



NATO PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

DECLARATION 490*

SHAPING NATO FOR THE NEXT GENERATIONS AT THE WASHINGTON SUMMIT

The Assembly,

1. **Convinced** that NATO is and remains the cornerstone and indispensable guarantor of Europe and North America's security;
2. **Underlining** that NATO has succeeded throughout all shifts in the security environment because it is defined not by what it stands against but by what it stands for – the defence of democracy, individual liberty and the rule of law;
3. **Stressing** that, for 75 years, the unique commitment to collective defence enshrined in Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty has prevented an armed attack from any state actors against the Alliance;
4. **Recalling** that Allies only invoked Article 5 once, following the 11 September 2001 terrorist attacks against the United States;
5. **Certain** that Allies today face a new era of strategic competition and their greatest test for collective security and defence in a generation;
6. **Stressing** therefore the need to contain Russia across all domains;
7. **Underscoring** that Russia currently represents the most significant and direct threat to Allied security and to peace and stability in the Euro-Atlantic area; terrorism in all its forms and manifestations remains the most direct asymmetric threat to the Alliance and is increasingly supported by the Russian and Iranian regimes; and the stated ambitions and coercive policies of the People's Republic of China pose multiple and systemic challenges to Euro-Atlantic interests, security and values;
8. **Saluting** the profound transformation at 360 degrees of the NATO Alliance initiated at the Madrid Summit and accelerated at the Vilnius Summit;
9. **Expressing** deep concern about ongoing Russian hybrid activities on Allied territory, including sabotage, acts of violence, cyber and electronic interference, disinformation campaigns and other hybrid operations;
10. **Stressing** that the Washington Summit must shape NATO for the next generations and demonstrate continued rock-solid unity and determination as well as a clear commitment by all Allies to take on a fair share of the responsibility for Allied security;

* Adopted by the Assembly at its Plenary Sitting in Sofia (Bulgaria) on Monday 27 May 2024.

11. **Welcoming** Sweden's accession; reaffirming its full support for Ukraine, Georgia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina's aspiration to join NATO; underlining its consistent support to NATO's Open Door Policy; and fully convinced of the value NATO's partnerships add to Allied security;
12. **Firmly committed** to supporting Georgia's democracy, independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, and European and Euro-Atlantic aspirations, but **deeply concerned** about the law on the so-called "transparency of foreign influence", which is a step backwards for the country's democratic consolidation and runs counter to its NATO as well as EU aspirations, and **urging** the Georgian authorities to withdraw the law before it further damages Georgian democracy;
13. **Recalling** the 30th anniversary of the establishment of the Mediterranean Dialogue and the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Istanbul Cooperation Initiative;
14. **Determined** to continue to play its part to strengthen NATO and the unique transatlantic bond;
15. **URGES** the Heads of State and Government of the North Atlantic Alliance at their Summit meeting in Washington:
 - a. To make clear that NATO is prepared and will defend every inch of Allied territory at all times under Article 5;
 - b. To take further measures to implement the renewed Defence Investment Pledge agreed at the Vilnius Summit with all its elements, including:
 - i. Deliver without delay on the enduring commitment and concrete plans to reach at least 2% of GDP annually on defence spending, invest at least 20% of defence budgets on major equipment and recognise that, in certain cases, substantially higher spending will be necessary to satisfy Article 3 of the Washington Treaty;
 - ii. Ensure investment in R&D is appropriately funded.
 - c. To take concrete steps to reduce and eliminate obstacles to defence trade and investment among Allies;
 - d. To reaffirm the commitment to collective defence at 360 degrees against threats from all directions; to NATO's three core tasks – deterrence and defence, crisis prevention and management as well as cooperative security; and to increasing national and collective resilience;
 - e. To fully recognise the threat that autocracies pose to democracies, as laid out in NATO's 2022 Strategic Concept, and operationalise NATO's commitment to defending shared democratic values by establishing a Centre for Democratic Resilience at NATO Headquarters;
 - f. To urgently step up and speed up the delivery of the military assistance which Ukraine needs to win and to ensure Russia's defeat in Ukraine;
 - g. To develop a strategy regarding NATO support for Ukraine against aggression by the Russian Federation at the tactical, operational and strategic levels and to help hasten Ukraine's victory against Russia's invasion forces;
 - h. To send a clear signal that Allies will stand with Ukraine until victory and take concrete steps forward on its now irreversible path to NATO membership, in line with the Assembly's recommendations in Declaration 033 SC 24 E rev.2;

- i. To reaffirm the fact that NATO's role in the fight against terrorism contributes to all three core tasks of the Alliance and is integral to the Alliance's 360-degree approach to deterrence and defence, and by taking into account the Vilnius Summit decisions, to agree on additional taskings in this regard;
- j. To make concrete, long-term commitments for military assistance to Ukraine until it reaches victory and beyond;
- k. To prepare a long-term strategy and proactive measures of modern containment of Russia in order to counter the Russian threat in all its dimensions, actively defend democracy and the rules-based international order, and boost Allied and Alliance resilience to and contest Russia's aggressive political, military and hybrid destabilising activities, affecting the Alliance and Allies' security;
- l. To promptly complete the full implementation of the new baseline for NATO's enhanced deterrence and defence posture, including by resourcing NATO's new defence plans and making these plans fully executable by all criteria;
- m. To ensure sustainable implementation of the rotational air defence model on the Eastern Flank;
- n. To make full use of the Defence Production Action Plan and other NATO instruments, including for joint procurement, to urgently strengthen Allied defence industries;
- o. To agree on a pledge that all Allies must fairly share the burden and responsibility for the Alliance's shared security;
- p. To take the unique and essential partnership with the European Union to the next level with a view to reinforcing its complementarity with NATO;
- q. To strengthen relations with strategic partners in NATO's southern neighbourhood, beginning with those belonging to the Mediterranean Dialogue and the Istanbul Cooperation Initiative, building on the report by the Secretary General's independent Group of Experts, and to step up cooperation with partners at risk and like-minded partners across the globe, in particular in the Indo-Pacific region, as well as agree on a relevant roadmap;
- r. To recognise, in the Summit communiqué, the Assembly's indispensable role and contribution as a link between the parliaments and people of the Alliance and NATO.
