation is too dangerous for humanitarian organizations to operate, the military sometimes may have to step in and do necessary humanitarian work and development projects because no other alternative exists (NOU, 2007:15).

4.2.1.3 Gender security.

I have chosen to give gender and then womens situation a particular focus when debating the PRT i Meymanehs contribution to security, and then in particular human security. This is because I find womens security situation in Afghanistan very important to adress. In Faryab, women are more independent compared to the rest of Afghanistan (CMI Report, Bauck with others, 2007: 15). But still, sources like the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC) report that they to a great extent is being exposed to general violence and rape (CMI Report, Bauck with others, 2007: 15). This gender violence is therefore a great concern in Afghanistan, and it is thus important that the women be taken into account when improving the security situation (CMI Report, Bauck with others, 2007: 17). However, it may seem as if the Afghan Government does not agree. According to a new law, Afghan women belonging to the shia-muslim ethnic minority in the Afghanistan, which is approximately 20%, are not allowed to leave the house, apply for jobs or visit the doctor without her husbands permission⁹².

Gender insecurity and dicrimination towards women are widespread problems throughout the world, and in many Muslim societies as well, women are dicriminated. They therefore, do not have the human rights they are supposed to, according the UN Universal Human Rights

⁹² Dagbladet.no, Glomnes: <http://www.dagbladet.no/2009/04/02/nyheter/utenriks/afghanistan/fn/5574954/>

Declaration, which makes them to a lesser extent able to securitize their own threat and situation and therefore their voices will not be heard (Hough, 2004: 111). In light of this and violent threats towards women, I formed an assumption saying that *I expect to find that the PRT Meymaneh in its work, is addressing women and their human rights in relation to security.*

During the Taleban rule, women were suppressed and had no opportunity to follow their human rights as individuals, in addition to being exposed to violent actions. This automatically led to the international community and Afghans themselves reacting very strongly, including Norway (Borchgrevink, Hernes & Haavardsson, PRIO 2008: 3). In an article⁹³, the Norwegian Defence Minister also expressed her concern for female security by stating, *“It is an imperative that we reach out also to the female part of the population in Afghanistan”*. This statement could therefore be seen in regards to the assumption presented above. But does the PRT take on any real measures to improve the women’s situation in Afghanistan?

When asking if Norway and the PRT in Meymaneh has any particular focus towards women in Afghanistan, one of my informants⁹⁴ answered that a gender focus or gender perspective is part of every programme supported by Norway. The Norwegian Defence Minister also says that, and I quote: *“We see that what we do is moving Afghan society in a positive direction. Since my first visit I see clear progress and development in Afghanistan and for Afghan women”*⁹⁵. In addition, by the establishment of security by the military component of the PRT, different civil organisations are now able to work in Afghanistan and by this making progress for Afghan women more possible than when the Taleban had governmental power.

Examples of such development could be seen in accordance to one of my theoretical findings, saying that structural change of political, economic and legal institutions is very important in order for security to take place (Hoogensen, Stuvøy, 2006: 214). Here, the building of schools, a women’s shelter and the building and monitoring of female prisons among other things, could stand as good examples.

⁹³ Strøm-Erichsen, “Security for the women of Afghanistan”:
http://www.regjeringen.no/nb/dep/fd/dep/forsvarsminister_anne-grete_strom-erichs/taler_artikler/2007/Security-for-the-women-of-Afghanistan-.html?id=490255

⁹⁴ Information from informant category III.

⁹⁵ Strøm-Erichsen, “Security for the women of Afghanistan”:
http://www.regjeringen.no/nb/dep/fd/dep/forsvarsminister_anne-grete_strom-erichs/taler_artikler/2007/Security-for-the-women-of-Afghanistan-.html?id=490255

In line with my theoretical assumption saying that; *I expect to find that the PRT Meymaneh in it's work, is adresssing women and their human rights in relation to security*, the civil component of the PRT through the two prison officers in Faryab is trying to make the daily life for the Afghan women in prison better. Especially by making sure that, their human rights are followed. By the end of 2008, Norway had also funded 82 new schools in Faryab⁹⁶, and as off February 2008, 6 million children and youth are getting education throughout Afghanistan, whereas millions of these are girls⁹⁷. The Norwegian Army in Meymaneh has also built a womans shelter in order to keep Afghan women safe from harm and danger from violent acts carried out by their husbands. A former Commander at PRT Meymaneh, Arne Opperud, says in an article called "*Tilfluktssted for voldsofre*"⁹⁸; "home violence is a problem that needs to be acknowledged and to be dealt with. Violence within the family is also common in Afghanistan, even if Afghan law forbids such violence". By this, even if it is not within the military`s mandate to carry out such humanitarian assistance, this probably plays a great part in keeping the women in Meymaneh safe. And on state level, a government institution called MoWA (The Ministry of Women`s Affairs) has been established in order to adress women`s affairs and to make their situation better (PRT handbook, 2007: F-4-1).

Women have also had the lowest access to health services in the previous years. In 2004, 1 in 10 Afghans had access to health services, but in 2007, this had improved to consider more than 4 in 5, indicating that women may have better opportunities to benefit from this as well⁹⁹. Therefore, as one could see, considerable improvements for the Afghan women have already been made. But still, there is a long way to go, and several years after the Taliban regime`s fall the conservative Islamic Sharia-rule is still present among the Afghan population¹⁰⁰. This thereby creates certain difficulties for the Norwegian PRT personnel, which I will further mention below.

Gender awareness.

In accordance to my theoretical chapter, security is often context- and structurally dependent, because being and feeling secure or not is many times dependent upon social structures and

⁹⁶ Royal Norwegian Embassy in Kabul: <http://www.norway.org.af/prt/faryab/>

⁹⁷ Statement by the Norwegian Minister of Foreign Affairs Jonas Gahr Stoere: <http://www.norway.org.af/norway/Utenriksministerens+redegjorelse.htm>

⁹⁸ Forsvarsnett, Ellingsen: <http://www.mil.no/fof/start/article.jhtml?articleID=141367>

⁹⁹ Strøm-Erichsen, Security for the women of Afghanistan: http://www.regjeringen.no/nb/dep/fd/dep/forsvarsminister_anne-grete_strom-erichs/taler_artikler/2007/Security-for-the-women-of-Afghanistan-.html?id=490255

¹⁰⁰ Forsvarsnett: Lunde, March 19, 2009: <http://www.mil.no/start/article.jhtml?articleID=175631>

could be caused by states (Hoogensen, Stuvøy, 2006: 214) such as is the case in Afghanistan, where women have been oppressed by the Taleban regime for many years. And based on this, one can perhaps look upon the overthrow of the Taleban, the ongoing counter-insurgency operations carried out and the supportment of the sitting government and Hamid Karzai as a way of adressng the womens security by hindering the Taleban getting governmental power again. And in the wake of the 2001 terror attacks and the overthrow of the Taleban that same year, the international community had an exceptional opportunity to improve the human security situation for Afghan women (Borchgrevink, Hernes & Haavardsson, PRIO 2008: 3).

So, in other words, the overthrow of the sitting government in 2001 could be looked upon as one way of creating security for the Afghan population. Nevertheless, the womens situation must also be adressd through dialogue and improvements for the female population if one is to succeed with the mission in Afghanistan¹⁰¹. But in Afghanistan, it is very difficult for men to enhance dialog with the female population due to islamic social structures and norms, which also to a great extent limits the PRT personnels ability to adress women`s needs in the Afghan society. This is also further mentioned in a NATO report (JALLC Report, 2008: 22) regarding CIMIC and PRT operations in ISAF: *“While in western culture there is an acceptance of the presence of male personnel when adressng a female audience, this is not the case in Afghanistan. Even if a female operative is available, the presence of a male interpreter will preclude engagement with a female group”*.

Female personnel within the PRT therefore becomes a necessity in order to reach out to female groups, and male personnel can`t be present. It is therefore extremely important, to also have a female interpreter since a male interpreter would result in a condition of none engagement with females. An informant¹⁰² said that in Afghanistan the women are the one`s controlling the families. So, if one wants to reach out to the children, to talk about health or school related issues, one have to go through the mother. Moreover, if a dialogue here is not possible due to the military not being in possession of a female interpreter to reach out to this group, it is difficult to assess their needs and thereby create a state of human security for them. One could therefore take it for granted that female personnel or interpreters is a matter of course in PRT Meymaneh, but here one of my respondents expressed that the women`s issue

¹⁰¹ Strøm-Erichsen, Security for the women of Afghanistan:
http://www.regjeringen.no/nb/dep/fd/dep/forsvarsminister_anne-grete_strom-erichs/taler_artikler/2007/Security-for-the-women-of-Afghanistan-.html?id=490255

¹⁰² Informant category I.

is more or less left in the hands of coincidences. If a female is present among the military, one could let her talk to the Afghan women, if not, then the PRT personnel talks to the Afghan men instead¹⁰³.

This could therefore be seen in close relation to Lene Hansens critique towards the Copenhagen School and the Speech Act theory. She says that the Speech Act theory does not fit in relation to the gender discrimination made throughout the world, because in accordance for the speech act to be influential it requires an existing situation in which speech is possible (Hough, 2004: 111). In this sense, if the PRT does not have female personnel or interpreters, talking about the security issue and in this sense securitizing it, is not possible (Booth, 2005: 37). Therefore the Speech Act does fit in regards to gender security, and may even hinder the women in Afghanistan to speak about and securitize their own threats due to social norms and restrictions even if the PRT is there to protect them.

But, in regards to this and the critique mentioned above, the Norwegian soldiers in the PRT has decided to focus more on Afghan women`s role in the conflict in Afghanistan in the future, in order to get information from the female population as well, and not only from the Afghan men. This could therefore, be seen as a greater attempt to securitize the human security condition for both the Afghan women and children due to the female population being the one controlling the families as mentioned above. This is being done through the establishment of a Gender Field Advisor (GFA) in the PRT during the fall of 2009, with the tasks of making sure that a gender perspective is attended to in regards to the planning and carrying out of operations. A greater recognition that the Norwegian forces is dependent upon having female soldiers in order to gather information, and to establish a dialogue with the female population, due to strict Islamic rule saying that men is not allowed to communicate with Afghan women¹⁰⁴, which I have elaborated on above, therefore exists. Robert Mood, a general from the Norwegian Army and last years award winner regarding equality of status, also agrees upon this. He says; *“The road to lasting peace goes through the children and women and it is easier to reach these with female soldiers”*¹⁰⁵.

¹⁰³ Information from informant category I.

¹⁰⁴ Forsvarsnett, Lunde: <http://www.mil.no/start/article.jhtml?articleID=175631>

¹⁰⁵ Forsvarsnett: Berge, March 19, 2009:
<http://www.mil.no/felles/vpv/start/innrulleringogsjesjon/sesjonsdagen/article.jhtml?articleID=175603>

4.2.2 PRT Meymaneh and societal security

Societal security defines a security situation when a particular society is being threatened, and needs to be secured. It thereby distinguishes itself from both the traditional security aspect where the state is the main referent to security and the human security approach where the individuals are in focus, by being kind of a middle dimension between the traditional and a deepening of the security concept, as strongly emphasized by Martin Shaw (Booth, 2005: 33). As stated by Hough (2004: 106), “Societal security concerns the ability of a society to persist in its essential character under changing conditions and possible or actual threats”. Based on this, and what characterizes societal security, I therefore formed an assumption saying that; *I expect to find that the PRT in Meymanehs activity is directed towards helping the Afghan society and different groups to maintain its identity and security.*

4.2.2.1 Military presence and counter-insurgency

In accordance to Houghs (2004: 106) theoretical outlining saying that “societal security concerns the ability of a society to persist in its essential character under changing conditions and possible or actual threats”, the military`s presence as a whole could also be looked upon as a way of establishing societal security for the Afghan population. By being present and supporting the democratic elected government, it is more difficult for the Taleban, which also opposes the sitting government, to gain governmental power again. The military components task to create security and safe surroundings must therefore be seen in regards to this and the assumption made above, where counter-insurgency is one of the most important activities in this regard.

Based on the assumption, the western military intervention in Afghanistan, followed by a civil reconstruction dimension, such as the PRT in Meymanehs contribution, can also be looked upon as a way of helping the Afghan society to maintain “its traditional patterns of language, culture, religion, national identity and customs” as stated by Booth (2005: 34), as mentioned above. But on the other hand, the tasks and activities done by the PRT in building security, governance and promote development in order to establish a safe and well governed Afghanistan¹⁰⁶, could also be looked upon as undermining the Afghan society`s ability to maintain its traditional patterns. As stated in St.Meld. Number 15 (2008 – 2009), the international commitment in Afghanistan, is part of a great democratizatiional process, where

¹⁰⁶ Royal Norwegian Embassy in Kabul: <http://www.norway.org.af/prt/faryab/faryab.htm>

the development of an Afghan constitutional government built on the rule of law and human rights is in focus. This is all part of creating security for the Afghan society, but is thus not part of helping it to maintain “its traditional patterns of language, culture, religion, national identity and customs” (Booth, 2005: 34). Afghanistan is not built on democratic values and norms, but instead on Islamic norms and values.

A great number of different ethnic groups live in Afghanistan. Out of these, approximately 50% are pashtonians (Barth, 2008: 12). The Taleban recruits from this ethnic group which is divided into different tribes, belonging to different tribal areas, which are a so-called society without any state structures. In such a society, social organs which guarantee security for each individual person does not exist. In order to survive, each adult man has responsibility for himself and his family (Barth, 2008: 18/19). This is only a small part of the different social structures existing in Afghanistan, showing that democratic values is not part of their societal structures or even idea of societal security.

4.2.2.2 The “Speech Act”

Based on Waever and the Copenhagen School approach, societal security is also indicated by a term called “securitization”. By this he means that one can label an issue as a security issue by something he calls a speech act, and in Afghanistan, there is a great lack of security. But as Booth (2005: 37) says, the speech act requires that the security issue can be talked about and discussed. I therefore formed a second assumption saying that *I expect to find that the PRT undertakes measures in order to establish a dialog and thereby making it possible to talk about certain security issues, especially with and within areas where it is able to achieve something, like an improved security situation.*

The Mentoring and liaison team’s task and activity, by travelling out to districts and villages with the purpose of gathering information on the present situation in the province, on areas such as needs and wishes from different groups¹⁰⁷, can be seen in accordance to the assumption made above. By talking to the local Afghans during these teams’ missions outside of the camp, in addition to being updated on status quo on development, security and

¹⁰⁷ Lundes: Afghanistan-ceminar, 2008: <http://www.mil.no/start/article.jhtml?articleID=155233>

government situation in the different districts¹⁰⁸, the PRT tries to establish a dialog in order to locate needs, which could be seen as a way of securitizing human security issues.

The womens great insecurity situation as a group is also an issue that needs to be securitized and discussed, seen from a societal security perspective. Due to strict Islamic rule, saying that men are not allowed to communicate with Afghan women, female personnel or interpreters within the PRT are necessary in order for the PRT to reach out to Afghan women¹⁰⁹. But, the case of female interpreters or female soldiers isn't always a matter of course within the PRT, and thereby the case of gender issues is marked by coincidence, as vaguely implied by an informant¹¹⁰. This makes it difficult for the PRT to securitize the womens situation in form of a speech act, because it requires that the security issue can be talked about and discussed (Booth, 2005: 37). In this sense, the PRT may not undertake enough measures in order to establish a dialog with the female population in Afghanistan, and thereby try to securitize their situation. But still, based on my findings, it is important to point out that it does exist a recognition among the military that the Norwegian forces is dependent upon having female soldiers in order to gather information and to establish a dialog.

4.2.3 PRT Meymaneh and state security: internal and external enemies.

As mentioned in my theoretical chapter, the traditional state security concept sees the state as the ultimate referent to be protected, and that security is something that is supposed to be within a states property (Fierke, 2007: 5). Realism is also the approach used by governments in leading their foreign policies (Hough, 2004: 2). The dictionary definition of security says, "Security means, simply, the absence of threats", and implies a condition of both being and feeling safe (Booth, 2005: 21). Based on this and also as previous implied, state security and human security is equal dependent upon each other, due to state security is a prerequisite for being able to both be and to feel safe. Fierke (2007:5) further says that states either has or has not security, and is or is not secure. And in the case of Afghanistan, the state neither has security nor is secure, and is therefore dependent upon help from the international community to manage threats opposing.

¹⁰⁸ Forsvarsnett: PRT Meymaneh, statement with Berntsen, Jørn Erik, 2007.

<http://www.mil.no/stillinger/start/internasjonaleoperasjoner/article.jhtml?articleID=168163>

¹⁰⁹ Forsvarsnett, Lunde: <http://www.mil.no/start/article.jhtml?articleID=175631>

¹¹⁰ Informant category I.

I therefore formed an assumption based on the state security concept, saying that; *I assume to find that the PRT in Meymaneh contributes to make Afghanistan able to defend itself against foreign imposition and enemies such as others states, but also against internal threats, which a widening of this concept inquires.*

4.2.3.1 Mentoring and assisting the ANSF

In order for Afghanistan to be able to defend the state and inhabitants against foreign threats, the national security forces is a prerequisite in order to keep law and order in tact. As an informant¹¹¹ said; the Afghan National Army's tasks is directed towards creating law and order through combat, while the Afghan National Police's task on the other hand is to maintain internal law and order. It is also one of the ANSFs main tasks to secure a stable security situation¹¹². The need for a strengthening of the armed forces is therefore a necessary assessment, by making them able to handle the security situation of their own in time, so that ISAF can fully retrieve from Afghanistan¹¹³. Therefore, in line with the assumption made, and as part of enabling the Security Sector Reform, the Provincial Reconstruction Team in Meymaneh mentors and trains the ANP, as well as to carry out joint operations together with the ANSF whenever necessary. This is all part of the PRTs mission and tasks directed towards assisting the Government of Afghanistan in establishing security and good governance, and in this sense state security.

In Afghanistan today, the state is not able to protect the state or its citizens by itself, and is therefore dependent upon help from the international community. As the Norwegian Foreign Minister, Jonas Gahr Støre, said in a political statement in Stortinget on February 10th 2009¹¹⁴, our role in Afghanistan is to strengthen the Afghan population's capacity to take care of their own security, government and development in the best manner possible. Our ongoing work in strengthening the Afghan National Army as well as the Afghan National Police must therefore continue. Through PRT Meymaneh, Norway also support the implementation of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1623, and is through extensive cooperation with Afghan

¹¹¹ Informant category I.

¹¹² Information from informant category I.

¹¹³ Forsvarsnett, Finberg: <http://www.mil.no/fo/afg/start/fakta/>

¹¹⁴ http://www.regjeringen.no/nb/dep/ud/dep/utenriksminister_jonas_gahr_store/taler_artikler/2009/redegj_stortin_get0902.html?id=545344

security organisations supposed to contribute to the re-establishment of a safe and secure environment and by this facilitate to development for the Afghan population¹¹⁵.

Seen in a theoretical context, the mentoring and strengthening of the ANP is therefore an important measure taken on by the police liaison officers¹¹⁶ at PRT Meymaneh in making the Afghan government able to handle security issues and threats by itself in the future. Through assisting the Afghan police in Faryab province, by mentoring the police chiefs of staff as well as to hold courses for the ANP and the Afghan Border Police, the police liaison officers' strengthens the ANSF which is an important apparatus for the Afghan government in maintaining security¹¹⁷. An informant¹¹⁸ expressed that the work done by these Norwegian police officers showed great effects at those mentored, but the problem is thus that in volume it didn't mean that much because the number of people trained and mentored were very limited. This in turn may limit the PRTs ability to achieve great results. An example of this could be that despite the PRTs efforts, the ANP is still not capable of managing on its own. The lack of competence among the officers is still present, many can't neither read nor write¹¹⁹, and some of the Afghan police officers are corrupt as well. An example is when the chief of police expects something in return from the officers, and due to this, the officers' demand charges from the local population in order to give this to the chief of police, in order to meet the chiefs demands¹²⁰. In this sense, the state through the ANP becomes the source of threat to a group or individuals (Fierke, 2007: 14), which is the Afghan population due to the case of corruption.

Pluralism

The state may sometimes be the protector of it's population but also the source of threat to a group or individuals (Fierke, 2007: 14), as stated above. During their anarchical power in the 1990s, the Taliban posed such a threat, which it also to an extent still does, along with warlords and other criminal groups. This is towards the Afghan population, the international community and Harmid Karzai and the democratic elected government. Threats like this became evident on the world stage after the end of the Cold War, which indicated a shift from

¹¹⁵ Forsvarsnett, Finberg: (2008). <http://www.mil.no/fo/afg/start/fakta/>

¹¹⁶ This 4 police officers is part of European Police Mission (Eupol) (Royal Norwegian Embassy in Kabul: Police Reform in Faryab).

¹¹⁷ Information from informant category II.

¹¹⁸ Informant category II.

¹¹⁹ Information from informant category I.

¹²⁰ Information from informant category II.

seeing security politics as purely military issues to also involve non-military issues and actors as well (Hough, 2004: 13), which the terrorist attacks on USA September 11, 2001 is an example of. As Booth (2005) says, these events can't be looked upon as purely traditional military issues, but requires that also non-governmental military actors are being taken into considerations as well, such as Al-Qaida with Bin Laden in front in this security issue.

Measures taken to establish state security in Afghanistan is also important seen in a regional perspective regarding it's neighbouring countries. As stated in St.meld number 15 (2008-2009), development of Pakistan is just as important for regional stability as for the development in Afghanistan. Further, it says that agreements between states like Iran, Pakistan, India and Afghanistan could prevent conflicts from evolving and thereby promote stability and fruitful economic cooperation, which in turn leads to development. This thereby indicates that a situation with regional conflict between these neighbouring states is a possibility, and that the ability for the state of Afghanistan to protect itself against foreign imposition by states (Booth, 2005: 23) in the traditional state security sense may still be necessary.

Barth, in his book "*Afghanistan og Taliban*" may not agree upon this. In accordance to the realist point of view, Afghanistan must strive after military power by the building of the Afghan National Army if the state is to survive (Barth, 2008: 68). But, in line with the wider security perspective, saying that the world's security picture has changed after the Cold War, where a broader and varied range of threats to humankind is a fact (Hough, 2004: 6), Barth makes a solid point when claiming that the ANA is not supposed to fight a military attack from Russia, Iran or even against neighbouring states like Pakistan, as mentioned above. Instead, it should be able to defend itself against domestic threats such as border violations, against commotion and the fight of power amongst different fractions within Afghanistan. And he therefore questions the western and Norwegian forces mentoration and building of the Afghan Army, by indicating that ANA may be funded on the wrong values and not the right ones regarding what the country really needs in order to fight the threats evident within the country's own borders (Barth, 2008: 68-69). This could also, probably be seen in regards to the PRTs mentoring of ANP as well. So, even though the realist point by maximising the Afghan states military power is central, the threats towards the state has changed after the Cold War, as the widening of the security concept implies.

Through the military element's Task Unit division, the PRT carries out Joint Operations together with Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) such as the Afghan National Army, the Afghan National Police and the Afghan Border Police¹²¹. An informant¹²² also said that in order to get the local government present in the districts and to create security forces as well, the Norwegian soldiers had to travel together with the ANSF into areas where they did not dare to operate or travel alone, due to it being too dangerous. Because of this, the ANSF dared to travel alone into dangerous areas, because they knew that soldiers from the PRT would come and help them if necessary, and is in this respect supporting them as a part of SSR. In this manner, through cooperation with Afghan security-organizations, Norway contributes to the re-establishment of safe surroundings and the creation of a foundation for growth and development for the Afghan population¹²³, as intended. In light of this theoretical outlining, the PRTs effort to carry out joint operations together with the ANSF could be looked upon as a way of protecting the state, as well as helping it to become more able to protect itself towards the still existing Taleban and other criminal groups opposing the international forces and the Afghan government.

As told by an informant¹²⁴, military assistance of the Afghan Border Police (ABP) was also an important part of the PRT Meymaneh XI's¹²⁵ mission. In a theoretical context, the strengthening of the ABP can be seen as an important measure in order to fulfill the traditional definition of security meaning, "*the protection of the territory and core values of states against foreign imposition*" (Booth, 2005: 23). But here also lies the great challenges in the task of establishing security. The ABP-officers aren't able to feed their families and takes matters in their own hands by plundering in order to make ends meet, and is therefore a great source to smuggling and other illegal business¹²⁶. As mentioned previously, in regards to corruption within the ANP, the government also through the ABP likewise poses a great threat to the Afghan population, in accordance to Fierkes theoretical outlining (Fierke, 2007: 14).

¹²¹ Information from informant category I.

¹²² Informant category I.

¹²³ Forsvarsnnett, Ege: "Om styrkene og Isaf" (2008). <http://www.mil.no/fo/afg/start/fakta/>

¹²⁴ Informant category I.

¹²⁵ PRT Meymaneh contingent number 11.

¹²⁶ Information from informant category I.

4.2.3.2 Political ends and military means.

As stated in my theoretical chapter, there exists a clear relationship between the concept of political ends, which is to be achieved, and military means to achieve that goal (Fierke, 2007: 14).

As mentioned in the Norwegian Stortingsmelding number 15 (2008-2009), the increased knowledge of a strong coherence between security and development is one of the main reasons for an outstretched effort on a defence-aimed security sector reform and defence reform as the one in Afghanistan, also used as a mean within security policy in order to enable good governance and stability in conflict areas.

The events of September 11, 2001 and the phenomenon of terrorism required that non-governmental military actors, such as Al-Qaida should be considered as threats as well, and could therefore not be looked upon as a traditional military issue (Booth, 2005: 32). As Mood (Samtiden 3 – 2008: 75) says, the Norwegian soldiers operating in Afghanistan, and thereby risking their own lives, is not only there for humanitarian reasons, but also for the safety and security for our own country and fellow countries in the west.

Whatever happens in Afghanistan, has consequences for the whole world, and affects our daily life because it includes matters such as oil, Norwegian compulsory military service, Pakistan's stability and NATO's future (ICARE, Mørk, 2008: 3). The use of military force such as the Norwegian contribution in Meymaneh, could therefore be looked upon as a tool used by the Norwegian government to achieve or sustain security (Rottem, 2007: 49). Moreover, thereby in order to achieve a political and strategic goal, which is not only to create security for the Afghan population, but also to ensure "*the protection of the territory and core values of states against foreign imposition*", as Booth (2005: 23) says. Regarding the latter, it thereby is to protect Norway and our fellow countries in the west from foreign impositioners. However, in the case of Afghanistan, though not from states, but from non-state actors such as terrorists and the fact that Afghanistan being a so-called "failed state".

However, one could also look upon the Norwegian development aid given and development work done in Afghanistan, as a mean in order to win a political and military victory in the country. As Stroem-Erichsen says; "The war on winning the Afghans trust, also referred to as

hearts and minds ideology, is just as important as a military victory” (ICARE, Mørk&Mjaaland, 2008: 4).

4.3 Challenges in completing the mission.

In accordance with the thesis research question, saying; *what are PRT Meymanehs tasks?*

How can the tasks and the activities related to them be seen in regards to the creation of security at the operational level, and what are the PRTs most important challenges regarding security to accomplish their mission, this section will be focused towards the challenges PRT Meymaneh faces in completing its mission. The mission statement further sounded as followed: *“As directed by Regional Command North and co-ordinated with national authorities, PRT Meymaneh will assist the Government of Afghanistan in Faryab province in building security, governance and promote development in order to establish a safe and well governed Afghanistan”*¹²⁷.

4.3.1 Challenges and the human security concept

The findings regarding the human security concept in this part of the analysis could also be seen in regards to the assumptions made in my theoretical chapter, which is to be found in sub-chapter 2.4.

4.3.1.1 Deteriorating security situation

In a human security perspective, “the concept of security must change – from an exclusive stress on national security to a much greater stress on people`s security, from security through armaments to security through human development, from territorial to food, employment and environmental security” (Hough, 2004: 13), which I focused on when analyzing the PRTs tasks in a previous section of the analysis. However, through the past few years, the security situation in northern Afghanistan has deteriorated significantly, making it even more difficult for the PRT to carry out its mission in creating security and promoting development and good governance.

While there in 2006 was an increase in incidents from 10 to 40 per month, it rose to 50 in 2007 (Booth, 2008: 10). In addition, in Faryab, where the Norwegian soldiers are stationed,

¹²⁷ Royal Norwegian Embassy in Kabul: <http://www.norway.org.af/prt/faryab/>

the Norwegian Minister of Defence¹²⁸ illustrates that the Taliban has gained more ground again in the south-west of this province. In addition to the Taliban, the soldiers also face challenges of other insurgents, like local warlords and criminals. According to a security-note from the Norwegian Embassy in Kabul, there has been an outstretched use of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) and suicide bombers. The killing of government employees and an increased number of threats towards ISAF forces in several of the Northern provinces, including Faryab¹²⁹, is reported as well. In addition, Norway has lost four soldiers in the conflict in Afghanistan¹³⁰. This must therefore be seen in regards to the narrow concept of human security, where violent threats to individuals, and hereby also towards the ISAF soldiers, are in focus. And where the PRTs mission to protect communities and individuals, hereby the Afghan population towards internal violence (Human Security Report 2005: VIII) coming from non-state forces and politically motivated violent non-state actors that carries out illegitimate killings (Booth, 2005: 62), becomes a great challenge.

An informant¹³¹ says that the deteriorated security situation in Faryab is a result of the fact that the international military contribution is failing to create security. This could be seen in accordance to the PRT Meymaneh's dispensed responsibility for Ghormach district in Baghdis, Northern Afghanistan. This is a province where insurgents and criminal groups are strong¹³². Norway has together with ANA and U.S forces carried out two operations in this district, and during these operations critiques argue that civilians were killed, and that this has strengthened the Afghans trust in the Taliban, which has a great presence in Ghormach, and diminished their trust towards the international forces¹³³. By operating in this area, the risk of losing more soldiers is also present, according to the Norwegian Minister of Defence, Anne-Grete Stroem Erichsen¹³⁴.

When the military fails to create security in an area, as implied above, violent threats are therefore as evident towards civilian aid personnel as it is towards the military. A lot of

¹²⁸ The Norwegian Government, October 17, 2001:

<http://www.regjeringen.no/nb/dep/fd/aktuelt/nyheter/2007/Store-utfordringer-i-Nord-Afghanistan.html?id=486040>

¹²⁹ Shanmugaratnam, Klassekampen, October 30, 2008: http://www.klassekampen.no/47469/mod_article/item

¹³⁰ Dagbladet: "Agenda Afghanistan". Sunday April 19, 2009.

¹³¹ Informant category II.

¹³² Forsvarsnett, Lunde (March 26, 2009): <http://www.mil.no/start/article.jhtml?articleID=176244>

¹³³ Information from informant category II.

¹³⁴ Internet source: <http://www.abcnheter.no/node/83877>

personnel belonging to different NGOs is killed each year in Afghanistan¹³⁵, and the lack of security in some parts of Faryab thereby creates a problem, which makes it difficult for the advisors to operate freely¹³⁶. In order to get around and to locate needs and development status among the population in Faryab, the advisors is thereby dependent upon force protection from the military in order to keep themselves safe from harm and danger¹³⁷. Seen in a human security perspective, violent threats to the civil advisors and not being able to operate freely because of this could hinder them in completing their jobs, which may lead to lesser development for the Afghan population.

Ghormach is one of the poorest districts in Afghanistan, where the destitution among the population and the threat towards the Afghan authorities is great. The goal by taking over responsibility for this district is therefore to improve the security situation for the local population, by making it possible for the NGOs to carry out development activities¹³⁸. As Diesen says; *“the aim is to show the locals that we won’t disappear, that we are to be trusted and that the challenge for NATO and UN will now be to make sure that a humanitarian space exists, so that humanitarian relief and development can take place”*¹³⁹. An informant¹⁴⁰ also said that the PRT operates in this area in order to hinder the Taliban in getting accountability for areas and thereby gain power again, and thereby making sure that those insurgents will not appear in Ghormach and thereby threaten the PRTs security, due to battles in order to gain territorial ground.

Another important explanatory factor as to why the security situation has deteriorated also in northern Afghanistan could, as told by an informant¹⁴¹, be because the Afghan Security Forces is being prioritized to the unstable areas in the south and east Afghanistan. He further claims that one cannot win the war in Afghanistan, by losing the war in the north. It will be difficult to maintain law and order if the security forces are marginalized in this area, which can be decisive seen in a future security perspective.

¹³⁵ Information from informant category I.

¹³⁶ Information from informant category III.

¹³⁷ Information from informant category I.

¹³⁸ Forsvarsnett, Lunde (March 26, 2009): <http://www.mil.no/start/article.jhtml?articleID=176244>

¹³⁹ Torgersen, ABC News (February 19, 2009). <http://www.abcnyheter.no/node/83877>

¹⁴⁰ Informant category III.

¹⁴¹ Information from informant category I.

Afghan perceptions towards ISAF and PRTs.

The killing of civilians could as previous implied, lead to a deteriorated security situation for the Norwegian and other ISAF soldiers, or it could make it even more difficult for the international soldiers to get sensitive information from the Afghan population¹⁴². Such information could help both the Afghans and the soldiers themselves by knowing where threats are hiding and where help is needed, and thereby achieving greater human security.

Achieving trust among the Afghan population is a very important part of the PRTs mission. It is important for the Afghans to both know and understand that the international presence in the country is there to help them and to give them greater security. However, due to the killing of civilians, this fundamental trust, which automatically in the end also serves as a form of force protection for the soldiers, has worsened and their faith in the soldiers being present in order to protect them, has dropped considerably¹⁴³. Strand (2009) further mentions these findings in an interview survey from Faryab. Alongside the deteriorated security situation, a dramatic reduction in the Afghan population’s trust towards the UN and ISAF is evident. The populations trust in ISAF has gone from 28 % having no trust in 2006 to 66 % in 2009, while only 5 % had full trust in the international security forces.

Institution	2006	2009
Afghan National Police	67 %	98 %
Afghan National Army	60 %	67 %
ISAF	52 %	38 %

Figure 2: Shows to what extent the different institutions improve security in the area¹⁴⁴.

As the figure above shows, the Afghan population interviewed in the survey regarding what institution they believed had improved their security situation, ISAF had dropped from 52 % in 2006, to 38 % in 2009. This can also serve as an explanatory factor to the decreased trust in ISAF among the population and thus be seen in accordance with the killing of civilians caused by the international forces. In contrast, the ANP had increased from 67 % in 2006 to 98 % in 2009 and ANA from 60 % to 67 %. In addition, the trust in the Faryab governor, the Kabul Government and NGOs have also increased since 2006; which could perhaps be seen as a

¹⁴² VG, Haugen (August 24, 2008): <http://www.vg.no/pub/skrivervennlig.hbs?artid=534835>

¹⁴³ VG Nett, Haugen (24.2.2008): <http://www.vg.no/pub/skrivervennlig.hbs?artid=534835>

¹⁴⁴ Figure from Strand’s CMI Report: ”Faryab Survey. Comparison of Findings from Maymane, 2006 and 2009”.

positive effect of the PRTs work in legitimizing and extending the Afghan governments authority in Faryab?

An informant¹⁴⁵ also said that the reason for the international actors' experience of a lack in trust from the Afghans is not only due to the killing of civilians, but also because no change and development takes place. However, this thus stands in great contrast to the findings in Strands (2009) survey from Faryab, which says that an explanatory factor to the increase in trust towards Afghan institutions and NGOs could be the fact that the number of development projects implemented has indeed increased in 2009.

4.3.1.2 Civil-military coordination/cooperation.

The Norwegian PRT-model is as previous mentioned based on a comprehensive approach and a clear dividence between the roles of the civil actors and the military mission, but still a close coordination between these two components is very important for the mission to be carried out with the best outcome possible. But the PRTs has, based on the NGO principles of independence, neutrality and impartiality, been characterized as “deeply troubling” in regards to security, politics and aid being put under one umbrella (Peabody, 2006: 36). This is due to the challenges seen in a human security perspective that can occure, when tasks of the military and the civil actors overlap, and when the Afghans do not divide between the military and the NGOs (ICARE: Moerk, Mjaaland, 2008).

The military components task is to create a safe enough environment for the civil organisations to provide the Afghan population with humanitarian relief and development. But, when the military carries out so-called CIMIC-activity in support of the military mission, (AJP-9, 2003) based on a “hearts and minds” ideology, or when the political motivated PRT undertakes many of the same activities as NGOs, and thereby interferes with tasks not designed to them at all, it's part of reducing the NGOs security instead of increasing it as intended. This is because it threatens the NGOs neutrality and impartiality from political motivated goals, and therefore *NGO actions can often also be perceived as political* (Peabody, 2006: 37). A too close and visible coordination between the civil actors and the military could therefore lead to an unsafer environment for the civil aid workers, because they may not be looked upon as independent from the military (St.meld.nr.39, 2003-2005: 28), as previous

¹⁴⁵ Informant category II.

mentioned in chapter 5.5.1. At worst, this could lead to the NGOs losing their trust among the Afghan population and their role as an impartial actor, which they to a great deal are dependent upon as protection (Moerk, Mjaaland, 2008). They may instead become direct targets for violent acts (Fierke, 2007: 145), which they to a higher degree experiences (ICARE: Moerk&Mjaaland, 2008), as previously mentioned in sub-chapter 4.2.

This in turn presents great challenges, because, as an informant¹⁴⁶ expressed; the military component with the task of establishing security needs to win the hearts and minds of the local population in order to manage their job in establishing security. An example is when a former PRT-Commander handed out blankets to the population on request from the local governor. This, and the deteriorating security situation is part of making it even more difficult for the NGOs to make groups that are vulnerable in wars safe, and to protect them from harm by humanitarian relief and emergency assistance (Fierke, 2007: 146), as well as to create development. Moreover, it thus becomes a greater challenge to achieve greater human security for the Afghan population through development. In light of my research question, one of the PRTs tasks is to promote development and thereby create greater human security for the Afghan population. Even though this is not a task designed to the military component, humanitarian assistance in form of handing out blankets covers a basic need in order to survive. Even if the activity may be in order to achieve goodwill amongst the population and thereby force protection, or if it creates an unsafe environment for the aid workers, isn't it the most important thing that the population get's help, rather than from who? After all, helping the Afghan population should be the international contribution's superior goal.

As previously mentioned, the civil component of the PRT, by the work of Polad and Devad, locates needs among the population and thereby takes part in deciding what projects the Norwegian development aid should be implemented in. However, the MOTs also locate needs by patrolling district areas, which could lead to confusion among the Afghans, as well as to undermine the Afghan Government and the population's trust in it. One could therefore ask; what kind of competence does the military have to locate such humanitarian and development needs?

¹⁴⁶ Informant from category I.

It is also much easier for the development and political advisors to follow development matters, due to greater competence on areas such as national programmes and problem solving, as expressed by an informant¹⁴⁷.

If the cooperation and coordination between the development advisor and the military is dusty, it creates challenges and greater insecurity for the Afghan population. Devad is the one that liaises with the NGOs, and the one that channels money to different projects, as previous mentioned. Through military operations, the soldiers “clear” the area in order to make it possible for NGOs to operate and carry out reconstruction activities. However, if the cooperation between the military and the development advisor is dusty, devad may not know where the military operates at all times, and is therefore not able to tell the NGOs where they can help the population by development and reconstruction work¹⁴⁸. This can get enormous consequences for the population, and reduce the Afghan populations’ trust in the military because no improvements happen.

Adjustments necessary?

As pointed out by the Norwegian Foreign Minister Jonas Gahr Støre, the solution to Afghanistan’s problems is not military, but political, and the political dimension must therefore be further strengthened¹⁴⁹. This is because creating development is a task for the civil units.

In great contrast to this, stands the United States and Barack Obamas future Afghanistan – strategy. Barack Obama is sending 17 000 extra soldiers to Afghanistan, in addition to approximately 4000 soldiers with the task of training and mentoring Afghan National Security Forces in Southern Afghanistan¹⁵⁰. Obama has said that the international community must stop believing that one can build a “*democratic paradise*” in Afghanistan, and that the most important goal from now on must be to hinder that the country once again becomes a departure point for new terrorist attacks on the United States and it’s allies¹⁵¹. By this, my immediate thought is that the international community is moving away from a human security

¹⁴⁷ Informant category III.

¹⁴⁸ Information from informant category I.

¹⁴⁹ Støre, regjeringen.no:

http://www.regjeringen.no/nb/dep/ud/dep/utenriksminister_jonas_gahr_store/taler_artikler/2008/afghanistan_sa_mordnet.html?id=499116

¹⁵⁰ ABC News, Staveland. <http://www.abcnyheter.no/node/86098>

¹⁵¹ Brønnøysunds Avis, Kruhaug. <http://www.ba-avis.no/ntb/utenriks/article245210.ece>

thought, and more towards the traditional state security perspective. As Hough (2004: 13) says: *The concept of security must change – from an exclusive stress on national security to a much greater stress on people`s security, from security through armaments to security through human development, from territorial to food, employment and environmental security*". But in this case, it could look as if the United States is willing to use all means (and in this sense military) in order to achieve their political goal; to create greater national security for themselves and fellow states in the west, by carrying out war against the Taleban and Al-Qa`ida in Afghanistan (Fierke, 2007: 14).

Even though Obama wishes a great civil engagement in Afghanistan¹⁵², a scale up of the military war could result in more civilian lives being at risk due to battle deaths, more destroyed infrastructure, and even more badly living standards (Human Security Report, 2005: 7) than what already is the case. Security and development is supposed to have a mutual reinforcing effect, but if the military campaign is being strengthened, this could have fatal outcomes for the Afghan populations' human security in the future.

Today, it creates certain challenges having each PRT lead by different Lead Nations with their own ways of carrying out development and military activities. Another planned adjustment for PRT Meymaneh and the 25 other PRTs in Afghanistan, is therefore to quit the present PRT – model, by changing the way the PRTs are structured. In the future, it's decided to move the civil component of the PRT out of the military camp in Meymaneh and instead locate them in the city¹⁵³. Thereby, by not being that strongly associated with the military as before, due to the cooperation not being as close and visible, this could make it easier and safer for the civil component and the NGOs to carry out their work and thereby promote development.

4.3.1.3 Cultural awareness.

Another challenge that makes it difficult for the PRT to complete its mission in Afghanistan is the ostensible lack of cultural awareness about the Afghan society among the soldiers.

¹⁵² Staveland, ABC Nyheter: <http://www.abcnyheter.no/node/86098>

¹⁵³ Dagbladet, Gjerstad: "Flytter sivile ut av militærleiren", Sunday Januray 25, 2009.

By a respondent¹⁵⁴, cultural awareness is said to be a great problem regarding the difficult operation facing the Norwegian soldiers in Afghanistan. The soldiers have difficulties in identifying with the local population, which makes it more difficult for them to risk their own lives in order to help the Afghans and thereby create Afghan human security. He further states that the cultural distance accompanied with fear for the soldiers own lives, is mutual reinforcing, making it even more difficult for them to protect the civilian Afghan population.

The challenges regarding cultural awareness also become even more evident, when looking at the international military contribution as a whole. Barth (2008: 72) claims that the soldiers are incomprehensible and unfamiliar for the Afghans, and the way they operate is so far from their own culture, which thus becomes a problem in itself. He therefore makes a solid and important point when saying that; “Due to the cultural distance being so big, a military alliance may have a bigger chance of succeeding the lesser contact the soldiers have with the local population”. He further says that a greater understanding of Afghan culture, values and society, as well as how they view themselves and the world around them is necessary, in order to form a strategy that serves both the Afghans and our own interests in the future. Because the Afghan society is so different and far from the Norwegian society, our way of thinking and operating cannot be applied in order to solve the problems in Afghanistan (Barth, 2008: 10). In light of what I mentioned above, one could therefore ask if a greater education of the military personnel in cultural awareness before contributing to war in a foreign country such as the one in Afghanistan, is necessary.

Regarding this, an informant¹⁵⁵ said that the military focuses upon cultural awareness among the soldiers before and during deployment, and that the soldiers out of respect for the Afghan population, avoid doing things that may feel uneasy for them. The Norwegian PRT is also very conscious about doing things the “Afghan way”, by letting Afghan entrepreneurs implement development projects, after the PRTs development advisor has done necessary baseline studies. However, if we base our location of needs on western democratic values and knowledge, as we are clearly doing in Afghanistan, we do not respect the Afghans either way and thereby do not help them to create human security based on their own needs and values.

¹⁵⁴ Informant from category II.

¹⁵⁵ Informant from category I.

4.3.1.4 The lack of natural resources

The lack of natural resources like safe drinking water is a great problem for the local population in Faryab, and here 84 % is affected by this (CMI Report, Bauck with others, 2007: 15). When asking an informant¹⁵⁶ what challenges they are facing in regards to succeed with the mission given towards facilitating to development, he answered that the access of enough water was one of them.

4.3.2 Challenges and Societal security.

Some of the most important challenges facing the PRT in order for it to accomplish its mission seen in a societal security perspective, have already been presented in section II of the analysis. In accordance with the “Speech Act” and the assumption formed, saying that *I expect to find that the PRT undertakes measures in order to establish a dialog and thereby making it possible to talk about certain security issues, especially with and within areas where it is able to achieve something, like an improved security situation*, the PRTs ability to promote securitization of womens situation in Afghanistan, is still limited. Due to strict Islamic rule saying that men is not allowed to communicate with Afghan women¹⁵⁷, the Norwegian forces is dependent upon having female soldiers in order to gather information and to establish a dialog with the female population. However, because the case of gender issues is marked by coincidence, due to female soldiers or interpreters isn't always a matter of course within the PRT¹⁵⁸, the possibility of securitizing the Afghan womens security issues by the use of speech act, becomes a challenge. This is because the speech act requires that the security issue can be talked about and discussed, which isn't possible in every matter (Booth, 2005: 37).

As stated by Booth (2005: 62), one of the biggest security challenges today is the phenomenon of terrorism, a term used when non-state forces carries out illegitimate killings. In Afghanistan, criminal groups and politically motivated violent non-state actors, such as the Taleban and Al-Qa`Ida threatens the Afghan population's security and global security (Hough, 2004: 63). This thus presents one of the greatest challenges regarding the PRT and the international contributions ability to create security in Afghanistan, because today, a dialogue with Al-qaida and the Taliban is not established, or even possible.

¹⁵⁶ Informant category III.

¹⁵⁷ Forsvarsnett: Lunde, March 19, 2009. <http://www.mil.no/start/article.jhtml?articleID=175631>

¹⁵⁸ Information from informant category I.

Barth (2008: 74) claims that a discourse with the Taliban is needed and therefore should be evident. However, this shouldn't be done by establishing a dialog with the leader, Mulla Omar, because this will not lead to any peace agreement, anyway. Instead, he claims that a discourse should be performed at the lowest level possible, and be all about getting this group to change flank, because that is how they carry out politics in Afghanistan.

4.3.3 Challenges and State Security.

The assumption regarding state security sounded as followed: *I assume to find that the PRT in Meymaneh contributes to make Afghanistan able to defend itself against foreign imposition and enemies such as others states, but also against internal threats, which a widening of this concept inquires.* My main findings according the PRTs tasks and activities in regards to this, is the mentoring of, and cooperation with the Afghan National Security Forces. As previous mentioned, in order for Afghanistan to be able to defend itself and inhabitants against external and internal threats, as well as to keep law and order in tact, the national security forces are a prerequisite.

Corruption and crosscutting issues.

As mentioned in sub-section 5.3.1, corruption and the lack of competence among the police officers becomes a great challenge in order for the PRT personnel to assist the Government of Afghanistan in extending its power. In addition, the state through the ANP still becomes a source of threat to the Afghan population (Fierke, 2007: 14), as well. One of the PRTs greatest challenges in regards to the facilitation of state security, through the cooperation with ANSF, is the lack of development among the Afghan Border Police. This is because this institution is too little prioritized, which is adverse because they have the most important challenge regarding the fighting of delinquency, such as smuggling¹⁵⁹.

A weak Afghan Government

The fact that the Afghan Government is weak remains as a great challenge for the Norwegian Provincial Reconstruction Team in accomplishing its mission¹⁶⁰, which is to “*assist the Government of Afghanistan in Faryab province in building security, governance and promote development in order to establish a safe and well governed Afghanistan*”¹⁶¹. This means that

¹⁵⁹ Information from informant category I.

¹⁶⁰ Information from informant category III.

¹⁶¹ Royal Norwegian Embassy in Kabul: <http://www.norway.org.af/prt/faryab/faryab.htm>

if the Government is highly credited, the things we do can gain it, due to the PRT supporting the GoA. However, if not, we can't strengthen it either. In this sense, we become very dependent upon the Government's legitimacy in order to succeed with the mission, according to an informant¹⁶². Nevertheless, it is also important to mention that Faryab to an extent, is a stable area, where the Taliban previously didn't have as much power as in other areas of Afghanistan¹⁶³. The authorities in the provinces are also effective to a small degree, because it lacks competence and is corrupt. Here, the allowance of drug trafficking could serve as an example¹⁶⁴.

¹⁶² Informant category III.

¹⁶³ Information from informant category III.

¹⁶⁴ Informant category I.

5. Conclusion

The overall purpose with this thesis has been to chart and illustrate how the tasks and related activities of the Norwegian-led Provincial Reconstruction Team in Meymaneh, as well as challenges for it to complete its mission, can be seen in regards to the creation of security at three different levels; state security, societal security and human security.

Analytical findings

PRT Meymaneh's mission is to “*assist Government of Afghanistan in Faryab province in building security, governance and promote development in order to establish a safe and well governed Afghanistan*”. Here, the civil component of the PRT is responsible for tasks regarding the promotion of development and good governance, while the military has responsibility for the building of security and safe surroundings¹⁶⁵. This also means that the military element within the PRT is not supposed to carry out development projects or any activity at all, that could be looked upon as humanitarian aid.

The concept of human security implies that it is each individual person of that state or groups, which are to be, protected (Hough, 2004: 8). Within the narrow definition of human security, violent threats to individuals are in focus, and as stated by the Human Security Report (2005: VIII), the most important thing is therefore to protect communities and individuals from internal violence. In line with this, I formed an assumption saying that: *I expect to find that the PRT Meymaneh's activities are directed towards the protection of individuals from, as well as deminishment of violent threats*. Here, I found that the military component of the PRT, through its task of establishing security in Faryab province, tries to do exactly this. However, through the counter-insurgency programme and operations carried out in order to deal with the problem of insurgents like the Taliban, warlords or other criminal groups that pose a threat to the local population, the lives of civilians are often at risk due to battle-deaths and the cost of war (Human Security Report, 2005). This in turn leads to even greater insecurity for the Afghan population instead of human security, as intended.

I also found that by the gathering of information and liaison with different persons within different aspects of the Afghan society, the PRT is trying to create a better human security

¹⁶⁵ Royal Norwegian Embassy in Kabul, PRT Maimana: <http://www.norway.org.af/prt/faryab/faryab.htm>

condition for the Afghan population. But, the information gathered is also used as force protection in order for the soldiers to keep themselves safe by knowing where resistance against them could be hiding. A great part of the PRTs other tasks and activities are directed towards the protection of the PRT-personnel and other civilian parts within the PRTs area of operation. The Norwegian soldiers in Afghanistan as a whole, also gets a lot of criticism, because they are showing too little presence among the Afghan population and thereby spending too much time inside of the camp-area. Living among the Afghans themselves and thereby achieve greater cultural awareness, is crucial in order to succeed with the military operation, which is to create security for the Afghan population.

A second assumption to the human security concept were also formed, saying that *I expect to find that the PRTs activities are directed towards contributing to a better human security condition for the Afghan population by promoting development.* The civil element of the PRTs tasks regarding development and good governance becomes particular relevant in this matter. As stated by Barth (2008), security is a required condition for development and increased production to be possible in Afghanistan. The military therefore, by creating a stable and secure area so that the civil element of the PRT and other civil actors can do their tasks in creating development, plays a decisive role when it comes to the human security condition of the Afghan population. Further, the Development Advisor is the one pending out the local needs among the population, and thereby has some influence regarding what projects the development aid given to Faryab by the Norwegian Government, should be invested in. Through the prison officers' role in Faryab, the civil component tries to create a better human security condition for the prisoners by making sure that they are safe and that their human rights are followed.

Gender insecurity and discrimination towards women is a widespread problem throughout the whole world, and Afghanistan is no exception. I therefore formed the following assumption: *I expect to find that the PRT Meymaneh in its work is adresssing women and their human rights in relation to security.* In line with this, I found that the PRT has built a womans shelter in order to keep Afghan women safe from harm and danger. Still, there are some limitations in the PRTs work towards women. Due to islamic social norms, western men aren't allowed to interact with Afghan women, and the PRT is therefore dependent upon having female personnel or female interpreters in order to reach out to the women and to locate needs among them. However, this is not always the case.

My empirical data could also be seen in light of the societal security approach and the assumption made, saying that; *I expect to find that the PRT in Meymanehs activity is directed towards helping the Afghan society and different groups to maintain it's identity and security.* One of my main findings regarding this was that not much of the PRTs work could be seen in accordance with this concept. Still, in an overall perspective, the PRTs presence could be looked upon as a way of establishing societal security, by making it more difficult for the Taliban to gain governmental power again. The tasks and activities done by the PRT, is part of a great democratizatiional process and is thereby also funded on democratic values and norms, which the Afghan society is not. Based on this, the international commitment in Afghanistan can therefore also be looked upon as undermining the Afghan society's ability to maintain "its traditional patterns of language, culture, religion, national identity and customs" (Booth, 2005: 34).

In line with the state security aspect, I formed the following assumption: *I assume to find that the PRT in Meymaneh contributes to make Afghanistan able to defend itself against foreign imposition and enemies such as other states, but also against internal threats.* Here, internal threats in form of insurgents are most evident. And in order for the country to be able to defend itself against these, the Afghan National Security Forces is a prerequisite in order to keep law and order in tact. Therefore, the PRTs by mentoring and training the Afghan National Police, and by carrying out joint operations with the Afghan National Security Forces, contribute to a greater establishment of state security.

One of the most important challenges facing the PRT in order for it to complete with the mission is the deteriorating security situation, making it more difficult for the soldiers to operate and to create security, both for the Afghan population, the civil actors and themselves. ISAF also loses trust among the population, which can be decisive when it comes to the PRTs ability to complete with the mission. The civil-military dimension also creates challenges. When tasks of the military and the civil actors overlap, and when the Afghans therefore aren't able to divide between them, civil-military coordination and cooperation becomes very dangerous for the civil aid workers. Regarding societal security, the PRTs most important challenges is the fact that a dialogue with the Taliban and Al-Qa'ida is not possible. Because of this, securitizing this issue, which poses a great threat to the Afghan population's security, is not possible (Hough, 2004: 63). Within state security, the PRTs greatest

challenges are the case of corruption and lack of competence among the ANSF, and a weak government.

Further research

In relation to this thesis, there are many relevant themes for future studies. Some of them could be to look at the advantages and disadvantages by the use of civil-military cooperation (CIMIC) as part of the PRTs mission, seen in a security perspective. A survey of the PRT-concept as a whole, and to examine whether it is a sufficient tool or not in order to create security in Afghanistan, could also be of interesting research. When military means are used, the purpose is often to achieve a certain political goal at state level. A future study could therefore be to elaborate further on how the Norwegian and international military contribution in Afghanistan, can be explained in light of a state security aspect.

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List of informants divided into three different categories:

- *Category I:*

Military officers with field experience from duty within PRT Meymaneh, whereas one former PRT-commander. The total number of officers interviewed is 3.

- *Category II:*

Present researchers at henholdsvis NUPI and PRIO with Afghanistan as primary field of research. Total number of persons interviewed is 2.

- *Category III:*

A consultant at the Norwegian Ministry of Defence and a civilian attendant at PRT Meymaneh. The total number within this category is 2.

Appendix 1: List of abbreviations.

ABP	Afghan Border Police
ANA	Afghan National Army
ANDS	Afghan National Development Strategy
ANP	Afghan National Police
ANSF	Afghan National Security Force
AOO	Area of Operation
CIMIC	Civil-Military Cooperation
COIN	Counter-Insurgency Operations
CSS	Combat Support Service
DDR	Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration
DEVAD	Development Advisor
DIAG	Disbandment of Illegal Armed Groups
EUPOL	European Police Mission
FP	Force Protection
GoA	Government of Afghanistan
ISAF	International Security Assistance Force
ISTAR-TG	Intelligence, Surveillance, Target Acquisition & Reconnaissance Training Group
MED coy	Medical Concoy
MOT	Mobile Observation Team
NCC	Norwegian National Contingent Commander
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NSE	National Support Element
OMLT	Operation Mentoring and Liaison Team
POLAD	Political Advisor
PRT	Provincial Reconstruction Team
SSR	Security Sector Reform
UNAMA	United Nations Mission in Afghanistan

Appendix 2: Interview guide

Del 1: Oppgaver og utfordringer til PRT Meymaneh:

- Sivil komponent:
 1. Hva gjør disse og hvordan kan det relateres til sikkerhet?

- Militær komponent:
 1. Hva er de viktigste sektorer?
 2. Hvordan er oppgavene deres knyttet til sikkerhet? Og hva gjør de for å skape sikkerhet?
 3. Hvilket forhold har PRTen til ANA?
 4. Hva gjøres innenfor security sector reform av PRT Meymaneh?
 5. Ved operasjoner: Går sivile liv tapt? Lykkes det å skape sikkerhet i vakumet?

Del 2: Utfordringer i å etablere sikkerhet:

Tema 1: Insurgency: Taliban.

- Operasjoner: skaper dette sikkerhet for lokalbefolkningen?
- Byr det på flere utfordringer at PRT Meymaneh nå får ansvar for Ghorwmach distriktet også?

Tema 2: Narkotika- og opiumproduksjon. Er dette et problem for å skape sikkerhet?

Tema 3: Ustabil og svak regjering:

- Har en svak afghansk regjering noen innvirkning på sikkerheten og oppdraget med å etablere sikkerhet?

Tema 4: Sivilt-militært samarbeid:

- Hvordan er forholdet mellom det sivile og militære element innad i PRTen?
- Forholdet mellom de militære og sivile NGOer og UNAMA. Har lest i en rapport at PRT'er gjør oppgaver som tilhører NGOer, er dette et problem i henhold til den norske PRTen? Frykter NGOer for sin egen sikkerhet pga militært nærvær?
- Forholdet mellom PRT, ANA, ANP og den lokale regjering?
- Skaper rulleringen hver 6 mnd noen utfordringer for oppdraget og i så tilfellet på hvilke måter?

- Er begrepet CIMIC inne i bildet i det å skape sikkerhet, og eventuelt på hvilken måte?

Tema 5: Kulturforståelse:

- Ligger det utfordringer til sikkerheten her?

Til slutt:

- Er det andre forhold knyttet til det å skape sikkerhet, utenom dem jeg har nevnt og som ikke fanges opp i disse punktene, og i så tilfelle hva gjør PRTen i forhold til disse punktene for å redusere truslene?
- Hvor ligger de kortsiktige og langsiktige utfordringene?
- Og tenker man i de baner at menneskelig sikkerhet på bakkenivå er knyttet opp mot statssikkerhet og samfunnssikkerhet?

Appendix 3: The Afghanistan Compact and the ANDS

The Afghanistan Compact was adopted at the "London conference on Afghanistan" in London on 31 January 2006. It is an agreement between The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and the International Community to cooperate on different goals for the development of the Afghan community. It is further stated in the Compact that the parts are "determined to strengthen their partnership to improve the lives of Afghan people, and to contribute to national, regional, and global peace and security", and to "work toward a stable and prosperous Afghanistan, with good governance and human rights protection for all under the rule of law, and to maintain and strengthen that commitment over the term of this Compact" (The Afghanistan Compact 2006: 1)¹⁶⁶.

The Afghanistan National Development Strategy is a Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) and serves as a five-year plan for the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. Its basic foundation is the Afghanistan Compact. It is based upon the pillars and goals of the Compact (Afghanistan National Development Strategy: 2008-2013: 5)¹⁶⁷ and sounds as following:

- **Security:** *Achieve nationwide stabilization, strengthen law enforcement, and improve personal security for every Afghan.*
- **Governance, Rule of law and Human Rights:** *Strengthen democratic processes and institutions, human rights, the rule of law, delivery of public services and government accountability.*
- **Economic and Social Development:** *Reduce poverty, ensure sustainable development through a private-sector-led market economy, improve human development indicators, and make significant progress towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)* (Afghanistan National Development Strategy, 2008: i).

¹⁶⁶ The Afghanistan Compact (2006):

<http://unama.unmissions.org/Portals/UNAMA/Documents/AfghanistanCompact-English.pdf>

¹⁶⁷ The Afghanistan National Development Strategy (2008-2013):

http://www.ands.gov.af/ands/final_ands/src/final/Afghanistan%20National%20Development%20Strategy_eng.pdf

This strategy paper has validity for the next five years, until 2013. However, it will continue to exist after this period, though with a different substance. The PRTs should operate in line with the *Afghan National Development Strategy* (ANDS), and here it is stated that their task is also to make sure that efforts made at the international level is in accordance with the governments own development intentions (PRT Handbook, 2007: 3).

