

Muammer Dereli Science High School
DERMUN'24

NATO STUDY GUIDE

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WELCOMING LETTERS

Letter from the Secretary General:

First of all, we would like to start our letter by sincerely greeting all our delegates who will attend our conference. We are proud to be here with the DERMUN conference that we organized for the second time this year. We hope that our conference will leave you with new perspectives, new friendships, and unforgettable memories. At DERMUN we are proud to offer a various array of committees that transcend both borders and time zones, enabling delegates to discover the perfect fit for their interests and preferred style of debate. To offer you the best experience, we have specially selected 3 Special, 2 General Assembly, and 1 JCC committee and topics in our conference with our chairboard team. These various committees will take you on a journey from World War 2 to 2047. However, we would like to remind you that DERMUN'24 does not only consist of committees and discussions; the friendships you will make there and the fun times you will have are at least as important as the academic part. These relationships extend far beyond the 3 days of the conference, where we come together to create a dynamic and inclusive community. We, the secretariat, and our entire organization team are determined to offer you the best experiences. Our excitement is fresh for our second conference; Whether you are joining DERMUN for the first time or have been a part of our journey from the very beginning, we are happy to see you among us with the same excitement.

Best wishes,

Elifsu Gülgün & Arif Kılıç.

Letter from the Chairboard:

Dear Delegates,

It is an utmost pleasure to welcome you to DERMUN 2024 and most especially to this demanding committee, NATO. We are delighted to be serving as the Board Members of this committee and are excited to meet you all. We will do our best to provide you with the best experience possible. We are sure that intense debates will take place regarding this unique topic “NATO's Role in Countering Terrorism” and all of you will be able to express your country’s policy directly. As the board of this marvelous committee, we kindly ask you to start your research and preparation as soon as possible. With a productive reading, this study guide will help you a lot; but to access broader information, we recommend you to do comprehensive research about the policies, particularly the policy of your country. We are looking forward to meeting you and to board this committee.

Let’s put an end to this letter with a quote, shall we?

“The war against terrorism is one we must win.” -Lisa Murkowski

Chair: Elif Ukuşlu

Co-Chair: Zehra Aygüneş

Introduction to NATO:

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), also called the North Atlantic Alliance, is an intergovernmental military alliance between 32 member states – 30 European and 2 North American. Established in the aftermath of World War II, the organization implemented the North Atlantic Treaty, signed in Washington, D.C., on 4 April 1949. NATO's main headquarters are located in Brussels, Belgium, while NATO's military headquarters are near Mons, Belgium. NATO is a collective security system: Its independent member states agree to defend each other against attacks by third parties. During the Cold War, NATO operated as a check on the threat posed by the Soviet Union. The alliance remained in place after the dissolution of the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact and has been involved in military operations in the Balkans, the Middle East, South Asia, and Africa. The total military spending of all NATO members is more than 70% of the world's defense spending. Members' defense expenditures should be equal to 2% of their GDP.

Introduction to the Committee:

Terrorism is the calculated use of violence to create a general climate of fear in a population and thereby bring about a particular political objective. According to the fifth article of the NATO Treaty; when an allied member is attacked, it involves the commitment of other allies to help them. This also applies to terrorist attacks. NATO provides a framework for providing support to allied members against terrorist attacks. In this committee, delegates will examine and discuss NATO's efforts to combat terrorism globally, including intelligence sharing between member states, joint military operations, and capacity-building in partner countries. Delegates will be expected to produce solutions on how to ensure the development and coordination of effective strategies in the fight against terrorism at the international level. In addition, since our committee is a crisis committee, the delegates will be obligated to solve crises. The main purpose of the discussions in this committee is to make important recommendations on how NATO member states will behave in the future in terms of the alliance's interests.

MEMBER STATES:

1. Albania
2. Belgium
3. Bulgaria
4. Canada
5. Czechia
6. Denmark
7. Estonia
8. Finland
9. France
10. Germany
11. Greece
12. Hungary
13. Iceland
14. Italy
15. Netherlands
16. North Macedonia
17. Norway
18. Poland
19. Romania
20. Slovenia
21. Spain
22. Sweden
23. Türkiye
24. United Kingdom
25. United States of America

Agenda Item:

There is one agenda item for our committee,

NATO's Role in Countering Terrorism

1- What is terrorism?

There is no established definition of terrorism under international law. Instead, there is a great deal of debate over which actions are terrorist and which are acts of legitimate resistance against oppressive governments. However, we can express the explanation that is accepted in most places and has become the definition of the word: Terrorism, in its broadest sense, is the use of intentional violence and fear to achieve political or ideological aims.

To give an example of the definition of terrorism in some countries, we can examine the United Kingdom's "Terrorism Act 2000".

In the UK, the legal definition of terrorism is provided in section 1 of the Terrorism Act 2000. This defines terrorism as the use or threat of action which:

- involves serious violence against a person
- involves serious damage to property
- endangers a person's life
- creates a serious risk to the health or safety of the public; or
- is designed seriously to interfere with or seriously disrupt an electronic system

In circumstances where:

- the use or threat is designed to influence the government or to intimidate the public or a section of the public; and
- the use or threat is made to advance a political, religious, or ideological cause.

There are some types of terrorism that we may encounter around the world.

International Terrorism: Violent, criminal acts committed by individuals and/or groups who are inspired by, or associated with, designated foreign terrorist organizations or nations (state-sponsored).

Domestic Terrorism: Violent, criminal acts committed by individuals and/or groups to further ideological goals stemming from domestic influences, such as those of a political, religious, social, racial, or environmental nature.

2- NATO and Terrorism

NATO's work on countering terrorism focuses on improving awareness of the threat, developing capabilities to prepare and respond, and engaging with partner countries and other international actors. NATO's primary purpose is to ensure the collective defense of its member states. This means that an attack on one member is considered an attack on all members, and the alliance is committed to responding collectively.

According to the 5th article of the North Atlantic Treaty, member countries of the organization will assist any member country that is subjected to an armed attack. The article was implemented for the first and only time in NATO's history after the September 11 attacks* in 2001. Following these attacks, the soldiers were deployed to Afghanistan under the command of the NATO-led ISAF.

NATO has conducted military operations against terrorist groups in various regions, particularly in Afghanistan. The alliance led the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan from 2003 until its conclusion in 2014. NATO's Resolute Support Mission, launched in 2015, continues to provide training, advice, and assistance to Afghan security forces in their fight against terrorism.

Although the fight against terrorism is not one of its main functions, NATO has three main tasks in this regard: collective defense, crisis management, and contributing to cooperative security.

In addition, the fight against terrorism is seen as part of the current efforts carried out to strengthen NATO's deterrence and defense position in the changing security environment and to spread stability by deepening partnerships with major countries and implementing crisis management measures.

***The September 11 attacks:** Commonly known as 9/11, were four coordinated Islamist suicide terrorist attacks carried out by Al-Qaeda against the United States on September 11, 2001

3- The Impact of Terrorism on Human Rights

Terrorism has a direct impact on human rights, with consequences for the enjoyment of the right to life, liberty, and physical integrity of individuals, especially victims of terrorism. It can destabilize and undermine entire societies, jeopardize peace and security and threaten social and economic development. It seeks to impose upon the majority the views of a minority. Terrorism attacks the pillars of democracy and the rule of law upon which the respect of human rights is based.

Terrorism is a human rights issue because it involves deliberate attacks on civilians causing death and serious injury – and so engages the right to life and the right to physical integrity.

International and regional human rights law makes clear that States have both a right and a duty to protect individuals under their jurisdiction from terrorist attacks. This stems from the general duty of States to protect individuals under their jurisdiction against interference in the enjoyment of human rights. More specifically, this duty is recognized as part of States' obligations to ensure respect for the right to life and the right to security.



4- The Acts of NATO Against Terrorism

Defence Against Terrorism Programme of Work

The Defence Against Terrorism Programme of Work (DAT POW) was developed by the Conference of National Armaments Directors (CNAD) and approved by NATO Leaders at the Istanbul Summit in 2004. With an initial focus on technological solutions to mitigate the effects of terrorist attacks, the program has since widened its scope to support comprehensive capability development. It now includes exercises, trials, development of prototypes and concepts, doctrine, policy, equipment, training and lessons learned, and interoperability demonstrations. The key aim of the DAT POW is to prevent non-conventional attacks, such as attacks with IEDs and UAS, and mitigate other challenges, such as attacks on critical infrastructure and the use of emerging and disruptive technologies by terrorists.

Operations and missions

Since 2017, NATO has been a member of the Global Coalition to Defeat ISIS. As a member of the Coalition, NATO has been playing a key role in the fight against international terrorism, including through its former operational engagement in Afghanistan, through intelligence-sharing, and through its work with partners to project stability in the Euro-Atlantic area and beyond. At the 2016 NATO Summit in Warsaw, Allied Leaders agreed to provide direct support to the Global Coalition through the provision of NATO AWACS surveillance aircraft. The first patrols of NATO AWACS aircraft, operating from Konya Airfield in Türkiye, started in October 2016.

In February 2018, following a request by the Iraqi government and the Global Coalition, the Alliance decided to launch NATO Mission Iraq, a non-combat advisory and capacity-building mission. It aims to strengthen Iraqi security forces and institutions so that they are better able to prevent the return of Daesh/ISIS, fight terrorism, and stabilize the country. In February 2021, Allied Defence Ministers, and in August 2023 the North Atlantic Council, agreed to expand the scope of the mission at the request of the Iraqi government. NATO operates in full respect of Iraq's sovereignty and territorial integrity, and coordinates and consults closely with other international partners like the Global Coalition, the United Nations, and the European Union.

International actors

NATO cooperates with the UN, the EU, the Global-Counter Terrorism Forum, INTERPOL, and the OSCE to ensure that views and information are shared and that appropriate action can be taken more effectively in the fight against terrorism. Counter-terrorism capacity building and border security – specifically across the maritime and land domains – are two areas where NATO cooperates closely with other international organisations.

Education

NATO offers a range of training and education opportunities in the field of counter-terrorism to both Allies and partner countries. It draws on a wide network that includes the NATO School in Oberammergau, Germany; mobile training courses run out of Allied Joint Force Commands at Naples, Italy and Brunssum, the Netherlands; and the Centres of Excellence (COEs), which support the NATO

Command Structure. There are almost 30 COEs accredited by NATO, several of which have links to the fight against terrorism. The Centre of Excellence for Defence Against Terrorism (COE-DAT) in Ankara, Türkiye serves both as a location for meetings and as a catalyst for international dialogue and discussion on terrorism and counter-terrorism. The COE-DAT reaches out to over 50 countries and 40 organisations.

ANOTHER TOPIC TO DISCUSS:

Why did Türkiye and Hungary delay Sweden's entry into NATO?

Russia's large-scale invasion of Ukraine two years ago caused Sweden and Finland to change their long-standing security policies, and the two countries applied to join NATO in May 2022. Finland joined the alliance in April 2023. However, Sweden has encountered obstacles in terms of participation.

Although all NATO countries agree that Sweden and Finland should become members of the alliance. Türkiye has expressed concern, especially about the activities of the PKK (The Kurdistan Workers' Party)** and restrictions on arms exports to Türkiye. Türkiye claims that Sweden has supported PKK members and provides protection for them. Sweden denies this allegation, saying it supports other Kurds who are not in the PKK. The Hungarian administration did not provide a clear reason for the delays.

As a result, in June 2022, the three countries signed a joint agreement outlining the steps they would take to address Türkiye's concerns, and in return, Türkiye said it would support the invitation of Sweden and Finland to NATO membership. The Turkish government has used membership as a bargaining chip, including in its quest to get approval to buy American F-16 fighter jets.

NATO Secretary General Stoltenberg said in his statement:

“What is important for Sweden's NATO membership is that the Swedish government has fulfilled its promises. Sweden had promised to increase its fight against terrorism, cooperation with Turkey, and lift arms export restrictions at the summits in Madrid and then Vilnius, and it did them. Now it is time for Turkey to complete the accession process. It is a good development that President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has sent the necessary documents to the Turkish Grand National Assembly. It is positive that the parliament has also started discussing this document. I hope they will complete this process as soon as possible.”

On December 26, the Turkish Parliament voted in favor of Sweden's membership. And finally, with Hungary's approval of Sweden's admission to NATO, Sweden was admitted to the NATO Union after Finland on March 7, 2024.

****PKK: The PKK is classified as a terrorist organization by Türkiye, as well as by the U.S., Canada, Australia, and the European Union.**



Questions to Consider:

- 1- How can NATO countries develop and coordinate effective strategies in the fight against terrorism at the international level?
- 2- What steps has your country taken in the fight against terrorism throughout history?
- 3- What are your country's political relationships with the other countries listed above, throughout history?
- 4- What measures has your country taken to protect people from terrorist attacks?

Tip from the Board!

Make sure that you do an extensive research about your country's former acts and policy throughout the history in order to respond to other countries' accusations. And be ready for the crisis!! :)) If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact with us via our email accounts.

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