

World #1 – NATO's 70th anniversary

Daily News Article — Posted on December 3, 2019

(by Kevin Breuninger and Amanda Macias, CNBC) – President Donald Trump is set to meet with representatives of at least a dozen nations, including Germany, France, Italy and Denmark, at the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's 70th anniversary meeting in London this week.

[Leaders will discuss “security challenges we face now and in the future.”] Senior Trump administration officials told reporters Friday that the president is expected to stress the ongoing challenges that NATO and the international community face from China and Russia. ...

“There are continuing challenges that NATO needs to face, China above all,” one official said in a conference call.

The Trump administration also expects that NATO's relationship with Russia “will certainly come up,” an official said.

“Russia has shown a consistent disregard for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of its neighbors. Certainly that's something that will be discussed at the leader summit,” the official said.

The officials sketched a rough outline of Trump's schedule for meetings with world leaders over the course of the event, which takes place Tuesday and Wednesday, including:

Tuesday

- A working breakfast with NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg
- A bilateral meeting with President Emmanuel Macron of France
- A NATO leaders reception in the evening, hosted by Queen Elizabeth II at Buckingham Palace

Wednesday

- A NATO leaders plenary session
- A bilateral meeting with Chancellor Angela Merkel of Germany
- A working lunch with representatives of Estonia, Greece, Latvia, Poland, Romania, Lithuania, Bulgaria and the United Kingdom
- A meeting with Prime Ministers Mette Frederikson of Denmark and Giuseppe Conte of Italy

...The NATO meeting is scheduled to take place in London just days after two people were [murdered] near London Bridge [by a terrorist who had been imprisoned for terrorist activities but was released early by a British judge. The terrorist was attending a meeting for rehabilitated terrorists when he committed the terrorist attack. He would have murdered many more if not stopped by several citizens who fought him.]

The Trump administration officials also warned of China's pursuit of greater global influence and highlighted the risks of **5G technology**. One official said the U.S. will “absolutely” bring up 5G at the NATO meeting.

“This has been a major push of ours. We are absolutely going to insist that our NATO allies use trusted and reliable partners, providers in their 5G networks. This is not something where they want to allow the Chinese Communist Party to be able to siphon off their data or entry into their networks at all. So this is a very, very high priority for us, and the president is going to reiterate that message,” the official said.

President Trump has pointed out that Chinese *intellectual property theft* has cost the economy billions of dollars in revenue and thousands of jobs and that it threatens national security. [He has vowed to end China's practice of stealing U.S. companies' intellectual property.]

China [claims] that it does not engage in intellectual property theft. The issue is central to the repeated attempts between the two economic superpowers to strike a trade deal that will also address the U.S.

trade deficit with China and [the communist government's] forced technology transfers [where the Chinese require U.S. companies doing business in China to hand over their technology information]. The first "phase" of a deal was announced in principle in mid-October, but it has yet to be formalized on paper more than a month later.

Last year, the Pentagon halted sales of **Huawei and ZTE** mobile phones and modems on U.S. military bases around the world due to potential security risks.

"These devices may pose an unacceptable risk to the department's personnel and mission," wrote Pentagon spokesman Lt. Col. Dave Eastburn in a previous statement to CNBC.

Since 2012, the U.S. government has warned against using Huawei equipment and component parts. The company has been effectively banned since that time, and Trump's executive order in May made the recommendations official.

"U.S. government systems should not include Huawei or ZTE equipment," a 2012 report by the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence said. "Similarly, government contractors, particularly those working on contracts for sensitive U.S. system, should exclude ZTE or Huawei equipment from their systems."

Published by CNBC .com on November 29, 2019. Updated Nov. 30. Reprinted here for educational purposes only. May not be reproduced on other websites without permission from CNBC.

Background

See previous articles on NATO:

- ["NATO displays military might in largest exercises since end of Cold War"](#) (from October 2018)
- ["Whales trained by Russia's military may be harassing fishermen from NATO ally Norway"](#) (from May 2019)
- ["GERMANY still won't pay fair share for NATO"](#) (from May 2018)

NATO:

- The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is an alliance of 29 countries from North America and Europe committed to fulfilling the goals of the North Atlantic Treaty signed on April 4, 1949.
- Twelve countries were part of the founding of NATO: Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, the United Kingdom, and the United States. NATO grew by including Greece and Turkey in 1952 and West Germany in 1955, and then later Spain in 1982.
- **In accordance with the Treaty, the fundamental role of NATO is to safeguard the freedom and security of its member countries by political and military means.** (from [nato.int](https://www.nato.int))
- NATO was established to counter the risk that the Soviet Union would seek to extend its then-control of Eastern Europe to other parts of the continent.
- NATO's role as a political and military alliance was to provide for collective defense against any form of aggression and to maintain a secure environment for the development of democracy and economic growth.
- NATO is committed to the peaceful resolution of disputes. 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 – NATO's founding treaty – or under a UN mandate, alone or in cooperation with other countries and international organizations. (from [nato.int](https://www.nato.int))

The member states of NATO in the order of joining:

- **1949** – Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, United Kingdom, United States.
- **1952** – Greece, Turkey
- **1955** – Germany
- **1982** – Spain
- **1999** – Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland

- **2004** – Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia
- **2009** – Albania, Croatia
- **2017** – Montenegro

See charts of NATO member contributions compared to [U.S.: Defense Expenditure of NATO Countries \(2012-2019\)](#)