



NPSI MUN



HNATO

Historical North Atlantic Treaty Organisation

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Chairperson Introductions

Dhruv Kaushik : Head Chair

An IB Year 2 student at GISS Singapore, has enjoyed a highly rewarding and to a certain extent successful MUN career in the Singapore MUN circuit since he attended his first MUN in grade 7; extending his MUN endeavours to the United Kingdom too. Having been to 13 conferences as a delegate, organised law conferences and even a couple of encounters with being a part of a crisis backroom; this will be just his second time chairing. Moving away from his MUN journey, Dhruv is a huge sports fan who actively follows football, basketball and cricket. Do not hesitate to strike a conversation with him about the same. He's a Manchester United fan but assures you that in the case of this council, he's at the wheel and actually driving. As he chairs this simulation of HNATO, he hopes that delegates can appreciate the nuances and complexities the agendas have to offer while at the same time learn something significant. He looks forward to seeing you all at NPSiMUN 2020.

Manav Mannath : Frontroom

Manav never truly believed in parallel universes until he made his way into the MUN circuit in 2016. He's always been amazed by how students can go from playing red hands at one moment to representing a country and discussing some of the most pressing, intriguing geopolitical issues the next. To him, MUN is an excellent way to try new things and to grow as a debater - he himself has been a lone writer, a pacifist, and the devil's advocate on different occasions, and has learned fascinating things from these different roles that have helped him outside the committee room as well, and he hopes that you can enjoy and benefit from MUN as he did. Finally, after writing in third person for just a few minutes, he now feels like an illeist (much like the great Caesar himself), and realizes he should let you carry on and read some much better chair introductions.

Kavish Wali : Backroom Head

Kavish is a student at Global Indian International School who is currently caught up in the harsh reality known as IB. Famous for his hideous haircuts and random high pitch noises, Kavish entered the MUN circuit when he participated for the first time in GIISMUN 2017, where he absolutely had no idea what to do. 10 MUNs later however, his relative inexperience had turned into a passion for debate that just never seemed to stop growing. He is the perfect representation of a tall, gangly thug but rest assured, he is one of the most open and kind people you will ever meet, so if you have any queries, never hesitate to go up and speak to him. This edition of NPSiMUN will be his final MUN as a high school student, and he looks forward to making it the best conference of his MUN journey.

Raiyaan Bhombal : Backroom

Raiyaan is the human embodiment of a night owl, and if you do manage to find him awake at normal hours, he will most probably be swooning over cute baby/doggo videos online. He loves to try out new things and will always be involved in a different project whenever you meet him. His Spotify playlists consist of all the r&b bops you can imagine, and he is always (literally alwayssss) down to binge *The Walking Dead* or *American Horror Story* with a bucket of ben & jerrys. He is also an aspiring medic who made the regrettable decision of taking three sciences in IB. However, he is known mostly for his creativity, be it his designs for MUNs or his wanna-be-blogger instagram feed and hence most of his conversations with people involve them questioning why he is pursuing medicine (the reason being his immense love for biology & physiology). MUNs have always been his getaway from life, and he hopes NPSiMUN will be the perfect culmination of his MUN journey before the uni grind starts.

Riza Mirza : Backroom

Riza ventured into MUNs as a ninth-grader driven by her growing interest in global affairs, but mostly by her mom forcing her to get out of the house. Her competitive streak regularly gets her into contentious debates,

but that makes her a true Scorpio. She's usually ebullient and bubbly, but her overburdened schedule is duly responsible for her alternately vivacious and sullen mood. When she isn't busy with IB, she does enjoy sports, baking, or even a soothing Justin Bieber classic. You could always find her gossiping with her college counselor or at the back of her HL math class, pretending that she knows how to derive a Pearson product-moment correlation coefficient. Her voracious appetite for teen romcoms makes her a stalwart fan of Cole Sprouse and Louis Patridge. If that doesn't bother you, please make yourself comfortable in her congenial company accompanied by her sardonic humor. Given her love for economics and history, being a part of HNATO was her ultimate dream - she won't let you down.

Acknowledgement : Mahesh Baskar*

A recent IB graduate from NPS, Mahesh has been participating in MUNs since 2015. Having had the chance to participate in a variety of councils including a crisis and one on NATO itself, he can proudly say that he is an avid and capable MUNer. Having had the chance to chair previously, Mahesh hopes that this time round, the experience will be even more rewarding than the last. Outside of MUN, Mahesh is serving his National Service while simultaneously attempting to finish college applications. He enjoys sports, Netflix and Clarke Quay, in that order. Feel free to approach him about anything and everything no matter how ridiculous it may seem. Considering the advanced nature of the Council, he hopes to see a highly competitive atmosphere with each and every delegate pushing one another. Above all however, he hopes that at the end of the council, each and every delegate can leave NPSI MUN with a positive experience.

**Unable to attend conference due to postponement*

Council Introduction

The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation was founded in 1949, in response to the Soviet aggression during the Cold War, by the North Atlantic Treaty - which still remains as the main pillar of the cooperation between members of the alliance today. It is an international organisation with 30 member states, as of 2020, from Europe and North America. It has continued in the aftermath of the Soviet collapse in 1991 and remains a strong military alliance for the member states to this day.

Preceded by the Treaty of Brussels, which was signed by the United Kingdom, France, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Belgium¹, NATO creates a platform where consensus decision making, policy creation and operational coordination can take place, specifically regarding security issues that involve all member states. The Military Committee represents the military authority within NATO, providing military and strategic advice to the council.

NATO's primary political decision-making body is the North Atlantic Council in Brussels, which can form on different levels; the Permanent Representative Level, the Member States' Ministers of Defense or Heads of Government. Unlike UN committees, the outcome of any NATO negotiations comes in the form of a communiqué. Since a "NATO decision" means the expression of a collective will of all member countries, all decisions require consensus.

Note: Delegates must refer to the SROP. Furthermore, the council will be starting at the point in time of the first update, details about which will be revealed in this guide.

¹ "NATO And The Warsaw Pact | History Of Western Civilization II". 2020. *Courses.Lumenlearning.Com*. <https://courses.lumenlearning.com/suny-hccc-worldhistory2/chapter/nato-and-the-warsaw-pact/>.

History and Origin of NATO

The Beginning

World War 2 had an unprecedented effect on the Soviet Union. Nearly 27 million people had died and the economy was in shambles. While it did obtain limited credit from the United Kingdom and Sweden, the post-war policy of the Soviets involved annexing land and making use of raw materials and minerals present there to rebuild the economy. While it enabled them to expand their territory significantly, it also caught the attention of various Western powers, most importantly, the United States. The incumbent President of the United States, Harry Truman, deeply distrusted the USSR. His fear of a possible communist takeover of Europe urged him to act fast and come up with a viable solution to counter the aggressive Soviet expansion taking place. Hence in 1948, when European leaders met with military officials from the Pentagon, the idea of the North Atlantic Treaty was formed. The founding members included Norway, Luxembourg, Denmark, Italy, Belgium, Canada, Portugal, United Kingdom, Netherlands, France, Iceland and of course, the United States. Initially, NATO's primary purpose was to act as a source of security to countries that felt threatened by the USSR. All members agreed that an attack on one of them would be considered an attack against all of them. They agreed that in an event of armed conflict against a member country, each member would assist the country being attacked either through the use of armed force or through other rational means.

During the Cold War

While its name might be misleading, the Cold War was, in reality, characterized by the geo-political tensions between the United States and the USSR and their respective allies. The role of NATO during the Cold War, contrary to popular belief, was actually minimal. While initially established as a military organisation, it carried out no military operations throughout the course of the Cold War (1948-1991). Rather, NATO acted as a deterrent to Soviet ambitions in Europe. With the threat of large-scale nuclear

retaliation by the US, the USSR curtailed its ambitions and focused on creating an alliance of its own; the Warsaw Pact. Much like NATO, the Warsaw Pact was a collective security agreement brokered by the USSR with 7 other Eastern European nations. It served as the counterweight to NATO while simultaneously allowing the USSR to maintain military and political control in Eastern and Central Europe. While both these entities existed throughout the course of the Cold War, they never once came into direct military conflict. Instead, the Cold War period was defined by a political and nuclear stalemate between NATO and the USSR.

Post-Cold War Period

Following the dissolution of the Warsaw Pact and then the USSR itself, the very existence of NATO was called into question. Many observers felt that the organisation may dissolve given its lack of purpose. However, following various key events such as the re-unification of Germany in 1990 and a strategic re-evaluation, NATO shifted its focus from a military organisation to a political one that has two main focuses; to initiate dialogue and maintain cooperation with former adversaries and resolve conflicts in Europe.

In keeping with the first aim, NATO established the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council to serve as a platform for the exchange of views on political and security issues. Moreover, it also established the Partnership of Peace which promoted joint-military exercises between member and non-member states such as Russia. Moreover, in 2001, Russia cemented a new cooperative bond with NATO to address such common concerns as international terrorism, nuclear non-proliferation, and arms control.

The second focus of NATO began to take significant importance starting 1995, when NATO intervened in Bosnia and Herzegovina by staging airstrikes against Bosnian Serbs situated around the city of Sarajevo. In March 1999, NATO launched air strikes against Serbia to compel the Yugoslav government to accept diplomatic provisions to protect the majority Muslim Albanian population in Kosovo. As per a negotiated

settlement, NATO deployed a peacekeeping force called the Kosovo Force (KFOR). Events following the 9/11 attacks in New York City led to a new dynamic within the alliance, one which focused on the military engagement of members outside Europe, first against Taliban forces in Afghanistan beginning in the summer of 2003 and subsequently against the regime of Muammar Gaddafi in Libya in early 2011.

Apart from these events, NATO has also seen numerous changes post-Cold War. Beginning 1999, new members joined the treaty and at present, there are 30 full members. However, most recently, the relevance of NATO has once again been called into question by none other than the United States. President Trump,

First Overarching Update: The Cuban Missile Crisis (October 1962 - present*)

* The date the delegates are put in

The colossal consequences of nuclear warfare are not a secret to us and this peril has never loomed closer to the world's largest Nuclear Weapon States—the US and the Soviet Union— than it will be throughout the coming weeks. This military standoff seems to be the tensest period of the Cold War yet.

Background - Post World-War 2 US-Soviet Union Relations

Following the resolution of World War II in 1945, major European powers were weakened as a result of over 60 million deaths in the six years of fighting. Two superpowers remained in the world, the United States of America and the USSR, who were former allies, having fought Nazi Germany and the Empire of Japan together. The USSR was a federal state under a communist regime whereas the US was a liberal democracy based on capitalism. Given the economic stress transpiring in Europe, both superpowers began to urge their influence in the continent and consequently, cooperation between the US and the USSR broke down.

Cold War Timeline

(RLE- Real Life Event) (FE- Fabricated Event)

5 March, 1946 (RLE): Winston Churchill declared that an “**Iron Curtain**” had descended across Europe as part of the Soviet Union's efforts to block itself and its satellite states from open contact with the West.

26 June, 1948 (RLE): The soviets blocked all rail, road and canal access to the western zones of Berlin, known as **The Berlin Blockade**, to cease the economic aid being sent by the U.S to Germany. This resulted in 2.5 million civilians having no access to food, medicine, electricity and other basic items and represented the first major conflict in the cold war.

25 June 1950 (RLE): **The Korean War** ensued between the soviet-backed Democratic People's Republic of Korea of the north and pro-western Republic of Korea of the south.

1 January, 1951 (RLE): Cuban Nationalist Fidel Castro overthrows American-backed military dictator General Fulgencio Batista to become the Prime Minister of Cuba.

27 July 1953 (RLE): The Korean War comes to an end, with over 5 million casualties.

October 28, 1959 (RLE): Turkey and the United States agree to deploy fifteen Jupiter Missiles in Turkey on June 1, 1961.²

May-August 1960: Relations between The United States and Cuba deteriorated as The Soviet Union established diplomatic relations with Cuba. The United States ends its foreign aid program to Cuba, stops the import of Cuban sugar and imposes a trade embargo on Cuba.

17 April, 1961 (RLE): Over 1400 American trained paramilitaries began their invasion at an isolated spot on Cuba's Southern Shore, The Bay of Pigs. The invaders were significantly overpowered by Castro's troop. The invaders surrendered less than 24 hours into the failed **Bay of Pigs invasion**.

July, 1962 (RLE): Nikita Khrushchev agreed to place Soviet Missiles in Cuba as a response to The United States' missiles in Turkey and Italy.

22 October, 1962 (RLE): President John F Kennedy intercepts all shipments to Cuba, calling it a "quarantine" that did not block basic necessities.

22 October, 1962 (FE): The Turkish Prime Minister, Cemal Gürsel, makes an international announcement that Turkey will be aligning its interests with

² *Key Issues: Nuclear Weapons: History:*
nuclearfiles.org/menu/key-issues/nuclear-weapons/history/cold-war/cuban-missile-crisis/timeline.htm.

those of the Soviet Union and Cuba. Later that day, Gürsel threatens to bomb several cities of the Allied Nations.

23 October, 1962 (FE): 12 non-nuclear bombs were dropped on the crowded districts of Amsterdam, East Berlin, Paris and London, claiming the lives of over 5,000 civilians. Nikita Khrushchev confirms that these bombings were supported by the Soviet Nation, resulting in a swarm of riots and uprisings in allied nations.

25 October, 1962 (FE): North Korea's premier, Kim Il Sung reveals through a television broadcast that the Soviet Union has deployed 100 nuclear warheads to several missile sites in North Korea. This is followed by a warning by North Korea for the US to retrieve all missiles from Allied States by November 15, 1962; a failure to do so resulting in the use of the 100 nuclear warheads.

28th October, 1962 (FE): John F Kennedy reveals that he has no intent to capitulate. A Nuclear War is on the horizon, and an official NATO meeting is scheduled for the 31st of October to discuss this crisis.

Stakeholders in the First Update

Cuba

Revolutionary leftist leader Fidel Castro aligned Cuba with the Soviet Union after seizing the power of the island nation in 1959. Cuba became extremely dependent on the Soviet Union under Castro for both military and economic support. The Soviet missiles were being shipped in and installed in Cuba, a mere 90 miles from US soil. Apart from the close alliance that had been developing between the Cubans and the Soviets, another major factor in this missile scheme was the hostile relationship between the United States and Cuba at the time. The Americans had already launched a failed invasion on Cuba the year before, the ‘Bay of Pigs’ invasion in 1961. Castro, as well as Nikita Krushchev, the Soviet leader, saw this as an opportunity to deter further aggression by the US. They are in possession of approximately 100 Soviet nukes, including 80 nuclear-armed front cruise missiles (FKRs), 12 nuclear warheads for dual-use Luna short-range rockets, and 6 nuclear bombs for IL-28 bombers³.

The United States of America

On October 14th, 1962, an American U-2 spy plane flying high above Cuba photographed a Soviet SS-4 medium-range ballistic missile being assembled for installation⁴. This shocked US officials, who had thought of such a move as unprecedented. The Soviets now pose a massive threat to the US; the missiles are in close proximity to US soil, a mere 90 miles south off the coast of Florida. Such a dangerous and risky tactical move by the Soviets has levelled the playing field, at least for the time being. The Soviets are now in place to use these missiles as leverage for negotiations, which comprises the US’s efforts to keep the Soviets pressured using its bases in Europe. If not handled carefully, this situation could exemplify the

³ Quinn, Weatherby, Lichtefeld, Glinski, Brent, Savranskaya, Braw, Traub, and Babones. 2012. "Cuba Almost Became A Nuclear Power In 1962". *Foreign Policy*. <https://foreignpolicy.com/2012/10/10/cuba-almost-became-a-nuclear-power-in-1962/>.

⁴ "Cuban Missile Crisis". 2010. *History.Com*. <https://www.history.com/topics/cold-war/cuban-missile-crisis>

complicated nature of the already hostile tensions between the two superpowers and could affect the course of the war and ultimately, its result.

The Soviet Union

The Soviet Union has a lot to benefit from this scheme. At the height of the Cold War, with tensions riding high, the US clearly has the advantage over the Soviets in regards to nuclear range and capabilities. The US has strategically placed missiles all over Europe and Turkey that were poised to strike at any moment, and this presents a huge threat to the Soviets. They are hoping to level the playing field by deploying missiles to Cuba, their ally, who are in close proximity to US soil. This is the decision taken by Soviet leader Nikita Krushchev in an attempt to expand his nuclear strike range. For the Soviets, it is integral to maintain their alliance with Cuba at all costs to pressurize the US.

Structure and Governance⁵

NATO's Command Structure (NCS) is what defines the operations of NATO. The NCS falls under the authority of the Military Committee, NATO's highest military authority that consists of the Chief of Defense of all member states. The NCS consists of two strategic commands: Allied Command Operations (ACO) and Allied Command Transformation (ACT)⁶.

The ACO is under the authority of the Supreme Allied Commander of Europe, typically a 4 star American General or Admiral. It is responsible for the planning and execution of all NATO military operations as directed by the North Atlantic Council. Its main headquarters, The Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE), is located in Mons, Belgium while the Joint Force Commands (JFC) can be found in Naples and Brunssum respectively.

The ACT is in charge of NATO's military transformation. It is under the command of the Supreme Allied Commander Transformation (SACT), typically a high-ranking French Officer. The ACT's key functions include the education and training of member states while simultaneously promoting interoperability throughout the Alliance. The ACT also keeps in place the vital transatlantic link between Europe and North America and promotes a just sharing of roles and responsibilities amongst member states. ACT operates the Joint Analysis and Lessons Learnt Centre in Lisbon, Portugal, the Joint Warfare Centre in Stavanger, Norway and the Joint Force Training Centre in Bydgoszcz, Poland. Details about these various institutions can be found below.

⁵ NATO. (2020). Structure. <https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/structure.htm>

⁶ *Nato.Int*, 2020, https://www.nato.int/nato_static_fl2014/assets/pdf/pdf_2018_02/1802-Factsheet-NATO-Command-Structure_en.pdf.

The Joint Analysis and Lessons Learnt Centre

The JALLC helps to provide analysis support to NATO's operations and training. It also assists in the management and implementation Lessons Learned NATO wide. Some of its key tasks include providing analysis of upcoming requirements and supporting training and operations by facilitating the sharing of knowledge amongst the members of NATO⁷.

The Joint Warfare Centre

The Joint Warfare Centre provides NATO's training focal point for joint operational level warfare. Its key roles include the planning and execution of collective training and exercises, the implementation of warfare development activities during training and the facilitation of integration between national training and command organizations, governmental and non-governmental organizations as well as regional security organizations and partners⁸.

The Joint Force Training Centre

JFTC has a distinct and unique role within NATO, focusing on joint and combined training at the tactical level. JFTC plays an important role in the NATO transformation process by providing joint pre-deployment training, supporting current operations and emerging requirements, and finally, by offering a platform for experimentation, testing, and interoperability⁹.

⁷ Mission, Role & Tasks. (2020). http://www.jallc.nato.int/organization/mission_role_tasks.asp

⁸ Kucukaksoy, I. (2020). Who We Are. <http://www.jwc.nato.int/index.php/organization/who-we-are>

⁹ What We Do. (2020). <http://www.jftc.nato.int/organization/what-we-do>

Mandate, Powers and Functions

In general, the NATO alliance was a representation of the formation of an alliance between the US and other European nations. As detailed in the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949, the NATO is an organisation that revolves around the principles of the United Nations charter; wherein, the opting of peaceful methods and mediums in the resolution of international disputes is placed at the greatest priority. Furthermore, the treaty established NATO as a consensus-based organisation; it looks to emphasize the principles of collaboration and collective action. International law and its stance on the intervention by external parties is a crucial factor in the determination of how direct and aggressive NATO can be with the actions that they do decide to take. The idea of international law as a determinant, and deterrence shall be elaborated upon further later.¹⁰

NATO is based upon the consensus of the collective will of its members. However, NATO members are still allowed to carry out their own forms of independent action, in the form of a singular party (one country) or bilateral party (two countries) or even a multilateral party (three or more). It is not a compulsion for a country to contribute to a particular action if they exercise their individual vote in favour of the enforcement of the action. Own forms of independent action would occur upon a particular country's own accord, outside the NATO's reach or jurisdiction. If independent action is opposed by states, it may hamper relations within NATO. However, there is no definitive law or norm that would deter nations within NATO from undertaking such action.¹¹

This section of the study guide delineates some of the special powers that delegates could exercise in council. It is important to understand the rubrics and mechanisms under which this council works to understand which matters would be more relevant and urgent to deal with.

¹⁰ Nato. "The North Atlantic Treaty." NATO, April 1, 2009.
https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/official_texts_17120.htm.

¹¹ "An Unsettled Alliance." Council on Foreign Relations. Council on Foreign Relations.
<https://www.cfr.org/background/north-atlantic-treaty-organization-nato>.

Establishment of Subsidiary Bodies

Article 9 of the North Atlantic Treaty states: “The Parties hereby establish a Council, on which each of them shall be represented, to consider matters concerning the implementation of this Treaty. The Council shall be so organised as to be able to meet promptly at any time. The Council shall set up such subsidiary bodies as may be necessary; in particular it shall establish immediately a defence committee which shall recommend measures for the implementation of Articles 3 and 5.”

As clearly stated, as and when the council deems it to be necessary, it looks to set up bodies that keep its interests towards a particular matter that may be of great urgency. Importantly, the committees that are set up are to be under the guidance and jurisdiction of NATO. In the case of forming subsidiary bodies, it is important to consider whether previously created bodies exist that may fulfill a similar purpose based on the time period. Furthermore, it is important to specify the exact mandate, objective and procedure that it may be operating under; and whether its primary reporting body would be the council as a whole or a particular set of nations.

For instance, in the case of the defence committee that was established along with the North Atlantic Treaty in 1949, the central objective of this committee was to address and carry out functions that would relate to Articles 3 and 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty. This centrally refers to the exercising of collective and collaborative action in the case of protecting member nations from armed, violent attacks. In brief, the objective relates to the general protection of member nations that are part of NATO. The procedure is largely consensus based, and is reliant on the collaborative powers of the entirety of NATO; as is the premise of the organisation in general.

Collective/Self-defence

Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty 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-defence recognised 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.”

In essence, NATO may exercise a collective use of force in the case of any form of armed attack against one of its member nations. The legal basis for this is established in Article 51 of the United Nations charter. Article 5 is a representation of NATO’s collaborative principles and acts as one of primary contributors to its formation, given the appeal of solidified military defence.

There are various factors that NATO will have to consider in order to invoke Article 5. The primary factor is the possible position of attack, given the suitability of terrain and the possibility of responses from other international actors. This applies especially when the position of attack is outside the Euro-Atlantic region. The scope of escalation in the chosen course of action and whether the magnitude of attack on the NATO member is large enough for NATO to exercise action are other significant factors.¹²

For instance, the NATO’s first invocation of Article 5, came in 2001, following the September 11 attacks that were orchestrated on American soil. NATO went on to exercise collaborative principles by the means of contribution of military and armed force to the United States in its war in Afghanistan. This event marked another landmark- it was the first time that NATO went on to conduct operations outside of the Euro-Atlantic

¹² “How NATO’s Article 5 Works.” The Economist. The Economist Newspaper.. <https://www.economist.com/the-economist-explains/2015/03/09/how-natos-article-5-works>.

region.¹³ It is important to note that the action that NATO under Article 5 doesn't necessarily have to be in the form of extreme military actions, unless deemed absolutely necessary. Article 5 isn't the only medium by which NATO can exercise military action. Apart from Article 5, NATO can conduct military intervention for the purpose of managing crises.

Since NATO's existence, there has always existed a dilemma in regards to whether NATO is an alliance that is centered around collective defence, or an alliance that actively manages crises that may or may not have a direct correlation to its member nations.

In the case of military action that's not launched under Article 5, general international law largely provides a basis for intervention for humanitarian purposes. For instance, In 1999, NATO's 11 week bombing campaign in Kosovo was conducted and justified principally on the grounds of Serb killings and expulsions in Kosovo. Hence, NATO's actions had humanitarian purposes. Additionally, the use of force is generally acceptable with Security Council authorisation. Further, even without UNSC authorisation, independent action may still be justifiable if undertaken by a body such as NATO. The criteria for the same is according to general international law which requires convincing evidence of significant humanitarian distress, in order to clarify that there is no other practical alternative for saving the lives at risk and that the proposed use of force is necessary and proportionate to the aim.¹⁴

In the case of resolving more general issues that plague the majority of the global landscape, it is well-considered by NATO to make public policy regarding such issues. For instance, a much more recent policy adopted by NATO in November 2010 was one that vowed to contribute significantly to a world without nuclear weapons. Under this policy's implementation, a

¹³ "#StrongerWithAllies: The Day NATO Stood with the United States." Atlantic Council, September 3, 2019. <https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/new-atlanticist/strongerwithallies-the-day-nato-stood-with-the-united-states/>.

¹⁴ "NATO 'Humanitarian War' over Kosovo." *Columbia University*. <http://www.columbia.edu/itc/sipa/S6800/courseworks/NATOhumanitarian.pdf>.

greater role for the Nuclear Planning Group (NPG) was included and nuclear presence by member nations in particular regions was reduced.¹⁵

Invitation to Non-Member States

Article 10 of the North Atlantic Treaty States: “The Parties may, by unanimous agreement, invite any other European State in a position to further the principles of this Treaty and to contribute to the security of the North Atlantic area to accede to this Treaty. Any State so invited may become a Party to the Treaty by depositing its instrument of accession with the Government of the United States of America. The Government of the United States of America will inform each of the Parties of the deposit of each such instrument of accession.”

This special power, quite simply put, allows for the addition of additional members to this council if and when deemed necessary to fulfill the objectives of NATO as delineated in the North Atlantic Treaty. It is important to note that, even though the addition of new member states may allow for a stronger NATO alliance and would further its initial collaborative principles, there lies a disadvantage for the existing nations whose say in the alliance will be diluted. Furthermore, it is important to consider how a new member state would contribute in the long-term. It wouldn't be wise to invite a nation just for the resolution of one particular conflict, for instance. Moreover, it is important to consider the relations between potential member states and current member states.

For instance, in 1955, Germany was added to NATO as its newest member. NATO's essential purpose was to shelter the freedom and security of its members. One of the primary threats that NATO faced was the possible invasion of Western Europe by the Soviet Union and its Warsaw Pact allies. Germany at the time came as a vital addition in creating a defensive border that would look to curb any attempts of Soviet expansion in the

¹⁵ “North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).” Nuclear Threat Initiative - Ten Years of Building a Safer World. <https://www.nti.org/learn/treaties-and-regimes/north-atlantic-treaty-organization-nato/>.

region.¹⁶ Therefore, there was a clear idea of what Germany could contribute, in curbing the Soviets further rise to power, which was the primary threat to the alliance.

Review of the Treaty

Article 12 of the North Atlantic Treaty states: “After the Treaty has been in force for ten years, or at any time thereafter, the Parties shall, if any of them so requests, consult together for the purpose of reviewing the Treaty, having regard for the factors then affecting peace and security in the North Atlantic area, including the development of universal as well as regional arrangements under the Charter of the United Nations for the maintenance of international peace and security.”

The North Atlantic Treaty acts as the basis of the workings and operations of NATO. Therefore, there exist crucial considerations when reviewing the treaty. It is important to note the transition time of 10 years that occurs in between reviews of the treaty. This is to avoid frequent changes to the treaty and places focus on considering both short and long term geopolitical scenarios equally. Additionally, it is important that any changes made to the North Atlantic treaty remain to reflect the initial principles of NATO and that there exists no conflict between any changes to the treaty and international law. The aforementioned factors are of principal concern, given that if they are ignored or not considered to an appropriate extent, NATO as an alliance may look indecisive.

¹⁶ “West Germany Joins NATO.” HISTORY. A&E Television Networks, November 13, 2009. <https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/west-germany-joins-nato>.

Landmark Actions

NATO in Kosovo

NATO has been at the helm of a peace restoring mission in Kosovo since 1999. NATO's first time use of sustained force in an external region, turned out to be one of NATO's more significant contributions with regards to the fulfillment of their purpose of peace and security in the global geopolitical landscape.

The Kosovo Force(KFOR) looked to maintain peace amongst the people living in Kosovo, under an operation that has had diplomatic and military contributions from various international actors apart from NATO. The mandate for the operation of the KFOR was mandated by Chapter VII of the UN charter.

Moving on to more general details, the initial goals and objectives of the mission in Kosovo, included the crucial aim of demilitarising and disarming the Kosovo Liberation Army. Furthermore, over the years, as the level of safety in the region has improved, NATO has looked to scale back operations to more flexible, and minimal functional groups.

In terms of the more specific operational details, the multinational battle groups deployed in the region have looked to take up preventive measures, initially for example, assistance to displaced persons, establishment of civil institutions and law and order, and general security measures for the foreseeable futures. Once the region was more stable, the KFOR shifted their focus to capacity building and the formation of an able security force. This included training exercises, appointment of capable officials, and the strengthening of the country's arms capacity.¹⁷

International cooperation and collaboration has been a key feature in the achievement of success in such operations. To just highlight some of the

¹⁷ "NATO's Role in Kosovo." North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, November 19, 2019. https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/topics_48818.htm.

instances of international collaboration on a military level, the contribution of armed forces and other forms of aid came from nearly 30 countries. Additionally, on a diplomatic level, NATO supported EU-facilitated dialogue between Pristina and Belgrade with the purpose of reaching a series of agreements that would put a stop to the political deadlock between the parties. The contribution of both NATO and the EU was crucial in sealing an agreement between the parties.

NATO's role in arms control

Over the course of recent history, NATO has been consistent and continuous in its efforts to make a significant difference to the distribution and utilisation of arms on a global level, whether it is the case of conventional arms or unconventional arms such as nuclear weapons. NATO's policies in regards to arms control are widespread, including measures that look to combat biological threats, preventive measures for small/conventional arms distribution and the non proliferation of nuclear weapons and WMDs.

NATO's allies have reduced the levels of conventional forces substantially since the Cold war. NATO has been a significant contributory actor to various agreements and treaties, the most notable of them being the CFE (Treaty of conventional armed forces in Europe), and the Open Skies treaty. NATO has stayed resilient in the implementation of these treaties and has continued to make proposals for further changes in recent times, including summit declarations that were established as early as 2019. There exists a body that guides NATO on potential policy decisions in the case of arms control in the Arms Control, Disarmament and WMD Non-Proliferation Centre, under which there exist various sub-committees that have allowed NATO to make decisions on the implementation of various treaties, policies and proposals.¹⁸

¹⁸ "Arms Control, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation in NATO." North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, March 16, 2020. https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_48895.htm.

Secondly, in the case of nuclear forces, NATO has continued to be one of the greater endorsers of the NPT (Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons) and its underlying principles. Apart from the NPT, the initial success in the establishment of the INF (Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces) treaty was one of NATO's more notable accomplishments in this area.

The support of measures that cover a wide range of weapons and areas of vulnerabilities has worked in favour of a more non violent and arms-free world. Furthermore, NATO is the most powerful military alliance that exists in the world today. The steps taken by NATO in proactively approaching major policies and treaties such as the NPT, INF, Chemical Weapons convention amongst multiple others has caused nations to collaborate and understand the premise of the urgency of arms prevention on a larger scale.¹⁹

NATO's Counter-Piracy operations

Piracy in this context refers to the illegal acts committed by unauthorised and unrecognised agents at sea. This can generally take the form of general criminal violence or robbery. Examining the piracy situation in Africa, for a significant period of time, there was a sustained, constant observance of piracy and armed robbery operations that disturbed multiple operations of humanitarian and economic importance to multiple nations along the Horn of Africa, in the Gulf of Aden and off the Indian Ocean. These operations included general trade between nations and humanitarian support provided to disturbed nations across the region.

The most notable and substantial operation led by NATO with respect to piracy was Operation Ocean Shield, 2009-2016. This was a more proactive and sustained step taken, building on the NATO's previous relatively short operations. These shorter operations had the objective of patrolling the waters around Somalia, guiding naval escorts to WFP (World Food

¹⁹ Pifer, Steven. "NATO, Nuclear Weapons and Arms Control." Brookings. Brookings, July 28, 2016. <https://www.brookings.edu/research/nato-nuclear-weapons-and-arms-control/>.

Programme) vessels and defending pirate activities along the Gulf of Aden and off the Horn of Africa. The objectives and aims of the mission initially was centered around curbing the short-term threats in the region which included response actions to pirate attacks. Later the mission established more long term measures that included the disabling of pirate ships by placing tracking beacons on mother ships and constant surveillance by various mediums to foresee piracy operations, and combat them with greater effectiveness. On a more operational basis, NATO made sure to take preventive measures against the pirates by the utilisation of direct actions such as force to destroy suspected pirate ships. Furthermore, NATO established cooperation between other counter-piracy operations in order to allow for efficacy in their operations.²⁰

Operation Ocean Shield, was possibly one of the most effective internationally coordinated responses to piracy operations. When the operation was terminated in 2016, there were no cases of successful piracy attacks since 2012. This was a dramatic change from 2008 when there were more than 111 ships attacked and 42 successful hijacks. The NATO terminated their operations, following sustained capacity building to curb attempts at piracy and leaving the region with a greater sense of safety, with regards to maritime piracy.²¹

²⁰ “Counter-Piracy Operations.” North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, December 19, 2016. https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_48815.htm.

²¹ “NATO Ends Anti-Piracy Mission in Indian Ocean.” Voice of America. <https://www.voanews.com/africa/nato-ends-anti-piracy-mission-indian-ocean>.

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