



SRMUN CHARLOTTE 2021
Unity: Coming Together to Address A Changing World
March 26-28, 2021
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Dear Delegates,

Welcome to SRMUN Charlotte 2021 and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). My name is LeAnna Christensen, and I have the pleasure of serving as your Director for NATO. This will be my fifth time on SRMUN staff. Previously, I served as the Director for Security Council at Atlanta 2020, Director for Group of Twenty at Charlotte 2020, Director for the United Nations Population Fund at Atlanta 2019, and one of the Assistant Directors for General Assembly First at Charlotte 2019. In May of 2019, I graduated from Kennesaw State University with a BBA in International Business. Our committee's Assistant Director will be Willett Hancock. This will be Willett's first time on the dais as a SRMUN staff member, but will not be his first SRMUN, previously having served as a research assistant at SRMUN Atlanta 2020 for the Peacebuilding Commission and as a delegate at two other SRMUN conferences. Willett is currently working on his Bachelor's in Political Science and History at the University of Florida.

NATO is an alliance of 29 Member States from North America and Europe that was originally created in 1949 to ensure the collective defense and security of their Member States through military and political means. It served as a cross-Atlantic adversary against the Soviet Union during the Cold War, and now continues to support the democratization and political integration of Europe while deterring nationalist militarism across the continent.

By focusing on the mission of NATO and the SRMUN Charlotte 2021 theme of "*Unity: Coming Together to Address a Changing World*" NATO will simulate a crisis situation through which delegates will be tasked to work together to achieve consensus. In doing so, the delegates must simultaneously react to crisis developments and respond to the pressing discussions held by the body. The committee history and attached addendum provide an introduction to the operation of NATO at SRMUN Charlotte 2021. Additionally, in the months leading up to the conference, delegates will receive three topic updates reflecting timely issues most relevant to NATO and its mandate. Although delegates are not required to debate these specific topics in committee, it is highly recommended that the updates are carefully read and understood. Delegates are expected to go beyond the briefs and engage in intellectual inquiry of their own to develop position papers that reflect the complexity of current global issues important to their Member State and their externalities. Delegations in NATO are expected to submit a position paper and be prepared for a vigorous discussion at the conference.

Position papers should be no longer than two pages in length (single spaced) and demonstrate your Member State's position, policies, and recommendations on the two topics considered the most critical to your Member State. For more detailed information about formatting and how to write position papers, delegates can visit srmun.org. **All position papers MUST be submitted no later than Sunday, March 7, 2021, by 11:59pm EST via the SRMUN website in order to be eligible for Outstanding Position Paper Awards.**

Willett and I are very excited to be serving as your dais for the NATO. We wish you all the best of luck in your conference preparation and look forward to working with you in the near future. Please feel free to contact Director-General Vanessa DuBoulay, Willett or myself if you have any questions while preparing for the conference.

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History of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization

Formed on April 4, 1949 through the signing of the North Atlantic Treaty, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is an alliance of 29 Member States across Europe and North America.¹ This alliance was created in the aftermath of the Second World War to “safeguard the freedom and security of all its members by political and military means.”² With collective defense and security at the core of NATO’s mandate, NATO was originally formed for three purposes: “detering Soviet expansionism, forbidding the revival of nationalist militarism in Europe through a strong North American presence in the continent, and encouraging European political integration.”³ The North Atlantic Treaty did not establish a military structure at first, however one was adopted after the detonation of an atomic bomb by the Soviet Union in 1949 and the beginning of the Korean War in 1950.⁴

NATO, as a military organization, is composed by the Military Committee, which involves the work of many different sectors such as the Chiefs of Defense of NATO, the International Military Staff, and the military Command Structures.⁵ The Cold War period led to NATO’s policy of “Massive Retaliation,” which established that the alliance would retaliate with Nuclear Weapons if the Soviet Union attacked NATO Member States.⁶ This policy changed in the 1960’s when a detente was established, and the “Massive Retaliation” response shifted to a “Flexible Response” strategy.⁷ Subsequently, in 1987 the United States and the Soviet Union signed the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty, an agreement that was considered the beginning of the end of the Cold War.⁸ After the fall of the Berlin wall in 1989, NATO members began to question if the alliance was still necessary, eventually concluding that two of its founding missions were still important – deterring nationalist militarism in Europe and encouraging the democratization and political integration of Europe.⁹ With these purposes in mind, NATO has remained an alliance throughout time and has enacted several major decisions since 1989.¹⁰

Some of the key components of the North Atlantic Treaty are Articles 3, 4, 5, and 6.¹¹ Article 3 urges Member States to work within their territory and along with other Member States in order to more effectively resist attack and increasing Member State collaboration in a variety of areas.¹² Article 4 ensures that Member States collaborate with fellow Allies on “security matters of common interest”.¹³ Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty embodies the collective defense principal at the core of NATO’s purpose.¹⁴ This means that an attack against one Member State is an attack against them all.¹⁵ Article 6 clarifies Article 5 in saying that an armed attack against a Member State includes the aggression towards any Member State’s territories “in Europe or North America, on the Algerian Departments of France, on the territory of Turkey or on the Islands under the jurisdiction of any of the Parties in the North Atlantic area north of the Tropic of Cancer” as well as on any of the vessels, aircrafts, or forces of Member States in these territories.¹⁶ This article has only been invoked once following the attacks on U.S soil on September 11.¹⁷ After these attacks, NATO implemented its first counter terrorism operation – Eagle Assist – which was the first time NATO military assets were deployed due to Article 5.¹⁸ In 1994 NATO also created the Partnership for

¹ “NATO’s Purpose,” North Atlantic Treaty Organization, last modified April 18 2018, https://www.nato.int/cps/ua/natohq/topics_68144.htm.

² “NATO’s Purpose,” North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

³ “A Short History of NATO,” NATO, accessed June 22 2020, https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/declassified_139339.htm

⁴ “A Short History of NATO,” North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

⁵ “Structure,” U.S. Mission to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, accessed July 20, 2020, <https://nato.usmission.gov/our-relationship/about-nato/structure/>.

⁶ “A Short History of NATO,” North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

⁷ “A Short History of NATO,” North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

⁸ “A Short History of NATO,” North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

⁹ “A Short History of NATO,” North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

¹⁰ “A Short History of NATO,” North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

¹¹ “A Short History of NATO,” North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

¹² “About NATO,” U.S. Mission to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, accessed July 20, 2020, <https://nato.usmission.gov/our-relationship/about-nato/>.

¹³ “About NATO,” U.S. Mission to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization,

¹⁴ “A Short History of NATO,” NATO, accessed June 22 2020, https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/declassified_139339.htm.

¹⁵ “Collective Defense – Article 5,” North Atlantic Treaty Organization, last modified November 25 2019, https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_110496.htm.

¹⁶ “Collective Defense – Article 5,” North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

¹⁷ “Collective Defense – Article 5,” North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

¹⁸ “Collective Defense – Article 5,” North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Peace program, which allowed non-NATO Member States to share information and modernize their militaries to become more democratic, along with opening a path for future membership.¹⁹

The main political decision-making body of NATO is the North Atlantic Council (NAC).²⁰ The NAC is headed by the Secretary-General and is composed of a delegation from each Member State.²¹ All policy decisions are made at the collective will of all Member States, requiring a consensus for every action.²² The Nuclear Planning Group (NPG) is the most senior body on nuclear issues and continuously reevaluates and adapts nuclear policy for the Alliance.²³ Both the NPG and NAC work with the Military Committee (MC) when military decisions are involved, with the MC also serving as a link between the political and military bodies of the organization.²⁴ Decisions made by the MC provide consensus-based advice from Member States to the NAC and Strategic Commanders.²⁵ There are also several specialized subordinate committees that meet regularly under NAC to fulfill and fully carry out NATO's agenda.²⁶ The MC also has two subordinate bodies: The Allied Command Operations and the Allied Command Transformation.²⁷

NATO is funded through direct and indirect contributions. Direct funding contributions from Member States are established through a cost-shared formula based on Gross National Income and "represents a small percentage of each member's defense budget."²⁸ Indirect contributions make up the majority of NATO's funding.²⁹ These contributions include things like donating equipment or troops to a military body.³⁰ Consequently, NATO has two main budgets: civil and military, which are decided on by the Budget Committee.³¹

NATO and the United Nations (UN) collaborate in maintaining international peace and security.³² NATO's Secretary-General often participates in the UN General Assembly and regularly reports to the UN Secretary General on UN-mandated NATO operations.³³ NATO and the UN work together on focus areas such as peace-keeping, counter-terrorism, non-proliferation, women and peace and security, the protection of children in armed conflict, small arms and light weapons, and disaster relief.³⁴ NATO has also received mandates from the UN Security Council on operations in the Western Balkans, Afghanistan, and Libya.³⁵ Additionally, NATO has supported several UN operations, such as the peace-keeping operations in Sudan and Somalia and the disaster-relief operations in Pakistan.³⁶ In continuity with cooperation between the two bodies, a Joint Declaration was signed in September of 2008, and updated on October 6, 2018, that created a framework for further cooperation and dialogue between NATO and the UN.³⁷ The partnership between NATO and the UN, along with other international organizations, remains an integral piece to NATO's comprehensive approach to crisis management and operations.³⁸

¹⁹ "Collective Defense – Article 5," North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

²⁰ "What is NATO?" North Atlantic Treaty Organization, accessed June 22, 2020, <https://www.nato.int/nato-welcome/index.html>

²¹ "What is NATO?" North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

²² "North Atlantic Council," North Atlantic Treaty Organization, last modified October 17 2017, https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/topics_49763.htm.

²³ "Nuclear Planning Group (NPG)," North Atlantic Treaty Organization, last modified Mat 27 2020, https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/topics_50069.htm.

²⁴ "What is NATO?" North Atlantic Treaty Organization, accessed June 22 2020, <https://www.nato.int/nato-welcome/index.html>

²⁵ "Military Committee," North Atlantic Treaty Organization, last modified May 28 2019, https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/topics_49633.htm.

²⁶ "Military Committee," North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

²⁷ "What is NATO?" North Atlantic Treaty Organization, accessed June 22 2020, <https://www.nato.int/nato-welcome/index.html>

²⁸ "Funding NATO," North Atlantic Treaty Organization, last modified May 5 2020, https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_67655.htm.

²⁹ "Funding NATO," North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

³⁰ "Funding NATO," North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

³¹ "Funding NATO," North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

³² "Relations with the United Nations," North Atlantic Treaty Organization, last modified February 15 2019, https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_50321.htm.

³³ "Relations with the United Nations," North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

³⁴ "Relations with the United Nations," North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

³⁵ "Relations with the United Nations," North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

³⁶ "Relations with the United Nations," North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

³⁷ "Relations with the United Nations," North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

³⁸ "Relations with the United Nations," North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

One of the key areas of focus for NATO in 2020 is the Middle East and the challenge in the continued stabilization of the region.³⁹ In Afghanistan, NATO is working to uphold the NATO-Afghanistan Enduring Partnership and implementing the Resolute Support mission.⁴⁰ This mission is non-combative and seeks to support the Afghan security forces through providing 16,000 troops who train, advise, and assist the existing Afghan military, as well as aid in budgetary development, management and deployment of personnel, operational planning, and more.⁴¹ The NATO-Afghanistan Enduring Partnership was created in 2010 at the summit in Lisbon, and acts as NATO's political arm within Afghanistan.⁴² This agreement exists to maintain the vital relationship between NATO Member States and Afghanistan through training sessions on topics such as defense education and the improvement of national defense structures' governance.⁴³

Iraq has also been a part of NATO's Middle East focus recently.⁴⁴ Established at the 2018 Summit in Brussels, NATO Mission Iraq (NMI) exists to protect Iraqi sovereignty and to ensure that ISIS does not return.⁴⁵ This is achieved through the deployment of non-combative troops to Iraq to train, strengthen, and educate the existing Iraqi military and security forces through three military education institutions in Baghdad, Besmayah, and Taji.⁴⁶ NMI works with several other international efforts in Iraq such as Operation Inherent Resolve, as well as other organizations including the UN, and the European Union.⁴⁷ In March of 2020, NATO pulled back some of its troops and training from Iraq due to mounting fears of the COVID-19 outbreak, however it assured the international community that their commitment to the Member States remains.⁴⁸

For a large part of 2020, NATO attempted to assist Member States as they dealt with the COVID-19 pandemic that spread across the globe.⁴⁹ On March 6th, NATO made their first press release involving the virus, and welcomed help and expertise from the World Health Organization.⁵⁰ After that, NATO Member States began to send aid to each other, including both transport capabilities and medical aid.⁵¹ NATO-aligned Member States such as Poland, Afghanistan, Montenegro, Albania, North Macedonia, Serbia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina all received COVID-19 medical aid from the alliance.⁵² By June, Sweden and Poland led the distribution of the aid to the Middle East and to Member States bordering the Black Sea.⁵³ These efforts in aid distribution assisted in combating the virus, likely decreasing the potential harm and driving the international death toll down.

³⁹ "Iraq, Afghanistan, Russia to top NATO Ministerial agenda," North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

⁴⁰ "NATO-Afghanistan relations," North Atlantic Treaty Organization, published Feb 2020, https://www.nato.int/nato_static_fl2014/assets/pdf/2020/2/pdf/2002-background-afghanistan-e.pdf.

⁴¹ "NATO-Afghanistan relations," North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

⁴² "NATO-Afghanistan relations," North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

⁴³ "NATO-Afghanistan relations," North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

⁴⁴ "NATO-Afghanistan relations," North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

⁴⁵ "NATO Mission Iraq," North Atlantic Treaty Organization, published April 2020, https://www.nato.int/nato_static_fl2014/assets/pdf/2020/4/pdf/2004-factsheet-NMI-en.pdf.

⁴⁶ "NATO Mission Iraq," North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

⁴⁷ "NATO Mission Iraq," North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

⁴⁸ "Defense ministers agree to enhance NATO's training mission in Iraq," North Atlantic Treaty Organization, last modified Feb 14, 2020, https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/news_173306.htm.

⁴⁹ "NATO response to COVID-19," North Atlantic Treaty Organization, last accessed July 20, 2020, https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/news_174271.htm?selectedLocale=en.

⁵⁰ "NATO response to COVID-19," North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

⁵¹ "Coronavirus response: Poland distributes medical aid across the Western Balkans," North Atlantic Treaty Organization, last modified on May 29, 2020, https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/news_176082.htm.

⁵² "Coronavirus response: Poland distributes medical aid across the Western Balkans," North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

⁵³ "EADRCC Situation Report #17," North Atlantic Treaty Organization, published on June 19, 2020, https://www.nato.int/nato_static_fl2014/assets/pdf/2020/6/pdf/200619-EADRCC-0104_sitrep17.pdf.



North Atlantic Treaty Organization Addendum

(rev. Jan. 2021)

I. Overview of Agenda

Adoption of Agenda

The United Nations (UN) North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) summit meetings are the highest-level gatherings of NATO Member States, and are called on an ad-hoc basis to address, decide, and institute policy that will provide strategic direction for Alliance activities. Summits are assembled upon the approval of the Permanent Representatives or foreign and defense ministers of the North Atlantic Council (NAC), often in response to new developments in evolving political and military security situations. The last NATO summit meeting was held in Brussels in 2018 to address developments in the ongoing situation in Georgia and Ukraine, security and support in Afghanistan, and to begin accession talks with the Prime Minister of North Macedonia.

NATO summit meetings are chaired by the NATO Secretary General, and often result in decisions relayed through declarations or communiques, where strategic and decisive action is outlined for implementation through the relevant NATO bodies. Defense and command organizational structure may also be modified or otherwise reformed during these meetings. Consensus decision-making is a fundamental principle of NATO's structure, and decisions throughout all NATO committees' meetings must be approved by the general agreement of the Member States. In order to reach full Member State consensus, NATO's Secretary General has the responsibility of helping to facilitate productive deliberation at NATO summit meetings.

How the SRMUN North Atlantic Treaty Organization Will Set the Agenda

SRMUN's NATO will operate differently than other committees held at SRMUN conferences. As opposed to providing delegates with pre-selected topics to consider, NATO will have an open agenda. The Organization is charged with setting the agenda based on current issues of importance to NATO by means of a 2/3 vote. Each delegate will be responsible for presenting two potential topics within their position papers that they will later defend before NATO to be considered as agenda items. These two topics should reflect the most important issues or crises affecting your Member State. Additionally, these topics do not need to reflect the topics presented to the delegates in the three updates that you will be provided as the conference approaches. The three updates provided prior to conference are simply tools to inspire delegates to think about current events from an international lens.

NATO will operate independently of the other organs at SRMUN due to the possibility of a crisis scenario. Therefore, other UN organs represented at SRMUN will not refer items to NATO. The Secretary General and any external actors within the overarching NATO structure are staff members and will not impact substantive debate, except when necessary. This leaves the agenda in the hands of the NATO delegates, who should therefore be prepared for a range of likely topics. At the first committee session and after roll call, the Secretary General of NATO will open discussion of the agenda. Delegates may make formal speeches and utilize caucuses to discuss potential topics and negotiate how to proceed. After some discussion and negotiation, delegates may make motions to set the agenda. An example of such a motion is: *"The Delegate from Jordan moves for a discussion of the Situation in the Middle East."*

Note that the naming of the topic will affect the breadth of the topic. For instance, the issue of "Israeli practices concerning the human rights of the Palestinian people" is much narrower and more focused than "the situation in the Middle East." There can be multiple motions for different agenda items, but each motion can only name one potential agenda item. Motions for agenda items will be voted on in the order in which they are received. The first motion to receive 2/3 of the quorum or more affirmative votes will become the agenda item. At the conclusion of discussion of that agenda item (either through voting or adjournment of the agenda item), NATO will again move back into a discussion of setting the agenda, and the process will proceed until the next agenda item passes by 2/3 of the quorum or more votes. Delegates may choose to negotiate more than one agenda item at a time, but they can only vote on one item at a time. For example, delegates may decide amongst themselves to discuss "The Division of Security Structure and Responsibilities in Afghanistan" and then "Cyber Defense Policy." However, only one agenda item may be adopted at a time. Thus, delegates would move to set the agenda as the first topic. Once the topic regarding Afghanistan has been discussed and resolutions have been voted on or discussion on the topic has been adjourned, then NATO will move to discuss the agenda again, and delegates would have to move to discuss "Cyber Defense Policy."

II. Voting

NATO will adhere to the voting rules set forward in the actual North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Procedural votes

require a simple majority to pass. Substantive matters (except for setting the agenda) may only be passed by consensus.

III. Position Papers

Due to the open agenda of NATO, delegates will be asked to write position papers that are different from all other SRMUN committees. In the place of two topics in the Background Guide, delegates will be presented with three relevant topic updates in the weeks leading up to conference. These topic updates are intended to help prepare delegates with awareness of real-world events that may impact debate in committee. Please note that topics chosen by delegates do not need to reflect those topics presented in the Committee updates.

For their position papers, delegates should identify two issues related to NATO's mandate that best reflect the interests of their Member State. Position papers should present the significance of the two issues in the order in which their Member State wishes to see them addressed.

IV. Crisis Background

Background

NATO was structured with focus on addressing some of the most challenging security issues facing allied Member States. NATO is expected to function continuously, adapting to new circumstances and reacting to continual security developments as they arise. Delegates to NATO must be prepared to handle an international crisis at any time.

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Addressing a crisis situation is often a piece of the work of NATO. If a crisis situation arises, the NATO Secretary General will provide delegates with pertinent briefing materials and periodic updates. The Secretary General will also forward communications from the governments of NATO Member States to their representatives, likely in the form of reports and communiqués. Other committees at SRMUN will not become involved. It is up to NATO delegates to decide a course of action to attempt to resolve a crisis. The primary tools for delegates to resolve a crisis are diplomacy and negotiation. Delegates should be prepared to represent the interests of their Member State in any potential crisis.

V. Outside Parties

Background

NATO has the option, upon full body consensus, to invite non-NATO members to participate, without vote, in discussions that affect the non-Member States. In the past, such invitations have been extended to foreign ministers or Heads of State of countries belonging to the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council, the NATO-Ukraine commission, external stakeholders to sensitive NATO security decisions, representatives from the World Bank, etc.

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The resources of SRMUN are limited, so logistically, it may not be possible to honor all requests. If a potential crisis requires it, SRMUN may seek ways to accommodate such a request. To invite a non-Member State, delegates must first advise the committee Director and Assistant Director of the request. If it is cleared, a delegate should make a motion such as: "The delegate from Slovakia moves for the invitation of representatives from Ukraine to participate in a discussion of the agenda item under discussion." The motion requires consensus to pass.