



NATO MONTH 2016:

NATO before the Warsaw Summit – Challenges and Perspectives for SEE



NATO in the eyes of the Warsaw Summit

NATO Student Simulation: 26th April 2016,
ERA Center, Skopje Fair, Skopje



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Meeting of NATO Heads of State and Heads of Government: NATO in the eyes of the Warsaw Summit

6th NATO Student Simulation, 26th April, 2016, ERA Center, Skopje

The Euro-Atlantic Council of Macedonia (ATA Macedonia) is a non-governmental organization which covers specific strategic areas for the Republic of Macedonia such as the euro-atlantic integrations and promotion of the euro-atlantic ideas and values in our society. In order to affirm the political consensus that dominates on this issue and is of state interest for Republic of Macedonia, EACM unites people from diverse ethnic, political, intellectual and business profile.

Being the leading actor in the country for more than 10 years, the Euro-Atlantic Council of Macedonia is actively involved in the integration of Republic of Macedonia in the Alliance.

In its work for around two decades, the Euro-Atlantic Council of Macedonia is the main actor in the country for public diplomacy of the NATO issue and the integration of the Republic of Macedonia in the Alliance.

The Euro-Atlantic Council of Macedonia has longstanding successful cooperation with the diplomatic missions in the country, the Government of the Republic of Macedonia, the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Secretariat for European Affairs, the Cabinet of the President of Republic of Macedonia, NATO Office in Skopje, the local self-government, and with the media and the civil society.

Through its activities ATA Macedonia promotes full support of the democracy, human rights, civil society and the rule of law in Republic of Macedonia. The activities of ATA Macedonia are well known on national, regional and international level.

ATA Macedonia is a member of the Atlantic Treaty Association, an umbrella organization of 38 national chapters working in the Euro-Atlantic region and wider, building support from the civil society for NATO and the Transatlantic cooperation, sharing the best practices among its members.

ATA gathers the current and the future leaders from the public and the private sector – including the areas of public policy and the academic environment, in order to nurture the values grounded in the North Atlantic Treaty: democracy, freedom, peace, security and the rule of law.

The Euro-Atlantic Council of Macedonia regularly participates and contributes to the activities of the Atlantic Treaty Association on regional and international level, and every year it takes part with its own delegation at the ATA General Assembly and ATA Council Meeting.

The Euro-Atlantic Council of Macedonia has its own offices which are the base for organizing its entire national and international activities as well working on daily basis.

Organized by the Euro-Atlantic Council of Macedonia/YATA Macedonia



Supported by Supported by NATO Public Diplomacy Division



Through the years

In the past several years, the Euro-Atlantic Council of Macedonia has been very active in raising the awareness among the young people in Republic of Macedonia about the importance and essence of NATO. Together with the Youth of EACM (YATA Macedonia), it develops projects which focus on the need for the young people in the country to be introduced to what NATO is, how it works and on promoting the Atlantic ideas and values.

First NATO Student Simulation



NATO Summit: New NATO for the New Era
– New Strategic Concept 2010

Second NATO Student Simulation



Meeting of NATO Ministers of foreign
Affairs: NATO Enlargement
and Western Balkans

Third NATO Student Simulation



Meeting of NATO Ministers of Defence:
NATO and Afghanistan - ISAF Mission and beyond

Forth NATO Student Simulation



NATO and partner countries - future challenges and what to expect?

Fifth jubilee NATO Student Simulation



NATO after the Wales Summit – Challenges and Perspectives

6th NATO Student Simulation - Meeting of NATO Heads of State and Heads of Government: NATO in the eyes of Warsaw Summit

26th April, 2016, ERA Center, Skopje (Diplomatic Hall)

Following the success of the previous NATO Student Simulations that the Euro-Atlantic Council of Macedonia has organized until now gathering more than 450 participants/students. This year we continued the tradition. The NATO Student Simulation is the only project of this type in the country which provides broad participation of the students from the Universities in the country studying in the areas of security, international relations and political science. The simulation was conducted as a simulation of a Meeting of NATO Heads of State and Heads of Government, where the representatives of the NATO member states discussed the global issues and challenges two years after the NATO Wales Summit, and very soon before the next NATO Summit in Warsaw. Ultimately, the NATO Heads of State and Heads of Government adopted a NATO Summit Declaration in which they outlined the future roles and missions of the Alliance.

This year as well as the previous five simulations, the project was generously supported by NATO Public Diplomacy Division.

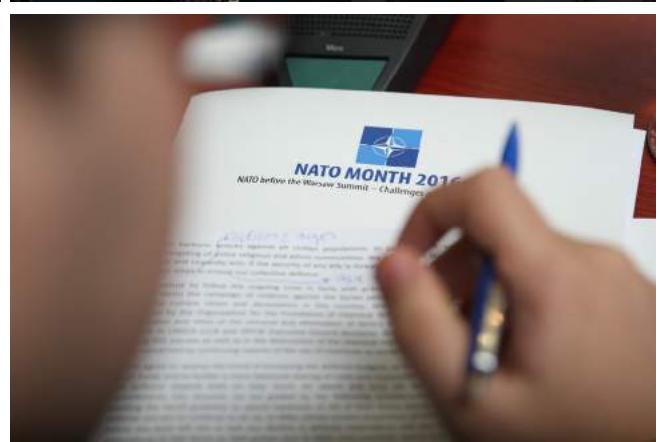


Opportunities

The NATO Student Simulation is a project of the Euro-Atlantic Council of Macedonia/YATA Macedonia through which the students from Universities in Republic of Macedonia who study law, political science, security and international relations, had an opportunity to see closely the manner in which NATO functions, the process of decision-making, what are the goals of the Alliance and its missions.

With a combination of analysis, debates, negotiations and adoption of a Declaration, the students learned and understood the way NATO works, and contributes to the discussion on very important global topics.

The simulation gave the students opportunity to learn more about NATO, about its history and role, missions. Furthermore, the students had a unique chance to enhance their negotiation skills and behave like in real life politics, debate, agree and make decisions.



Selection and preparation

The Euro-Atlantic Council of Macedonia coordinated the Universities in the country for the opportunity of the students to come and take part in the simulation. The opportunity was open for all students that study in the field of security, international relations, international organizations, diplomacy and law.

All of the Universities and more than 15 faculties showed their interest and thus students participating at the Simulation were from these Universities: Faculty of Law – Justinianus Primus, Faculty of Philosophy, FON University, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, International Balkan University, Faculty of Security, Tetovo State University, Faculty of Economics, School of Journalism and Public Relations, University College of London, RICE University, Houston, TX, Faculty of Law – Podgorica, University Donja Gorica, YATA International, YATA Macedonia and YATA Montenegro.

The Euro-Atlantic Council of Macedonia organized a briefing for all of the students involved in the simulation. As an organizer YATA Macedonia prepared guiding materials for all students and a booklet on NATO which contained relevant information. The students were given countries at random choice which led to strengthening the peer to peer cooperation as students from different backgrounds got to work together.



The event

The simulation was opened by Mr. Ilija Djugumanov the President of the youth of the Euro-Atlantic Council (YATA Macedonia). Video addressing had Mr. Zsolt Rabai, Program officer from NATO Public Diplomacy Division. Special guests that addressed the participants and wished them successful event were Dr. Bekim Maksuti, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Defence, Mr. Ismet Ramadani, President of the Euro-Atlantic Council of Macedonia and Navy Captain Rumen Radev, the Head of NATO Liaison Office in Skopje.

Instead to be part of the official opening, the students had an honor to be awarded with certificates by His Excellency American Ambassador Mr. Jess L. Baily. They had also a unique opportunity to refer a couple of questions in relation to Euro-Atlantic integration that were addressed by His Excellency.





The event was supervised and coordinated by the president of YATA Macedonia, Mr. Ilija Djugumanov, whereas the role of the NATO Secretary General was given to Robert Ivitsa Shushich, Vice President of YATA International who kindly accepted the invitation of YATA Macedonia to attend the event.

Observers of the event were professors and young professionals. Also for a first time younger students were brought to observe the event in order to listen and learn and apply for next year's simulation.

The simulation went excellent. The students were well prepared and actively took part in the discussions during the day. According to the agenda, each Foreign minister presented their views, the students debated about the future challenges and perspectives of the Alliance, and at the very end, they adopted a Declaration.

As a last part of the event, a press conference was held, where the alleged NATO and other international representatives taking part to the event, briefed the journalists and the public on the taken decisions.

The NATO Student Simulation again showed great results. It gave the students great opportunity to learn more about NATO by research and preparation for the countries they represented, and in regard to the current NATO issues. Moreover, it brought NATO closer to the youth. The Euro-Atlantic Council of Macedonia thanks NATO Public Diplomacy Division for its support for this project, as it sees the investment in the generation successor, as an investment of our shared future.





Robert Ivitsa Shushich,
Vice President of YATA International
Chairman of the NATO Student Simulation (acting as NATO Secretary General)

Two years ago, at the Wales Summit we have launched the Readiness Action Plan and today we can proudly say that NATO is more agile and better prepared to respond to different kinds of threats. The changes that followed the Wales Summit resulted with the largest reinforcement of NATO since the end of the Cold War. Today, our Response Force is three times bigger.

In December we invited Montenegro to become the 29th member of the Alliance with the idea of achieving our goal of a Europe whole, free and at peace.

But, achieving this goal is not cheap. We need to invest more in our defense! The trend of declining defense budgets must stop, because we need more training and more cohesion among our forces. We need to act as one and face all threats as one, because we share this World, both the positive and negative side of it.

Our duty is to defend our way of living, our culture, and the future for the upcoming generations. We need to further strengthen our collective defense and deterrence!

We must honor the ideal on which lies the Alliance's foundation, therefore I urge all of you here to find the funds, strength and will to fight for a prosperous and peaceful World. Our legacy will define us. Let us be remembered as the ones who have today seen past our personal interests!

Thank you.



Albania - Branko Kostovski

One of the main goals of our country is to reduce the outflow of Albanian nationals in foreign paramilitary organizations as the terrorist organization ISIS. In that direction, we have increased the border controls, especially the southeastern border with Greece which is part of the route of migrants to their way to Central Europe.

In the anticipation of the Warsaw Summit I would like to stress the importance of working together in strengthening the relationship between Europe and North America on which our Alliance is founded, in order to find appropriate solutions of these issues.



Belgium – Marija Jankuloska

There are several advancements and efforts that Belgium has made since the Wales Summit. In respect to the current security challenges, firstly, Belgium recognizes the necessity of employing measures and policies that will be directed toward effective implementation of the Readiness Action Plan which has been already underway.

Secondly, we acknowledge the importance of strengthening the current partnerships, but also of developing new types of cooperation and trust building. We must find a way to make a solid bond with Russia, and to improve NATO-Russia relations. And lastly, we must keep the pace with the technological progress to preserve peace and stability especially in the era of cyber threats when the technology can be considered as the most powerful weapon.



Bulgaria - Zivka Ivanova

As a nation, we are giving our best for fighting the cancer of the 21st century – terrorism. We are developing effective measures using experience of partner security countries and taking regulatory and institutional measures also. I am glad to inform you that Bulgaria is joining Microsoft's Government Security Program in a bid to establish an effective prevention against cyber attacks. Together we will develop our information security and also create reliable and effective prevention against cyber attacks.

From the upcoming Warsaw Summit we expect that NATO and its partners continue to rely on each other to achieve their strategic goals and to continue to coordinate their approach to the hybrid threats. The Warsaw Summit is an excellent opportunity to unite our forces so we can improve our safety, and guarantee that NATO is prepared for all future threats.



Canada - Nastasija Stojanovikj

Canada has been engaged in promotion of freedom and democratic governance and as a member of NATO, strongly believes that the security of the allies should not be violated by any means.

In regards to staying effective as an alliance, one of the most important things is maintaining a network of partnership which Canada strongly values. The cooperation is essential in order to meet the future challenges and solve them accordingly.

We value NATO's Open Door Policy and accordingly, we are willing to welcome new members. Nonetheless, Canada is extremely committed in supporting the partner nations, as it is already well known for promoting global security and engaging in needed activities for the support of its allies and partner nations.

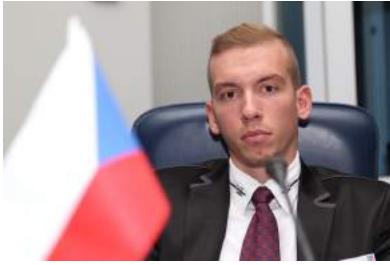




Croatia - Marija Ivanovska

We are very much aware of the privileges of membership of NATO, of our commitments and responsibilities for our defenses, but also for global peace and security. The terrorist attacks in Paris were a stark reminder of the treats and challenges that we face. So, for us the development in this part of Europe underlines the link between security peace and development. Different countries-different challenges, but we are still inspired to integrate more countries into the Euro-Atlantic cooperation, because the enlargement is important for the whole Euro-Atlantic area, and for the region.

All countries from the world must choose to break away from the past and stay on the path of reform and reconciliation. Together we can look forward with hope and confidence and turn an important page in history. That is our main goal.



Czech Republic - Bojan Trpevski

Since the accession in NATO, the Czech Republic was, and remained dedicated and constructive partner in NATO's work.

The Czech Republic remains devoted supporter of the Alliance's open door policy. We are confident that with the expansion of the Alliance, the security and stability of the region will be brought to a higher level, constructing a coherent area when it comes to the challenges we are facing, thus helping in resolving the problems we mentioned above. Therefore, we encourage the integration of the Western Balkan in NATO since it represents a vital part of Europe.

The Czech Republic will remain very dedicated to promotion of ours and NATO's common values like democracy, protection of human rights and the rule of law, and will remain a trustworthy partner in the actions that the Alliance takes.



Denmark - Amina Salihovik

I would like to emphasize that Denmark was one out of 12 founders and members of our alliance. The national-self image of Denmark is well known as a 'peaceful supporter', and internationaly contributor to UN peace keeping.

So, taken together the progress we've achieved it is clear that our Alliance will continue to do whatever is necessary to ensure our collective defense and to protect our citizens.



Estonia - Pavle Kostoski

Active NATO membership will always remain our top priority and integral part of our security and defense policy, as it allows our country to productively participate in international security co-operation and represents the most certain guarantee our national defense.

For us cyber defense is very important because we have already faced cyber attacks in 2007, when a number of sites were attacked including the site of the Estonian Parliament. Cyber-crime is becoming one of the global threats which must be taken seriously, in order appropriate measures to be undertaken for its reduction.

Comprehensive and coordinated attacks on communication infrastructure can seriously affect communication among NATO allies or national institutions and cause significant damage by disrupting civil life or allowing information leaks. Therefore, ensuring cyber security is a justified priority for NATO and its member countries.

France - Gorgji Isaevski

The 2016 Warsaw Summit comes at a crucial time for the Alliance. We are alarmed by the proliferation of ceasefire violations, and attacks by the regime against civilians in Syria. When the attacks on civilians are becoming an everyday occurrence and there is constant rejection of any political resolution, it becomes clear that this is a question of a tremendous importance that must be addressed.



As you all know, this subject is very close to us after the January 2015 attack on Charlie Hebdo, and the coordinated terrorist attacks in Paris in November 2015. What makes these events more distressing, is the fact that these attacks were planned in Syria, but organized in Belgium, and executed with help from French citizens. But it is not just France. In the last few months two other NATO members, Belgium and Turkey, were countries where organized terrorist attacks took place.

We expect from the Summit of Warsaw a clearer stance on this important questions and a possible resolution in this alarming time that we find ourselves in.

Germany - Maja Nikolovska

We're faced with multiple security crises in Europe. Despite the refugee crisis that hit Europe, especially Germany, we will be consistent in domain of the fight against terrorism. Many people want to say that the attacks in Brussels, Paris, Ankara etc. show how much our societies are vulnerable. But that encourages us to call for increased cooperation, more than ever before, to prove that democracy, rule of law and human rights will prevail over violence.



From an economic and security perspective, I will highlight the fact that Germany received the most refugees, compared to any other country. Germany knows how difficult it is to keep a balance between maintaining the stability of the domestic order and the effort to fully integrate these people into society. In these sensitive times, I will again call for an increased cooperation between our intelligence services, and exchange of information, so we can reduce potential problems to the greatest extent possible.

Greece - Ardita Zulfiu

Since our accession in 1952, Greece participates actively in NATO with the goal of strengthening the Alliance's cooperation with all its partners, as well as with an ever-increasing number of third countries, in the belief that this will reinvigorate the Alliance.



Much can be learned from the experience of Greece, which finds itself at the hub of three crises: an economic crisis perpetuated by austerity policies, a security crisis prompted by the country's geographical location in an increasingly volatile region, and a refugee crisis which has seen thousands of desperate people fleeing toward Europe, often via Greece.

Guided by the promotion of our national interest and the achievement of our foreign defense and security policy goals, as far as our operational and economic capabilities allow, of course – we are determined to continue to contribute actively to carrying out the Alliance activities and initiatives for the timely and reliable confronting of conventional and non-conventional security challenges.

Hungary - Radoslav Miloseski

The world today is facing major problems, despite terrorism which became commonplace, there is the refugee crisis. The acts of terrorism in Paris and Brussels clearly prove that terrorists have exploited the mass migration targeting the European continent and Europe cannot let the illegal migrants in. Also there is a need for control strengthened mechanisms, since the external borders of the European Union were not well secured, and accordingly we need to learn the lessons, and reinforce their protection.



We strongly support the cooperation between Alliance and other international partners, but one thing has to be clear, all the questions that are going to be discussed on this Summit, are of great importance for the stability and maintenance of the world peace, and all the questions should refer to each country equally.



Iceland - Sonja Miloseska

We underline the fact that the concept of security is no longer restricted to territorial defence; The concept is much wider and extends to coming to terms with new challenges. Individual states will not by themselves prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, terrorism, international crime, financial security, cyber threats, human trafficking, the negative impact of climate change, nor poverty.

These global threats can only be met through active international co-operation. Therefore, in this global security environment, it is more important than ever to work together.



Italy – Milena Savovic

In the era of the terrorist attacks and the immigration crisis it is a real challenge to talk about safety and how we provide the same to those who have none. We must remain united in the fight against those who are doing everything to make this world unstable and dangerous for all of our children.

We believe that a window of opportunity is opening to design a peaceful future for the region. Therefore, now more than ever, the Alliance should play a dynamic role in strengthening the cooperation and the trust of our Mediterranean partners. The security of the entire Euro-Atlantic region is linked with the security of the Mediterranean and surrounding countries.



Latvia - Majlinda Hyseni

Committed to the pillars of democracy, good governance, and the rule of law, our country is on the path of consolidating regional stability and co-operation between Nordic and Baltic countries, Eastern Partnership, EU and of course, NATO.

The Warsaw Summit will provide us with NATO plans for long- term cyber defense means, defense and deterrence of modern kind, and an ensuring multi-national presence in the task of securing the in land, sea and aircraft environment.

As the Head of the Republic of Latvia's delegation, I emphasize the necessity for a constructive and urgent call for Baltic Countries' constant unity, aiming for a widespread presence and security response to any attempt to destabilize our region, such as Russia's latter incident in our aircraft space.



Lithuania - Elena Serafimovska

In view of Lithuanian security strategy, we often pointed out that Lithuania was not in a position to guarantee security on its own, considering its size, resources, economic strength, and geopolitical situation.

Our experience in Partnership for Peace has familiarized our young Lithuanian military with the NATO defense concept and techniques. Lithuania, which less than several years ago did not have a single soldier, has managed to build up trustworthy armed forces capable of participating in NATO operations and exercises.

Lithuania also plays an important role in energy security by supporting and being part of NATO Energy Security Centre of Excellence. NATO ESCE was based on Energy Security Center, which currently is operating under the Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. So now, we can proudly say that we are energy secure State.

Luxemburg - Arta Qerimi

Besides providing troops for UN, NATO and EU operations, Luxembourg's army educates and trains its soldiers with a view toward their reintegration in civilian life after their voluntary military engagement. Public support for NATO as well EU operations is generally outstanding. The need to secure peace by building and maintaining stability, sometimes far from Luxembourg's borders, is well understood by the population. Therefore, recruitment for the Army is working very well. Despite these, nowadays, we are faced with security challenges like terrorism, cyber security and energy security. Our state has gained National Cyber Security strategy as a result of being active in actions that are connected with it and will continue to adopt measures in accordance with NATO guidelines.



Netherlands - Vullnet Ameti

The security situation on Europe has worsened in the last year, having us faced with terrorist attacks in the very heart of Europe. This is forcing us to face the facts that we can't take our security for granted and we must stay shoulder to shoulder with our allies, now and in the future as well. We should further strengthen our resilience and response to the new security environment. The threats of hybrid warfare and cyber-attacks had shown us that we can no longer strictly differentiate between civilian and military threats.



We should further strengthen NATO's improved political and strategic component, so that the Alliance can take earlier and more decisive action, especially with a view to better conflict prevention. As a country, we are committed to ensuring a strong NATO that is able to defend itself and protects people territory and interests against all threats and work with others to jointly fight extremism to help make the world safer and more secure.

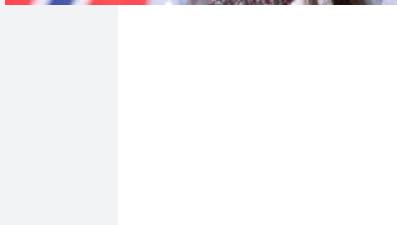


Norway - Sanja Andreevka

Today security is under complex challenges, meaning NATO and EU need to stand close to each other and agree on a set of joint objectives such as cooperation and crisis management, capacity building and stabilization efforts. It is time to face that we need more regular political consultations as we all stand to benefit from increased cooperation on maritime security, as well as on cyber security.



Other challenge is Russia. Russia is continuing to turn away from democratic and liberal values. We have condemned Russia's violations of international law in Ukraine and will continue to stand together with our allies and like-minded partners in our response to Russia's actions in Ukraine. The implementation of the Minsk agreements is very vital, so therefore we expect all parties are going to contribute to it. That means we are supporting Ukraine's reform efforts politically and financially. But as mentioned above we want good bilateral relationship so we will stay firm on our policy towards Russia and will promote cooperation and contact in area where there is mutual interest, and we will defend our values, principles and interest.



Poland - Narcisa Dervisevik

As hosts of the Warsaw summit, we expect ultimate collaboration and we believe that our agreement will be successful in making big improvements. We expect to reinforce the unity and where we stand regarding all threats – those coming from the East, which are of highest interest for us, but also the ones from the South. The main issue would be military cooperation with the Baltic States and the continuation of cooperation of the states in the region discussed on our previous meetings. In general, we expect this year's summit in Warsaw to be more than just implementing decisions taken in Newport.



Our membership in the Alliance seeks for great work and political dedication, solid military response as well as response to the responsibilities given. We will work each day to improve the stability, not only of our country, but to contribute to all the other member countries, or the partner countries, because only if we grow, our relationship and devote efforts and resources, will we make NATO a more secure organization.





Portugal - Nikola Petkovski

Portugal as a country shows strong commitment to keep NATO strong and to help in achieving the goals of this organization.

Allies like Portugal, Italy and Spain are on the frontline of the challenges we face to our South borders. We must work together if we want to solve the current crisis and upcoming challenges successfully and without any damages to our common security systems.

Our expectations from the Warsaw summit are huge, and we are looking to favor a Cyber Defence Commitment at the highest level, its implementation can be periodically assessed, so as to ensure its credibility and effectiveness. We need to further develop the technological and industrial defense base of the NATO. In this regard, the investment in the scientific and research dimensions of our defense industries of dual use – civilian and military is fundamental.



Romania - Martin Manaskov

Throughout the years, Romania has worked hard to earn the respect of its partners and to become a member who can provide security and stability. We build our foreign and defense policy in alignment with NATO's values and principles. That is why we are determined to contribute in the best possible manner in all of NATO's missions. Also, this is the reason why we raised up our budget for the Ministry of Defense.

Romania is keen to preserve the peace and stability, foster regional cooperation and help in bolstering the democratization processes and reforming the security sector.



Slovakia - Andrej Acevski

Slovakia recognizes the new security challenges that threaten our borders. The Alliance must stand firm, united and decisive to defend its values and principles. Fragility of the external borders of the alliance must be seen as a threat by the spillover effect which can tap directly into our countries. For that not to happen Slovakia strongly supports the Readiness Action Plan (RAP) and agreed NATO Force Integration Unit (NFIU) to be placed on our territory.

Crisis management is highly valued by our country and Slovakia will proceed to act accordingly. We will still continue to support and participate in missions of the Alliance. It coincides with our foreign policy for development which is one of our priorities. Problems beyond our borders in the modern world are ours as well because we feel the consequences immediately. New risks will test our solidarity, confidence and strength. Let us not allow any threat to our countries, to ensure our neighborhood and NATO to continue to be the main pillar of transatlantic security and safety.



Slovenia - Kristijan Fidanovski

Today, NATO is no longer a symbol of division. And even though it is a security organization, it no longer reminds people of war and fear, but rather of peace and safety. Slovenia is one of the many countries which have benefited from this kind of transformation of NATO.

The Delegation of Slovenia welcomes the progress made by some NATO members in the realm of cyber security. Furthermore, we would like to reiterate the importance of further harmonizing our strategy with regards to the refugee crisis, which has shattered the security of European borders in the past year. Republic of Slovenia finds it essential that we make maximum use of this year's Summit to continue exchanging our experiences with regards to these issues.

Spain - Anastazija Ristovska

Post-Franco's rule and as it transitioned to democracy, Spain has demonstrated very good will to take full participation in the collective defense efforts and initiatives of the intergovernmental military alliance, and deposited an instrument of ratification to formally become the 16th member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Although NATO is facing various novel types of threats such as guerrilla terrorist combat exemplified in the recent Paris and Brussels bombings, our combined defense and security is put in jeopardy by a not so obvious factor, namely secessionist movements. Our biggest threat is internal.

It is in NATO's own best interest to be ready to react to or counteract any such foreseen internal conflicts which may weaken its Mediterranean wing, in light of the forewarnings of ISIS jihadists' spread into Libya, and the Daesh control of Sirte, as casting an uncomfortable shadow upon Mediterranean cruise ships security.



Turkey - Valerija Krsteva

The integration of all Western Balkan countries into Euro-Atlantic structures is the key to lasting peace and stability in the region. Standing here as a representative of my country, I say YES to the NATO expansion.

Turkey also strongly supports NATO's partnerships. We also believe that a constructive relationship based on mutual understanding, transparency and cooperation between NATO and Russia is important for Euro-Atlantic peace and stability and that the NATO-Russia Council provides the right forum for such a relationship. Turkey shares the belief that the Mediterranean dialogue should be strengthened in areas where NATO can bring added value.



I hope we will stay unite and put our efforts for collective defense and for the preservation of peace and security and I strongly believe we will continue fighting the terrorism and refugee crisis together, maintaining the guiding principles of NATO.

United Kingdom - Makedonka Manoleva

UK contributes to the collective NATO defense, to air policing in the Baltic region, to increased readiness and preparedness of NATO forces.

In this context I would like to mention that United Kingdom is really showing the way for all Allies when it comes to defense spending – upholding defense spending at 2 percent and more for defense and security to all NATO members.



Our opinion is that NATO shall continue to adapt to a more challenging and difficult security environment.

USA - Milica Petrovic

In this moment the most important thing about keeping the world safe, is to resolve the problems between us and Russia which is the most delicate question now, and in the emerging strategic environment. It is very clear that the dramatic downturn in our relationship with Russia will bring the Alliance to the 'old' defense alliance identity forward again.



Referring to Article 5 of the Treaty, the Alliances will hold their word that we will continue to preserve the safety of our citizens and ensuring the collective defense of any State in any way to be compromised. We will take all measures to provide safety and stability in all our countries and in the partner countries.

DECLARATION

*Adopted by the participating delegations in the 6th NATO
Summit Student Simulation*

*Meeting in the format of NATO Ministers of Foreign Affairs
Skopje, 26th April 2016*

1. We, the Heads of State and Government of the member countries of the North Atlantic Alliance, have gathered in Warsaw at a pivotal moment in Euro-Atlantic security in order to trace the route for further policy-making and to define our future actions and policies.

2. We reaffirm our commitment to the common vision and shared democratic values embodied in the Washington Treaty, and to the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter. Based on solidarity, Alliance cohesion and the indivisibility of our security, NATO remains the transatlantic framework for strong collective defence and the essential forum for security consultations and decisions among Allies. The Alliance must and will continue fulfilling effectively, and always in accordance with international law, three essential core tasks – collective defence, crisis management, and cooperative security – all of which contribute to safeguarding Alliance members.

3. In order to ensure that our Alliance is ready to respond swiftly and firmly to the new security challenges, today we have once again to re-affirm the NATO Readiness Action Plan. It provides a coherent and comprehensive package of necessary measures to respond to the changes in the security environment on NATO's borders and further afield that are of concern to Allies. The Plan strengthens NATO's collective defense. It also strengthens our crisis management capability. The Plan will contribute to ensuring that NATO remains a strong, ready, robust, and responsive Alliance capable of meeting current and future challenges from wherever they may arise.

4. The elements of the Plan include measures that address both the continuing need for assurance of Allies and the adaptation of the Alliance's military strategic posture. The assurance measures include continuous air, land, and maritime presence and meaningful military activity in the eastern part of the Alliance, both on a rotational basis. Adaptation measures include the components required to ensure that the Alliance can fully address the security challenges it might face. Development and implementation of the adaptation measures will be done on the basis of the evolving strategic environment in the regions of concern, including in the eastern and southern peripheries of the Alliance, which will be closely monitored, assessed, and prepared for.

5. Today, we agree to extend the cooperation in the Baltic Sea Region. The necessity of regional relations positively contributing to the development on a global scale is becoming more important with time. We unequivocally support the formation of the Council of the Baltic Sea States as a platform for cooperation.

6. Today we renew our commitment to a common approach to address the challenges to peace and security in the Euro-Atlantic area. We underscore that the existing structures – NATO, the European Union (EU), the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and the Council of Europe – based on common values, continue to provide every opportunity for countries to engage substantively on Euro-Atlantic security with a broad *acquis*, established over decades, that includes respect for human rights; territorial integrity; the sovereignty of all states, including their right to decide their own security arrangements; and the requirement to fulfil international commitments and agreements.

7. The European Union (EU) remains a unique and essential partner for NATO. The two organisations share common values and strategic interests. In a spirit of full mutual openness, transparency, complementarity, and respect for the autonomy and institutional integrity of both NATO and the EU, and as agreed by the two organisations, we will continue to work side-by-side in crisis management operations, broaden political consultations, and promote complementarity of the two organisations to enhance common security and stability.

8. We will ensure that NATO is able to effectively address the specific challenges posed by hybrid warfare threats, where a wide range of overt and covert military, paramilitary, and civilian measures are employed in a highly integrated design. It is essential that the Alliance possesses the necessary tools and procedures required to deter and respond effectively to hybrid warfare threats, and the capabilities to reinforce national forces. This will also include enhancing strategic communications, developing exercise scenarios in light of hybrid threats, and strengthening coordination between NATO and other organisations, in line with relevant decisions taken, with a view to improving information sharing, political consultations, and staff-to-staff coordination.

9. The so-called Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) poses a grave threat to the Iraqi people, to the Syrian people, to the wider region, and to our nations. We are outraged by ISIL's recent barbaric attacks against all civilian populations, in particular the systematic and deliberate targeting of entire religious and ethnic communities. We condemn in the strongest terms ISIL's violent and cowardly acts. If the security of any Ally is threatened, we will not hesitate to take all necessary steps to ensure our collective defence.

10. We continue to follow the ongoing crisis in Syria with grave concern. We condemn in the strongest terms the campaign of violence against the Syrian people by the Assad regime, which caused the current chaos and devastation in this country.

11. We welcome the successful completion by the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)-United Nations Joint Mission and Allies of the removal and elimination of Syria's declared chemical weapons, as called for in UNSCR 2118 and OPCW Executive Council decisions. NATO Allies played a key role in ensuring this success as well as in the destruction of the chemical materials themselves. We remain highly concerned by continuing reports of the use of chemicals as weapons in Syria.

12. We agree to reverse the trend of declining defence budgets, to make the most effective use of our funds and to further a more balanced sharing of costs and responsibilities. Our overall security and defence depend both on how much we spend and how we spend it. Taking current commitments into account, we are guided by the following considerations: 1) Allies currently meeting the NATO guideline to spend a minimum of 2% of their Gross Domestic Product (GDP) on defense will aim to continue to do so; 2) Allies whose current proportion of GDP spent on defense is below this level will aim to halt any decline in defense expenditure and aim to increase defense expenditure in real terms as GDP grows; and 3) Allies who currently spend less than 20% of their annual defense spending on major new equipment will aim, within a decade, to increase their annual investments to 20% or more of total defense expenditures.

13. We condemn in the strongest terms Russia's escalating and illegal military intervention in Ukraine and demand that Russia stop and withdraw its forces from inside Ukraine and along the Ukrainian border. This violation of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity is a serious breach of international law and a major challenge to Euro-Atlantic security. We do not and will not recognise Russia's illegal and illegitimate 'annexation' of Crimea. We demand that Russia comply with international law and its international obligations and responsibilities; end its illegitimate occupation of Crimea; refrain from aggressive actions against Ukraine; withdraw its troops; halt the flow of weapons, equipment, people and money across the border to the separatists; and stop fomenting tension along and across the Ukrainian border.

14. An independent, sovereign, and stable Ukraine, firmly committed to democracy and the rule of law, is a key to Euro-Atlantic security. At a time when Ukraine's security is being undermined, the Alliance continues its full support for Ukraine's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity within its internationally recognised borders. The broad support for United Nations General Assembly Resolution 68/262 on the Territorial Integrity of Ukraine, demonstrates the international rejection of Russia's illegal and illegitimate 'annexation' of Crimea. We are extremely concerned by the further escalation of aggressive actions in eastern Ukraine.

15. In the strategically important Western Balkans region, democratic values, the rule of law, and good neighborly relations continue to play a pivotal role in maintaining lasting peace and stability. The Alliance remains fully committed to the stability and security of the region, and we will continue to actively support the Euro-Atlantic aspirations of countries in this region. Allies and their Western Balkans partners actively contribute to the maintenance of regional and international peace, including through regional cooperation formats. We welcome the start of negotiation process with Montenegro and continue to promote the open-door and enlargement policy.

16. We express our appreciation for the generous hospitality extended to us by the Government of Republic of Macedonia. The decisions we have taken at our Summit will help to keep our nations and populations safe, the bond between Europe and North America strong, and our region and the world stable.

Questions by the Media



AL JAZEERA - Viktorija Petrevska



1. How do you interpret the current crisis in Syria and what implications to security may arise for NATO member-countries? Do you believe that NATO should take some concrete steps regarding this matter?

CNN - Nebojsa Milosavljevic



1. Are the defense contributions for the Alliance of the member countries GDP's called by the NATO guidelines equally settled for military and security spending? Is there someone who lags behind?

2. What are NATO's internal deliberations on the alliance's future nuclear posture and its current efforts to engage Russia in a process of transparency and confidence-building measures in that area?

BBC - Nexhibe Emini



1. Mr. Secretary General, do you think that Russia with its expansionist policies, is trying to spread the Russian policy in the Balkans, especially after the events in Ukraine?

2. Recent terrorist attacks in Belgium, France and Turkey, are spreading fear among people around the world and it seems these acts have become part of our everyday life. What kind of policies NATO is implementing, in order to manage these crises?

BALKAN INSIGHT - Emilija Jovanoska



1. What specific precautions can be undertaken in respect of the refugee crisis and the infiltration of radicalized members of terrorist groups into the territory of Europe?

MRT1 - Dragana Urumovska



What are the prospects for Macedonia of becoming full-fledged NATO member-State bearing in mind the current name dispute and blockade that we are continuously facing?

1. We are all witnessing the migration flows that are concentrated on the border between Greece and Macedonia. What are your suggestions regarding this situation?

TELMA – Antonija Mitkova 

1. How do you comment the current European security policies regarding the migrant crisis and whether they are effective enough to hinder these serious issues?



