

# Air Defender 23: Hundreds of flights in Europe to be rerouted each day

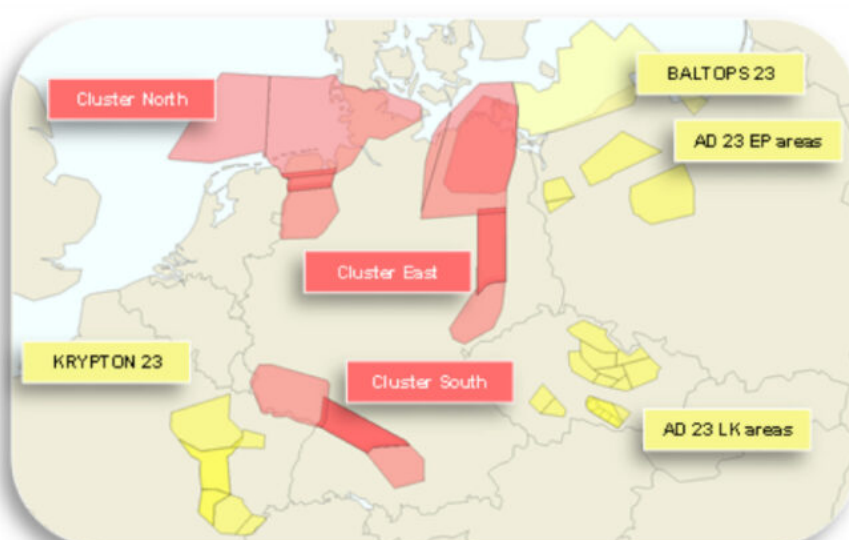
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12 June, 2023



There are several military exercises planned in Europe until June 22, affecting some busy airspace in Germany (including Maastricht), Czech Republic, northern Poland, and eastern France.

**Air Defender in Germany is going to be the one that will cause the most delays and disruption.**

It's happening June 12-22 (Mon-Fri first week, Mon-Thu second week). This is going to be NATO's biggest ever air exercise, involving 250 military aircraft from 25 countries, and is all about testing their response to a simulated attack on a NATO country.



**BALTOPS 23**  
04 -16 Jun 2023

**AIR DEFENDER 23**  
12 -22 Jun 2023 Mon to Fri

**KRYPTON 23**  
21 Jun 2023

TIME ALLOCATION AIR DEFENDER

	From	To
Cluster East	08:00	12:00
Cluster South	11:00	15:00
Cluster North	14:00	18:00

Eurocontrol are going to be working hard to re-route flights – around 800 flights each day, with around **300 of these expected to have at least 60nm added to their routings**. They predicted the average delay per flight would be around only 3 minutes (but we have to say that feels extremely optimistic!)

They are also warning operators **not to plan flights that will land close to airport closure times**. Several German airports are extending their opening hours on request, although for some you'll have to prove that Air Defender is the reason you need to arrive/depart late: **EDDS/Stuttgart, EDDB/Berlin, EDDF/Frankfurt, EDDL/Dusseldorf** (there may be more!)

For more info, in order of usefulness and how painful they are to read (1 = useful, low pain, 4 = bamboozling, not very useful, high pain), check the following:

1. Eurocontrol's summary of how bad they think it's going to be. [Click here.](#)
2. Eurocontrol's full 65 page briefing. [Click here.](#)
3. German AIP SUP 7/23 of predicted impact in German airspace. [Click here.](#)
4. Czech AIP SUP 2/23 of predicted impact in Czech airspace. [Click here.](#)