PacificMUN

Dare to Speak

NATO
Backgrounder Guide

Welcome Letter

Heads of State and Government,
Men and Women of our armed forces,
Dear friends,

Welcome to the Vancouver Summit.

In this ever changing political and economic climate, the sovereignty of our member states lies ever more in danger, from homegrown and international terrorism, massive population movements, erratic markets and ingenious technological advancements. The strength of a resolute and uncompromising NATO is imperative, more so now than any point in previous years.

Strong progress has been made in previous years, and a new-found commitment to contributing to the collective defense of a free western world has bolstered promising results. A newly built Cyberspace Operations Centre will push the frontiers of NATO's defense capabilities, and increased numbers of operational military assets will reduce our Nation's reaction times to any and all threats.

As promising as our developments are, new challenges have arrived upon our shores, old disputes kindle close by. Mass Migration, organized crime, treacherous historical tensions and depleting economic drivers leaves the entire region as a dynamic security challenge. Aggressive postures of other forces, be it Russian, North Korean, or Chinese continue to pressure and prod NATO Members in all forms.

Any and all concerns will be brought to the table. Your dais members, NATO Deputy General Dunstan Wang, Chairman of the Military Committee Leo Wang, and I, NATO Secretary General, look forward to meeting you all in Vancouver.

Andy Wang
Director of NATO
PacificMUN 2019

Committee Introduction

"Upon the conduct of each depends the fate of all." - *Alexander the Great*

NATO is the Political and Military Alliance of members contributing to security in the North Atlantic Area.[1] The Treaty revolves around collective defense, crisis management, and cooperation on all matters of security. With the nuclear deterrent of the United States, alongside the collective military of all member countries, an attack on one member of NATO is an attack on all. NATO also acts to share, prepare, and manage security responsibilities to prevent, contain and protect against crisis' and potential threats to the citizens of member countries.[2] Activities include joint training, information management and increased security of digital and physical infrastructural and operational assets.

Relations between antagonistic forces and allies alike have deteriorated. The Brexit vote, vocalization and criticism by the American President, and the dependence and partnership of key strategic allies with Russia have fostered political tensions within member states, while the hidden wave of terrorism and economic instability swept across Middle East, with endless conflict between political, religious and economic rivals. Europe too has been shaken to its core, with large terrorist attacks happening within major cities, riots and protests sparking from both sides. While nuclear tensions may have fallen, fear of the loss of a future hangs above the heads of many.

The NATO Vancouver Summit is modeled after NATO Summits, where new policies, members, initiatives and actions are decided. Chaired by the NATO Secretary General, major decisions are absolute and finalized, passing only with all members of NATO agreeing. This committee's goal will be passing a Summit Declaration and responding to crises as they arise.

In general, every Ambassadors objective will be promoting and strengthening the security of their country, followed by NATO countries as a whole. As a backgrounder, the information given will be a brief overview of the current state of NATO, along with specific information that can be leveraged throughout the summit. Read Carefully.

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[1] www.nato.int/wearenato/nato-what-is-it.html
[2] www.nato.int/nato-welcome/index.html#structures

NATO's Purpose

"NATO members will always assist each other against attack, in accordance with Article 5 of the Washington Treaty. That commitment remains firm and binding."[3] - *2010 Strategic Concept*

NATO works towards the freedom and security of all members through the previously mentioned goals of collective defence, crisis management and cooperation. NATO is secondarily committed to individual liberty, democracy and human rights, along with the principles of the UN. Although the Euro-Atlantic area is relatively peaceful and not under threat of a substantive attack, there must be constant caution, as many more countries have developed modern military capabilities. The dangers of nuclear weapons continue to grow, threatening the security of the world at large.

NATO believes in the strong enforcement of borders, to stabilize alliance security against extremism, terrorism, and transnational illegal activities such as trafficking in arms, narcotics and people. Increased attention to cyber defence has risen in NATO, as cyber warfare has the capability to completely gridlock the entire Euro-Atlantic alliance, rendering many defense capabilities null or void. Transportation, government administration, business and economics could crumble, while weaknesses emerge constantly as more and more technology are used to support a data driven 21st century.

"As long as nuclear weapons exist, NATO will remain a nuclear alliance."[4] - *2010 Strategic Concept*

Collective Defense is found in conventional and nuclear forces, both options ready to respond to an attack on any NATO country.[5] Although NATO's army is comprised mostly of patrol or externally engaged forces, the Military Capabilities can be said to be comprised of the sum total of NATO Members Military Forces.

In this interconnected world, foreign instability and conflicts directly threaten the security of Alliance populations. NATO has stated goals to prevent or engage in crises outside of NATO, stabilizing regions and helping with reconstruction where possible. The importance of a peaceful world is crucial to the peace of NATO members. Simply ensuring the safety of one's own home is no longer a viable strategy.

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[3] www.globalresearch.ca/war-without-borders-nato-proclaims-itself-global-military-force/22036
[4] www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/news_160924.htm
[5] www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_110496.htm

NATO's Working Structure

There are 3 principal committees in the NATO. The North Atlantic Committee (NAC) is formed of national ambassadors and facilitates all top-level decision and policy discussions and votes. The Nuclear Planning Group (NPG) is essentially the same as the NAC, but specifically revolves around Nuclear Planning. The Military Committee (MC) is comprised of military officials from various countries, which organizes and advises the NAC on all military decisions.

North Atlantic Committee (NAC)
To the UN's UNSC is NATO's NAC.[6] All ambassadors meet to discuss and decide policies at the highest level, while orders are then carried out by other committee. Votes must be made unanimously, so every NATO country is a permanent and veto member of the NAC.

Nuclear Planning Group (NPG)
The Nuclear Planning Group oversees all nuclear policy, leading and adapting plans on NATO's posture towards the usage, the control, and during the proliferation of nuclear weapons.[7]

Military Committee (MC)
The MC guides and advises the NAC on all military decisions, forming a bridge between NAC formed policy and direct military commanders.[8] With senior military officers from NATO member countries serving as Military Representatives (MILREP), their enormous wealth of experience and specialized knowledge are applied and discussed until a consensus is formed on the given topic. In times if crisis, tension or war, the MC will make recommendations on necessary military force, draft alternative strategies, and develop appropriate rules of engagement. MC oversees the rest of the Military Structure, comprising of Allied Command Operations (ACO) and Allied Command Transformation (ACT).

Chairman of the Military Committee
As NATO's highest military authority, the Chairman guides and directs all matters related to NATO military affairs.[9] All MC or NAC actions will be overseen and implemented by the Chairman, but in his absence the deputy chairman takes charge.

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[6] www.nato.int/cps/ic/natohq/topics_49763.htm
[7] www.nato.int/cps/em/natohq/topics_50069.htm
[8] www.nato.int/cps/su/natohq/topics_49633.htm
[9] www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_49152.htm

Allied Command Operations (ACO)

Allied Command Operations (ACO) is responsible for the planning and execution of all Military operations.[10] With three-tiers of headquarters around the world, the ACO controls all NATO military services. If, for example, a NATO country were to be under attack, the ACO would organize and mobilize land, air, sea, and cyber capabilities to directly defend the country. ACO currently runs operations in Iraq and Kosovo, while also preserving peace and security measures, by modernizing defence measures and advancing NATO military capabilities.

Supreme Allied Commander Europe (SACEUR)

Supreme Allied Commander Europe – or SACEUR – assumes the overall command of operations at the strategic level and exercises his responsibilities from SHAPE.[11] The role was created during Russia's development of nuclear capabilities, with the goal of having a designated coordinator and command structure of all NATO forces should an attack occur. This initial formation of SACEUR and SHAPE began with US General Dwight D. Eisenhower as the first Supreme Allied Commander Europe.

Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE)

The main headquarters of ACO, SHAPE is located in Mons, Belgium. SHAPE is the head of 6 operational headquarters.[12]

Joint Force Command (Brunssum) - Netherlands
Joint Force Command (Naples) - Italy
Allied Land Command (LANDCOM) - Turkey
Allied Maritime Command (MARCOM) - UK
Allied Air Command (AIRCOM) - Germany
Communications and Information Services Group (CIS GP).

Allied Command Transformation (ACT)

Strategic thinking; development of capabilities; education, training and exercises; and cooperation and engagement. These are the primary objectives of ACT.[13] Whereas ACO leads current military operations, preparing for new security challenges, improving readiness and developing better responses to crises fall under the responsibilities of ACT.

Through reports such as the Strategic Foresight Analysis and Framework for Future Alliance Operations, ACT provides expert advice to the NATO Defence Planning Process, on crucial long term strategies. ACT

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[10] www.nato.int/cps/ua/natohq/topics_52091.htm
[11] www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_50110.htm
[12] https://shape.nato.int/page1167311
[13] www.act.nato.int/who-we-are

develops and improves forces to ensure they remain interoperable and flexible. This is done through Joint Force operations, experimentation, analysis and development organized throughout NATO countries, such as the Joint Warfare Centre in Norway, Joint Force Training Center in Poland and the Joint Analysis & Lessons Learned Centre in Portugal. Large multi-nationally funded facilities conduct training and teaching, from the NATO Defense College in Italy, to the NATO School in Germany, the NATO Maritime Interdiction Operational Training Centre, Greece, and nationally-run Centres of Excellence (COEs).

Timeline

1949 - Following the experiences by the Berlin Blockade, western powers felt at ease over the looming cold war. United States of America, Canada, France, and other powers joined to form the foundation of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. To stop the threat of communism and provide collective security.

1955 - On May 5 1955, the USA, France, and Great Britain formally ended their military occupation of Western Germany. Less than a week later, West Germany is made a member of NATO

1955 - In fear of a growing collective military organization by the west, The Warsaw Pact is formed. This agreement is known as the "Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance"

1961 - The Berlin Wall, initially a series of barbed wires and guard posts, begins to be heavily constructed and fortified. This prevented the escape of thousands of East Berliners into the West.

1989 - After decades of military tension, the Berlin wall falls down marking the end of the Cold War and reunification of Germany.

1991 - Soviet commanders relinquish control of Warsaw pact forces, marking the dissolution of the "Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance"

1991 - Cooperation develops between North Atlantic Treaty Organization and former adversaries commence.

2001 – NATO invoked Article 5 for the first time

2003 - NATO assists in Afghanistan in counteract terrorism

2010 - NATO adopts the 2010 Strategic Concept

2010 - NATO's NAC develops and implements its first Cyber Defence Action-Plan

2014 - Russia Annexes Crimea, outcry is made by the international community. Ukraine, a country not a part of NATO is not protected under the Organization's articles.

2015 - Terrorist Attacks occur in Paris and Copenhagen.

2015 - Migrant Crisis in Europe intensifies. Many European countries are left in a crisis.

2016 - NATO and EU Agree between NCIRC and the Computer Emergency Response Team of the EU (CERT-EU). The arrangement includes countering hybrid threats, cyber defence, strengthened mutual participation in exercises, and foster research, training and information-sharing.

2016 - NATO Recognize Cyberspace as a Domain of Operation.

2017 - NATO enhances the use of Forward Presence

2018 - Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) is pushed back from previous territories gained by joint efforts.

2018 - Russian Involvement in various American Political Matters are up for investigation

Current Situation

"Russia's aggressive actions, including the threat and use of force to attain political goals, challenge the Alliance and are undermining Euro-Atlantic security and the rules-based international order."[14] – *Brussels Summit Declaration*

After Russia's Annexation of Ukraine, alleged attempts in the manipulation of elections and numerous violations of previous agreements and accords, NATO has continued to strengthen their capabilities to defend against Russia, cutting military ties, and condemning Russia for its acts. NATO remains open to dialogue, although the two groups fundamentally disagree on many points of contention, unlikely to change.

"It is often said that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization was founded in response to the threat posed by the Soviet Union. This is only partially true."[15] – *NATO Declassified*

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[14] www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official_texts_156624.htm
[15] www.nato.int/cps/ie/natohq/declassified_139339.htm

NATO's founding goals also included the integration of European Politics, and the prevention of a future Nationalist Military. With a strong American Military presence globally, along with a growing Unified European Union, the accomplishment of NATO goals seemed to be gradually reaching its destination. However, financial crises, lingering racial tensions, power vacuums and greed would lead to a new set of problems NATO members have never faced before. Conventional warfare has faded away, as a new era of cyber warfare, social and economic disruption, terrorism and extremism render NATO's capabilities to fight country against country only a fraction of concern for the future freedom and security of nation states.

As an organization capable in crisis management, NATO Operations have responded to various circumstances, including the enactment of Article 5 after 9/11, requests from the UN, and other global conflicts. The War in Afghanistan and Intervention in Libya are of note.

"ISAF was one of the largest coalitions in history. It is NATO's longest and most challenging mission to date. At its height, the force was more than 130,000 strong with troops from 50 NATO and partner nations."[16] – *NATO and Afghanistan*

After 9/11, NATO's first triggering of Article 5 lead to various operations to prevent and end the terrorist threat. As directed by the UN, NATO took over the ISAF mission to stabilize and prepare Afghanistan's Government Forces to secure the area, building the military's capabilities and supported reconstruction and development of governance, and engaged the insurgence groups alongside afghan government forces. After 2014, almost all responsibility for the security of Afghanistan was returned to the government, while some support and advisory staff continued to aid the tumultuous area.

"In Afghanistan, as in Bosnia and Kosovo, Allies have found that military power is no longer enough to ensure peace and stability."[17] – *NATO Declassified*

As of 2014, increased non-combat support was agreed upon between NATO and the Afghan Government, leading to long term support of the region till 2024. Resolute Support Mission will enforce accountability and provide training to achieve good governance and security for the long term benefit of Afghanistan, and the globe. Alongside the UN and the US, NATO provides funding for the Afghan National Army, which is used for training, paying the salaries of police officers, and many other forms of security. This trust fund has over 2.5 billion US dollars in contribution and will continue to receive funding from both NATO and the Afghan government.

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[16] www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_8189.htm
[17] www.nato.int/cps/ie/natohq/declassified_139339.htm

Unlike during the cold war, the existence of NATO alone does not protect its citizen's freedom and security. As civil unrest in the Middle East broke out during the 2010's, the UN called upon NATO to intervene. Under the command of the US, and through Naval and Air strikes, NATO fought the Qadhafi regime without stepping foot on Libyan soil. After its opposition crumbled, NATO would leave Libya, as well as Afghanistan with a political party they helped install, only for both to continue to be under constant threat of terrorism and instability.

"As of the 2016 Warsaw Summit, NATO recognised cyberspace as a domain of operations, where NATO must defend itself as effectively as it does in the air, on land and at sea."[18] – *NATO Cyberdefence*

Actions such as shared cyber defensive measures, information sharing, investment in education and training, the creation of a new Cyber Operations Centre, and modernization of electronic security measures are a few examples of NATO's long term collective defense. NATO Cyber Rapid Reaction teams are on standby to assist Allies, 24 hours a day, if requested and approved. The NATO Computer Incident Response Capability (NCIRC) based at SHAPE, Mons, Belgium, protects NATO's own networks by providing centralised and round-the-clock cyber defence support to the various NATO sites.

Guiding Questions

1. How does your country contribute to NATO? How has your country benefited from NATO?

2. What dangers face your national freedom and security that are currently not being addressed by NATO?

3. Which countries does your country trade mainly with? How does this affect your membership in NATO?

4. To what degree should NATO be actively pursuing collective freedom and security? What should be deemed too far, and does NATO currently have the capability to breech those boundaries?

5. How has the migrant crisis affected your nation? What steps should be taken to ensure long term political stability in affected nations, both inside NATO and out?

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[18] www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/75747.htm

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