

ACADEMIC GUIDE



Defying the ordinary, building the extraordinary

Committee

North Atlantic
Treaty
Organization

NATO

Junior

Topic A:

Inclusion of Ukraine in NATO

Topic B:

Expansion of Article V of the Washington Treaty
to non-member nations

Chair

President

Daniel Hernández Díaz

Gimnasio Campestre

daniel345hernandez678@gmail.com

+57 (311) 211 6660

President

Sarah Petrie Abella

Colegio Los Nogales

sar-petrie@nogales.edu.co

+57 (315) 792 2510

Welcoming letter

Dear Delegates,

It is with great enthusiasm that we welcome you to this committee. We are Sarah and Daniel, your chair for this edition of MMUN. We are honored to guide you through this journey and are excited to see the passion, dedication, and creativity you will bring. Model United Nations is not just an academic simulation; it is an incredible opportunity to step into the shoes of diplomats, engage with pressing global challenges, and refine your skills in negotiation, public speaking, and critical thinking. Most importantly, it's a chance to connect with people who share your interests and drive to make a difference.

We encourage you to step out of your comfort zone, engage deeply with the topics, and embrace every moment. Rest assured, we are here to support you every step of the way. If you have any questions or concerns, or need guidance, please do not hesitate to reach out to us before or during the conference—we are more than happy to help.

North Atlantic Treaty Organization (*NATO*) is a committee where you will have the opportunity to explore the complexities of international relations, military alliances, and the nuanced dynamics of global security. As you engage in discussions on armed conflicts, peacekeeping missions, and defense strategies, we urge you to keep an open mind, actively listen to diverse perspectives, and work collaboratively towards effective and innovative solutions. Remember, the essence of Model United Nations lies in the relationships you build and the personal growth you achieve along the way.



We look forward to seeing your hard work, dedication, and creativity shine throughout the conference.

Sincerely,

Sarah and Daniel

Introduction to the commission

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) was established in 1949 in response to the geopolitical tensions of the time, particularly the threat posed by the Soviet Union and the spread of communist ideologies. Western nations viewed communism as a significant threat to



their security and democratic values, leading to the formation of this alliance. While NATO was created amid the Cold War, it remains an active and relevant international organization today, involved in various global security issues.

Nato. (2024, October 1). *Homepage*. NATO. <https://www.nato.int/>

NATO is an international military alliance that currently consists of 32 member states, including the United States, Canada, most European countries, and several others. The alliance is founded on the principle of collective defense, as outlined in Article 5 of the NATO treaty. This article states that an armed attack against one member is considered an attack against all members, obligating them to come to the defense of the attacked nation.

Article 5 of the treaty has only been invoked once in NATO's history, following the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the United States. These attacks were orchestrated by members of the extremist organization al-Qaeda, resulting in the tragic loss of nearly 3,000 lives in the US. In response to this unprecedented act of terror, NATO members united to provide support to the United States. Troops from various NATO countries were deployed to Afghanistan in a mission to dismantle al-Qaeda and prevent future terrorist attacks.

Since its inception, NATO has evolved to address new security challenges, including cyber threats, terrorism, and the destabilizing actions of rogue states. The organization continues to play a vital role in maintaining international peace and security, adapting its strategies and operations to meet the demands of a rapidly changing global landscape. Through military collaboration, intelligence sharing, and diplomatic efforts, NATO remains a key player in preserving the stability and security of its member states and the broader international community.

Topic Summary

Topic A: Inclusion of Ukraine in NATO

This topic has been deeply discussed nowadays because of its relevance in the context of the war in Ukraine. To the country this alliance is absolutely crucial to have a strong defense against Russian forces. The NATO alliance guarantees that the members are always protected from foreign threats and if one was to be attacked, all countries would have to support the former in any way possible. This principle is established in article five of the treaty and, if Ukraine were to join in this current era, it would be the duty of the whole committee to react against Russia's invasion. In the past, the alliance has decided that it is best to only support Ukraine with military weapons intelligence and monetary resources; however, with the ongoing brutality of the war and reports of crimes against human rights, the commission might be forced to change its mind and decide to take a different approach.

Topic B: Expansion of Article V of the Washington Treaty to non-member nations

There have been new threats to the North Atlantic area in recent years. These threats have imposed new boundaries on armed conflicts, and the security of the region, against NATO's common enemies. The question is, should Article 5 of the Washington Treaty, which states "*The Parties agree that an armed attack against one or more of them in Europe or North America shall be considered an attack against them all and consequently they agree that, if such an armed attack occurs, each of them, in exercise of the right of individual or collective self-defense...*", should apply to NATO allies, and not just to NATO members. With the expansion of Article 5, the idea is to protect allies and prevent the expansion of armed conflicts in the region, impacting North America and Europe's social and economic arenas.

TOPIC A: Inclusion of Ukraine in NATO

Introduction to the topic

Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 shocked the world, but the conflict had been building for some time. The history between Russia and Ukraine has always been complex, marked by periods of tension and conflict.

This conflict started a long time ago, but it also has to do with the fact that prior to the war, Ukraine had expressed its desire to join the treaty precisely to protect itself from Russia. This threatened Russia in several ways, including the fact that it would now have a NATO member on its border, watching its every move.

In late 2021, between October and November, Russia began deploying troops and military equipment along its border with Ukraine. This massive military buildup alarmed the international community, which sought to negotiate with Russian President Vladimir Putin in a bid to prevent the impending invasion. Putin, however, presented demands that were seen as unacceptable by NATO and its allies, who rejected his proposal to have de facto veto power over NATO's expansion and insisted that NATO military forces be confined to countries that had been members before 1997. This proposal would have effectively stripped Eastern and Southern Europe, as well as the Baltic states, of NATO's protective security umbrella.

In response to this rejection, Putin ordered the invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, launching a war that has since drawn widespread condemnation from the international community.

Since the invasion, the international community has imposed severe sanctions on Russia. The United States, in particular, has been a supporter of Ukraine, providing substantial military equipment and financial resources to help Ukraine's defense efforts.

The war in Ukraine has had far-reaching consequences, not only for the countries directly involved but also for global security and the international order. It has highlighted the dangers of unchecked aggression and the importance of international cooperation in addressing such threats. As the conflict continues, the world watches closely, hoping for a resolution that restores peace and respects the rights and independence of Ukraine.

As it is important to know for this topic how NATO members come to be members of the organization this is a brief description of the process:

To admit a country as a NATO member, the country must meet certain requirements and go through a specific process. The first requirement for membership is political. A country must have a stable democratic system, respect for human rights, and the rule of law. This means that the country must have a functioning democratic government, fair elections, and a legal system that protects individual freedoms. NATO values these principles because it believes that democracies are less likely to go to war with each other and more likely to contribute positively to the alliance.

Second, the country must have a military that is capable of contributing to NATO's defense and security goals. This involves modernizing its military forces and ensuring they meet NATO standards for interoperability—meaning that their forces can work together with those of other NATO members. A country must also commit to defense spending to meet NATO's defense investment guidelines.

The process of joining NATO starts with the country expressing interest in becoming a member. This is followed by a detailed evaluation by NATO to assess the country's readiness. If the evaluation is positive, the country is invited to begin formal negotiations. These negotiations involve aligning the country's military, political, and economic systems with NATO's standards, which may take several years.

Once the country meets all criteria, NATO member states must unanimously agree to admit the new member. This is done through a formal invitation, and the new member then signs the NATO accession protocol. After all current NATO members ratify this protocol, the country officially becomes a member.

In the case of Ukraine, the process has been complicated by its ongoing conflict with Russia. Ukraine has expressed a strong desire to join NATO for its security and to strengthen its democratic institutions. The war in Ukraine has led many NATO countries to support Ukraine's bid, but the alliance has yet to offer full membership, as the conflict complicates the country's ability to meet all the requirements.

Joining NATO has important implications for a country. It provides security guarantees under NATO's Article 5, which states that an attack on one member is considered an attack on all members. It also strengthens the country's ties to other Western nations, improving political and economic relations. However, NATO membership can also provoke opposition from countries like Russia, as seen in the case of Ukraine, potentially escalating regional tensions.

Key Concepts

- **Article V:** Article V of the Washington Treaty, also known as the mutual defense clause, states that an armed attack against any NATO member in Europe or North America is considered an attack against all members. In such an event, each member is obligated to assist the attacked country by taking necessary actions, including the use of force, to restore security. This clause applies to foreign actors worldwide, ensuring collective defense for NATO members.
- **Membership:** Membership in NATO means that a country becomes part of a collective security alliance, where all members agree to defend each other in the event of an armed attack. As a member, a country commits to upholding democratic values, contributing to the alliance's military efforts, and following NATO's political and military guidelines. NATO members benefit from mutual protection under Article V of the Washington Treaty, which guarantees that an attack on one member is considered an attack on all, leading to joint defense actions. Membership also involves aligning with NATO's military standards and participating in the organization's decision-making processes.

Historical Context

Putin's invasion of Ukraine did not happen out of the blue; it is the continuation of a conflict that has roots in decades of historical tension. The current Russian government has questioned the legitimacy of both Ukraine and Belarus as independent countries, arguing that the people of Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus share a common history and origin, and therefore should share a "political destiny." Putin claims that the democracies in these countries have been corrupted by Western influence and control. While this belief is central to the conflict, another significant factor is Russia's concern over Ukraine's desire to join NATO, which Putin perceives as a direct threat to Russian power and influence in the region.

The desire to join NATO came from the year 2014 when Russia moved to annex Crimea, a region with strategic importance and a majority Russian-speaking population. Under the excuse of protecting ethnic Russians, Russian troops occupied Crimea, leading to a controversial and widely condemned referendum that resulted in the formal annexation of the peninsula by Russia. This move was met with international outrage, leading to severe economic sanctions against Russia. Simultaneously, pro-Russian separatists in Eastern Ukraine, particularly in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions, began to rebel against the Ukrainian government, sparking a brutal conflict that continues to this day. Russia's support for these separatists, both directly and indirectly, further escalated the situation, leading to widespread violence and displacement. These actions not only violated Ukraine's sovereignty but also significantly strained Russia's relations with the West, leading to a new era of geopolitical tension and instability in Europe. After these acts were committed it was clear that in order to continue to protect the sovereignty of Ukraine they would have to join NATO so that Russia would be discouraged from ever taking military actions against the country under the threat of Article 5 of the NATO treaty.

The debate surrounding Ukraine's potential NATO membership has been shaped by a long and complex relationship between Ukraine and the alliance, particularly highlighted by the NATO summit in Brussels after the attacks. At this summit, there were discussions on the possibility of offering Ukraine a special status, sometimes referred to as NATO, instead of full membership. This status would allow Ukraine to benefit from some NATO protections

and cooperation, without offering the full security guarantee of Article V—particularly because of the ongoing conflict with Russia.

Ukraine has long expressed interest in joining NATO, seeing membership as a crucial step to securing its sovereignty and territorial integrity, especially in the face of Russian aggression. NATO, on the other hand, has been cautious. While many member states support Ukraine's aspirations, the alliance has also been wary of provoking Russia further. This reluctance stems from concerns that NATO expansion into a region closely tied to Russia's sphere of influence could escalate tensions, potentially leading to a broader conflict. The war in Ukraine has brought these concerns to the forefront, with Russia viewing NATO's potential enlargement as a direct threat to its security.

During the Brussels summit, leaders discussed how NATO could support Ukraine without offering full membership while the country remains embroiled in war. The idea of granting Ukraine NATO status was considered a middle ground. This would provide Ukraine with stronger ties to NATO, including access to training, intelligence sharing, and military equipment, but without invoking Article V, which would commit all NATO members to military intervention. However, this proposal also risks being seen by Russia as an attempt to pull Ukraine further into the Western fold, which is one of the key reasons for the ongoing conflict.

The broader context of NATO and Ukraine's relationship goes back to 1991 when Ukraine declared independence from the Soviet Union. Since then, Ukraine has sought closer ties with Western institutions, including NATO, although its progress has been slow due to political divisions within the country and reluctance from NATO members, particularly in the early years. The 2014 annexation of Crimea by Russia and the subsequent war in eastern Ukraine pushed Ukraine's desire for NATO membership to the forefront, as it sought security guarantees that NATO could offer.

The discussion about Ukraine's membership or special status is not just about the war; it also involves broader geopolitical dynamics. For NATO, accepting Ukraine as a full member would require unanimity among existing members, something that's difficult to achieve given the political divisions in Europe and the U.S. Moreover, NATO must balance its desire to support Ukraine with the need to avoid triggering a wider war with Russia. Thus, the

committee's debate will focus on weighing the security benefits of including Ukraine versus the potential escalation of the conflict, making this an issue that blends military strategy with complex international relations.

After months of Russia sending armed forces and military equipment along its border with Ukraine, the international community grew increasingly concerned about the looming threat of war. As mentioned earlier, NATO and other international organizations attempted to negotiate terms to prevent the seemingly inevitable conflict. However, Putin's demands, which included a de facto veto over NATO expansion, were deemed unacceptable and were firmly rejected.

The war officially began on February 24, 2022, and has continued since then. The conflict has had devastating consequences for both Ukraine and Russia. Ukraine has been forced to rely heavily on international assistance, with countries like the United States providing substantial aid—amounting to approximately \$175 billion—to help Ukraine's military defense. On the other hand, Russia has reportedly spent around \$200 billion to finance a war that shows no signs of resolution. Additionally, Russia has faced strict economic sanctions imposed by the international community, which have severely impacted its economy.

However, the most tragic aspect of this war is the human cost. Thousands of people have been displaced, killed, and wounded, leaving a trail of devastation across both nations. The war has not only inflicted immense suffering but has also created a humanitarian crisis that will likely have long-lasting effects on the region and beyond.

President Zelenski of Ukraine has stated repeatedly the need for the country to enter the NATO alliance to protect its sovereignty and stop the threat that Russia poses on national and international security.

Current Situation

The war in Ukraine continues with no clear end in sight, and the conflict only intensifies as countries pour billions of dollars into financing the ongoing struggle. Every day, the human toll of the war escalates, leaving deep scars on both Ukraine and Russia.

Now more than ever, Ukraine is seeking admission into NATO, knowing that becoming a member would shift the dynamics of the conflict. If Ukraine were to join NATO, the military aggression from Russia would no longer be a conflict that the West is merely financing; it would become a conflict that the West is obligated to fight. Article 5 of the NATO treaty would compel member nations to engage militarily, turning the war into a direct confrontation between Russia and NATO.

At this stage of the war, however, NATO remains hesitant to become more deeply involved. The political and economic implications of such involvement are immense, and the alliance is wary of the potential consequences of escalating the conflict further. While NATO continues to provide significant support to Ukraine, direct military involvement remains a line that the organization is reluctant to cross, given the risks of broader conflict.

Relevant approaches

Delegates must carefully consider the implications of admitting Ukraine as a member of NATO, particularly taking into consideration Article 5 of the Treaty, which obligates collective military defense. This discussion should focus on the potential consequences of triggering direct military engagement with Russia and the broader geopolitical risks involved.

It is also essential for delegates to explore alternative means of supporting Ukraine in its fight for sovereignty and security, without immediate NATO membership, which could include increased military aid, economic sanctions on Russia, and diplomatic efforts to isolate Russian aggression.

Additionally, delegates must examine the prospects and potential challenges of Ukraine's admission to NATO after the conflict. This includes evaluating how such a decision could

impact future military engagements and the stability of the region. The discussion should address whether post-conflict membership could deter further aggression or escalate tensions and lead to additional military confrontations. Delegates need to weigh the long-term strategic benefits and risks of integrating Ukraine into the alliance against the backdrop of ongoing security concerns.

Block Positions

Block of Countries Willing to Admit Ukraine Immediately: This bloc advocates for Ukraine's immediate admission into NATO, arguing that Ukraine's inclusion is essential for its defense and stability. These countries believe that invoking Article 5 of the NATO treaty, which mandates collective defense, is a necessary step to deter further Russian aggression and to uphold the principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity. This block must state why the alliance should fully commit to Ukraine's defense, even if it means direct military confrontation with Russia.

Block of Supporting Countries: This group is committed to supporting Ukraine's defense efforts but stops short of endorsing immediate NATO membership due to the risks of direct military conflict with Russia. These countries advocate for alternative methods of support, such as providing military aid, economic assistance, and diplomatic backing, while avoiding actions that would trigger Article 5. This block must present a compelling case for how sustained support, without full NATO membership, can effectively help Ukraine maintain its sovereignty and security.

Block of Countries Willing to Admit Ukraine After the Conflict: This bloc supports Ukraine's future admission into NATO, contingent on the resolution of the current conflict. These countries argue that post-conflict membership would be critical in ensuring Ukraine's long-term security and deterring future aggression from Russia. This block must discuss the strategic benefits of delaying admission until after the conflict, including the prevention of immediate escalation and the creation of a stable environment for Ukraine's integration into the alliance.

Block of Countries Unwilling to Admit Ukraine: This bloc opposes Ukraine's admission into NATO at any stage, citing the significant risks posed by further NATO expansion, particularly the potential for provoking Russia into more aggressive actions. These countries believe that NATO's involvement should be limited to non-military support and that admitting Ukraine could destabilize the region further. This block must argue that the risks of NATO expansion outweigh the potential benefits and that alternative strategies should be pursued to maintain regional stability.

QARMAS

- What does your delegation think about the war in Ukraine?
- Is your country in any way supporting Ukraine?
- Would your country be willing to invoke Article 5 against Russia?
- What are ways that your delegation can contribute to Ukraine?
- What are the implications of admitting Ukraine into the alliance?

Useful links

- YouTube. (n.d.). YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MVu8QbxafJE>
- Nato. (2024b, October 3). *NATO's response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine*. NATO. https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_192648.htm
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[nato#:~:text=The%20NATO%20Alliance%20consists%20of,with%20armed%20forces%20if%20necessary](https://nato.usmission.gov/about-nato#:~:text=The%20NATO%20Alliance%20consists%20of,with%20armed%20forces%20if%20necessary)

Mankoff, J. (2022, April 22). *Russia's war in Ukraine: Identity, history, and conflict*. CSIS.

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<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c29d03574zdo>

TOPIC B: Expansion of Article V of the Washington Treaty to non-member nations

Introduction to the topic

NATO started with the signing of the North Atlantic Treaty in Washington D.C., in 1946. The treaty was signed as a way to assure peace and stability in the North Atlantic region in the aftermath of the Cold War, and a growing Soviet threat to Europe and the United States. In the beginning, only a few delegations decided to join the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, or NATO, including the Western Powers of the Second World War. With time, NATO would grow to encompass more than 32 member nations, spanning from the United States and Canada in North America, to Sweden and Finland in Northern Europe, to Poland and Latvia in Eastern Europe, and Greece and Turkey in Southern Europe. One of NATO's main attractiveness to member nations and new potential members is Article V, which is a mutual defense clause. When a member state enters NATO, they will receive all of the benefits of being a part of NATO, including political and economical aid, as well as technology for advancing defense systems. But, if a state were only to have the benefits of Article V, then, they would only receive aid when attacked.

Due to the strategic geopolitical importance of many member nations, NATO has branched to having Allies all over the world, mainly through US diplomacy. NATO has had alliances and treaties with South America (with the Rio Treaty (click [here](#) to read it)), Australia and New Zealand, Ukraine, South Korea, and Japan. NATO has been fully committed to establishing long-lasting peace in the North Atlantic Area and in the World, in accordance with their Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg; *“NATO is a regional alliance that faces global challenges, so our partnerships around the world are essential for our security. We continue to work closely with the European Union on a wide range of security issues. We are also deepening our cooperation with our partners in the Indo-Pacific – Australia, Japan, New Zealand, and the Republic of Korea – and I have appointed a group of experts to review NATO’s approach to our southern neighborhood.”* (Stoltenberg J., 2024). This relations are expressed in the infographic at the right.

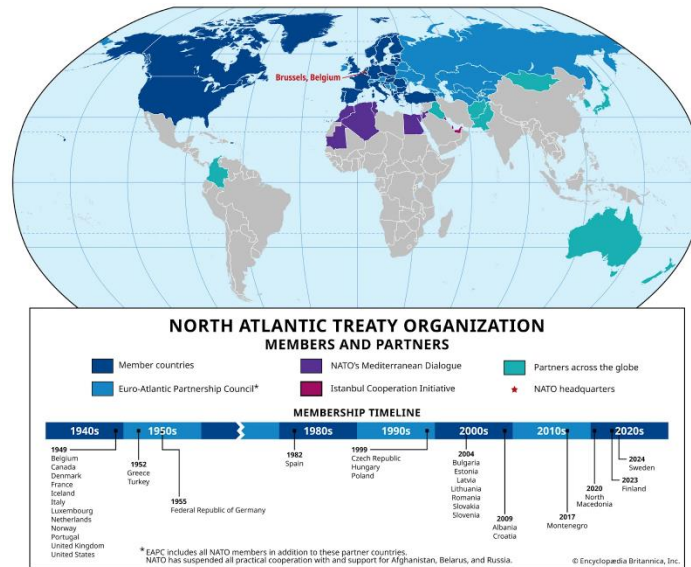


Image taken from Britannica's Online Portal; <https://www.britannica.com/topic/North-Atlantic-Treaty-Organization> October 27th 2024

The question now is if NATO will protect their regional stability and peace, by supporting allies outside of the North Atlantic Treaty Area (meaning non-member nations), through the use of mutual defense policies and prevent at, end conflicts from escalating and involving member nations.

Key Concepts

- **Washington Treaty:** This is the base treaty for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. It will also be referred to as the NATO Charter. To read the treaty, you can click [here](#).
 - **Article V:** *“The Parties agree that an armed attack against one or more of them in Europe or North America shall be considered an attack against them all and consequently they agree that, if such an armed attack occurs, each of them, in exercise of the right of individual or collective self-defense recognized by Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations, will assist the Party or Parties so attacked by taking forthwith, individually and in concert with the other Parties, such action as it deems necessary, including the use of*

armed force, to restore and maintain the security of the North Atlantic area” (Washington Treaty, 1946). This is known as the mutual defense clause of the treaty, meaning that, a military attack on any member nation of NATO, will be considered an attack on all member nations, and thus an active and effective response will follow. It is important to note that Art. V applies to foreign actors all over the world.

- From now on, Article 5 of NATO’s Charter will be referred to as “Art. V”
- **Mutual Defense:** It’s understood by Mutual Defense “M.D.” in short, that a community of nations safeguard each other in the event of a possible attack. See how US Policy and the Truman Doctrine define Mutual Defense here.

Historical Context

The Use of Collective Defense as a Show of Force: NATO and the United States have used Art. V, as a guarantee to all member nations for their military protection in the past. They started with these policies during the Truman Administration as a show for a collective sense of peace in Europe in the looming threat of communism imposed by the Soviet Union. NATO used the principle of collective defense as a show of power towards the Soviet Union, by showing a United front against a common enemy. As NATO delegates, you can propose the expansion of Art. V, to show common enemies the force that the world’s largest military alliance has.



The Use of Article V: Art. V has been invoked in the past by different member nations, to assure their protection against military aggressors. The most famous example of the use of Art.V was with the United States in 2001 and 2002, under the pretext of the 9/11 attacks.

US and 9/11: The United States of America, under President George W. Bush, alongside Secretary of State Colin Powell, invoked Article V of the NATO charter in early 2002, after the terrorist attacks known as “9/11” on the World Trade Center in New York City. While invoking the Art. V, NATO mobilized troops and military equipment from all member nations alongside the United States' response against “Al-Qaeda” and Afghanistan under the Taliban’s regime. The use of NATO forces and military technology helped the United States in their operations to neutralize Al-Qaeda’s threat to the Western and World’s satiety, peace, and security.

Current Situation

The delegates for this NATO summit are encouraged to participate in the debate in one of two ways. The first is to choose one of these situations of the world stage (explained below), to use as examples and yield a specific response. The second option is to use the situations below as a guide, and create a NATO Resolution, (or amend the Washington Treaty), with a response of Article V of the Charter to NATO allies. The delegates can still opt to debate the topic in their own way and create the resolutions they deem viable. Some of NATO’s most important allies from around the world include; Australia and New Zealand in Oceania, South Korea and Japan in Asia, Israel in the Middle East, and Ukraine in Europe, for their role in international security. It’s important to note that all of these nations are in close proximity to potential threats to the North Atlantic Region, as well as nations that are categorized as a threat to NATO.

The conflict between Israel and Palestine: Israel is a key military, political, and economic Ally to the United States and Europe in the North Atlantic area. Israel is placed between Europe North America and the Middle East with intelligence agencies to protect NATO's

borders and security. In October 2023, the extremist group Hamas attacked Israel, and through Article 51 of the United Nations Charter, Israel has the right to self-determination, and to protect its people. Israel launched their Counterattack to protect their citizens and to protect Israeli border security. Under President Biden and his administration, the United States encouraged NATO members to help Israel and to go to its defense under the development of Article 5 of NATO.



Image taken from NBC News Online Portal; <https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/white-house/biden-netanyahu-call-rcna94687>. October 8th/2024

This has created a disagreement within NATO, where several member nations vow to help Israel, while others don't. This disagreement can be seen during the following press conference at the 2024 NATO Summit, where Turkish President Erdogan said the following: *“The Turkish president believes there's another conflict that's just as important to the alliance and wanted to press other members to do more to end Israel's attacks. “Israel's Administration violates our alliance's basic principles and it cannot continue to cooperate with NATO until a comprehensive and sustainable plan is established on Palestinian territory turkey will not approve a partnership at the NATO level” ”.* (Erdogan R., 2024)

To watch the full statement, follow this link: [Erdogan: We will not tolerate co-operation with Israel within NATO](#)

Image taken from Al Jazeera Online Portal: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/7/29/hitler-vs-saddam-war-of-words-as-turkey-threatens-to-enter-israel>. October 8th/2024

Video retrieved from; TRT World. (2024, July 12). Erdogan: We will not tolerate cooperation with Israel within NATO [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nSzHcpgxS5A> ordinary, building the extraordinary

The rising threats near the South & East China Sea by China:

There have been rising threats to peace in the South and East China Sea, due to the rising tensions and military exercises of China over Taiwan and the South China Sea, and North Korea over the East China Sea and the Sea of Japan (shared between South Korea and Japan).

In recent years China and North Korea have imposed big threats to peace in the China Sea and Southeastern Asia. China has increased its Fleet of aircraft as well as submarines and Navy in the South China Sea along their 9 Dash line policy (A policy where China claims the whole South China Sea). Meanwhile, North Korea has started to increase its nuclear program, even testing and launching nuclear warheads into the East China Sea and the Sea of Japan. This region of the world is of key strategic importance to the United States, Canada, and all NATO members, as most of the world's trade lines pass through these trade lines, and NATO has vowed to not only help Japan and South Korea but as well their allies in Southeast Asia such as the Philippines, Vietnam, Thailand, Indonesia, even Australia and New Zealand.

It's important to note NATO's stance per their Secretary-General on what to do with the looming Chinese threat, as stated in the following debate. [NATO is not moving to the South China Sea. China is coming closer to us!](#)

The Russo-Ukrainian War: In 2021, Russia launched an attack on Ukraine, under their idea of a greater Russian state, similar to the Soviet Union; which includes Ukrainian territories.

Ukraine is a key state in Europe and has served as a pivoting point between Russia and Europe. Ukraine says then has vowed to protect its citizens and protect its territory against Russian aggressions, but for their acceptance into the organization. By asking for their acceptance



Ukraine is asking the United States and all NATO members to Aid them, whilst not forgetting the origins of NATO to protect Western Europe and to protect the Free World from the Soviet Union communism and their national security policies. Ukraine vows that the continuation of the Soviet Union is Russia, and thus Article 5 of the NATO Charter should apply to them. Secretary-General Stoltenberg has vowed to help Ukraine, by installing a NATO-Ukraine

Summit, and by aiding them through military assistance. As seen in the following press conference; [here](#).

Image taken from NATO's Online Portal: https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/news_227133.htm.

October 8th/2024

The chair recommends using a different context for the debate, as it can be a repetitive debate to Topic A. Given this information, Topic A differs from Topic B; as adding a new member to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (Topic A), is very different from expanding an article of the Washington Treaty. Only expanding an article for a nation, means that they could only enjoy collective defense, meanwhile, when being a member nation of NATO, the nation will receive all benefits and conditions.

Block Positions

It's important to note that the delegates can use these Bloc Positions as guidelines to establish their own positions and arguments for the debate.

Article V should apply to non-NATO Members: To safeguard peace in the North Atlantic region, NATO should invoke Art. V, and apply a collective defense clause to any non-member allied nation that asks for military assistance. This would be done by involving a NATO-led response to aid the allied nations in their ongoing military conflict, to act swiftly to protect peace and security in the North Atlantic Area, and by not allowing the conflict to escalate and directly involve a member nation.

Article V may apply to non-NATO Members, under specific conditions: There are more robust situations that impose a greater threat to the North Atlantic Area than others, one example might be the ongoing conflict between Ukraine and Russia in southeastern Europe. As this conflict imposes a greater threat to stability in the North Atlantic and has a higher possibility of the aggressor attacking member nations, should NATO have a specific policy to keep stability in the North Atlantic? Is NATO willing to invoke Art. V, and involve NATO soldiers, technology, and military resources on a non-member allied nation, to safeguard peace?

Article V only applies to NATO Members: NATO has a defense budget developed and used to safeguard peace in the North Atlantic Region, which is composed under The 2% defense investment guideline. This means that to have a collective defense clause, there should be active participation of member nations to receive the benefits. It can be argued that as non-member allied nations are not bound to NATO's policies then they don't need to economically contribute to the defense budget. This would mean that they would get the benefits of the world's largest military and military organization with nothing in exchange, thus, NATO would not need to give them military aid on their own going conflicts, whether near the North Atlantic Area or not.

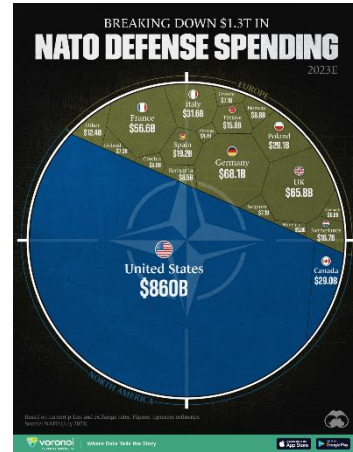


Image retrieved from Visual Capitalist's online portal; <https://www.visualcapitalist.com/breaking-down-1-3t-in-nato-defense-spending/>. October-8/2024

An example of this can be Former President Trump's willingness to back down from Article V, and even NATO if the United States is the only country willing to aid.

"Trump's threat was couched in a familiar refrain in which he described America's global alliances as if they were mafia protection rackets. He warned that if the United States is not "properly reimbursed" by our allies, he would gladly tell them, "Congratulations, you will be defending yourself." He emphasized that he would "always be prepared to walk" away from our commitments and that he could always redeploy our military from a fortress America that is bereft of its security partners."

To understand more of this topic, you can watch the following video from Vox: [Donald Trump's threat to dismantle NATO, explained](#). To understand better, you can as well read the Interview Former President Trump gave the New York Times, on NATO states and their responsibilities in 2016, by clicking [here](#).

QARMAS:

1. What role does Article V of the NATO charter play in the alliance's collective defense strategy?
2. Has your country invoked Art. V of the NATO Charter?
3. How does your country contribute to NATO's Collective Defense Budget?
4. Should Art. V only apply to member nations that reach the minimum 2% quota?
 - a. Can non-member nations have some sort of quota that would allow them to have the benefits of Collective Defense without joining the alliance?
5. How does NATO's partnership with global allies outside the North Atlantic region contribute to its broader security objectives?

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