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Pražský studentský summit

Pražský studentský summit je unikátní vzdělávací projekt existující od roku 1995. Každoročně vzdělává přes 300 studentů středních i vysokých škol o současných globálních tématech, a to především prostřednictvím simulace jednání tří klíčových mezinárodních organizací – OSN, NATO a EU.



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AMO je nevládní nezisková organizace založená v roce 1997 za účelem výzkumu avzdělávání v oblasti mezinárodních vztahů. Tento přední český zahraničně politický think-tank není spjat s žádnou politickou stranou ani ideologií. Svou činností podporuje aktivní přístup k zahraniční politice, poskytuje nestrannou analýzu mezinárodního dění a otevírá prostor k fundované diskusi.

Rafat Kurdi

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Honourable Ambassadors,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to Model NATO! Our mission is not only to educate you regarding international relations or soft skills but to also give you a space in which you can progress, improve, meet wonderful people and have some (more or less) sophisticated fun as well. What we expect in return is simply for you to absorb as much knowledge, skills and experience as possible.

This document aims to guide you through both Model NATO and the real North Atlantic Treaty Organization. I do believe that some information is already not unfamiliar to you, however it is crucial for you to understand the very basic principles of

both the Model and the real-life NATO. Do not worry too much though – the more time you spend at the Prague Student Summit, the more confident and knowledgeable you will become.

We are not here to formally educate you; instead, our goal is to become your mentors, help develop skills that usually are not included in a standard school curriculum and give you enough freedom and resources so that you can focus on what you are interested in.

If any questions arise, do not hesitate to contact me or any of us at nato@amo.cz. Lastly, I hope you will learn something about the world, about yourself, and don't forget to have fun, too!

Rafat Kurdi

Secretary General

1 What is NATO?

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (abbr. NATO) is a political and military alliance which focuses on **collective defence and maintaining security** in the area of the North Atlantic Ocean. There are three core tasks of the organisation: collective defence, crisis-management and cooperative security.¹ In accordance with international law, NATO works on fulfilling these tasks with either diplomatic means or, when this fails, with the help of armed forces.

NATO functions on the basis of **the Washington Treaty**,² signed by 12 founding states in 1949. This treaty consists of 14 articles, among which the best-known one is **Article 5** which states the principle of collective defence. It fundamentally says that if a particular member country is attacked, it is considered an attack against all NATO members and the countries must assist in restoring and maintaining security in the affected member country by taking „such actions which they deem necessary“.³ However, the latter part of the formula can be interpreted in many ways and is therefore a target of criticism by many.

Article 5 has been invoked only once, right after the terrorist

attack on the 11th of September 2001. That happened less than 24 hours after the attack and it showed the flexibility which NATO has at its disposal.

Since NATO's foundation date, 29 countries have joined the Treaty in order to „unite their efforts for collective defence and for the preservation of peace and security“. The following list shows the member countries sorted by the year of accession to NATO:⁴

- *1949: the United States, the United Kingdom, Norway, Portugal, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Belgium, Iceland, Italy, France, Denmark, Canada*
- *1952: Greece, Turkey*
- *1955: Germany (West Germany only)*
- *1982: Spain*
- *1999: the Czech Republic, Poland, Hungary*
- *2004: Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Bulgaria, Slovenia, Slovakia*
- *2009: Croatia, Albania*
- *2017: Montenegro*

2 History of NATO

Key dates:

- **4th of April, 1949** – The North Atlantic Treaty was signed in Washington which led to the creation of NATO. The first meeting of the North Atlantic Council took place in September of the same year.⁵
- **5th of May, 1955** – The Federal Republic of Germany joins NATO. Consequently, the Warsaw Pact was established a few days later as the eastern counterweight to the Alliance.
- **9th of November, 1989** – The Fall of the Berlin Wall. Many questions arose – would the new Germany be neutral? Would extreme nationalism affect Europe once again? Was there any further need for the Alliance when the main adversary is basically defeated? The latter question was answered positively because NATO still had two other tasks: deterring rise of militant nationalism and encouraging democratisation and political integration.
- **20th of December, 1991** – NATO establishes the North

Atlantic Cooperation Council in order to create new partnerships with the states of the former Eastern bloc.

- **15th of December, 1995** – UN Security Council passes Resolution 1031 which gives NATO the authority to maintain and enforce peace if needed in Bosnia and Herzegovina. It was a reaction to the ethnic uprising which followed the fall of communism in Yugoslavia. In relation, NATO conducted its first crisis-response operation ever.
- **11th of September, 2001** – Terrorist attacks aimed at the World Trade Centre in New York and the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. That led to the very first activation of Article 5 and to adoption of broader security approach. Operation “Active Endeavour” was launched in response to this attack.
- **2003** – NATO employs International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan.
- **2010** – The alliance adopts the 2010 Strategic Concept and states the core tasks of NATO.

3 NATO summits

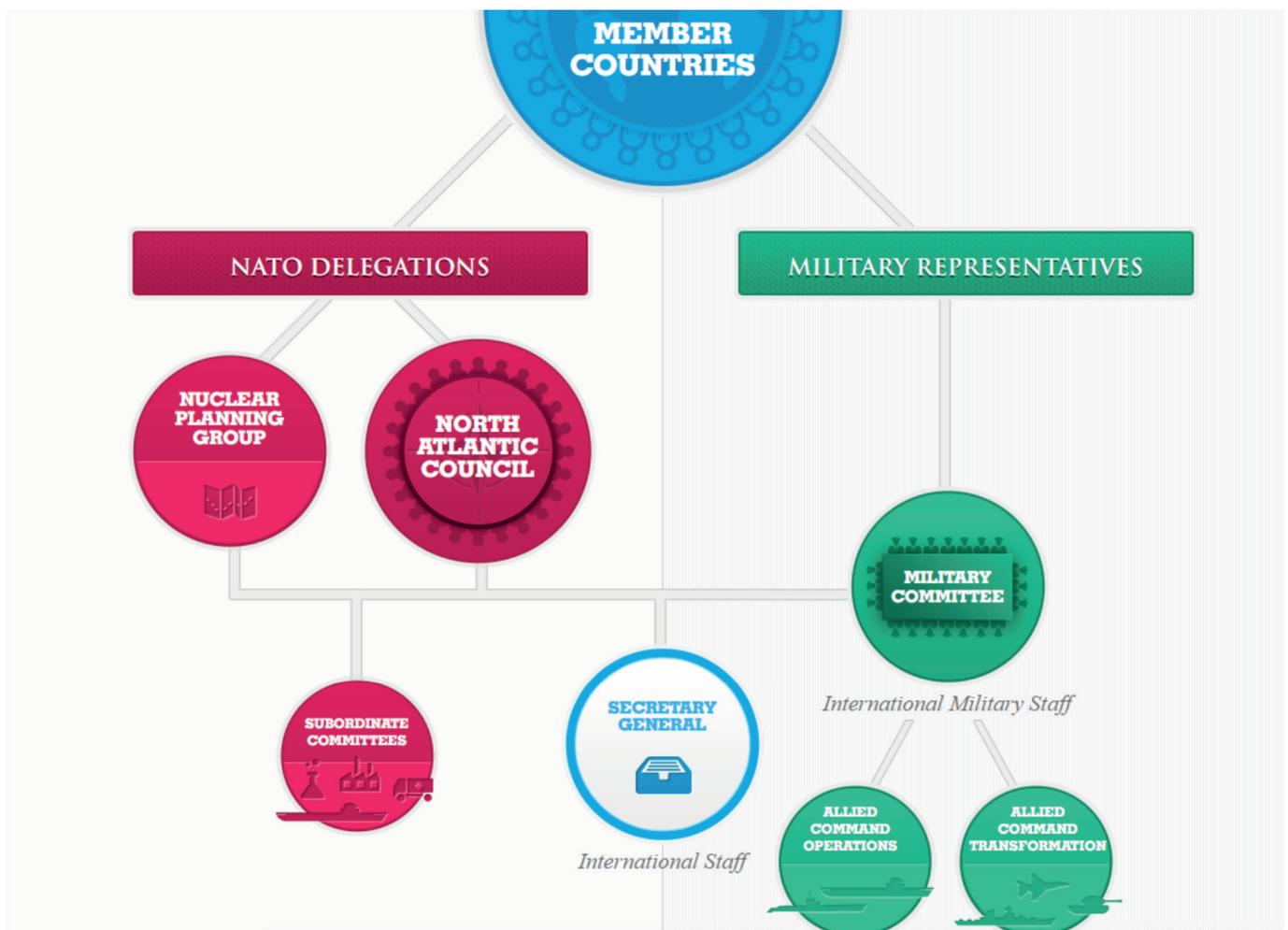
Summit meetings provide opportunities for Heads of States and Governments (not just) of member states to discuss and evaluate recent events, to invite new members, to bring about a new policy or to launch a major initiative.⁶ Usually, the results

of summits are expected to bring changes in terms of NATO structure, development of relations with other non-member states etc. Since 1949, around 30 summits have taken place in total.

4 Structure of NATO⁷

Firstly, NATO institutions, organizations etc. are divided in civilian and military structures. Each member state has its own permanent delegation headed by an ambassador to NATO, and military representatives, especially Chiefs of Defence. Both represent their respective countries to NATO and they reside in embassies in Brussels.

There are many subordinate committees and organizations which deal with various issues of NATO agenda, from political to technical matters. They specialise in certain parts of agenda in order to ensure that the level of expertise of NATO will always stay sharp. We will now only introduce the major ones.



Picture #1: Organizational chart of NATO (simplified)

4.1 North Atlantic Council

The highest political decision-making body of NATO is the North Atlantic Council (NAC), presided by the Secretary General.⁸ The function has been exercised by Jens Stoltenberg since 2014. The meetings of the NAC are held at various levels. Most commonly, they are held at the Permanent Representatives level. Besides that, NAC can meet at the level of Ministers of Foreign Affairs or Defence and the summit level.

It is the only part of NATO the establishment of which is directly mentioned and backed up by the Treaty. The NAC

meets regularly, at least once a week or whenever the need arises. Its meetings are not public. It is the body of NATO simulated by our Model NATO.

NAC makes use of the way of consensual decisions when discussing and passing a statement. It means that when it comes to a decision whether to pass a joint statement, it can be passed only if all the representatives vote for the proposal or when they abstain from voting. If any of the 29 member states decides to vote against the statement, it cannot be passed.

4.2 Military Committee

Whenever any of the decisions made by NAC leads to a military involvement of any sort, it is time for the Military Committee (MC) to enter the stage and to develop a clear strategic concept of the following actions.⁹

Generally, MC serves as the major body when it comes to anything concerning direct military actions and it provides military advice to the NAC. It meets at least three times a

year at the level of Chiefs of Defence (the highest ranked national military officers), and shortly after the meetings of the NAC at the level of Military Representatives of the member states. The MC is chaired by the Chairman of the Military Committee. Until 2018, the position was held by gen. Petr Pavel. The executive body of the MC is the International Military Staff.

4.3 Nuclear Planning Group

Another major NATO body is the Nuclear Planning Group (NPG). It has the same authority as the NAC as a decision-making body, but only in terms of nuclear weapons or nuclear proliferation.

Every member state with the exception of France participates in the NPG. It meets at the level of ambassadors and once a year at the level of ministers of defence. It is also chaired by the Secretary General.¹⁰

5 NATO funding

NATO budget and everything connected would require a completely separate document in order to be fully explained. Should you find the information described here insufficient for your purpose, we recommend you have a look at either [this](#) (webpage dealing with the funding of NATO) or [this](#) (overview of defence expenditures of NATO countries; 2017).

The organization itself is directly funded by individual member states which is based on an approved cost-sharing formula. These financial contributions are established in relation to Gross National Income of each member state.

The indirect contributions represented by individual Allies do not support the institution itself as the direct funding and are mostly grounded in support of NATO missions. They vary in terms of amount, form and such – one country may invest hundreds of soldiers, whilst another might not be able to provide so much. This form of financing and supporting NATO missions therefore works purely on voluntary basis. These contributions are represented by two thresholds which serve as indicators of whether a country is interested in participating in the Alliance's defence efforts and, consequently, to what extent. These are

namely the 2% investment guideline and the major equipment spending guideline.¹¹

The former guideline emerged in 2006 when it was decided that each member country would invest at least 2 % of their GDP in its defence. However, only minority of the member states reach this threshold. At the Wales Summit in 2014, the following points were stated: the countries meeting or exceeding the guideline would continue to do so,

whilst the others would halt any decline and will get as near as possible to it in 10 years.

The latter guideline states that at least 20 % of defence expenditures would be invested in buying, hiring and modernising major equipment. Once again at the Wales Summit, it was announced that the countries which failed to reach the guideline would aim to get closer to the threshold within a decade.

6 NATO cooperation, missions and operations

As stated in NATO's core principles, the Alliance tries to settle any disputes and conflicts by peaceful means. Nevertheless, there are a few cases where diplomatic consultations are not the way to reach for peace. In that case, NATO must be prepared to react by using armed forces in adequate manner.

NATO exercises the policy of "Comprehensive Approach" to crises.¹² In essence, the Alliance supports engaging a combination of political, military and civilian instruments. In order to achieve that, other organizations and states must take part in crises-solution, according to NATO's "Comprehensive Approach Action Plan".

6.1 Cooperation

It is essential for NATO to cooperate with other states or international organizations. The ones with which NATO works the most are namely the UN, the EU and the OSCE. There are, of course, other organizations as the Council of Europe, the African Union, INTERPOL and such. Important role is also played by individual partner states, which are not part of the Alliance, but overall contribution is reciprocal in terms of enhanced security. NATO has a network of partnerships consisting of 41 non-member states.¹³

For instance, according to Article 1 of the Treaty, NATO cannot implement any actions that would interfere with the purposes of the United Nations in the struggle for peace. If it comes to activation of Article 5, any actions undertaken must be reported to the UNSC (United Nations Security Council). Furthermore, any military operations dealing with crisis-management should be carried out either under Article 5 or under a UN mandate.¹⁴

UN

Collaboration with the UN on a regular basis is crucial for the existence of NATO. Aside from NATO itself, the UN is the only international organization mentioned in the Washington Treaty.

EU

NATO and the European Union share universal values and strategic interests. Moreover, there are 22 countries which are members of both the EU and NATO. Hence, they cooperate on a variety of issues, from maritime security and facing hybrid dangers up to crises-management.¹⁵

6.2 Active missions and operations

- **Resolute Support mission** – A non-combat mission providing training and advice to Afghan security forces, institutions and organizations. Launched at the beginning of 2015 as a following mission to International Security Assistance Force (ISAF). Broadly supported by the international community. Con-

sists of 13,000 personnel from NATO and partner countries.¹⁶

- **Kosovo Force (KOF)** – Present in Kosovo since 1999. Around 4,500 NATO troops. Presence maintained on the basis of a UNSC resolution.¹⁷

- **Operation Sea Guardian** – A follow-up mission to Op. Active Endeavour that was supposed to detect and deter terrorist activity in the Mediterranean. Three main tasks: maritime situational

awareness, counter-terrorism at sea and support to capacity-building.¹⁸

7 Model NATO

The model simulating the North Atlantic Council celebrates its 13th birthday this year. There are many things awaiting you during the whole year – Position Paper writing, exercises in diplomatic English, presentations about various issues which NATO deals with and so on. However, don't be afraid – there will be also some (hopefully a lot) really enjoyable whiles, too.

Each year, Ambassadors in our Model NATO deal with three topics closely connected to current world issues. In the past, the NAC of Model NATO discussed for example hybrid threats, EU-NATO cooperation, the Arctic region and NATO's space-programmes future.

We are not breaking the tradition this year – we will be talking

about NATO in Afghanistan, NATO missile defense system and NATO-Russia relations. You will be given a few documents called “background reports” about the topics and it's necessary that you read them. They provide information fundamental for the negotiations which take place at the Final Conference.

On the other hand, self-preparation for negotiations is also quite important. You should know as much as possible about the stances of the country you represent. Therefore, writing Position Papers for the Preparatory Meetings during the whole year shouldn't be avoided. Moreover, we can give you feedback and advice regarding your papers which should help you not only at the Summit.

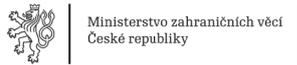
Seznam použitých zdrojů

- 1 http://www.nato.int/nato_static_fl2014/assets/pdf/pdf_publications/20120214_strategic-concept-2010-eng.pdf
- 2 http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official_texts_17120.htm
- 3 http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_110496.htm
- 4 http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_52044.htm
- 5 <http://www.nato.int/nato-welcome/index.html>
- 6 http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_50115.htm?
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- 8 http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/topics_49763.htm
- 9 http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/topics_49633.htm
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- 12 http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_51633.htm?
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- 15 http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_49217.htm?
- 16 http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_8189.htm?
- 17 http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/topics_48818.htm
- 18 http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/topics_52060.htm

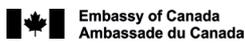


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