

# North Atlantic Treaty Organizatio

**Topic A:** Actions due  
the invasion of the  
Russian Federation to  
Ukraine

**Topic B:** Accession of  
new members to NATO

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## Welcome Letter

Hello dear delegations.

As the board of the committee of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), we give you the Welcome to the AZTECMUN. We hope that during this model you have a pleasant experience, full of learning friendships and, above all, success; we hope that this experience is to your liking and fills you with opportunities. As well as stressing that we are extremely excited and grateful to be your chair, we are also looking forward to seeing you play your best part on this committee.

The objective of this committee is to create a space for debate, reflection and, above all, come up with a solution for our topics:

TOPIC A: Actions due to the invasion of the Russian Federation to Ukraine.

TOPIC B: Accession of new members to NATO.

Having already said the topics which we will explain in more detail, we will proceed to introduce ourselves. I am Yoani Fernanda Tzeel Vicente, I am part of Plantel Azteca Ciudad de México as a fourth semester high school student. I will be in charge of the presidency within the committee. Hi, I am Camila Moreno, I'm studying my bachelor degree at Tec de Monterrey Campus Puebla, and I will be your moderator. Hello, I am María José González Baltazar, a second-year middle school student at the Escuela Secundaria Técnica No.150 Plantel Azteca Puebla and I will be in charge of advising within the committee.

We would like to start by saying that we appreciate the interest that you showed towards this committee and towards the topics we are going to talk about, one that we all share, considering that both topics are quite important for the society we live, as well as for the future of many people, for this, the importance of talking about these issues and we thank you in great extent that you also consider them in the same way, since even though are topics that people rarely talk about, they are still extremely important, so it is essential that more space be given to be able to speak of these topics and that more people know about them, as well as different ways to be informed and in many specific cases. Likewise, we would like to use this welcome to tell you all that you will always have us at their disposal, along with support and even friendship, what we want is this to be a pleasant experience for you and to grow up alongside you, comfortably and

safely throughout the debate, without further ado, we give you a warm welcome and wish you the best luck.

Best Wishes,

Yoani, Cam and Majo

## Committee Introduction

### Committee Background

Founded in 1949 to counter the land power of the Soviet Union in Europe after the second world armed conflict, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization has had a long and contentious history, marked by internal debates over the role that it played and near constant expansion. NATO principally is a defensive alliance of 31 countries from Europe and North America. The essential and enduring purpose of NATO is to safeguard the freedom and security of all its members by political and military means. Collective defense is at the heart of the Alliance and creates a spirit of solidarity and cohesion among its members.

Every day, member countries consult and take decisions on security issues at all levels and in a variety of fields(NATO, 2019). A “NATO decision” is the expression of the collective will of all 31 member countries since all decisions are taken by consensus. Hundreds of officials, as well as civilian and military experts, go to NATO Headquarters each day to exchange information, share ideas and help prepare decisions when needed, in cooperation with national delegations and the staff at NATO Headquarters.

### Committee Faculties

The fundamental security tasks of NATO are established in the Washington Treaty (the founding treaty of the alliance, also known as the North Atlantic Treaty). They are general enough to withstand the test of time and are translated into more detail in the strategic concepts of the organization. Strategic concepts are the authoritative statement of the objectives of the organization: they provide the highest level of guidance on the political and military means to be used to achieve these goals and remain the basis for the implementation of Alliance policy as a whole.

It is the members who agree to come to offer help to others in the event of an armed attack against any member country. The original objective was to offset the threat of the expansion of the USSR in Europe after the second world conflict. In 1955, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics responded to NATO by creating their own military alliance of communist countries in Eastern Europe: the so-called Warsaw Pact.

NATO is countering this wide range of threats by strengthening its deterrence and defense as the backbone of its commitment to collective defense; helping to prevent and

manage crisis situations; and encouraging cooperative security, as outlined in the 2022 Strategic Concept. The purpose of NATO is to guarantee the freedom and security of each member through political and military means.

In political terms, NATO promotes democratic values that are later consulted to reach an agreement and begin the process of cooperation on issues related to defense and security. Its purpose is to solve problems and avoid conflicts. However, if the political solution does not provide a solution, the military force commanded by NATO undertakes operations in crisis management, where by means of the collective defense clause of the founding treaty of NATO (Article 5 of the Washington Treaty)

Essentially, NATO helps to defend the territory of all members, but also to engage where possible and when necessary to project the values and principles of all member countries further away, prevent and manage crises, stabilize post-conflict situations and support reconstruction. NATO has a lot of powerful armies, nevertheless this small part of all the military power of NATO is only authorized to use in case the political solution does not work. And the most powerful are:

- USA: It is the leading military power in the world , with more than 1.3 million members of its Armed Forces, some 13,200 aircraft, 6,600 tanks and 484 warships, including 11 nuclear-powered aircraft carriers and dozens of submarines.
- France: The French Armed Forces have over 203,000 soldiers, in addition to 1,055 planes, 406 tanks and 180 warships, including a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, the Charles de Gaulle (only France and the United States currently master this technology).
- United Kingdom: The third largest nuclear power in NATO has an expanding arsenal of 225 nuclear warheads and military spending of some \$71 billion.

## Member States

In the committee there are considered 27 delegations:

1. Albania
2. Belgium
3. Canada
4. Croatia
5. Czechia
6. Denmark
7. Estonia
8. France
9. Germany
10. Greece
11. Hungary
12. Iceland
13. Italy
14. Lithuania
15. Luxembourg
16. Netherlands
17. Norway
18. Poland
19. Portugal
20. Russian Federation
21. Slovakia
22. Slovenia
23. Spain
24. Türkiye
25. Ukraine
26. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
27. United States of America

## Topic A

### *Actions due the invasion of the Russian Federation to Ukraine.*

#### **Introduction**

In this committee giving voice to all the delegations so they can reach an agreement and that this conflict can come to an end has a lot of importance, considering that is extremely important to discuss this problematic since it affects many other delegations and creates a domino effect in the economy and in other areas, also considering all of the people who are involved in the fight nowadays.

To contextualize this situation, at 5:00 in the morning on February 24, the inhabitants from Ukraine woke up to the news that their country was being invaded by the Russian army. In the middle of the night, Russian tanks entered the country and the military attacked from multiple directions. Since then, the Russian government has done nothing but intensify the aggression in the heart of Ukraine while the population faces a catastrophic human rights crisis. People are dying, including children, and many thousands of lives are in danger.

The Russian invasion is an active conflict between Russia and Ukraine. It increased after the intense period of the Russian-Ukrainian crisis of 2021-2022 and it exploded on February 24, 2022 with the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

NATO is therefore helping to coordinate Ukrainian requests for assistance and is supporting allies in the delivery of humanitarian and non-lethal aid, it is important to remember that the collective bargaining gives the Allies the confidence that they can send arms to Ukraine without decreasing their own safety, this because of the 5th Article in the security guarantee and the iron defense promise of NATO. In addition, the well-established structure of common standards and Alliance interoperable systems allows Allies to provide equipment with the assurance that the material transferred to Ukraine can be replaced by equipment compatible from other allies(CFR, February 14, 2023).

Individual NATO member countries are sending weapons, ammunition and many types of light and heavy military equipment, including anti-tank and defense systems aerial, howitzers, drones and tanks as a support to the Ukrainian Nation.



## Historical Background

The invasion of Ukraine by Russia continues and the fighting in various parts of the country does not stop, as well as the bombing of Ukrainian cities. This is the chronology of the events, one year after the start of the war.

The conflict began on February 24, 2022, when Russian and Belarus troops crossed the border at various points and invaded Ukraine, after months of tensions and accumulation of military forces. Ukraine, a former Soviet republic that became independent in 1991, has a difficult historical relationship with its neighbor Russia, and in recent decades has drawn closer to the European Union and NATO, formed in 1949 to counter the Soviet Union.

In 2014 Russia invaded and annexed the Crimean peninsula, part of the Ukrainian territory, and months later pro-Russian rebels rose up in the east of the country, forming the breakaway republics of Donetsk and Luhansk (supported by Moscow), and starting a civil war that still persists. The coming to power of the near-Western Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky in 2019 started a new wave of tensions, and in late 2021 Russia began deploying soldiers, vehicles and planes to the border with Ukraine ahead of the invasion.

Since the illegal and illegitimate annexation of Russia to Crimea in 2014, NATO has helped reform military and defense institutions of Ukraine, including with equipment and financial support. The allies have also provided training for tens of thousands of Ukrainian soldiers. Ukrainian forces have also developed their capabilities by participating in NATO exercises and operations. Since 2016, NATO support has been organized through a Comprehensive Assistance Package (CAP), which includes a wide range of capacity building programs and trust funds, focused on key areas such as cyber defense, logistics and security. Allied leaders agreed to a strengthened CAP at the Madrid Summit in June 2022.

Moscow has been affected by international sanctions (but at the same time surviving despite them) then turned the attention to Donbas, in the east, and in the south in April, limiting their military operations. There he had initial successes, such as the capture of Kherson, Mariupol and other cities in the southeast of the country. But, after a period of apparent stagnation, during which there was little movement on the fronts, Ukraine launched two counter-offensives in the northeast and south in late August and early September, which achieved important successes, including recapturing Kherson.

And, in apparent response to these offensives, Russia has been relentlessly bombing the energy infrastructure of Ukraine, causing massive blackouts across the country as temperatures continue to drop and winter approaches, while new troops mobilized by Moscow in September, getting ready. to resume their advance to the west.

Since the full-scale invasion of Russia in February 2022, NATO and allies have provided unprecedented levels of support for Ukraine. And despite the fact that Ukraine is not a member of NATO, Ukraine is a NATO partner country, which means that it cooperates closely with NATO, but it is not covered by the security guarantee of the founding treaty of the alliance, therefore it is supported by NATO(National Geographic, February 23, 2023).

### **United Nations actions**

The UN General Assembly adopted by a large majority on Wednesday, March 2022 a resolution calling on countries not to recognize the four regions of Ukraine that Russia has claimed, following so-called referendums held late last month, and demanding that Moscow reverse its illegal annexation. The result was 143 Member States in favor, five against and 35 abstentions. The resolution, which "upholds the principles" of the UN Charter , notes that the Donetsk, Kherson, Luhansk and Zaporizhzhia regions are temporarily occupied by Russia as a result of aggression, violating territorial integrity, sovereignty and political independence from Ukraine .

The General Assembly automatically took up the resolution for debate, prompted by the use of a veto in the Security Council by Russia over its attempted annexation. On February 23, almost a year after the full-scale invasion of Ukraine, the UN General Assembly demanded Russia to immediately withdraw from the country, in accordance with the United Nations Charter. Resuming the 11th extraordinary emergency session, the world body adopted a new resolution calling for an end to the war. The result was 141 Member States in favor and seven against: Belarus, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Eritrea, Mali, Nicaragua, Russia and Syria. Among the 32 abstentions were China, India and Pakistan.

Russia is scheduled to hold an informal UN Security Council meeting in early April on what it called the "real situation" of the Ukrainian children taken to Russia, an issue that has gained more prominence following the court's arrest warrant. International Criminal Court against Vladimir Putin for war crimes related to his alleged kidnapping(NATO, PA, May 21, 202e).

## Current relevance

The conflict deals a serious blow to the economy that will slow growth and raise prices. Aside from the suffering and humanitarian crisis caused by the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the entire world economy will feel the effects of slowing growth and rising inflation.

The effects will be broadcast on three main channels. In one, higher prices for staples like food and energy will further raise inflation, which in turn will erode the value of income and depress demand. In the second, neighboring economies in particular will have to cope with disruptions to trade, supply chains and remittances, as well as a record increase in refugee flows. And in the third, diminished business confidence and greater investor uncertainty will affect asset prices, tightening financial conditions and possibly causing capital outflows from emerging economies.

The President of Ukraine, Volodimir Zelensky, said this Sunday that he believes that Bakhmut is "no longer" in the power of Ukraine, but his statements were ambiguous and he downplayed the strategic importance of the city, assuring that "nothing" remains and that the buildings they once raised had been destroyed. However, soon after this spokesman told US media such as CNN and The New York Times that the Ukrainian leader wanted to deny that Russia had taken the city and that he meant that Russian troops did not have control of it.

On May 16, 2023, the Ukrainian capital, Kyiv, was again the target of Russian airstrikes, described by one official as "exceptionally intense." Ukraine reported 18 missiles shot down and video footage showed defense systems destroying rockets over the city. But Russia claims that its attack, which used drones and missiles, had hit all the targets.

The commander of the Ukrainian armed forces, Valerii Zaluzhny, said that Russia attacked Kyiv from the north, south and east, and that 18 air, sea and ground launched missiles had been used. He also said that Kyiv managed to destroy six Kinzhal hypersonic missiles, which are capable of reaching speeds of more than 11,000 km/h. Later, on May 23, 2023, the former Russian president and current vice president of the Security Council of the country, Dimitri Medvedev, warned that the more "destructive" the weapons supplied to Ukraine, the greater the chance of a "nuclear apocalypse." "The more weapons are supplied, the more dangerous the world will be, and the more destructive these weapons are, the more likely the scene of what is commonly called nuclear apocalypse will be," Medvedev said.

## Discussion points

- Possibilities of a nuclear response against any of the parties involved.
- Excessive number of casualties and unjustified violations of international humanitarian law.
- Lack of weapons and ammunition
- Possible meeting between Biden and Putin at the G20 Summit in Indonesia in mid-November
- Impact of the conflict on the entire world

## Guiding questions

- How did the Russian-Ukrainian war affect the world?
- What is the origin of the conflict?
- Is there a possibility of nuclear weapons being used?
- Why is it convenient for Russia to have separatist territories?
- How can a peace treaty be reached?

## Topic B

### *Accession of new members to NATO*

#### **Introduction**

NATO has always been open to let any European country in a position to assume the commitments and obligations of membership, and contribute to security in the Euro-Atlantic area. Since 1949, membership has increased from 12 to 31 countries through nine rounds of enlargement. Finland became the latest country to join the Alliance on 4 April 2023. Currently, four partner countries have declared their aspirations to NATO membership: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Sweden and Ukraine. Finland and Sweden completed accession talks, and Allies signed the Accession Protocols for both countries in July 2022. While Finland has now joined the Alliance, Sweden is an official Invitee and attends NATO meetings as such. The Secretary General of the association, Jens Stoltenberg has highlighted that their priority is for the completion of the accession of Sweden as soon as possible (NATO, April 10, 2019).

Many countries that have declared an interest in joining the Alliance are initially invited to engage in an intensified dialogue with NATO about their membership aspirations and related reforms. Aspirant countries may then be invited to participate in the assemblies to prepare for potential membership and demonstrate their ability to meet the obligations and commitments of possible future membership. But nevertheless participation in the meetings does not guarantee membership.

Countries aspiring to join NATO have to demonstrate that they are in a position to further the principles of the 1949 Washington Treaty, whose main objective is to safeguard the freedom and civilization of the population, founded on the principles of democracy, individual liberty and the law, it also seeks to provide stability and security to the North Atlantic area.

They are also expected to meet certain political, economic and military criteria, which are laid out in the 1995 Study on NATO Enlargement, looking forward to improve the security architecture, providing security and stability to the Euro-Atlantic area, giving new ways to administrate the military resources of each member of NATO, as well as encouraging to new democratic reforms of control over the shared power of the members, reinforcing the tendency to cooperation towards international security matters, such as the stability of Europe, one of the main goals of the organization.

## Historical Background

The accession to NATO of a candidate country supposes an entrance examination during which the applicants must convince each one of the 30 members of the Alliance of what would be their contribution and their capacity to respond to the obligations of the common pact.

The process is codified since once a country makes the decision to ask to join the pact, NATO members must unanimously accept and extend an invitation. For example, Turkey, a member of the Alliance, expressed reservations about the inclusion of Finland and Sweden. However, several participants in an informal meeting of NATO foreign ministers held on July 2022 in Berlin believe that a consensus can be reached.

Some of the point that the countries that wish to join the NATO may commit are: Unite efforts for collective defense always seeking for peace and security and to solve any international conflict in a peaceful manner, contribute to develop a peaceful and friendly international relations and bring a better understanding of the principles upon the international institutions are founded and maintain the effectiveness of the Alliance.

If any dispute between countries or any territory takes place, the states must solve those problems in a peaceful manner, in accordance with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OCSE) principles, that covers the politico, military, economic and environmental dimensions of Europe. Also, the Enlargements occurs through a gradual, deliberate and transparent process, involving the dialogue of all the interested parties(OCSE, n.d).

## United Nations actions

NATO and the United Nations have something in common, maintaining international peace and security. Their relationship has helped them to intervene in all types of international conflicts for their peaceful resolution. Some of the agreements that have been made between these two organizations are the NATO'S 2022 Strategi Concept that commits the Alliance to manage the international conflicts and prevent the crisis while setting post-conflict situations with the cooperation of the United Nations and the European Union(NATO, 2019).

NATO counts with "The Membership Action Plan" (MAP) which is a NATO programme of advice, assistance and practical support tailored to the individual needs of countries wishing

to join the Alliance. Participation in the MAP does not prejudice any decision by the Alliance on future membership. Bosnia and Herzegovina is currently participating (NATO, April 19, 2023).

### **Current relevance**

The Accession of new members to NATO is relevant due to several factors, such as: Security and Defense, Global Security and Partnerships, their purpose, which is “to safeguard the freedom and security of all his members by political and military means”, Enhanced Interoperability, and much more. Furthermore it reinforces NATO as the world’s most successful military alliance and the pillar of transatlantic security. Adding new members will only increase the power of NATO, one that, as it has been mentioned, is used when political manners do not work.

Also, new members is often a sign of new alliances and cooperation possibilities, these two things will be very useful when making new treaties and negotiations, but, on the other hand, will make the decisions harder to take, having more members will only make more difficult the unanimity to take action, slowing this one. Yet, many of the possible new members are extremely powerful countries, economically and politically speaking, making them great potential members. It is a need to decide the next steps in order to let these countries join NATO, or, if that is not the case, reject those solitudes.

### **Discussion points**

The main points to be discussed are the following:

- Procedures and requirements that a nation must meet in order to join NATO and all that its membership involves from the member countries.
- Conflicts between incompatible members and all the consequences for both the organization and the continent that this implies.
- Review the requirements that are imposed by the Washington Treaty and the Study on NATO Enlargement for countries to apply to join in case it needs to be updated.
- Countries wishing to join must meet certain requirements and complete a multi-step process involving political dialog and military integration.
- Review the security impact of the Euro-Atlantic area with the possible integration of new countries and their contributions.
- Participating in the MAP does not guarantee membership.

- Concretize the objective of linking new nations to the organization in terms of international alliances, conflict eradication and the provision of both humanitarian and military resources.
- The development of an action plan in the event of any rebellion or direct attack on NATO or any of its member countries.

### Guiding Questions

- What are the benefits of joining NATO?
- How does NATO decide which countries to invite to join the alliance?
- How will it benefit NATO to let new countries join?
- Which countries are in the MAP right now?
- Will it be a problem for NATO to receive new members?
- What do members think about the countries on MAP?
- Will receiving new members make it harder to achieve unanimity?
- How much are new members willing to contribute to NATO?
- How does the accession of new members affect NATO's overall strategy and goals?
- How good is the political relationship between members and possible new members?



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