

# North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)



You are an alliance of twenty-eight member states of varying size, capability, and interest. Your primary responsibility is to preserve the territorial integrity of the alliance, as stipulated in articles four and five of the North Atlantic Treaty. You broadly endorse the EU's growing resilience and share its sensitivity to the influx of refugees into Europe and any rise in energy prices.

Russia's recent aggression in Ukraine and Crimea (and elsewhere in what Moscow deems to be its 'Near Abroad'), has stiffened resolve in the alliance, expressed most clearly at the NATO summit in Warsaw, 8-9 July 2016. Like your EU counterpart, you have come to stress 'correct' relations with Moscow over the more accommodating posture of past years. Expanding the alliance may be on hold, but Russia must not be allowed to obstruct a Europe 'Whole and Free'. Similarly, the United States remains the powerhouse of the alliance, but Washington must not be allowed to run roughshod over the smaller powers and the consensus that fuels cohesion in the alliance.

Take into account the influential perspective of one of your prominent member states, the United Kingdom. As one of the few NATO and EU members to possess an independent full-spectrum military capability, it is often second to the USA within the corridors of power in Brussels. The UK's 'special relationship' with Washington and uncertain future in the EU makes the exercise of power problematic and highly contingent on circumstance and situation.

## **NATO:**

- Maintain the territorial integrity of NATO member states and the solidarity of the alliance
- Prevent the subjugation of the Baltic States and Poland to Russia
- Prevent the exposure of fissures in the alliance and coherence of explicit regional factions
- Stand by Turkey as a bulwark against Russia and influx of refugees
- Retain Russian assistance in supplying forces in Afghanistan (Resolute Support) until alternate lines of supply can be created. Avoid a 'Hostage Crisis' whereby the supply of NATO forces Afghanistan serves as ultimatum fodder for Russia
- Persuade Sweden to join the alliance
- Advocate for continued NATO expansion to the East