

“NATO: One of the World’s Greatest Alliances”

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North Atlantic Treaty Organization is a military alliance between countries in Europe and North America. This organization consists of thirty countries which includes Great Britain, the United States, and Canada. It was created in 1949 after the Second World War; its purpose was to help secure peace in Europe. Since NATO has been founded, it has become the protector of the free world, and NATO is a very active organization. Currently they are supporting Ukraine during their war with Russia, and support for Ukraine has led the world into what seems to be the second coming of a Cold War.

In January 1948, British Secretary Ernest Bevin addressed the problem of the Soviet Union taking over Eastern Europe. He believed that Western Europe needed to create an alliance with the UN Charter. As a result of that, Belgium, France, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom all signed a treaty called the Brussels Treaty creating the basis for the North Atlantic Treaty, also known as the Washington Treaty, that was soon to follow. NATO signed the treaty on April 4, 1949, and it was signed in The Department Auditorium in Washington D.C. Foreign ministers of Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, the United Kingdom, and the United States all signed the treaty. By signing this treaty the countries pledged to the responsibility of supporting each other when in war. Many countries have signed the treaty, and have received support throughout various conflicts that have occurred.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization is currently supporting Ukraine in the Russo-Ukrainian war. Even though Ukraine isn’t a part of NATO, they are a partner country, meaning that they cooperate closely with the organization but are not covered with the security guarantee in the Alliance’s Treaty. NATO is supporting Ukraine by providing them with non-lethal aids and by providing billions of Euros of financial assistance. In June 2022, NATO leaders agreed to strengthen the package of support for Ukraine by providing resources such as secure communications, fuel, medical supplies, and even equipment to counter Russia’s threats. This collaboration is an example of NATO working to fulfill its ultimate purpose of helping secure peace in the world.

Another example of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization working to achieve its purpose was seen through the organization's support to the United

States during the Afghanistan-USA war. After the 9/11 terrorist attack NATO had an emergency session, and for the first time in history they launched an article 5, which meant all of the eighteen countries of NATO agreed to support the United States in their attack on Afghanistan. The purpose of setting an attack on Afghanistan was to ensure that Afghanistan would never again harbor international terrorists. Nearly twenty years after the US and NATO went into Afghanistan, the war ended. NATO supporting the US during this war was crucial to the final outcome.

NATO has been around for less than a century, but they have made many important historical impacts. The organization is continuing to improve and is growing to build a stronger alliance. The collaboration among the countries in the organization creates a strong force that is working to create peace within the world. In conclusion, the creation of NATO has helped our world through many conflicts and is vital to many countries.

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