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# AMPSMUN

# 2025



**North Atlantic Treaty  
Organization**

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**NATO**

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# Table of Contents:

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- Chairs Letter
- Committee Focus

## Agenda 1 :

- Background Topic
- Key Issues
- Major Parties Involved
- Focus Questions

## Agenda 2 :

- Background Topic
- Key Issues
- Major Parties Involved
- Focus Questions
  
- Recommended Sources



# Letter From The Chairs

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Greetings, Delegates,

It is our utmost pleasure and honor to extend a warm welcome to each and every one of you as we commence the much-awaited Third Edition of the AMPSMUN Conference. Additionally, we are thrilled to invite you to participate in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), a crucial platform for fostering international cooperation and diplomacy.

As the esteemed Chairs of NATO, comprised of Muhammad Haris, Vivaan Gehi, and Sarah, we are truly excited to learn that you will be partaking in this enriching experience aimed at honing your diplomatic skills, enhancing your public speaking prowess, and engaging in robust discussions that will shape your understanding of global affairs. By representing diverse nations on a unified platform, you are poised to delve into the intricate nuances of the assigned topics, engage in stimulating debates, and collaboratively craft innovative solutions to address the pertinent issues at hand.

Our heartfelt welcome extends to all member states of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and we eagerly anticipate embarking on this journey with you to create a meaningful, productive, and diplomatic environment conducive to impactful discussions and resolutions.

Rest assured, we are confident in the collective talents and capabilities of each delegate present, and we have full trust that your unique skills and perspectives will contribute to a dynamic, engaging, and above all, diplomatic experience that will leave a lasting impact on the proceedings of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Warm regards,

Head Chair I Muhammad Haris

Co-Chair I Vivaan Gehi

Co-Chair I Sarah Shams



# Committee Focus

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NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) was created in 1949 after World War II to protect its member countries from threats and promote peace. It is a military alliance made up of 31 countries, including major powers like the United States, the United Kingdom, Germany, France, and Canada.

NATO's main purpose is to make sure its members stay safe by defending each other if one of them is attacked. It also works to prevent conflicts, support peace missions, and help with disaster relief. NATO plays a key role in global security by cooperating with the United Nations and other organizations to handle international crises and promote stability around the world.

The alliance's foundation is the North Atlantic Treaty, also known as the Washington Treaty, signed on April 4, 1949. The treaty's key principles include collective defense (Article 5), the peaceful resolution of disputes (Article 1), and a commitment to democracy and the rule of law. These principles have guided NATO's evolution, allowing it to adapt to new security challenges while maintaining its original purpose of safeguarding member states.

One of NATO's most significant milestones came during the Cold War, when it acted as a counterbalance to the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact. After the Cold War ended, NATO shifted its focus to address emerging global threats, including terrorism, cyberattacks, and hybrid warfare. This transformation also included expanding its membership and fostering partnerships with non-member nations through initiatives like the Partnership for Peace (PfP).

NATO has played a prominent role in international peacekeeping and crisis management.

From its involvement in the Balkans during the 1990s to its operations in Afghanistan after the 9/11 attacks, NATO has demonstrated its ability to coordinate multinational efforts to address conflicts and instability. Its humanitarian and disaster relief missions, such as providing support after natural disasters, further emphasize its role as a global security actor.



# Background Topic

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## **Agenda 1: Evaluating NATO's Strategic and Humanitarian Efforts Impacting Health Security in Syria.**

Syria has faced a prolonged and devastating civil war since 2011, resulting in one of the most severe humanitarian crises in recent history. The conflict has led to the destruction of healthcare infrastructure, the displacement of millions of people, and widespread outbreaks of diseases. NATO has primarily played a non-combat role in Syria, focusing on humanitarian assistance, refugee support, and strengthening the capabilities of neighboring countries to manage border security and health threats. NATO's involvement aims to stabilize the region by providing humanitarian aid, logistical support, and working closely with international organizations like the United Nations (UN) and the World Health Organization (WHO).

Despite these efforts, ongoing violence, limited access to healthcare, and poor living conditions have severely impacted the health security of Syrian civilians. NATO's strategic involvement in this area raises questions about the effectiveness of its humanitarian mission and the long-term sustainability of health initiatives in the region.

NATO's humanitarian efforts in Syria have included providing logistical support, facilitating the delivery of essential medical supplies, and collaborating with international organizations such as the UN and WHO. By working alongside these entities, NATO aims to mitigate the impact of the conflict on vulnerable populations.

Moreover, the alliance has contributed to regional health initiatives, including the establishment of refugee camps with basic healthcare facilities and vaccination campaigns to prevent the spread of infectious diseases.

Strategically, NATO has focused on stabilizing the region by strengthening the health security of Syria's neighbors — Turkey, Jordan, and Lebanon — which have received millions of Syrian refugees. By supporting these countries' healthcare systems and border management, NATO aims to mitigate the spillover of health crises into broader regional instability. Additionally, NATO's role in intelligence sharing and surveillance has been critical in addressing biothreats and monitoring public health risks in conflict zones.

Despite these efforts, NATO's impact on health security in Syria has faced significant limitations. Ongoing violence, restricted humanitarian access, and insufficient funding for long-term health initiatives have hindered the effectiveness of aid programs. Many Syrians continue to live in overcrowded refugee camps, with poor sanitation and limited access to medical care, making them particularly vulnerable to disease outbreaks and malnutrition. Furthermore, the destruction of hospitals and the targeting of healthcare workers in the conflict have exacerbated the health crisis.

NATO's influence on Syria's health security has been severely constrained, despite these initiatives. The effectiveness of aid operations has been undermined by ongoing conflict, limited access to humanitarian areas, and insufficient funding for long-term health projects.



# Key Issues

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## **Health Infrastructure Collapse:**

The Syrian conflict has led to the destruction and collapse of much of the country's healthcare infrastructure. Hospitals and clinics have been bombed, damaged, or forced to shut down due to a lack of security and resources. The shortages of medical supplies, equipment, and trained personnel are critical, with the healthcare system unable to meet even the most urgent needs. The deliberate targeting of healthcare facilities and workers has further exacerbated the crisis, creating a hostile environment for those attempting to provide medical services. As a result, preventable diseases and injuries often go untreated, while the absence of healthcare services contributes to higher mortality rates and prolonged suffering.

## **Displacement and Refugee Crisis:**

Syria's prolonged conflict has displaced over 6.8 million people internally and forced more than 5.5 million to seek refuge in neighboring countries like Turkey, Lebanon, and Jordan. This mass displacement has created an overwhelming burden on healthcare systems in host nations, which are often underfunded and already strained. Refugees frequently live in overcrowded camps or urban areas with poor sanitation, increasing their vulnerability to disease and malnutrition. Access to healthcare for refugees is often limited by legal barriers, financial constraints, and language differences, leaving many without necessary medical attention. The dual burden on host communities and refugees continues to deepen as resources are stretched thin, threatening the long-term stability of these healthcare systems.

## **Disease Outbreaks:**

The destruction of infrastructure, combined with poor sanitation, lack of clean water, and inadequate immunization coverage, has triggered outbreaks of diseases such as cholera, measles, and polio. These diseases disproportionately affect vulnerable groups, especially children and the elderly. Efforts to control these outbreaks are hindered by limited access to affected areas, disrupted supply chains, and the destruction of laboratories and diagnostic facilities. In many cases, vaccination campaigns are unable to reach large segments of the population due to ongoing violence and logistical challenges. The continued spread of these diseases not only endangers the health of Syrians but also poses significant risks to neighboring countries, further complicating regional stability.



# Key Issues

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## **Coordination with Other Entities:**

While NATO collaborates with organizations such as the United Nations, the World Health Organization, and various NGOs, challenges in coordination often reduce the effectiveness of humanitarian efforts. Differences in operational priorities, limited communication, and resource constraints lead to inefficiencies in aid distribution. For instance, some regions may receive duplicated services while others are neglected entirely. Political and logistical hurdles further complicate cooperation, delaying responses to critical health needs. To maximize impact, better alignment of goals, streamlined resource allocation, and stronger communication channels are essential for NATO and its partners.

## **Security Concerns:**

The presence of militant groups and continuous clashes between factions have created significant security challenges for humanitarian organizations attempting to operate in Syria. Health workers and aid convoys are often targeted, delaying or completely halting the delivery of critical supplies and services. The lack of secure access to conflict zones leaves many areas underserved, with entire communities cut off from humanitarian assistance. Additionally, the volatile security environment discourages international organizations and healthcare professionals from working in the region, exacerbating the shortage of medical expertise. These security concerns create an ongoing barrier to rebuilding Syria's healthcare system and providing consistent aid to those in need.

## **Psychological Impact:**

The Syrian conflict has resulted in widespread trauma, leading to mental health issues such as anxiety and PTSD. There is a significant shortage of mental health professionals and limited access to care, making it difficult for those in need to receive support. Without adequate intervention, the long-term effects will hinder Syria's recovery and rebuilding efforts.



# Major Parties Involved

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## **NATO Member States:**

NATO members, including the United States, Turkey, Germany, and the United Kingdom, are pivotal players in Syria's humanitarian and strategic efforts. These countries contribute significantly to funding and logistical support. Turkey plays a particularly important role, both in terms of managing the refugee crisis and supporting healthcare services in areas affected by the conflict. The U.S. and the U.K. provide critical strategic planning and intelligence support, helping guide NATO's overall approach to the situation. Germany, along with Turkey, has been especially active in supporting refugees, delivering humanitarian aid, and bolstering healthcare systems in neighboring countries that are overwhelmed by the influx of displaced Syrians.

## **United Nations (UN) and WHO:**

The United Nations (UN) and the World Health Organization (WHO) are central to managing the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Syria. The UN coordinates a wide range of humanitarian efforts, including food aid, shelter provision, and infrastructure support. It works to address the basic needs of millions of Syrians displaced by the conflict. The WHO is especially crucial in managing health crises, overseeing disease outbreaks, vaccination campaigns, and medical supply distribution. NATO's role in supporting these efforts focused on ensuring the safety and security of supply routes and humanitarian workers, facilitating the smooth flow of aid into Syria, and ensuring that it reaches vulnerable populations in areas under siege or controlled by conflicting parties.

## **Syrian Government and Rebel Groups:**

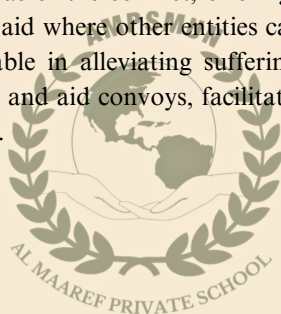
Various rebel groups have a significant influence on the distribution of aid in Syria, often obstructing the flow of resources for political or strategic reasons. The Syrian government has historically restricted access to opposition-controlled areas, deliberately preventing the delivery of aid to those in need. Meanwhile, certain rebel groups have also limited humanitarian access to government-held regions. These political dynamics create serious challenges for international organizations, as they must navigate these obstacles to ensure that aid reaches those most affected by the conflict. The fragmentation of control within Syria complicates the delivery of assistance and underscores the need for increased diplomatic efforts to facilitate the safe and equitable distribution of humanitarian resources.

## **Neighboring Countries:**

Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, and Iraq, which host millions of Syrian refugees, are at the forefront of managing the regional impacts of the Syrian crisis. The influx of refugees places a severe strain on the health, security, and social systems of these countries. NATO plays a supportive role in assisting these host nations, providing logistical aid, medical support, and assistance in border security management. Turkey, in particular, has borne the brunt of the refugee crisis, with millions of displaced Syrians seeking refuge within its borders.

## **Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs):**

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) such as Médecins Sans Frontières and the International Red Cross play a crucial role in providing medical and emergency relief on the ground in Syria. These organizations operate in some of the most dangerous and hard-to-reach areas of the conflict, offering essential healthcare services, trauma care, and emergency relief. Their ability to deliver aid where other entities cannot access, often due to security concerns or political barriers, makes them indispensable in alleviating suffering. NATO's provision of security support, including the protection of key infrastructure and aid convoys, facilitates the efforts of these NGOs, ensuring they can continue their vital work in conflict zones.





# Focus Questions

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- How can NATO improve its coordination with other international organizations to ensure more effective health security measures in Syria?
- What strategies can NATO implement to better protect healthcare infrastructure in conflict zones?
- How can NATO balance its strategic interests with humanitarian needs in Syria?
- What role should NATO play in supporting Syrian refugees and displaced populations?
- How can NATO address mental health issues as part of its humanitarian efforts in Syria?
- What mechanisms can NATO adopt to enhance the safety of healthcare workers operating in conflict zones?



# Background Topic

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## **Agenda 2: Assessing Stability, Security, and Development in Eastern Europe: Cultural Challenges and Ensuring Long-Term Security**

Eastern Europe has become a critical region for NATO due to its proximity to Russia and its geopolitical significance. The annexation of Crimea by Russia in 2014 marked a pivotal moment that heightened tensions between NATO and Russia, reshaping the security landscape in the region. NATO's response to these developments included increased military deployments and enhanced defense cooperation with its Eastern European members, many of whom felt directly threatened by Russian actions. This military presence, which includes rotational deployments of troops, air policing, and regular joint exercises, aims to reassure member states and strengthen deterrence against potential aggression.

The region's complexity is further amplified by cultural and ethnic divisions, particularly in countries like Ukraine, Moldova, and the Baltic States. In Ukraine, the divide between the Russian-speaking eastern regions and the pro-European western areas has contributed to internal conflict, further complicating NATO's security efforts. Similarly, in Moldova and the Baltic States, historical tensions and ethnic minorities create challenges in achieving national cohesion and stability. These divisions not only pose risks to internal security but also create opportunities for external actors, like Russia, to exploit these weaknesses. Understanding and addressing these cultural dynamics is essential for NATO as it seeks to foster peace and stability in the region.

In addition to traditional military threats, Eastern Europe faces new challenges such as hybrid warfare and cyber threats. Hybrid warfare, a blend of conventional military tactics, disinformation campaigns, and cyberattacks, has become a primary tool of Russian influence in the region. These tactics are designed to destabilize governments, weaken public trust, and create confusion, all without triggering direct military conflict. NATO has increasingly focused on building resilience against these non-traditional forms of aggression. This includes enhancing cyber defense capabilities, improving intelligence sharing, and developing strategies to combat disinformation. The rise of cyber threats, which target critical infrastructure, political institutions, and public confidence, underscores the need for NATO to adapt to the changing nature of warfare.

The geopolitical landscape of Eastern Europe remains fluid, with ongoing shifts in alliances and political changes in several countries. NATO's engagement in the region is not only focused on security but also on fostering diplomatic relations to maintain stability. Russia's continued influence in the region poses challenges to NATO's efforts, as Moscow seeks to assert its dominance through military and political means. For NATO, balancing deterrence with diplomacy is crucial in preventing further escalation and ensuring that the region remains secure. The alliance's ability to engage constructively with non-NATO countries, such as Ukraine and Georgia, while addressing concerns from Russia, will be essential in maintaining peace.



# Background Topic

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Economic factors also play a critical role in Eastern Europe's security. While military and diplomatic efforts are essential, economic stability is key to long-term peace. Many Eastern European countries, particularly those that joined NATO after the fall of the Soviet Union, still face significant economic challenges. These include disparities in wealth and infrastructure, as well as the need for modernization in key sectors such as energy, technology, and defense.

Furthermore, energy security has become a growing concern, as many countries in the region remain dependent on Russian energy supplies, making them vulnerable to political leverage.

Lastly, migration and border security are becoming increasingly significant in Eastern Europe, particularly in countries that are on the frontlines of the refugee crisis from the Middle East and Africa. The influx of migrants places considerable pressure on border security and social services in many Eastern European countries, with potential implications for both domestic stability and regional security. NATO's role in supporting border security and managing migration flows has grown, as it works to ensure that these challenges do not contribute to greater instability or create opportunities for extremist groups to exploit vulnerabilities. As these issues evolve, NATO's continued involvement will be necessary to mitigate the risks posed by uncontrolled migration and border insecurity. These interconnected issues—military threats, cultural divisions, cyber challenges, and economic vulnerabilities—demand a comprehensive and adaptive approach from NATO. By addressing these challenges effectively, NATO can contribute to a more secure and stable Eastern Europe, capable of withstanding external pressures and internal divisions.



# Key Issues

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## **Russian Aggression:**

Russia's military actions in Ukraine, Georgia, and Moldova continue to present a significant challenge to NATO's strategic interests. The annexation of Crimea in 2014 and military incursions into Eastern Ukraine have destabilized the region, undermining the sovereignty of these countries. In addition to traditional military aggression, Russia engages in cyber attacks, hybrid warfare, and disinformation campaigns that exacerbate security concerns. These tactics target NATO member states, erode public trust, and seek to undermine democratic processes in Eastern Europe.

## **Ethnic and Cultural Divisions:**

Historical grievances, ethnic minorities, and separatist movements in countries like Ukraine, Moldova, and the Balkans create internal unrest and destabilize the region. These cultural and ethnic tensions fuel separatist movements, such as those in eastern Ukraine and the breakaway region of Transnistria in Moldova. In the Balkans, historical ethnic conflicts continue to influence political dynamics and security, complicating NATO's mission in promoting stability and cooperation. NATO's challenge lies in addressing these divisions while fostering unity and integration within the broader Euro-Atlantic framework.

## **Energy Security:**

Eastern Europe's heavy reliance on Russian natural gas creates a vulnerability that is often exploited in geopolitical conflicts. Russia has historically used energy supplies as a tool of political manipulation, particularly during times of tension, such as in the gas disputes with Ukraine. This reliance makes countries in Eastern Europe highly susceptible to energy shortages and price fluctuations, which can disrupt both economic stability and security. NATO's role includes enhancing energy diversification, promoting alternative energy sources, and reducing the region's dependence on Russian energy supplies.

## **Economic Development:**

There is a significant economic divide between Western and Eastern Europe, which limits the ability of Eastern European countries to strengthen their defense capabilities and infrastructure. Countries in Eastern Europe often face challenges in modernizing their military forces and ensuring robust infrastructure due to financial constraints. Economic disparities also impact the region's ability to achieve long-term stability and development. NATO's efforts to support economic development, including through partnerships with the European Union and other financial institutions, aim to bridge these gaps and ensure that Eastern European countries are economically resilient and able to contribute to regional security.

## **Migration and Border Security:**

The influx of refugees and migrants from the Middle East, Africa, and other regions places additional pressure on the border security and social cohesion of Eastern European countries. Many countries in the region are already grappling with the security implications of increased migration flows, which strain public resources, social services, and local economies. NATO's support in managing border security is vital, as member states work together to balance humanitarian assistance with maintaining security in an increasingly complex environment.

## **Cyber Threats:**

Russia's cyber campaigns present a serious threat to the security of Eastern European states. These campaigns target critical infrastructure, political institutions, and media outlets, aiming to disrupt governance and destabilize societies. NATO plays an important role in helping its members enhance their cyber defenses, providing support for developing resilience against cyberattacks, and improving the ability to counter disinformation and cyber espionage



# Major Parties Involved

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## **NATO Member States:**

Poland, Romania, the Czech Republic, and the Baltic States (Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania) are central players in advocating for stronger NATO defense initiatives in Eastern Europe. These countries are on the frontline of NATO's eastern border and are particularly vulnerable to Russian aggression, which makes their strategic importance to NATO even greater. They have been instrumental in promoting NATO's security objectives, including the strengthening of the alliance's military presence in the region and the development of joint defense strategies. Their historical experiences with Soviet domination have shaped their approach to regional security, making them active participants in ensuring that NATO's defensive posture remains robust in the face of Russian provocations.

## **Russia:**

Russia remains the primary challenger to NATO's efforts in Eastern Europe. Through military actions, cyberattacks, and disinformation campaigns, Russia exerts significant influence on the region. The annexation of Crimea in 2014, as well as its ongoing military involvement in Ukraine, Georgia, and Moldova, illustrates Russia's aggressive stance toward NATO's presence in its neighborhood. Additionally, Russia has increasingly used cyber tactics and hybrid warfare to destabilize countries and sow division within NATO, making it a complex and persistent threat. NATO must continue to counter these threats through both military and non-military means, including cyber defense, strategic deterrence, and diplomatic engagement.

## **European Union (EU):**

The European Union plays a critical role in supporting NATO's efforts by providing economic assistance, political stability, and infrastructure development in Eastern Europe. The EU's role goes beyond just financial aid; it includes fostering democratic governance, promoting rule of law, and ensuring that Eastern European nations are able to modernize their economies and defense infrastructures. The EU's economic initiatives also complement NATO's military goals by reducing the region's dependence on Russian energy, strengthening the internal resilience of member states, and fostering regional stability. The EU collaborates closely with NATO on projects aimed at improving energy security, countering Russian influence, and supporting defense cooperation.

## **Ukraine and Georgia:**

Both Ukraine and Georgia are non-NATO members that seek closer alignment with the alliance, particularly in light of ongoing Russian aggression. These countries have expressed a desire for NATO membership, largely driven by the security guarantees they perceive NATO could offer against Russian military threats. NATO's support for these nations includes providing military training, security assistance, and infrastructure development, which aims to enhance their defense capabilities and integrate them into broader European security frameworks. While neither country is a member of NATO, their partnership with the alliance has deepened over the years, and NATO's support has been instrumental in countering Russian incursions and bolstering their sovereignty.

## **NGOs and Civil Society Groups:**

NGOs and civil society groups play a crucial role in strengthening governance, human rights, and cultural understanding in Eastern Europe. These organizations help to address social and political challenges that contribute to instability in the region, such as corruption, ethnic tensions, and human rights abuses. Their work is aligned with NATO's broader mission of fostering stability and democratic development in the region. By focusing on humanitarian aid, education, and promoting civic engagement, NGOs help create a more resilient civil society, which is vital for long-term peace and security. Their efforts often complement NATO's military and diplomatic actions, creating a holistic approach to security that encompasses both the military and civilian aspects of state-building.

# Focus Questions

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How can NATO strengthen its defense posture in Eastern Europe without escalating tensions with Russia?

What measures can NATO take to address ethnic and cultural divisions that threaten stability in Eastern Europe?

How can NATO enhance economic cooperation with Eastern European nations to promote long-term stability?

What are the best strategies for NATO to address the challenges posed by hybrid warfare, including the manipulation of information and political interference in Eastern Europe?

What role should NATO play in countering cyber threats and disinformation campaigns in the region?

How can NATO support civil society and democratic institutions to reduce cultural and ethnic tensions?



# Recommended sources

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## **Agenda 1:**

<https://www.nato.int/>

<https://www.emro.who.int/syria/information-resources/index.html>

<https://data.unhcr.org/en/situations/syria>

<https://www.crisisgroup.org/middle-east-north-africa/east-mediterranean-mena/syria>

<https://www.hrw.org/middle-east/n-africa/syria>

<https://www.doctorswithoutborders.org/what-we-do/where-we-work/syria>

## **Agenda 2:**

[https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/stronger-eu-security-and-defence\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/stronger-eu-security-and-defence_en)

<https://carnegieendowment.org/europe/about-carnegie-europe>

[https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/policies/peace-and-governance/peace-and-security\\_en](https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/policies/peace-and-governance/peace-and-security_en)

<https://www.csis.org/analysis/continent-forged-crisis-assessing-europe-one-year-war>

<https://www.nato.int/acad/fellow/97-99/ivanov-a.pdf>

[https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official\\_texts\\_18886.htm?selectedLocale=en](https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official_texts_18886.htm?selectedLocale=en)



