Study guide

North Atlantic Council

North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)
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Letter from the Chair

Dear delegates,

My name is Samuel Luyckx and I will be chairing the North Atlantic Council of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) at the first edition of Brussels Model United Nations.

Being for a couple of years now in the world of the Model United Nations, it’s my pleasure to welcome you at this council. For some of you this might be your first participation at a Model United Nations simulation, but I am sure that after a couple of days you will be very enthusiastic looking out for another simulation.

It’s for me an immense pleasure to present you the study guide of the simulation of the North Atlantic Council of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), discussing the topic of the Russian threat considering recent evolutions in East-Europe and the Middle East, and the future of NATO.

I would like to encourage you to do further research on the two topics to defend your nation’s position in the committee sessions. This study guide is there only to guide you in your research. I hope that the following days will be informative in both topics and that you will meet a diversity of people.

I am looking forward to welcoming you at the North Atlantic Council of Brussels Model United Nations!

Sincerely yours,

Samuel Luyckx

Biography

<table>
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<th>Samuel Luyckx, 28 Years</th>
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<td>Samuel is studying Political Science at the University of Antwerp in Belgium. His main interests are Peace and Security, Non-proliferation and Disarmament. Inspired by International Relations and Diplomacy he became a member of the Youth &amp; Student Branch United Nations Association Flanders Belgium (VVN Youth) where he organized several activities on Peace and Security, Non-Proliferation, Sustainable Development, Human Rights and Humanitarian Emergencies.</td>
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History and role of the Committee

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization is an intergovernmental military alliance consisting of 28 European and North American countries. It was established with the signing of the Treaty of Washington on April 4th 1949. The Washington Treaty was signed by its twelve founding members as tensions grew between East and West. Concerns among European countries grew as the power of the Soviet Union spread to several Eastern European countries. The treaty committed each member to share the risk, responsibilities and benefits of collective security and required them not to enter into any international commitments that conflicted with the Treaty. It also committed them to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and stated that NATO members formed a unique community of values committed to the principles of individual liberty, democracy, human rights and the rule of law.

After the collapse of the Soviet Union, NATO proved its important role during the Yugoslav Wars where it shortened substantially the hostilities. Since its first major peace-support operation in the Balkans in the early 1990s, the tempo and diversity of NATO operations have increased. NATO has been engaged in missions that cover the full spectrum of crisis-management operations – from deterrence and peacekeeping, to training and logistics support, to surveillance and humanitarian relief. Today, approximately 18,000 military personnel are engaged in NATO missions around the world, managing often complex ground, air and naval operations in all types of environment. They are currently operating in Afghanistan, Kosovo, the Mediterranean and off the Horn of Africa. NATO is also assisting the African Union, conducting air policing missions on the request of NATO member countries and supporting Turkey’s air defense system with the deployment of Patriot missiles.

NATO has a political and a military dimension. The political dimension is defined by the democratic values it tries to spread and protect. All decisions made by the North Atlantic Council, the principal decision-making body of NATO, are agreed upon the basis of unanimity. The consultation process is therefore at the heart of NATO. It reinforces the Alliance’s political dimension by giving members the opportunity to voice opinions and official positions, and it also gives NATO an active role in preventive diplomacy by providing the means to help avoid military conflict. If diplomatic efforts fail, it has the military capacity needed to undertake crisis management operations. These are carried out under Article 5 of the Washington Treaty or under a UN mandate, alone or in cooperation with other countries and international organizations.
The Russian threat considering recent evolutions: Ukraine, The Baltic States and ISIS.

The problem

In 1949 NATO was founded to face the threat of the expansion of the Soviet Union in Europe. As a reaction to the foundation of NATO, The Soviet Union and Communist nations in Eastern Europe founded in 1955 a rival alliance, the Warsaw Pact. This alignment provided the framework for the military standoff that continued throughout the Cold War from 1945 until 1991. Despite accusations of NATO’s irrelevance after the end of the Cold War, we can see that history is repeating itself with Russia, not only increasing its military and political activity in Eastern Europe, but also in the Middle East in Syria and Iraq.

Russia’s actions in Georgia, Ukraine and Crimea have been met with outrage from the international and European communities, accusing them of violating the sovereignty of nations and overusing their power.

The instability in Eastern Europe caused by Russia’s increased activity affects all NATO nations. Political and military activity have both escalated, through increased reconnaissance flights, naval activities, military exercises and maneuvers, and the deployment of new missiles to Eastern Europe. Beside that Russia has also been involved providing their military support to the government of Syria and Iraq in the war against ISIS, expanding their influence throughout the Middle East.

The goal of this committee is to discuss and take measures on how to respond to the situation at the hand of Russia’s actions, and to form the next step for NATO’s operations and goals in Eastern Europe and in the Middle East against the influence of Russia.

Current situation

Twenty-five years after the end of the Cold War, the military balance between NATO and Russia has again become the focus of huge concern. Following the actions of Russia near its Eastern boarders, NATO considers that Russia poses a serious military threat to the Euro-Atlantic security. Russia has increased its defense spending and has over the past years improved the capabilities of its armed forces. Over the past decade Russia has also demonstrated to use force as an instrument of foreign policy to project its military power beyond the post-Soviet periphery. Russia used its military force to annex Crimea and deployed little green men in the East of Ukraine.
The crisis in Ukraine began with protests in Kiev in November 2013 against the President of Ukraine Viktor Yanukovych’s decision to reject a deal for greater economic integration with the European Union. The violent crackdown by state security and military forces led to a greater number of protesters, what led to an escalation of the conflict.

In March 2014, Russian troops took control of Crimea. Russian President Vladimir Putin draw attention on the need to protect the rights of Russian citizens in Crimea and in the South East of Ukraine. The crisis led to ethnic divisions, and two months later pro-Russian separatists in the Donetsk and Luhansk, two regions in eastern Ukraine, held a referendum to declare independence from Ukraine.

The violence in Eastern Ukraine between Russian supported separatist forces and the Ukrainian military has injured more than 22,400 people and killed over 9,500 people. Although Moscow denies its involvement in the conflict in Ukraine, Ukraine and NATO have reported the buildup of Russian troops and military equipment near Donetsk and Russian boarders near Ukraine.

In July 2014, the situation in Ukraine escalated into an international crisis, putting the United States and the European Union at odds with Russia, when a Malaysian Airlines flight was shot down over Ukraine, killing all 298 passengers onboard, by what Dutch air accident investigators concluded in October 2015, a Russian-built surface-to-air missile. In September 2016, investigators said that the missile system was provided by Russia, determining it was moved in to Eastern Ukraine and then back to Russian territory following the shootdown of the airplane.

Since February 2015, Ukraine, Russia, France, and Germany have attempted to be a mediator in the conflict through the Minsk Accords, which included provisions for a cease-fire, withdrawal of heavy military material, and full control for the Ukrainian government throughout the conflict zone. Unfortunately, the efforts to reach a diplomatic settlement have been unsuccessful.

The conflict in Ukraine risks further escalation of NATO-Russia relations and a more greater escalation if Russia expands its presence in Ukraine or into NATO countries. While Europe have not committed to provide military support to Ukraine, Russia’s actions have raised wider concerns about its intentions in Eastern Europe.

In 2016, the member states of NATO agreed at the Warsaw Summit to deploy under the framework of ‘NATO’s Enhanced Forward Presence’ army battalions to Eastern Europe, which are rotating troops through Poland, Estonia, Lithuania, and Latvia to deter probable future Russian aggression in the Baltics.

Beside that Russia takes the necessary measures to increase their military presence and influence in the East of Europe, Russia is also taking part with their military presence in the war against ISIS in Syria. It was the first time that Russia had launched a major military action outside the borders of the former Soviet Union since the end of the cold war. The involvement
of Russia in the war against ISIS in Syria and Iraq has further heightened the tension in the relationship between Russia, the United States and Europe, that makes it difficult to work on prospects for cooperation on terrorism, arms control, and a political solution in Syria.

Past international action

During the Cold War, the member states of NATO and the Warsaw Pact stood face-to-face on the border between West Germany and East Germany. It took only a few hours to move military troops from Hannover to the border of Eastern Germany.

Today, the borders of the Alliance stretch from the North of Norway, across the Baltic Sea to the Baltic states, Poland, Romania, Bulgaria and Turkey. The alliance has prepared several deployment plans to defend its borders against Russia’s military influence. NATO has developed a plan for the Baltic States, in case that Russia would attempt to duplicate its previous military operation in Ukraine towards the Baltic States, and a plan for Romania and Bulgaria, in case Russia would try to come across the Black Sea. Today, NATO is also developing a plan to counter a military Russian operation for Turkey and Northern Norway.

The Baltic states warmly welcomed the deterrence measures from NATO. However, France, Germany, the United Kingdom and the United States would like to try to resolve the crisis in the East of Europe through diplomatic means. This has led to a difficult balancing act: on the one hand, they aim to stay within the constraints of the 1997 NATO-Russia Founding Act and avoid a tense military build-up along NATO’s eastern flank. On the other hand, they seek to assure NATO’s eastern members that any possible aggression will be deterred by the Alliance.
Timeline of significant events

2014 March – Russian military forces annex Crimea in Ukraine. The United States and the European Union imposes sanctions on Russia.

2014 April - Pro-Russian armed groups seizes parts of Donetsk and Luhansk near the Russian border. The Government of Ukraine launches a military operation in response.

2014 July - Pro-Russian forces shot down a Malaysian airliner over eastern Ukraine, killing all 298 passengers on board.

2014 September - Government signs Minsk peace plan ceasefire with Russian supported groups in eastern Ukraine.

2014 September - NATO confirms that Russian military troops and heavy military equipment has been moved from Russia towards eastern Ukraine.

2014 October – The outcome of Parliamentary elections in Ukraine led to a huge majority for pro-Western parties.

2014 November – Pro-Russian groups in Donetsk and Luhansk hold elections that were not agreed by the settlement of the Minsk agreement.

2015 February - Germany and France acted as mediator in a new ceasefire deal at talks in Belarus.

2015 July - The Syrian President Bashar al-Assad made a formal request to Russia for air strikes against ISIS occupied territories in Syria.

2015 August - Russia sends Russian-operated fighter airplanes, T-90 tanks and artillery, and military troops to an airbase near the port city of Latakia in Syria.

2015 September – Russia's warships of the Black Sea Fleet reached the area of eastern Mediterranean. At the end of September, a joint information centre in Baghdad was set up by Iran, Iraq, Russia and Syria to coordinate their operations against ISIS. Russian airstrikes are now being conducted on ISIS occupied territories in Syria.

2016 September - Russia carried out a large war game in Crimea to demonstrate Russia their control over the territory.

2016 September - The Ukrainian military and Russian supported separatists agreed to withdraw troops from several front-line areas, after agreeing a fragile truce.
The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) announced that the alliance will deploy four battalions to Eastern Europe, rotating troops through Poland, Estonia, Lithuania, and Latvia to deter possible future Russian aggression elsewhere in Europe.

Questions a resolution must answer

- What military actions are necessary to counter the threat of Russia against the Eastern European members of the alliance?

- Should NATO provide military support to the Ukrainian government that is not a NATO member?

- Which actions should NATO undertake against the Russian presence in Ukraine?

- Should NATO troops and equipment be permanently stationed in the Baltics?

- How should NATO react against the involvement of Russia in their war against ISIS in Syria?
Suggestions for further research


The map that shows how many NATO troops are deployed along Russia’s border http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/russia-nato-border-forces-map-where-are-they-positioned-a7562391.html

NATO: Studying the crucial transatlantic security relationship and its broader implications https://www.csis.org/regions/europe/nato

Securing the Nordic-Baltic region http://www.nato.int/docu/review/2016/Also-in-2016/security-baltic-defense-nato/EN/index.htm


Time line of Russian aggression http://natoassociation.ca/a-timeline-of-russian-aggression/
Topic B: the future of NATO: Developing new strategies and structures as a response to current threats faced by the alliance.

The problem

When NATO was founded on the 04th April 1949, the founding members declared themselves to unite their efforts for collective defense and the preservation of peace and security. The greatest threat that the Alliance faced was a threat from the Soviet-Union.

Today, more than sixty years later, the threats that NATO is facing have been changed considerably. Where the Alliance feared sixty years ago an attack in Europe by the Soviet-Union, the Alliance must confront now a wide spray of new security challenges, going from terrorism and piracy, to nuclear proliferation and cyber-attacks.

The Heads of state and Government of the NATO member states are determined that NATO will continue to play its unique and essential role in ensuring the alliance common defense and security policy. With the current threats faced by the alliance NATO needs to develop new strategies and structures to be effective in a changing world, against new threats, with new capabilities and new partners.

Current situation

Today, we face a much broader range of threats than in the past. To the east, Russia has become more assertive with the illegal annexation of Crimea and destabilization of eastern Ukraine, as well as its military build-up close to NATO’s borders. To the south, the security situation in the Middle East and Africa has deteriorated, causing loss of life, fueling large-scale migration flows and inspiring terrorist attacks. NATO is also confronted with the spread of weapons of mass destruction, cyber-attacks and threats to energy supplies, as well as environmental challenges with security implications.

NATO is responding by reinforcing its deterrence and defense posture, as well as supporting international efforts to project stability and strengthen security outside the boarders of the Alliance.

Below you will have a more detailed overview of the security challenges that we will discuss in the North Atlantic Council of the North Atlantic Treaty organization.
Hybrid Warfare

The illegal annexation of Crimea in 2014 by Russia and its aggressive actions against Ukraine reminds the Alliance the importance of core task of NATO on collective defense. Today Russia is also building up its military capabilities across the borders of Eastern European member states of NATO, by stepping up military exercises, the deployment of missiles on strategic territories, such as Kaliningrad, and conducting air and maritime operations in the Eastern European region.

Russia is aware that it would no longer be able to be involved in a conventional war, but instead it is able to reclaim former territories of the old borders of the Soviet Union and found itself a new way to destabilize NATO. For the past several years, the Russians have been refining a new form of aggression on “hybrid” warfare, a strategy that combines elements of conventional military power with subversion in the form of cyber-attacks, disinformation and electronic warfare. The use of tools of hybrid warfare is intended to create ambiguity and is targeted to a state its weaknesses and vulnerabilities. In this case the war is staged first in the mind of the people through propaganda that mislead the society both at home and at the country being attacked, to raise unrest and forcing official and military personnel to abandon their duties and desert.

Invasions and hybrid warfare operations in the Republic of Georgia in 2008, the annexation of Crimea in 2014, and ongoing fighting in eastern Ukraine have been tests for a new military strategy for the Russian military. With keeping this in mind, NATO should need to search new strategies to counter hybrid warfare tactics.
Cyber attacks

Together with the concept of hybrid warfare, NATO allies are facing also more cyber-attacks, that are becoming more frequent, organized and expensive in the damage that they cause on government administrations, businesses, economies, transportation and supply networks. Information and communications technologies have become indispensable to many western economies and societies. We depend on information and communications infrastructure in governing our societies, conducting business, and exercising our rights and freedoms as citizens. In the same way, nations have become dependent on their information and communications infrastructure and threats against its availability, integrity and confidentiality can affect the very functioning of our societies. When the term ‘defense’ is paired with ‘cyber’ it usually is within a defense context, but also may consider criminal or espionage considerations. For example, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) uses at least two terms when it comes to cyber defense and information security. The first addresses a broader information security environment: communications and information systems (CIS) security, where ‘security’ is defined as the ability to adequately protect the confidentiality, integrity and availability of CIS and the information processed, stored or transmitted. NATO uses a different definition for the term ‘cyber defense’: the ability to safeguard the delivery and management of services in an operational CIS in response to potential and imminent as well as actual malicious actions that originate in cyberspace.

As stated in the Strategic Concept for the Defense and Security of the Members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization of November 2010, NATO Member States have recognized that malicious cyber activities can threatens national and Euro-Atlantic prosperity, security and stability. To assure the security of NATO’s territory and populations, the Alliance has committed to continue fulfilling its essential core tasks, to deter and to defend against emerging security challenges, such as cyber threats.

In general, there is an agreement that cyber activities can be a legitimate military activity, but there is no global agreement on the rules that should apply to it. This is further complicated by the ambiguous relationship between cyber war and cyber espionage. Nations are concerned that infrastructure disruption could lead to significant economic costs on the public and private sectors and impair performance of essential services. NATO made clear in the Policy on Cyber Defense that collective defense does apply in cyberspace, and even discusses the process that the Alliance will use to invoke collective defense.

NATO need to constantly search new ways to counter cyber-attacks and improve the capabilities and counter measures of the Alliance cyber defense.
Security situation in the Middle East and Africa

Where the East of Europe poses a traditional security challenge to the Alliance, the South has a distinct character that is marked by on-going instability and fragmentation, especially in the Arab world.

Many recent challenges must be addressed to create more stability and security in the region. If conflicts continue in Libya, Syria, Iraq, etc. they will continue to be a rising ground for radicalization, violence and poverty. Terrorism will hinder the development of those affected countries and will have an enormous impact on the human security of that region.

Terrorism

Another challenge that the alliance is facing is on Terrorism. Terrorism poses a direct threat to the security of the citizens of NATO countries, and to international stability and prosperity. It is a persistent global threat that knows no border, nationality or religion and is a challenge that the international community must tackle together.

In support of national authorities, NATO ensures shared awareness of the terrorist threat through consultations, enhanced intelligence-sharing and continuous strategic analysis and assessment. Intelligence reporting at NATO is based on contributions from the NATO member states intelligence services. The way NATO handles sensitive information has gradually evolved based on successive summit decisions and continuing reform of intelligence structures since 2010.

As of 2017, the new Joint Intelligence and Security Division at NATO benefits from increased sharing of intelligence between member services and the Alliance, and produces strategic analytical reports related to terrorism and its links with other transnational threats.

NATO’s work on counter-terrorism focuses on improving awareness of the threat, developing capabilities to prepare and respond, and enhancing engagement with partner countries and other international actors.

Past international action

Hybrid warfare

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization is developing a new strategy to speed decision-making and improve its response to the kind of unconventional warfare that Russia has used in Crimea and eastern Ukraine. A new hybrid warfare playbook would attempt to lay out the kind of assistance the alliance would provide should a member state come under outside pressure from Russia or another country. Such support could include sending cyber experts to help respond
to computer hacking attacks, communication specialists to counter propaganda or even the deployment of NATO's rapid reaction spearhead force.

**Cyber attacks**

To keep pace with the rapidly changing threat landscape and maintain a robust cyber defense policy, NATO adopted an enhanced policy and action plan at the Wales Summit in September 2014. The policy establishes that cyber defense is part of the Alliance’s core task of collective defense, and confirms that international law applies in cyberspace and intensifies NATO’s cooperation with the industry.

The policy also reflects decisions of the NATO member states on issues such as cyber defense governance, procedures for assistance to the NATO member states, and the integration of cyber defense into operational planning. The policy defines ways to take awareness, education, training and exercise activities forward, and encourages further progress in various cooperation initiatives, including those with partner countries and international organizations. The policy also foresees boosting NATO’s cooperation with the industry, including on information-sharing and the exchange of best practices.

The NATO member states have also committed to enhancing information-sharing and mutual assistance in preventing and recovering from cyber-attacks. NATO’s cyber defense policy is complemented by an action plan with concrete objectives and implementation timelines on a range of topics from capability development, education, training and exercises, and partnerships.

The NATO member states pledged at the Warsaw Summit in 2016 to strengthen and enhance the cyber defenses of national networks and infrastructures as a matter of priority. Together with the continuous adaptation of NATO’s cyber defense capabilities, as part of NATO’s long-term adaptation, this will reinforce the cyber defense and overall resilience of the Alliance.

At Warsaw, the NATO member states also reaffirmed NATO’s defensive mandate and recognized cyberspace as a domain of operations in which NATO must defend itself as effectively as it does in the air, on land and at sea. As most crises and conflicts today have a cyber dimension, treating cyberspace as a domain will enable NATO to better protect and conduct its missions and operations.

**Security situation in the Middle East and Africa**

Related to the role of NATO, this difficult mix of interconnected challenges from the South will be hard to resolve. The Arab world cannot be framed as a “soft security” issue, as the security risks that rises from the Middle East and North Africa can also take the form of classic threats. Additionally, a new headquarters in the region could improve
upon the command structure in the South, as well as build upon NATO’s situational awareness which has already been enhanced using drone technology.

**Terrorism**

NATO provides support to the Global Coalition to Defeat ISIS with surveillance aircraft. Since October 2016, NATO’s advanced Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS) aircraft have supported the Alliance by providing surveillance and situational awareness.

NATO works to maintain its military capacity for crisis-management and humanitarian assistance operations. When force deployment is necessary, counter-terrorism considerations are often relevant. Lessons learned in operations, including by Special Operations Forces, must not be wasted. Best practices are incorporated into education, training and exercises.

The maritime operation “Active Endeavour” was launched in 2001 under Article 5 of NATO’s founding treaty as part of NATO’s response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks to deter, detect and if necessary disrupt the threat of terrorism in the Mediterranean Sea. While the operation has since evolved no other NATO operation has had a specific counter-terrorism related mandate. Active Endeavour was terminated in October 2016 and has been succeeded by Sea Guardian, a flexible maritime security operation that is able to perform the full range of maritime security tasks, including countering terrorism at sea.

**Current operations and missions**

**Securing the Mediterranean Sea**

NATO operations are not limited only to zones of conflict. In the aftermath of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, NATO immediately began to take measures to expand the options available to counter the threat of international terrorism. As earlier mentioned above, NATO launched in 2001 the maritime surveillance Operation Active Endeavour, and in 2016 this operation was succeeded by Sea Guardian.

Sea Guardian is currently performing three tasks in the Mediterranean Sea: maritime situational awareness, counter-terrorism at sea and support to capacity-building. If decided by the NATO member states, it could also perform other tasks: such as upholding freedom of navigation, conducting interdiction tasks and protecting critical infrastructure.
Supporting the African Union

Well beyond the Euro-Atlantic region, the Alliance continues to support the African Union (AU) in its peacekeeping missions on the African continent.

Since June 2007, NATO has assisted the AU Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) by providing airlift support for the peacekeepers of the African Union. Following renewed requests of the African Union, the North Atlantic Council has agreed to extend its support on several occasions.

NATO is also providing capacity-building support, as well as expert training support to the African Standby Force (ASF), at the request of the African Union. The ASF is intended to be deployed in Africa in times of crisis and is part of the African Union’s efforts to develop long-term peacekeeping capabilities. ASF represents the African Union’s vision for a continental, on-call security apparatus with some similarities to the NATO Response Force.

Air policing

Since Russia’s illegal military intervention in Ukraine in 2014, NATO has been taking extra reassurance measures for its member states. Among these measures is the boosting of NATO’s air policing missions.

Air policing missions are collective peacetime missions that enable NATO to detect, track and identify all violations of its airspace and to take appropriate action. Allied fighter jets patrol the airspace of the member states who do not have fighter jets of their own. NATO has deployed additional aircraft to reinforce missions over Albania and Slovenia, as well as the Baltic region where NATO F-16s have intercepted Russian aircraft repeatedly violating the airspace of NATO member states.

This air policing capability is one of three NATO standing forces on active duty that contribute to the Alliance’s collective defense efforts on a permanent basis. They also include NATO’s standing maritime forces, which are ready to act when called upon, as well as an integrated air defense system to protect against air attacks, which also comprises the Alliance’s ballistic missile defense system.
Questions a resolution must answer

- Which new structures NATO should need to develop to challenge current and future threats?

- How can NATO take further measures to counter Cyber-attacks?

- Following the struggle against ISIS, does NATO need to be more involved in counter-terrorism and the struggle against ISIS and other upcoming terrorist groups in the future? How can NATO be more involved in counter-terrorism?

- Should NATO need to have a permanent presence or bases in vulnerable regions in the East of Europe and the Middle East?

- How could NATO better address the security challenges in the Middle East and Africa?
Suggestions for further research

NATO 2010 Strategic Concept
http://www.natolibguides.info/nsc

NATO and Trump: What future for the Atlantic alliance?

The Future of NATO
https://www.cfr.org/report/future-nato

Future NATO: Project of the Atlantic Council
http://futurenato.org/

NATO: Countering Terrorism
http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_77646.htm

NATO: Cyber Defense
http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_78170.htm

NATO operations and missions: past and present
http://www.nato.int/cps/ua/natohq/topics_52060.htm

A brief history of NATO
http://nato.int/cps/en/natohq/declassified_139339.htm

NATO Defense Ministers to Discuss New Hybrid Warfare Playbook

What are today's security challenges?
http://www.nato.int/wearenato/security-challenges.html
Rules of procedure for the NATO Committee

INTRODUCTION

The North Atlantic Council (NAC) is the primary decision-making body for NATO. It is therefore responsible for passing the final communiqué after the Model.

The primary goal of each delegation is to represent its country in the most realistic and effective way possible. You should also be prepared to deal with a crisis that will test the unity and capabilities of the Alliance.

The task of each committee is to reach consensus on its agenda topics and to prepare draft language for the communiqué to be passed by the North Atlantic Council. In cases where a committee cannot agree on all the language, draft texts may be submitted to the NAC with the disputed text in brackets.

Delegations may place reservations on segments of draft language, allowing that language to be sent to the NAC, while indicating the right of that delegation to reopen discussion of it in the NAC.

During the concluding session of the NAC, there will undoubtedly be some persistent disagreements remaining from the committees that can only be resolved by the foreign ministers, and, perhaps, only after consultation with home governments. Whether those differences can be resolved sufficiently so that the NAC can issue a communiqué that clearly establishes NATO consensus will be the true indication of whether this ministerial has been successful or not. Once consensus has been reached and the communiqué is finalized, it will become official NATO policy.

Part I. MEETINGS

1. Meetings of the North Atlantic Council (hereinafter called the Council) will be held at a time and place designated by the organization behind Brussels Model United Nations.

PART II. AGENDA

2. The preliminary agenda for regular meetings of the Council shall be communicated to the members prior to the opening of the sessions.

3. The first item of business for a meeting shall be the adoption of a working agenda.

4. Additional items may be placed on the agenda, if the Council so decide by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting.
PART III. REPRESENTATION

5. Each nation’s representative on the North Atlantic Council shall be the Foreign Minister.

PART IV: THE CHAIRPERSON

6. The Chairperson of the North Atlantic Council shall be the Secretary General of the Model NATO

7. The Chairperson shall have the responsibility of ensuring the smooth operation of the Committee through interpretation and enforcement of the Rules. In addition to exercising powers described elsewhere in the Rules, the Chairperson shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting, direct discussions, accord the right to speak and announce decisions. He/she shall rule on points of order and, subject to these Rules, shall have complete control of the proceedings at any meeting.

8. The decision of the Chair may be appealed by any delegate. This motion is debatable by one delegate in favor and one against, after which the motion shall be put to a vote. The Chairperson’s decision will stand unless overruled by a two-thirds majority of members present and voting.

9. The Secretary General may, in exceptional circumstances, overrule an appeal or a decision of a Chairperson. The Secretary General will be the final arbiter for any disputes arising because of interpretation of the Rules of Procedure.

PART V: CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

10. The Chairperson may declare the meeting open if one-third of the members are present. The presence of a majority is required for a decision to be taken.

11. Committee Session will begin with a General Speaker’s List. Every time debate is limited, a new speaker’s list will be created. Speaker’s time is set by the Chair, but may be amended per request and vote of the Council. If at any time the Council would like to move into a Moderated or Unmoderated Caucus, the appropriate motion must be made, seconded, and voted upon by the Council Members.

12. Proposals must be submitted in writing to the Chair before they may be considered by the Council.
13. A proposal may be withdrawn by its sponsor at any time prior to voting, providing that the motion has not been amended.

14. The motions below shall have precedence over all other proposals or motions before the meeting:

   a) Point of Order
   b) Point of Information
   c) Point of Inquiry;
   d) To suspend the meeting;
   e) To adjourn the meeting;
   f) To suspend debate on the item under discussion;
   g) To close debate on the item under discussion;
   h) To change the agenda;
   i) To limit debate on the item under discussion;
   j) To Divide the Question;
   k) To amend the item under discussion;
   l) To reconsider an item;
   m) Right of Reply.

15. During the discussion of any matter, a representative may rise to a **Point of Order**, and the point of order shall be immediately decided by the Chairperson in accordance with the Rules of Procedure. A **Point of Order** may relate to the maintenance of order, the observance of Rules, or the way in which the presiding officers exercise the powers conferred upon them. An argument for or against the pending question shall not be recognized as a valid point of order. A point of order is the only circumstance under which a speaker may be interrupted. The Chair may refuse to recognize points of order if it is his/her judgment that the delegate has not maintained the restraint and decorum which should govern the use of such a right, or if in his/her judgment the point is clearly dilatory in nature.
16. A **Point of Information** is raised to the Chairperson if a delegate wishes to obtain a clarification of procedure or a statement of the matters before the body. Delegates may not interrupt a speaker on a **Point of Information**.

17. A delegate requesting clarification or additional information will rise to a **Point of Inquiry**. A **Point of Inquiry** may be used to question a speaker only after he/she has finished his/her remarks and may not interrupt any speaker. A questioner will address the **Point of Inquiry** to the Chair, who will then ask the speaker if he/she *wishes to yield*.

18. During the discussion of a matter, a delegate may move for the **Suspension** of the meeting. Should the Chair entertain it, it shall immediately be put to a vote. The **suspension of a meeting** requires a majority of the members present and voting.

19. After the final summit, a delegate may move for the **Adjournment of the meeting** until the following year. This motion is only for the Council and requires a two-thirds majority.

20. During the discussion of any matter, a delegate may move to **Suspend debate** on the item under discussion. Two representatives may speak in favor of the motion and two against the motion, after which the motion shall immediately be put to a vote. This motion requires a two-thirds majority to pass.

21. A delegate may move for **Closure of debate** on the item under discussion; whether any other delegate has signified his/her desire to speak. Two delegates may speak in favor of the motion and two against, after which time the motion shall be put to an immediate vote. This motion requires a two-thirds majority vote to pass.

22. Agenda items will be considered in the order in which they appear on the agenda, unless that order is altered by the passage of a motion To **Change the Order of Consideration of Agenda Items**. This motion is only in order during the first session of the conference. Once the agenda has been set, it may not be changed unless the committee is tasked with a crisis by the Council. A majority vote is needed for passage.

23. When discussing an item on the agenda, a delegate may move to **Limit Debate**. The purpose of this motion is to focus the committee’s attention on the topic or individual draft resolution or amendment. Once this motion has passed, debate is limited to introducing and discussing any draft language under that topic. A delegate may also limit debate to a draft language or
amendment, meaning all discussion must be relevant to the document at hand. Once limited, debate on a topic or document can be suspended or closed. This motion requires a second and a simple majority.

24. **In the Council, a delegate may move to **Divide the Question**, so that parts of a Draft Language or an amendment could be voted on separately. If objection is made to the request for division, the motion shall be voted upon. Permission to speak on the motion shall be accorded to two speakers in favor and two against. If the motion for division is carried, those parts of the proposal shall then be put to a vote. If all operative parts of the proposal or of the amendment have been rejected, the proposal or the amendment shall be considered to have been rejected. This motion is only in order in the Council.

25. An **Amendment** is that which adds to, deletes, or alters part of the Draft Language. **Amendments** must be submitted in writing to the Chair during the discussion of a Draft Language and must receive his/her approval. The Chair may, at his/her discretion, limit the number of amendments or request delegates to combine similar amendments.

26. Amendments shall be numbered in the order in which they are received. Once the Amendment is introduced, all sponsors of the draft language to which the Amendment pertains must be asked if the Amendment is Friendly or Unfriendly. If the Amendment is deemed Friendly by all Sponsors, then it is automatically adopted into the Draft Language. If the Amendment is deemed Unfriendly by any of the Sponsors, then it is dismissed and voted upon by the Council. The Council may limit debate to any dismissed Amendment and at the closure of debate on the Amendment, the Amendment will be voted upon by the Council. Regardless of limitation, all dismissed Amendments must be voted upon by the Council after the closure of debate on relevant Draft Language.

27. When a proposal has been adopted or rejected it may not be considered at the same session unless approved by a two-thirds majority. Permission to speak on a **Motion to Reconsider** will be accorded to speakers opposing and favoring the motion.

28. The Chair may accord a **Right of Reply** in the case of grave personal insult and injury. The offense to which the delegate is responding must occur within formal debate. The right of reply must be submitted in writing to the chair. Upon the chair’s approval, the delegate may motion for a right of reply. The time granted for a right of reply is at the Chair’s discretion. There may not be a right of reply in response to another delegate’s right of reply.
PART VI: VOTING

29. Each member state shall be accorded one vote in the Council.

30. For the purposes of these Rules the term *Members present and voting* means members who are voting on substantive issues. The term *Members Present* means a member may not vote on substantive issues. Members who abstain are considered not voting. Thus, they are not counted in the final total, which changes the majority.

31. All decisions of the Council must be approved unanimously by all members present and voting, except for procedural decisions as noted in these Rules.

32. All substantive decisions of the Council must be approved by a two-thirds majority of all members present and voting, but with the realization that unanimous consent is desirable.

33. The Council shall only consider the final approval of communiqués during the Summit session on Sunday.

34. The Chair shall note the time and date of communiqué approval, and place the communiqué on the Council’s Sunday agenda.

35. Procedural motions shall be voted on in accordance with the relevant parts of the Rules.

36. Immediately prior to a vote, the Chair shall describe to the body the item to be voted on, and shall explain the consequences of a “yes” or a “no” vote. Voting shall begin upon the Chair’s declaration “we are in voting procedure,” and end when the results of the vote are announced. Once in voting procedure, no delegate shall interrupt the voting except on a point of order concerning the actual conduct of the vote. Following Closure of Debate, and prior to entering voting procedure, the Chair shall pause briefly to allow delegates the opportunity to make any relevant motions. Relevant motions prior to a vote include: Suspension of the Meeting, Adjournment of the Meeting, or Division of the Question.
37. Voting shall normally be carried out by a show of placards, unless a representative request a **Roll Call Vote**. Roll call votes take place in English in alphabetical order by nation. This motion only requires multiple seconds.

38. After the Chair has announced the beginning of voting, no delegate may interrupt the vote except on a point of order concerning the voting. Delegates may not communicate with each other at this time, and the chamber shall be sealed, except to members of the Secretariat, the Committee, and the faculty advisors.

39. The term **No with rights** may be used by members wishing to explain their vote after voting has concluded. This right may be limited by the Chair.

40. A nation may record a formal **Reservation** if a part of a proposal is partially unacceptable to that nation. This reservation is raised at the time of voting and will be formally recorded on the proposal in question.