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NATO Guide 101 for Model United Nations

Model United Nations

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Purpose

The purpose of this article is to briefly inform new MUN participants as fast and efficiently as possible on vital information required to debate and speak on any matter relevant to The North Atlantic Treaty Organization, NATO.

There are many alternative sources both online and offline, to guide participants with the necessary information regarding this matter. Unfortunately, most either fall short, give irrelevant information, or require hours upon hours of reading.

The majority of MUN participants are students, and between their studies and personal life, they have very little time to spend unnecessary amounts of hours reading up and updating themselves in all that would be required of them to participate in these meetings. This article and booklet have been divided into sections, to simplify and streamline information so that students may reach maximum efficiency in minimum time.



Disclaimer

This booklet is purposefully simplified and shortened to help students reach their targeted information for MUN participation. If you are seeking for detailed information regarding NATO, we do not recommend using this booklet as a source.

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The MUN Calendar of Turkey!

Brief History

***"If we don't end war, war will
end us."
- H. G. Wells***

The End of the Second World War

During the climax of World War II, the British were defending their borders from air and sea raids coming from the east, the Americans had launched their attack on Normandy beach, better known today as D-day, And the decade-old Soviet Union was marching straight towards Berlin.

These 3 nations became to be known as the Allies, against the dreaded Axis powers (Nazi Germany, Italy, and Japan). With the Normandy landing being a success, the allies punctured a hole into the Nazi defenses, leading them to lose security over their borders. This was a moment's victory on the Allies side, one that allowed the British to move east towards

Europe and the Soviets towards the west. With the Nazis slowly losing more and more domain, it became evident that the Nazis would lose the war. By 1945, joint British/American forces have liberated most of western Europe, Soviets have taken Auschwitz and Berlin and the United States had dropped the first atomic bomb on the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

By the 2nd of September, the war had ended, the Allies being victorious and the Axis powers in ruins.

Brief History

The Conception of the Cold War

At the end of World War II, there was another one brewing. The Americans and the Soviets were on very opposing ideologies (capitalism vs. communism), which was leading to many disagreements. Berlin was divided into two sides; the Soviets controlled west Berlin and the US and Britain controlled east Berlin. The Western nations demanded Eastern European countries (which was unofficially controlled by the Soviets) to have a democratic election over what kind of ideology they would adopt, but the Soviets disagreed. Stalin wanted the eastern nations to be communist.

USSR went as far as toppling the Czechoslovakian government and installing a communist state. Throughout eastern Europe, Soviet puppet governments were established as a buffer zone between the USSR and the West. Churchill proclaimed an Iron Curtain had descended across the continent. The relationship between the former allies was on a fast path to deterioration. The United States under President Truman introduced the Truman Doctrine, a foreign policy whose purpose was to contain Soviet geopolitical expansion, sparking the Cold War.

The Official Meeting

The Cold War and the Birth of NATO

With tensions escalating quickly between the West and the Soviet Union, the Western nations feared an inevitable attack from the Soviets on their Eastern European allies. In April 1949, foreign ministers of twelve Western European and North American nations gathered in Washington D.C. to sign the North Atlantic Treaty. With this treaty, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, better known as NATO, was founded.

The main objective was under article 5, that if any NATO member nation was attacked by an outside nation, it would be considered as a declaration of war against all NATO member nations. The original NATO nations are: Belgium, Denmark, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Canada, France, Great Britain and the United States. Later in 1952, Greece and Turkey signed the North Atlantic Treaty and in 1955, West Germany joined the alliance.

The USA and its allies wanted West Germany to have an army, but the Soviets warned that if West Germany raised an army and joined NATO, they would make their own alliance. As West Germany joined NATO, the Soviets did as they said. In the May of 1955, the Soviets Union gathered its communist Eastern European allies at Warsaw, Poland, and signed the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance, commonly known as the Warsaw Pact. NATO's purpose during the Cold War was to safeguard the freedom and security of all its members by political and military means, most importantly against the Soviets. With the fall of the Soviet Union, the Cold War and the Warsaw Pact also reached to an end.

Today

Currently, NATO strives to secure a lasting peace in Europe, based on common values of individual liberty, democracy, human rights, and the rule of law.

Since the outbreak of crises and conflicts beyond the boundaries of NATO can jeopardize this objective, the Alliance also contributes to peace and stability overseas through crisis management operations and partnerships.

Essentially, NATO not only assists its members with defending their territory but also engages where possible and when necessary to project its values further afield, prevent and manage crises, stabilize post-conflict situations and support reconstruction.

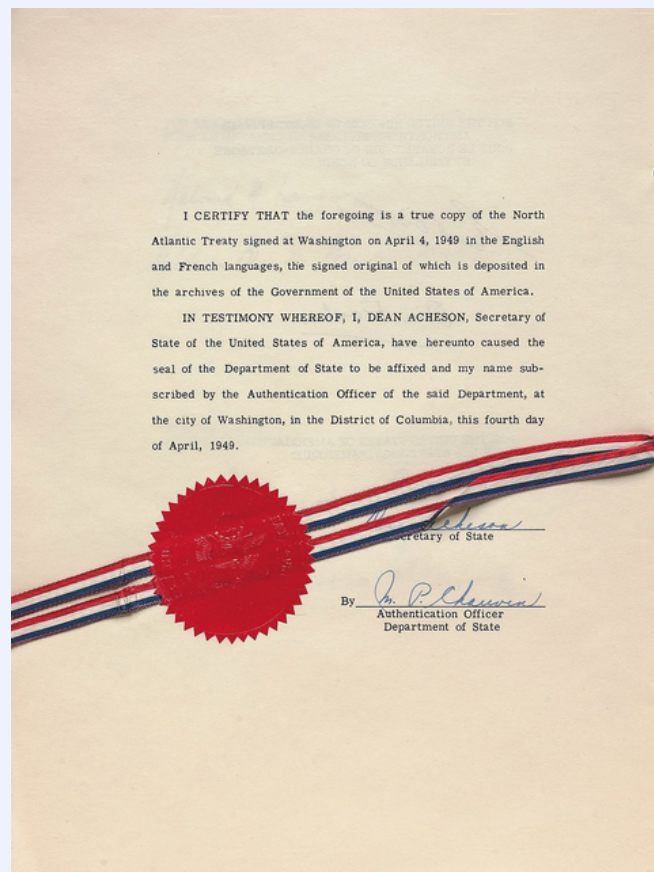


Photo by Daniel Bright - Extracted from PDF version of Redefining the Seal's Use poster, part of a U.S. Diplomacy Center (State Department) exhibition on the 225th anniversary of the Great Seal. Direct PDF URL [1] (11MB), Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=5572817>



Collective defence - Article 5

The principle of collective defence is at the very heart of NATO's founding treaty. It remains a unique and enduring principle that binds its members together,...



Articles

Disclaimer: The articles mentioned within this article/booklet have been altered for the sake of simplicity, and only contains the first 8 articles. The actual articles can be found on the NATO website.

The NATO articles are the laws that govern the peace within the member nations.

Article 1: All member states must endeavor to settle any international dispute within the limits of diplomacy and peace. They must refrain from any use of threats or force that is inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations.

Article 2: All member states must strive to develop peaceful and friendly international relations by aiding each other to better understand their struggles and promote stability.

Article 3: In order to achieve the treaties' objectives, member states must (separately and jointly) aid, develop and maintain their individual and collective capacity to resist armed attack.

Article 4: If at any time, any member state feels that their borders, independence or security is under threat, all members shall gather for consultation.

Article 5: An attack on a NATO member state shall constitute a declaration of war against all member states.

Article 6: Article 5 may be evoked if the territory or national border of any member state is breached or under assault, or if any vessels or aircraft of the member state is attacked within NATO borders.

Article 7: The rights and obligations of states under the United Nations shall not be affected by this treaty.

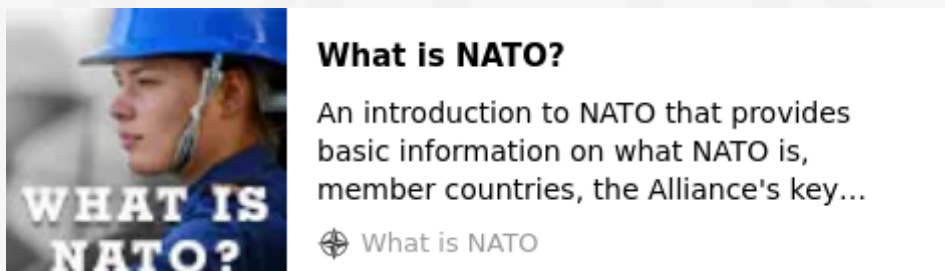
Article 8: Member states may not partake in any international engagement that conflicts with the provisions on this treaty.

References

NATO, Wikipedia Article



NATO Official Website, nato.int



The North Atlantic Treaty, Washington D.C. - 4 April 1949

