

NATO Student Simulation: NATO after the Wales Summit Challenges and Perspectives

30 April 2015, ERA Center, Skopje



This event is sponsored by
NATO's Public Diplomacy Division



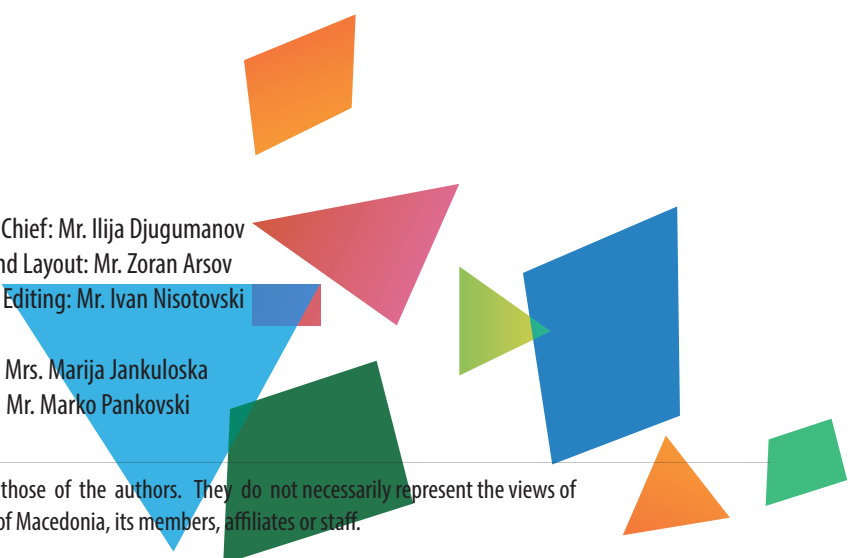
Published by: Euro-Atlantic Council of Macedonia
This publication is sponsored by NATO Public Diplomacy Division



Euro-Atlantic Council of Macedonia
Member of Atlantic Treaty Association

22/1/15 Makedonija,
1000 Skopje, Macedonia
Tel/Fax: +389 2 316 22 21

info@atamacedonia.org.mk
www.atamacedonia.org.mk



Editor-in-Chief: Mr. Ilija Djugumanov
Desing and Layout: Mr. Zoran Arsov
Photo and Editing: Mr. Ivan Nisotovski

Team: Mrs. Marija Jankuloska
Mr. Marko Pankovski

The views expressed in this brochure are entirely those of the authors. They do not necessarily represent the views of the Euro-Atlantic Council of Macedonia, its members, affiliates or staff.

Meeting of NATO Foreign Ministers: NATO after the Wales Summit – Challenges and Perspectives

Fifth jubilee NATO Student Simulation, 30th April, 2015, ERA Center, Skopje

The Euro-Atlantic Council of Macedonia (ATA Macedonia) is a non-governmental organization which covers specific strategic area for the Republic of Macedonia such as the euro-atlantic integrations and promotion of the euro-atlantic idea and values in our society. In order to affirm the political consensus that dominates on this issue and is of state interest for the 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 the 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 the public diplomacy of the issue of NATO 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 the Republic of Macedonia, NATO Office in Skopje, the local self-government, as well as 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 the Republic of Macedonia.

The activities of the ATA Macedonia are well known on national, regional and international level.

ATA Macedonia is a member of the Atlantic Treaty Association, umbrella organization of 38 national chapters working in the Euro-Atlantic region and broader, 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 basis for organizing its entire national and international activities as well work 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 its work to raise the awareness among the young people in the 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 – Meeting of NATO Foreign Ministers: NATO after the Wales Summit – Challenges and Perspectives

30th April, 2015 at the ERA Center, Skopje (Diplomatic Hall)

Following the success of the previous NATO Student Simulations that the Euro-Atlantic Council of Macedonia have organized since now gathering more than 400 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 Foreign Ministers where the representatives of the NATO members discussed the global issues and challenges one year after the NATO Wales Summit. Ultimately, the NATO Foreign Ministers adopted a declaration in which they outlined the future roles and missions of the Alliance.

This year as well as the previous four 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 the 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, compromise 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 opportunities were open for all students that study in the field of security, international relations, international organizations, diplomacy and law.

Many of the universities and more than 15 faculties showed their interest and thus students participating at the Simulation were from: Faculty of Philosophy at the Ss. Cyril and Methodius University as well as the Faculty of Law, Political Sciences and Faculty of Philosophy - Peace, Security and Defense studies from this University, Military Academy – Skopje, University St. Clement, Bitola, State University in Tetovo, SEE University – Tetovo, FON University in Skopje, University American College Skopje, International Balkan University, Diplomatic Academy Vienna, Faculty of Law - Podgorica, Faculty of Economics – Podgorica and University Donja Gorica.

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 officially opened by the Vice President of the Euro-Atlantic Council of Macedonia, Prof. Metodi HadjiJanev. Video addressing had Mrs. Barbora Maronkova, Information officer for the Balkans from NATO Public Diplomacy Division and Mr. Jason Wiseman, the Secretary General of ATA. With their presence captain Rumen Radev, the head of NATO Office in Skopje and Mrs. Anil Ozge Ertaj, counselor at the Embassy of the Republic of Turkey in Macedonia, NATO contact embassy, once again proved that NATO is a strong supporter of ATA Macedonia. Moderator of the event was Mr. Ilija Djugumanov, President of YATA Macedonia and organizer of the simulation.





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 Mr. Robert Ivitsa Shushich, Vice President of YATA International who kindly accepted the invitation of YATA Macedonia to attend to the event. Observers to the event were representatives of the NATO Contact Embassy in the country – the Embassy of the Republic of Turkey and NATO HQ in Skopje. The simulation went excellent. The students were well prepared and actively took part in the discussions all 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 voted decisions.

The NATO Student Simulation again showed excellent 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 and 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 successor generation as an investment of our shared future.





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

Dear Ladies and Gentleman,

It is a great honor and pleasure to be here today.

Last year we saw Russia changing its course, firstly there was the annexation of Crimea followed by aggressive actions and intimidation. All these actions have caused Russia to violate Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity with a horrific cost to civilians. Furthermore, North Africa and Middle East are in turmoil as well, states are breaking up followed by conflicts which fuels extremism and violence to spread on our own streets. Since its creation NATO has been the peacekeeper and in order to stay that way we must do our best to protect the order we have created.

There are three main issues I would like to discuss with you today. First we have to keep NATO strong in order to be able to deter any threat. Collective defence has always been our core task and that will never change, but we have to change the way we defend ourselves. We have to have in mind that all measures that we will take, and have been taken already, are defensive and proportionate with our international commitments.

Secondly we have to have in mind our neighbors – in the East and in the South. We must work with them to make them stronger, because if they are more stable, we are more secure. We clearly see this in our eastern neighborhood: Ukraine, Georgia and the Republic of Moldova have all held democratic elections. Their peoples have voted for Europe and what it represents. In Ukraine, the immediate task is to stop the fighting. Ukraine is a sovereign country and its people have the right to live in peace and security like the rest of us and we must support them to achieve this.

The last point which I want to speak about is Russia. At the start of last year, NATO and Russia were doing more together than ever before. Our ships sailed together to counter piracy, we worked together to fight terrorism and we were about to launch our first ever joint operation – to support the destruction of Syria's chemical weapons. Cooperation, however, can only be based on trust and respect. Respect for rules and agreements and respect for borders. So we call on Russia: to change course, to treat its neighbors as sovereign states, to come back into compliance with the commitments it has made and to contribute to a peaceful solution in Ukraine, based on the Minsk agreements. International rules must be respected – not rewritten and certainly not violated.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Last year was a black year for our security. And this year has started on an equally dark note. But history is not written in advance. We can prevent an age of disorder – if we have the will. We can keep the international order that has served us so well, if we stand up for its rules and if we stand up for each other. So it is up to us.

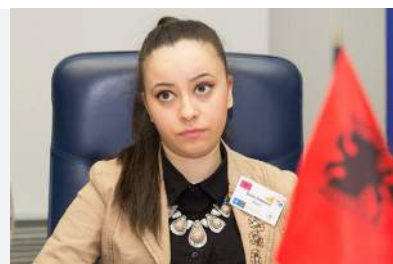
Thank you.



Verica Stojanova - Albania

Since 2009, our country is doing all in its strength to support NATO ideals for peace and stabilization. From that time, through the NATO summit in Wales, Albania has not stopped implementing strategies that would help our country, region and the world in general.

We stand on the same position from the last summit. Our country believes that NATO should open the borders for applicant countries. We believe that NATO should continue with the policy of open – doors. In that direction is also our position of getting new members in the Alliance from Eastern Europe. We are serious investors of peace and multi – ethnic and multi – religious coexistence in the region. In that way we are an example of how it has to be done.



Marija Angelovska - Belgium

We have to reaffirm the transatlantic bond and link. World challenges up to date presentend us with ample arguments to recognize the growing importance of the bond between the US and Europe. They will only be able to reinforce their global strategic position if they intertwine their destinies.

NATO has to strengthen its partnerships, which are a win-win situation. Partner countries provide political, financial and military support to NATO missions; NATO may influence political developments in volatile regions, control crisis situations, or mitigate tensions and UN or the EU as partners may offer the Alliance an effective deployment of military, political, civilian, diplomatic and humanitarian means.

The solid bond of trust which we forged within NATO must open the door to new types of cooperation. These relations should exceed the realm of security and defense and comprise, for instance, the Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP), which offers us the potential to mount the world's largest economic and trade bloc!



Maja Todorcheva - Bulgaria

Bulgaria is located close to the two most serious challenges facing NATO at the moment: the instability in the Middle East and the tension in the Black Sea Region. This is why our country needs to be part of the Alliance's response strategy. Bulgaria is making great effort to withstand the instability in those regions and to endure the refugee influx that threatens to surge.

We will continue to work with all Allies to implement the Wales NATO Summit commitments, in order for the Alliance to be fully prepared and ready to tackle 21st century security threats.

Bulgaria will continue backing the European and Euro-Atlantic integration of Western Balkans since each country's advancement to full-rights membership in the EU and NATO is a success for the entire region.



Asrin Bislimi – Canada

By knowing the wisdom sentence what light is to the eyes, what air is to the lungs, what love is to the heart, liberty is to the soul of human, every country should sustain all commitments that contain mission of liberty, safety, justice, protection.

Canada has been in assistance of all countries that are members of NATO and it was in furtherance for all of commitments to keep security and protection of the states and all people around the world in the high level. We never ignored opportunity to engage within the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the NATO-led missions. This state supports Israel and its security, to live in peace with its neighbors. As well supports Palestine for an independent and secure state and every harmful, aggressive act by any state is punished by NATO supported by Canada and other member states. Also supports Ukraine and the Ukrainian people must be free to determine their own future.

The best way not to feel hopeless is to get up and do something. Don't wait for good things to happen to you. There is nothing better than someone who goes out of their way to make life great for the others.





Daniel Josifovski – Iceland

With the changing security environment and the transformation of NATO, Iceland made some structural reforms. While having no standing armed forces, we continued with financial contributions and civilian personnel to NATO operations. Iceland believes that we are strong as much as the strongest country among us is, but at the same time, we are weak as much as the weakness of the members.

Because of the recent international security development we decided to start process of increasing the defense cooperation between the Nordic countries, including non-NATO countries such as Finland and Sweden. Hereby, we are very thankful that this was warmly welcomed by NATO member-states and the Secretary General of NATO.

We strongly support the cooperation between the Alliance and the other international partners in establishing the regional cooperation, especially when it comes to the threat of ISIL, national security in Afghanistan and the importance of cyber security.



Bojan Miklosh - Italy

The key of keeping the essence of world peace, the most meaningful responsibility of the NATO Alliance is to protect and defend its territories and the populations of its member countries. In times like these, coated with aggression on territory of one of NATO's greatest partners Ukraine, Italy's opinion is largely inclined towards moderation and engagement rather than confrontation.

Europe risks perilously overlooking threats from its southern flank as the Ukraine crisis dominates attention and reawakens rooting from the cold war. The opinion developed by Italy is that we, the alliance, are a bit too concerned by what happens on our northeastern borders not paying attention on what happens on the south. If we think of migration, terrorism, religious conflicts, poverty and the risks to our societies I wouldn't say what happens on our southern borders is more important but it's surely not less.



Dina Arnaut - Latvia

We are encountering the most serious security crisis in Europe since the Cold War. The annexation of a part of the territory of Ukraine by Russia, its aggression and military activities in the east of Ukraine and the clear intent to revise the international order and the principles of international law are presenting a challenge to the entire world.

Meanwhile, we are witnesses to Russia distancing itself from the international community (EU and NATO). The attack on the main office of the Charlie Hebdo magazine in Paris has again confirmed the need for a strict counter-terrorism policy.

Tension is building up in the European Union's southern neighborhood. The activities of the ISIL terrorist group in Syria and Iraq clearly demonstrate the necessity of combating international terrorism, and amending and supplementing legislation both in Europe and Latvia to prevent extremism and the participation of our citizens in groupings of this kind.



Manev Nikola - Lithuania

Modern times, call for modern measures against new challenges, and we must agree how NATO will help to protect its members, whether from the threat posed by extremists, regional conflicts or cyber attacks. From Lithuanian point of view, the closest threat, looming in the face of Lithuania and NATO that bears the risk of spillover in the region is the Russian backed insurgency in Ukraine.

Russia illegally violated the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine, and the time is now, that we must agree on long-term measures to strengthen our ability to respond quickly to any threat, to reassure those allies who fear for their own country's security and to deter any Russian aggression.

It is a fair statement to say that Russia's aggressive actions against Ukraine, we should agree on specific actions including:

- pre-positioning of equipment and supplies at the periphery of NATO's territory
- creating an enhanced NATO Response Force
- developing a new exercise schedule adapted to the new security environment
- building the necessary infrastructure at the periphery of NATO's territory

Ana Sokolovska - France

The main focus of the 2014 Wales Summit was placed on finding a suitable response to the Ukrainian crisis, and strategic positioning of the Alliance in connection with the activities of terrorist groups in the Middle East. Analyzing the situation in Ukraine, today, at this NATO summit, we will do everything in our power to stop the conflict in Ukraine using diplomatic measures. The goal is to reach a common solution (above all respect for the established truce in Ukraine, and prevention of further new conflicts or escalation of the current) that will be accepted by all sides. We all have the same goal, ceasefire in Ukraine, but different methods in achieving the same.

In light of these developments, France will always remain wide open to contribute to world peace. I want to stress that Ukraine is not alone in this struggle. Each state here stands for security, peace, and respect of human rights.



Fjolla Sula - Germany

The recent NATO summit in Wales has succeeded in building a reliable response to the new security challenges. NATO has been engaged in continuous transformation for many years to ensure that it has the policies, capabilities and structures required to deal with current and future challenges.

The primary goal of German foreign policy is to preserve peace and security in the world. The expanded concept of security covers not only questions of conflict prevention, defense, disarmament and arms controls, but also economic, ecological and social issues as well as human rights. This includes a committed effort on behalf of human rights world-wide and a global economy that creates opportunities for everyone, of fostering cross-border environmental protection and an open dialog between the cultures.



Aleksandra Dimovska - Greece

It's been a year since the last NATO Summit in Cardiff. This summit was important for the Alliance, because it is where we made a lot of important decisions necessary for establishing adequate ways to enhance the cooperation between stakeholders in the field of defense and security through dialogue between them. It was also the right place for finding an appropriate solution to overcome all the risks and complications in the area of peace and development.

The terrorist threats streaming in from the Islamic radicals from ISIL represents one of the main issues that we must address with due attention. At the same time, a wave of crisis has extended across North Africa and the Middle East.

I would use this opportunity to express Greece's appreciation for successfully completing our ISAF mission in Afghanistan.

NATO must be prepared to respond to all these threats with full capacity, with the aim to preserve peace and stability on the territory of its members. We need to fulfill all of our missions, political and military, and perform extremely well and work to boost our operational readiness, modernization and interoperability, and strengthen our partnership to preserve our role as a relevant security player on the international stage in the 21st century.



Antonija Mitkova - Hungary

I feel deeply honored to attend this conference.

In the last two decades, SEE countries have clearly changed only because of the democratization of their institutions and societies. These social and political reforms have imposed the need of creating new multidimensional relations, by form and substance.

One such reform was implemented by the Wales Summit by which we put an end to the war that lasted for many years. This Summit allowed leaders and officials from NATO member states to discuss current issues of mutual concern in Afghanistan and Ukraine.

Although Ukraine is not NATO member state, this state has had partnership of many years with NATO since 1997 and that gives Ukraine a safety framework and modernization of military forces.

NATO's mission for providing peace was also realized in Afghanistan which was the safe place for the terrorists. After long time, this mission, executed by NATO, put an end to the terrorism and once more established peace in the country. Today, more than ever, the integration in the Euro-Atlantic structures is the key guarantee of peace, safety and complete progress of every single member state as well as the whole region.





Daniel Josifovski – Iceland

With the changing security environment and the transformation of NATO, Iceland made some structural reforms. While having no standing armed forces, we continued with financial contributions and civilian personnel to NATO operations. Iceland believes that we are strong as much as the strongest country among us is, but at the same time, we are weak as much as the weakness of the members.

Because of the recent international security development we decided to start process of increasing the defense cooperation between the Nordic countries, including non-NATO countries such as Finland and Sweden. Hereby, we are very thankful that this was warmly welcomed by NATO member-states and the Secretary General of NATO.

We strongly support the cooperation between the Alliance and the other international partners in establishing the regional cooperation, especially when it comes to the threat of ISIL, national security in Afghanistan and the importance of cyber security.



Bojan Miklosh - Italy

The key of keeping the essence of world peace, the most meaningful responsibility of the NATO Alliance is to protect and defend its territories and the populations of its member countries. In times like these, coated with aggression on territory of one of NATO's greatest partners Ukraine, Italy's opinion is largely inclined towards moderation and engagement rather than confrontation.

Europe risks perilously overlooking threats from its southern flank as the Ukraine crisis dominates attention and reawakens rooting from the cold war. The opinion developed by Italy is that we, the alliance, are a bit too concerned by what happens on our northeastern borders not paying attention on what happens on the south. If we think of migration, terrorism, religious conflicts, poverty and the risks to our societies I wouldn't say what happens on our southern borders is more important but it's surely not less.



Dina Arnaut - Latvia

We are encountering the most serious security crisis in Europe since the Cold War. The annexation of a part of the territory of Ukraine by Russia, its aggression and military activities in the east of Ukraine and the clear intent to revise the international order and the principles of international law are presenting a challenge to the entire world.

Meanwhile, we are witnesses to Russia distancing itself from the international community (EU and NATO). The attack on the main office of the Charlie Hebdo magazine in Paris has again confirmed the need for a strict counter-terrorism policy.

Tension is building up in the European Union's southern neighborhood. The activities of the ISIL terrorist group in Syria and Iraq clearly demonstrate the necessity of combating international terrorism, and amending and supplementing legislation both in Europe and Latvia to prevent extremism and the participation of our citizens in groupings of this kind.



Manev Nikola - Lithuania

Modern times, call for modern measures against new challenges, and we must agree how NATO will help to protect its members, whether from the threat posed by extremists, regional conflicts or cyber attacks. From Lithuanian point of view, the closest threat, looming in the face of Lithuania and NATO that bears the risk of spillover in the region is the Russian backed insurgency in Ukraine.

Russia illegally violated the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine, and the time is now, that we must agree on long-term measures to strengthen our ability to respond quickly to any threat, to reassure those allies who fear for their own country's security and to deter any Russian aggression.

It is a fair statement to say that Russia's aggressive actions against Ukraine, we should agree on specific actions including:

- pre-positioning of equipment and supplies at the periphery of NATO's territory
- creating an enhanced NATO Response Force
- developing a new exercise schedule adapted to the new security environment
- building the necessary infrastructure at the periphery of NATO's territory

Bojan Angelov - Luxembourg

The transition in Afghanistan, the consolidation of democracy in North Africa, continuing tensions in the Middle East, the war against terrorism and even cyber security are all challenges that the Atlantic Alliance still has to continue to address.

The parliamentary discussion on internal developments in NATO, on its strategic direction, on the interoperability of its forces or on the impact of the economic crisis on its collective defense capabilities, is a factor in democratic legitimacy, essential to the process of cooperative security of which the Alliance is an element.



Merisa Biberovikj - Netherlands

We must not be alarmist, but we should be very realistic. An active foreign policy is crucial if we are to protect our strategic interests, freedoms and values. Promoting the international legal order and international stability is in our own interests and in the interests of others.

Let me end with a saying "History is made by people". No outcome is predetermined or written in the stars. The reality in Europe is erratic, but by no means hopeless. We must defend ourselves against external threats, without fuelling the fire. This requires us to perform a difficult balancing act, but I'm confident we will play an outstanding role.



Vladimir Kotevski - Norway

Norway is in a better economic situation than many of our European Allies, and that increased spending on defence is very challenging in today's economic climate.

We will do our share. I can however assure you this doesn't come easily. We cannot expect the US to invest in European security when we are not willing to make necessary investments ourselves. Credible US engagement and leadership is vital but we also need to demonstrate that we stand ready to support the US in addressing its security concerns. As Europeans, we need to take a hard look at burden-sharing, and Europe needs to contribute our share to our common security. Norway would like to see a renewed focus on NATO's planning for contingencies. We believe that there is a need both to review existing NATO plans as well as considering developing new ones. Norway stands ready to host NATO's High Visibility Exercise in 2018. In conclusion, we need to adapt to changing circumstances, and develop a NATO that responds to present and also future challenges. The fundamental challenge is to ensure a credible, capable and cohesive Alliance for the 21st century. For Norway, relationship with our allies in NATO with remains a cornerstone in this regard – as it has throughout history.



Nikolina Scepánovic – Poland

Poland has proven to be a significant factor in spreading peace in all four parts of the globe. Since joining NATO in 1997, Poland has taken part in all missions of the Alliance that have intended to ensure more peace and security in the lands of crises and wars.

Ukraine and the security of its people were and remains a focus interest for Poland. Russia's behavior by demonstrating unilateral political and military action in Ukraine has surely provoked the rising tensions and instability in Ukraine. We deeply believe that the peace in Ukraine and its cooperation with the Alliance are complementarily bound to each other.

We will permanently support and engage in actions that contribute to the vision of the founders of this great Alliance – peace and security for all!





Marija Spasovska - Portugal

The stability of our neighbors means more security for us as well. For that reason, Portugal is striving to contribute to the establishment of stability in the region and it strongly supports the process of training and institution building in Jordan and Afghanistan, as it is also steady ready to help Iraq and Libya and every country in need to go through the process of stabilization, reforms, building institutions and training.

Certain indication of NATO's successful policy is the fact that almost every country in North Africa is now partner country with NATO. We work with them to help them stabilize. And we shall do more of that. The idea of projecting stability without always deploying large number of forces



Taulant Arifi - Romania

The foreign policy of Romania is largely defined by our membership within the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Therefore, our actions are oriented towards supporting NATO's role in providing stability, as a promoter of reforms and regional cooperation in the immediate vicinity of Romania (Balkans and the Black Sea area).

Romania deems that the Euro-Atlantic frontier, based on democracy, freedom and security should not stop at its eastern border. Europe cannot be complete without the integration of Western Balkans in the European and Euro-Atlantic structures.

As representative of a state which, after 1990, underwent a complex process of political, economic and democratic transition, we believe all states encountered in democratization processes need the support of the international community. The challenges these states are confronted with are complex and include the promotion of the democratic governance and of the state of law, the approach of aspects related with past human rights infringements and the encouragement of the fair exercise of the act of justice.



Blagica Dimitrova - Slovakia

We face serious deterioration of security situation around the world which is a matter of a serious concern. We need to generate a momentum to protect the Treaty and to maintain our forward course. Nowadays, instead of democratization, we still witness bloody conflicts, violence, a rise in extremism and human sufferings. The current status quo leads nowhere. It is necessary to build an atmosphere of a trust and to avoid taking any unilateral steps that could bring more tension in the mutual relations.

This year's focus for foreign policy brings a stronger accent on security, which is the number one priority, and reflects the changed security setting induced especially by the crisis in Ukraine and the Mideast. Our priority is the de-escalation of the situation and peaceful crisis resolution through diplomatic talks. Beside crisis in Ukraine, Slovak diplomacy will pay more attention as well to combating terrorism. We will contribute the best we can, to the activities undertaken by the international coalition against the so-called Islamic State. Defeating extremism and terrorism is important not only for protecting our values but also for our identity as civilized societies.



Trajkovska Daniela - Slovenia

In Kosovo NATO's troops remain the key factors of stability. Slovenia participates in this operation with a significant contingent of its soldiers. We therefore call for a prudent, gradual and measured approach toward the KFOR's move to deterrence posture. Countries of the region still need our attention and assistance with their Euro-Atlantic aspirations. Slovenia will continue to pursue its engagement in the region, both on a political and practical level. Needless to say, one of the key challenges for the international community and the Alliance remains Afghanistan.

The way we see it, the path to success lies in the comprehensive engagement of military and civilian capabilities. Coordination with other global players and partners under the auspices of the UN and in close coordination with the Afghan government.

The main goal of the international community should be creating the conditions which will enable Afghan authorities to take over their responsibilities for civilization and development of their own country.

We have learned from NATO's operations in the Balkans and Afghanistan that current security challenges demand a broad spectrum of instruments. That is to say, military as well as civilian. And in other words, NATO does not and cannot act alone.

Ljubica Kostovska - Spain

The Kingdom of Spain is one of the framework countries of changing NATO's defense posture so we can have the right troops in the right place at the right time.

ISIS is a great threat to the world's security and peace. We are doing our best to deal with the barbarian behavior of the militants. Also, we are contributing in providing Iraq the needed help to deal with it also by itself and to prevent the enlargement of ISIS.

I would also put an accent of today's great threat to all of us which wasn't dealt before - the cyber terrorism. We, as a security Alliance need to reconsider and recap our field of operating and enlarge it in direction of the cyberspace.

At the end of this statement of mine, I would remind everyone here that The Kingdom of Spain will always be partner of every country which is part of the NATO family. At the end of the day, we can keep the international order only if we stand up for its rules and if we stand up for each other.



Ilir Baftijari - Turkey

Turkey strongly condemns Russia's continued and deliberate destabilization of eastern Ukraine which shows a serious breach of international law. Our stance is to continue to support NATO decision upon naming the "annexation" of Crimea by the Russian Federation as "illegal and illegitimate".

We support the implementation of the Readiness Action Plan which was concluded in the Wales Summit and therefore we see it as crucial for its effects it should produce afterwards.

ISAF mission in Afghanistan successfully ended in December 2014 with Turkey as the second country after US by the number of military troops sent in Afghanistan. As agreed with the new Resolute Support Mission, Turkey will continue to train, advice and assist Afghan security forces in the capital region of Afghanistan. This marks a new chapter of cooperation with NATO.

In the end of my speech I would like to emphasize the article 5 of the Washington Treaty so as mention that it is now the critical time to be aware of the NATO goals, which itself faces all the challenges happening nowadays. Europe whole, free and at peace is as crucial as it is the famous allegation of the Secretary General, which is "All for one and one for all".



Blerim Hajdari - United Kingdom

This summit has shown a real sense of purpose, resolution and unity. It is about, here at home, our national security-and the security of every family in Britain.

First, there has been a clear message sent out from this conference to Russia that what President Putin is doing is indefensible and wrong. While we meet here in Skopje, a package of sanctions is being finalized in Brussels that will further increase the economic cost to Russia for its behavior.

Second, NATO needs to be even stronger. Britain is one of only four countries that currently spends 2% of its GDP on defence. On Wednesday I announced a 3.5 contract for Scout armored vehicles for the Army, the largest such order in over three decades. They are an investment in British security, in British prosperity and our place in the world, transforming our ability to project power globally whether independently or with our allies. Third, we were clear about the new threats we face, principally Islamist extremism.

So ladies and gentleman we hope that will leave Skopje today united in purpose and with a stronger NATO, better able to keep our people safe.

I would like to thank everyone who has helped to make this event possible. But most of all, the people of our country who have welcomed the world and I believe done our United Kingdom and NATO proud.



Ena Ciguljin - United States

At this time of transition and testing, combat mission in Afghanistan is coming to an end. In the Middle East, the terrorist threat from ISIL poses a growing danger. Our Alliance has summoned the will, the resources and the capabilities to meet all of these challenges. First, we've reaffirmed the central mission of the Alliance. We'll defend every Ally. Second, we agreed to be resolute in reassuring our Allies in Eastern Europe. Increased NATO air patrols over the Baltics and naval patrols in the Black Sea will continue.

Third, to ensure that NATO remains prepared for any contingency, we agreed to a new Readiness Action Plan. Fourth, all 28 NATO nations have pledged to increase their investments in defense and to move toward investing 2 percent of their GDP in our collective security. Fifth, our Alliance is united in support of Ukraine's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity and its right to defend itself.

Finally, we reaffirmed that the door to NATO membership remains open to nations that can meet our high standards. So, I think the progress we've achieved in Wales makes it clear that our Alliance will continue to do whatever is necessary to ensure our collective defense and to protect our citizens.



DECLARATION

*Adopted by the participating delegations in the fifth NATO
Student Simulation*

*Meeting in the format of NATO Ministers of Foreign Affairs
Skopje, 30th April 2015*

1. We, the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the member countries of the North Atlantic Alliance, have gathered in this summit at a pivotal moment in Euro-Atlantic security. Russia's illegal actions against Ukraine have fundamentally challenged our vision of a Europe whole, free, and at peace. Growing instability in our southern neighborhood, from the Middle East to North Africa, as well as transnational and multi-dimensional threats, are also challenging our security. These can all have long term consequences for peace and security in the Euro-Atlantic region and stability across the globe.

2. Our Alliance remains an essential source of stability in this unpredictable world. Together as strong democracies, we are united in our commitment to the Washington Treaty and the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations. 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 greatest responsibility of the Alliance is to protect and defend our territories and our populations against attack, as set out in Article 5 of the Washington Treaty. As stated in the Declaration that we issued today, we are committed to continuing the strengthening of the transatlantic bond and to increase the resources, capabilities, and political will. We stand ready to act together and decisively to defend freedom and our shared values of individual liberty, human rights, democracy, and the rule of law.

3. Today we reaffirm our commitment to fulfil all three core tasks set out in our Strategic Concept: collective defence, crisis management, and cooperative security. Here in Skopje, we have taken decisions to meet the challenges of today and tomorrow. We are reaffirming our strong commitment to defence and to ensuring security and assurance for all the Allies; we are adapting our operations, including in Afghanistan, in light of progress made and remaining challenges; and we are strengthening our partnerships with countries and organizations around the globe to better build security together.

4. In order to ensure that our Alliance is ready to respond swiftly and firmly to the new security challenges, today we have approved 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. It responds to the challenges posed by Russia and their strategic implications. It also responds to the risks and threats emanating from our southern neighbourhood, the Middle East and North Africa.

5. 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. Investments should be directed towards meeting our capability priorities, and Allies also need to display the political will to provide required capabilities and deploy forces when they are needed. A strong defence industry across the Alliance, including a stronger defence industry in Europe and greater defence industrial cooperation within Europe and across the Atlantic, remains essential for delivering the required capabilities. NATO and EU efforts to strengthen defence capabilities are complementary. Taking current commitments into account, we are guided by the following considerations:

- Allies currently meeting the NATO guideline to spend a minimum of 2% of their Gross Domestic Product (GDP) on defence will aim to continue to do so. Likewise, Allies spending more than 20% of their defence budgets on major equipment, including related Research & Development, will continue to do so.
- Allies whose current proportion of GDP spent on defence is below 2% of GDP will:
 - halt any decline in defence expenditure;
 - aim to move towards the 2% guideline within a decade with a view to meeting their NATO Capability Targets and filling NATO's capability shortfalls.
- Allies who currently spend less than 20% of their annual defence spending on major new equipment, including related Research & Development, will aim, within a decade, to increase their annual investments to 20% or more of total defence expenditures and aim to increase defence expenditure in real terms as GDP grows.
- All Allies will:
 - ensure that their land, air and maritime forces meet NATO agreed guidelines for deployability and sustainability and other agreed output metrics;
 - ensure that their armed forces can operate together effectively, including through the implementation of agreed NATO standards and application of military doctrines.

6. 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. Russia must use its influence with the separatists to de-escalate the situation and take concrete steps to allow for a political and a diplomatic solution which respects Ukraine's sovereignty, territorial integrity, and internationally recognized borders.

7. We continue to believe that a partnership between NATO and Russia based on respect for international law would be of strategic value. We continue to aspire to a cooperative, constructive relationship with Russia, including reciprocal confidence building and transparency measures and increased mutual understanding of NATO's and Russia's non-strategic nuclear force postures in Europe, based on our common security concerns and interests, in a Europe where each country freely chooses its future. We regret that the conditions for that relationship do not currently exist. Nevertheless, NATO's decision to suspend all practical civilian and diplomatic and political cooperation between NATO and Russia remains the same. Political channels of communication, however, remain open.

8. We are deeply concerned by the growing instability and mounting transnational and multi-dimensional threats across the Middle East and North Africa region. These threats directly affect the security of the people living there, as well as our own security. Peace and stability in this region are essential for the Alliance's future.

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 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 illegal acts. If the security of any Ally is threatened, we will not hesitate to take all necessary steps to ensure our collective defence.

10. ISIL has, with its recent advance into Iraq, become an international threat. The Assad regime has contributed to the emergence of ISIL in Syria and its expansion beyond. ISIL's presence in both Syria and Iraq is a threat to global stability. It has become a key obstacle to political settlement in Syria and a serious risk to the stability and territorial integrity of Iraq. The people of Syria and Iraq and elsewhere in the region need the support of the international community to counter this threat. In addition a coordinated international approach is required.

11. We are deeply concerned by the ongoing violence and the deteriorating security situation in Libya, which threaten to undermine the goals for which the Libyan people have suffered so much and which pose a threat to the wider region. We urge all parties to cease all violence and engage without delay in constructive efforts aimed at fostering an inclusive political dialogue in the interest of the entire Libyan people, as part of the democratic process. Recognising the central role of the UN in coordinating international efforts in Libya, we strongly support the ongoing efforts of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) to achieve an immediate ceasefire, scale down tensions, and contribute to national reconciliation.

12. 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. Furthermore Allies and their Western Balkans partners will contribute to the maintenance of regional and international peace, including through regional cooperation formats. We welcome Serbia's progress in building a stronger partnership with NATO and encourage Belgrade to continue on this path. We also welcome the progress achieved in Kosovo and encourage further efforts to strengthen democratic institutions and the rule of law throughout Kosovo. The 8 June 2014 parliamentary elections were largely in line with international standards and an important milestone. We look forward to the expeditious formation of a representative and inclusive government, committed to the EU-facilitated Belgrade-Pristina dialogue. We welcome the improvement of the security situation and the progress achieved through the dialogue.

13. We will continue to maintain KFOR's robust and credible capability to carry out its mission. Sustained improvement in the security situation and the successful implementation of agreements reached in the EU-facilitated dialogue between Belgrade and Pristina will allow NATO to consider a possible change in its force posture. Any reduction of our troop presence will be measured against clear benchmarks and indicators, and will remain conditions-based and not calendar-driven.

14. With the end of ISAF in December 2014, the nature and scope of our engagement with Afghanistan will change. We envisage three parallel, mutually reinforcing strands of activity: in the short term, NATO Allies and partner nations stand ready to continue to train, advise, and assist the Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) after 2014 through the non-combat Resolute Support Mission; in the medium term, we reaffirm our commitment to contribute to the financial sustainment of the ANSF; in the long term, we remain committed to strengthening NATO's partnership with Afghanistan. We count on Afghanistan's commitment and cooperation and we will support every international mission in Afghanistan.

15. We express our appreciation for the generous hospitality extended to us by the Government of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.¹ The decisions we have taken at this event will help to keep our nations and populations safe, the bond between Europe and North America strong, and our region and the world stable and secure.

¹ Turkey recognizes the Republic of Macedonia by its constitutional name

Questions by the Media



Liridona Bajrami – BBC



What do you think personally? Was the NATO Summit in Wales an achievement for the global peace and security?

Artan Xhemaili - CNN



As we witnessed today, all 28 member states condemn Russia for bridging fundamental principles of NATO and causing instability not in the region, but also in the world. The Macedonian president, George Ivanov announced that he will visit Russia for the 70th year of the fall of the communism. What do you mean about this in regard of the euro-atlantic integration of Macedonia, since the NATO members have refused this invitation?

Fadlon Mesimi - Al JAZEERA



My question is connected with Middle East, exactly Syria. Will NATO directly intervene in Syria?

Milena Savovic – RTCG



What do you think, what was the reason that Montenegro didn't receive the invitation at the last NATO Summit in Wales and do you believe that could happen until the end of the year?

Mejreme Sinani - TV Russia 1



As far as I could see, most of the NATO member countries today has criticized Russia for its actions. How can NATO launch military action against Serbia and from other side judge Russia for their attitude towards Crimea?

Xhesina Fetaj - New York Times



Do you think that some part of the final declaration was influenced and affected by the acts of Edward Snowden and if yes, in which way?

**Nermine Shabani - RHBT -
Radio and Television of Bosnia-Herzegovina**



How can Russia ask for the control of Ukraine, and not recognize the independence of new countries, such as Kosovo?

Gazmend Ukalli - RTSH – Albanian National TV



Albania is already 5 years in the Alliance. What is your opinion about Albanian participation and contribution to NATO since now (as a member state)?

Omar Ajruli - RTK1 – Radio Television Kosovo



After the Ukrainian crisis, I want to ask what is NATO relationship with Russia? Do we have a new Russia, different one after this crisis in Ukraine?



