



Meluha Model United Nations 2019



The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO)

BACKGROUND GUIDE

Agenda: *"Regional Security Challenges with special emphasis on Kosovo & The Balkan States"*

Letter from the Executive Board

Greetings Delegates,

Let me first welcome you to The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), which is a very important and crucial body in today's political landscape.

For the agenda the Executive Board has chosen to provide a crisp summary of the agenda touching upon the important thematic elements. A legal overview has been provided so as to acquaint delegates with the burning international divisions the resolution of which will be critical to enable any progress on the agenda.

This study guide should be a starting point for your research and you are encouraged to by all means further expand your realm of knowledge by delving into the themes and sub-themes raised in the guide and the references provided for further research.

Delegates are specially requested to be well versed with basic principles of international law, their foreign policy and display diplomatic courtesy befitting that of a Delegate. In this committee, we are not going to be judging delegates based on how experienced or articulate they are.

Delegates respecting others' opinions/diversity of views while finding ways around them in consonance with their foreign policy and creating a unanimously acceptable solution are to be encouraged and thus in this respect newcomers have as good a chance as veterans.

Your Excellences, it will be our great privilege to moderate the meet.
Please contact us for any queries

All the best in your research!
Choicest Regards

Mir Mustafa Ali Hasan

Chairperson

mirmustafaalihasan@gmail.com

Varun Srinivas

Chairperson

varunsrinivas00@yahoo.in

Sachil Boorgula

Rappoteur

sachilboorgula@gmail.com

Introduction to NATO



The North Atlantic Treaty Organization, more commonly known as NATO, is as the name suggests an organization, international in nature that was first conceived through the signing of the North Atlantic Treaty on the fourth of April 1949. The organization currently hosts 29 member states from Europe and the Northern Americas with the number of member states originally being only 12 in 1949 to the addition of 17 member states over the course of the last 70 years, the most recent of which being Montenegro in 2017. The reasons and purposes for the creation of the alliance according to the NATO are for three purposes “detering Soviet expansionism, forbidding the revival of nationalist militarism in Europe through a strong North American presence on the continent, and encouraging European political integration.” However today NATO’s roles globally have expanded to include issues and roles differently structures in nature post the fall of the soviet union and several calls by member states to adjust NATO’s global role to fit into a new era of geopolitical and international relations and events.

The world as we know it today is becoming increasingly global. People are becoming more and more connected through communications advances and increased access to modern-day technology. As people are becoming more connected, countries are too, integrating into a larger international community.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization has 28 member countries that, as an organization, work as partners with 22 more nations through the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council. It also has several 'partners across the globe', such as Australia, Japan, Afghanistan, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, and more. NATO's involvement across the globe currently consists primarily of military defense efforts and less so of humanitarian efforts. Member states also do not always coordinate responses to global events in ways that consider how it presents the other members of NATO to the rest of the world, such as with the recent missile strike in Syria by the United States in response to a chemical weapons attack. The NATO charter itself is an old document from the cold war era, the extent of its coverage may or may not cover the needs of the current political climate. In the 1950s, the world was worried about the very real threat of all-out nuclear war and international relations consisted largely of defending one superpower's ideological group from the other. In today's world, international relations involve more and more humanitarian efforts, economic endeavors, and different clashing ideologies than in the 1950s. It could be argued that NATO itself would be shaped and behave radically different than it does today, had the charter been created and signed in the new century. Does the NATO charter need to be revised to acclimate to today's world politics, do the NATO members need to come to a new agreement, or is NATO sufficient in its current capacity?

NATO exists as a political and military alliance promoting democratic ideals and values and allowing its members to consult each other and co-operate on issues related to defense and security to build trust, solve problems, and in the longer run prevent large scale conflict through being committed to peaceful resolution of disputes, however NATO's role does not end at diplomatic efforts and in certain cases if those diplomatic efforts fail it has the military power and mandate to undertake operations in crisis management. Carried out under one of NATO's clauses of collective defense under Article 5 of the Washington treaty both alone and in cooperation with other nations of the North Atlantic Alliance, committed to the principle of collective defense NATO believes that an attack on a single one of its members is considered an attack on all of its members, such crisis management operations have happened in the past for which examples will be prescribed later,

the most notable of which being in response to the September 11th 2001 attacks against the United States by non state actors known as “Al Qaeda”.

NATO in structure comprises of two primary structures and their underlying committees and councils, the civilian structure the smaller and newer of the two includes the NAC or the North Atlantic Council, which is the primary organ dealing with what is effectively the ability to govern NATO as a whole and has significant powers of decisions within NATO, meeting at least once a week it comprises of higher-level authorities within the member nations such as the foreign ministers or heads of state and it is within the NAC that actions are voted and discussed upon with the NAC having power over many of NATO’s policies and actions, however within the NAC there exists no forms of vote by majority or decision by majority as each member nation is in itself responsible for the actions and decisions it takes. Secondly, the civilian structure of NATO consists of NATO headquarters in Brussels, Belgium.

The Military structure, both larger and older than the civilian structure of NATO has four underlying organs, the first of which being the MC or the Military Committee, comprising the Heads of Defense for member nations the MC advises the NAC on military strategy and policy with smaller meetings within the MC regarding specific NATO operations such as the famed Military Defence Planning Committee for operation “*Iraqi Freedom*” under the military council there are two other organs with a primarily executive rather than strategic or legislative role, namely being the ACO and the ACT with their roles being to monitor and carry out global operations with instructions from the Military Council, and to train and assist soldiers and troops going to deployment for any NATO operation. Both the ACO and the ACT use the SHAPE (Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe) infrastructure as their headquarters.

Other organizations governed or to be governed by NATO include the NATO support agency, the NATO Communications and Information Agency, the new NATO Science and Technology Organization, and the NATO Undersea Research Agency, lastly the NATO Parliamentary Assembly also exists as an organ of the

NATO with its role primarily being the setting of broad strategic goals for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

The conclusion of the Cold War, as well as the dissolution of the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact, had profound changes to NATO, as the alliance's foremost adversary no longer existed. ² In 1991, for the first time since its inception, NATO renewed its Strategic Concept.

The 1991 Strategic Concept reaffirmed that the “threat of a simultaneous, full-scale attack on all of NATO's European fronts” has effectively disappeared”, and that new sources of conflict, such as ethnic tensions and political instability, will become the focus of the alliance. At the 1994 Brussels Summit, Member States of NATO officially invited former Warsaw Pact countries to join the alliance under its Partnership for Peace program. The Czech Republic, Hungary, and Poland became the first three countries to join the alliance after the Cold War. The lack of an easily identifiable adversary also led to operational changes to NATO.

In 1992, NATO announced that it would support, to the fullest extent possible, peacekeeping activities of the Organization for the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) on matters concerning the former Yugoslavia and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). While the global political climate experienced a dramatic shift, the foundations of NATO, particularly the North Atlantic Treaty, remain unchanged. However keep this in mind NATO has carried out a series of military strategic operations over the years with most of them being astonishingly successful and playing a large part in the political events that followed, below detailing some of the more important ones as follows.

Operation Active Endeavour

Operation Active Endeavour (OAE) was initiated in the immediate aftermath of the 9/11 terrorist attacks to deter, defend, disrupt and protect against terrorist activity in the Mediterranean. It helped to secure one of the busiest trade routes in the world and was among eight initiatives launched by the Alliance in 2001, in

solidarity with the United States. It was an Article 5 operation, i.e., a collective defense operation that, initially only involved NATO member countries until it started accepting non-NATO countries' participation in 2004.

OAE hailed merchant's vessels and boarded suspect ships, intervened to rescue civilians on stricken oil rigs and sinking ships and, generally, helped to improve perceptions of security. NATO ships also systematically carried out preparatory route surveys in "choke" points, as well as in important passages and harbors throughout the Mediterranean.

NATO in Bosnia and Herzegovina

With the break-up of Yugoslavia, violent conflict started in Bosnia and Herzegovina in April 1992. The Alliance responded as early as summer 1992 when it enforced the UN arms embargo on weapons in the Adriatic Sea (in cooperation with the Western European Union from 1993) and enforced a no-fly-zone declared by the UN Security Council. It was during the monitoring of the no-fly-zone that NATO engaged in the first combat operations in its history by shooting down four Bosnian Serb fighter-bombers conducting a bombing mission on 28 February 1994.

In August 1995, to compel an end to Serb-led violence in the country, UN peacekeepers requested NATO airstrikes. Operation Deadeye began on 30 August against Bosnian Serb air forces but failed to result in Bosnian Serb compliance with the UN's demands to withdraw. This led to Operation Deliberate Force, which targeted the Bosnian Serb command and control installations and ammunition facilities. This NATO air campaign was a key factor in bringing the Serbs to the negotiating table and ending the war in Bosnia.

NATO and Libya

Following the popular uprising against the Gadhafi regime in Benghazi, Libya, in February 2011, the UN Security Council adopted Resolutions 1970 and 1973 in support of the Libyan people, 9“*condemning the gross and systematic violation of human rights*”. The resolutions introduced active measures including a no-fly zone, an arms embargo and the authorization for member countries, acting as appropriate through regional organizations, to take “*all necessary measures*” to protect Libyan civilians.

Initially, NATO enforced the no-fly zone and then, on 31 March 2011, NATO took over sole command and control of all military operations for Libya. The NATO-led Operation Unified Protector had three distinct components:

- the enforcement of an arms embargo on the high seas of the Mediterranean to prevent the transfer of arms, related material and mercenaries to Libya;
- the enforcement of a no-fly-zone in order to prevent any aircraft from bombing civilian targets; and
- air and naval strikes against those military forces involved in attacks or threats to attack Libyan civilians and civilian-populated areas.

The UN mandate was carried out to the letter and the operation was terminated on 31 October 2011 after having fulfilled its objectives.

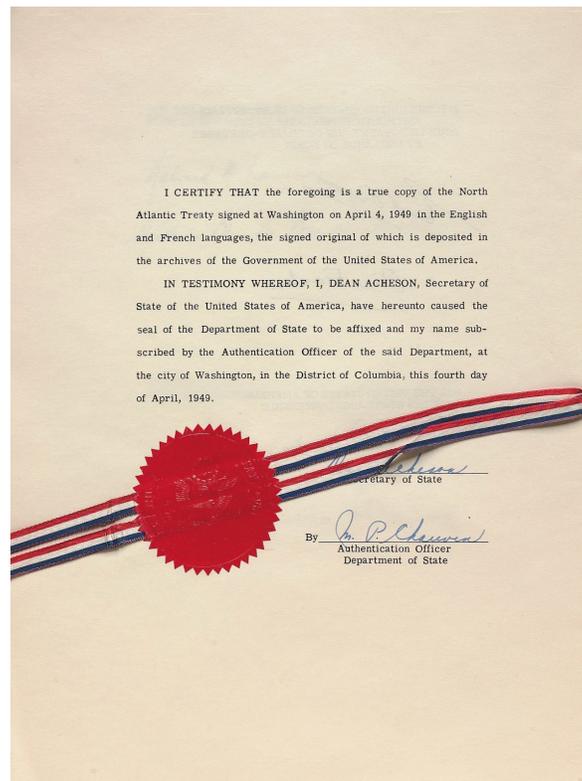
International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan

Established under the request of the Afghan authorities and a UN mandate in 2001, the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) was led by NATO from August 2003 to December 2014.

Its mission was to develop new Afghan security forces and enable Afghan authorities to provide effective security across the country in order to create an environment conducive to the functioning of democratic institutions and the

establishment of the rule of law, with the aim to prevent Afghanistan from once again becoming a safe haven for terrorists.

NATO Charter and Similar Documents Overview of the NATO Charter



Articles I and II proscribe that the member states of the charter shall follow the United Nations guidelines, that all disputes be settled with peaceful means, and not to threaten or use force in a way that goes against the United Nations. Article III sets the standard for member states to maintain their ability to resist attacks. Article IV establishes that the member states shall meet to discuss threats prevalent to any member state.

Article V establishes that an attack on one member constitutes an attack on all members, with article VI establishing what justifies an attack. Article VII

establishes that the United Nations and its Security Council supersedes NATO. Article VIII sets forth that no member state can enter into or be part of an agreement that conflicts with the NATO charter.

Article IX creates a council in which all member states shall be represented, that will consider the implementations of this treaty. Articles X and XI state how more member states can be added and where records of this information before and after being processed by each member states' government shall be stored (with the government of the United States of America). Article XII provides that after ten years, the treaty shall be reviewed. Article XIII establishes how member states may leave the agreement and article XIV restates where the treaty shall be kept and stating that both the English and French copies are completely authentic.

Overview of Warsaw Pact

Article I states that the members of the Warsaw Pact agree to abide by the United Nations Charter. Article II encourages members to contribute to efforts that safeguard international security and peace as well as reduce the number of atomic weapons. Article III puts forth that member states shall consult together on international issues within their common interests. Articles IV and V establish that an attack on one is an attack on all along with establishing a joint armed force for such purposes. Article VI creates a committee to consult on the operations of this treaty. Article VII states that member states shall not take part in treaties that conflict with this one and that all previous treaties are superseded by this one. Article VIII proscribes that member states work together for economic and cultural advancement. Article IX describes the system for accepting new states to this treaty. Articles X and XI state that documents related to this treaty shall be stored with the government of Poland; that the German, Czech, Polish, and Russian versions are all authentic; that if after twenty years, member states do not declare their denunciation of the treaty, they must wait another 10 years to do so; and that should a general European treaty arise, this treaty shall become null and void.

In conclusion, NATO is heavily involved around the world in various aspects serving both its member states and non-member states. Its actions consist of primarily military and defensive support, occasionally performing humanitarian tasks such as rescuing refugees crossing through the Mediterranean Sea. There are some dissonance and uncoordinated action between the member states that affects NATO as a whole seen most clearly by the budgeting of individual states and the aggressive military actions of the United States.

The Balkan States



The Balkan Peninsula is a geographical term for a peninsula situated in South-eastern Europe with some disagreements regarding its components. There are several different interpretations among historians and geographers. Some believe that the border is at Danube-Sava- Soča rivers (marked with blue line), the others include all former communist/ socialist countries (marked dark orange). Due to the region's vivid history, ethnic tensions and political situation in many countries, the term is usually freighted with negative connotations. The name Western Balkans was created in the 21st century by the European Union and includes the majority of countries of former Yugoslavia (Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia, Kosovo, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) and Albania, that seek future in the Euro-Atlantic connections.

The Issue in Kosovo and the Balkan States

Safeguarding freedom and security have always been NATO's aim. As the security environment has evolved, NATO has adapted to ensure that it can deliver for the citizens it was created to defend. Most recently the global security climate has been one of the hardest to understand and resolve keeping in consideration various global events that have occurred, especially in respects to more complex issues and regions such as the Middle East, and parts of sub-Saharan Africa, as you know the agenda we shall be discussing is the security issues in Kosovo and the Western Balkans. Kosovo, originally a southern Province of Serbia and Montenegro, is mostly known for having been the panorama of a harsh conflict between the Serbian and the ethnic Albanian population.

In 1974, The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia declared Kosovo's autonomy. However, due to the rising breakaway movements, the president of Yugoslavia, Slobodan Milosevic, took away the status of independence just reached by Kosovo, deeply highlighting the differences between its population and the Serbians. A prosperous part of the Kosovar movements favored non-violent political actions, but a separatist movement called Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) grabbed the arms and accepted the funds received from Albania and, with the American and European military forces entering the scene, from the US and German intelligence services, while the Russians backed up the Serbs.

The KLA attacks aimed the police departments, government installations, and Serb civilians. The Serbian government forces, who had remained neutral until now, backed up committing terrible atrocities leading the Kosovar population to flee in large numbers. Trying to resolve the situation and reestablishing peace, several international efforts came into the conflict, but any "peace plan" failed. However, the Western nation's demand for major concessions from Belgrade, including free

passage of NATO military forces into Kosovo looked “a spotlight for the Kosovars”, but the request for help was darkened by the president. Anyhow, when Milosevic rejected these demands, NATO bypassed the UN and began a 78-day bombing campaign, justifying the campaign as a "humanitarian war", leading to an increase the flow of Kosovar refugees.

The NATO intervention, defined as “humanitarian”, was directed to ensure the safety of innocent civilians. The NATO bombardment forced eventually Milosevic to recall the troops back from Kosovo in June 1999. The NATO bombing campaign has remained controversial, as it did not gain the approval of the UN Security Council and because it caused at least 488 Yugoslav civilian deaths. The Kosovo War was an armed conflict in Kosovo that started in late February 1998 and lasted until 11 June 1999. The main protagonists of this conflict were the rivalries between the Serbs and the Albanians. However, the conflict enlarged its boundaries, involved the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia forces as well as the Kosovo Albanian rebel group known as the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) and the Albanian army. International forces, as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), were engaged with air support.

From 1989 to 1995 the majority of the Albanian ethnic population of Kosovo carried out a mainly non-violent resistance campaign under the leadership of the Democratic League of Kosovo (LDK) and its leader Ibrahim Rugova; although continuing repression, convinced many Albanians, especially of the West territory, that only armed resistance would change the situation.

KLA, originally composed out of a few hundred Bosnian War veterans, Albanians, took responsibility for attacks, targeting ethnic Serb villages and Serbian governmental buildings and police stations. The insurgency led to the Kosovo War in March 1998. In February 1996 the KLA undertook a series of attacks against police stations and Yugoslav government employees, saying that the Yugoslav authorities had killed Albanian civilians as part of an ethnic cleansing campaign. Serbian authorities denounced the KLA as a terrorist organization and increased the number of security forces in the region. This had the counter-productive effect

of boosting the credibility of the embryonic KLA among the Kosovo Albanian population.

Finally, the conflict seemed to find an agreement, when Milošević, on 3 June 1999, accepted the terms of an international peace plan to end the fighting. On June 10th, the North Atlantic Council ratified the agreement and suspended air operations. Few days later, after Milošević accepted the conditions, the NATO-led peacekeeping Kosovo Force (KFOR) began entering Kosovo. The KFOR were actually prepared to conduct fighting operations, but in the end, its mission was only peacekeeping. The squadron was commanded by General Lieutenant Mike Jackson of the British Army, and it consisted of course of British forces, and a French Army Brigade, a German Army brigade, and Italian and United States Army brigades also.

The key points of the peace plan being as follows:

- An end to the fighting in Kosovo.
- Quick and verifiable withdrawal of all Yugoslav and Serb forces from Kosovo.
- Deployment to Kosovo of a security force with "fundamental participation of NATO," under a unified command.
- The eventual return to Kosovo of only "hundreds, not thousands" of Yugoslav and Serb forces.
- The safe and free return of all 850,000-plus ethnic Albanian refugees expelled.
- "Substantial autonomy" for Kosovo.

The Deployment of NATO forces within Kosovo and the Balkan states were sanctioned by UNSC Resolution 1224 which authorized UN member states to maintain a security presence in the area via the KFOR until an agreement was concluded, the KFOR was authorized to take all necessary action to ensure compliance within the region.

To summarise the points laid above

- NATO has been leading a peace-support operation in Kosovo – the Kosovo Force (KFOR) – since June 1999.
- KFOR was established when NATO's 78-day air campaign against Milosevic's regime, aimed at putting an end to violence in Kosovo, was over.
- The operation derives its mandate from the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999) and the Military-Technical Agreement between NATO, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Serbia.
- KFOR's original objectives were to deter renewed hostilities, establish a secure environment and ensure public safety and order, demilitarize the Kosovo Liberation Army, support the international humanitarian effort and coordinate with the international civil presence.
- Today, KFOR continues to contribute towards maintaining a safe and secure environment in Kosovo and freedom of movement for all.
- NATO strongly supports the Belgrade-Pristina EU-brokered Normalisation Agreement (2013)

However today it continues to appear that NATO's role in Kosovo and the Balkan states must be re-analyzed, 2019 marks 20 years of NATO presence within Kosovo and there are still many issues that must be analyzed, considered, and resolved.