

WISEGRAD YOUTH FORUM 2022

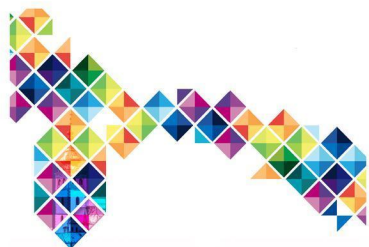


Simulation of Extraordinary Summit of NATO Heads of State and Government

On the 2nd of December 2022 the Euro-Atlantic Center held the last event of the conference, the Simulation of Extraordinary Summit of NATO Heads of State and Government. This simulation was a part of this year's project Visegrad Youth Forum 2022. The primary goal of each participant was to represent its country in the most realistic and effective way possible in hypothetical situations of simulation. Every participant had to be prepared to deal with a crisis that tested the unity and capabilities of the Alliance. Marek Gallo, Project Coordinator of Euro-Atlantic Center and Visegrad Youth Forum opened the simulation which start with call with Martin Klus, former Secretary of State Ministry of Foreign Affairs. After that Peter Šmalo, Secretary General of NATO ask each state to their opening statement in role of deffense. The delegates' positions of support were as follows.

Albania welcomes NATO presence. Said that NATO is a key to move forward from isolation, Albania provided stability in region and it's very active state in alliance, they prefer more deeper connection with Turkey and inform with issue of Kosovo. Benelux never question their membership, This states in next few years focus to upgrade their deffense budget. Bulgaria in their statement warns about importance of Ukraine crisis with refugees, European states need to protect civilians, provided a note on partnership with Russia and Turkey but Bulgaria still support people of Ukraine, They except new refugees and added they are fully in western policies and they are fully involved. Baltic states at first welcomes new members in NATO, picked up its important that this two states join NATO alliance and warns its important to talk about disinformation campaing Russia have. Germany statement was as follows. Strong supporter of Europe deffense, ready to support Ukraine with all means neccessary and they believe in positive effect on sanctions. France statements talks about their imporant role in NATO as state who was one of founders and one of the deepest supporter of NATO army.





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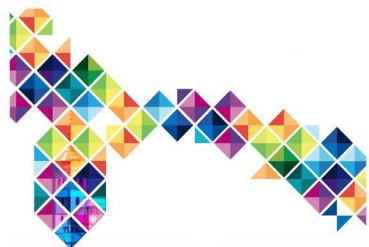


Slovenia state expressed that we live in uncertain times and its crucial to stick together as NATO. They condemn that the military aggression against the Ukraine is illegal and they fully supported Ukraine. Priority should be protect critical infrastructure and include cyber security opposite to Russia propaganda. Finland is worried of security threat from Russia, Finland is threaten by Russia, they have long common border and it's important that they became members in this uncertain times. Membership is beneficial for both parties, both for older memebtrs and new ones. Romania statement include information about fundamental dimension in their policy is NATO membership, they fully supported cooperation between EU and NATO. They supported USA in Iraq and even support USA in Kosovo, they support for NATO is indisputable.

Czech republic declared there are still many steps to be made, still more to made and it's needed to cooperative more between NATO member states. Canada statement say about Russia aggression againts Ukraine it's unacceptable, NATO states should stay strong than ever and show unity, the most endangered is eastern flank and V4 states should cooperate more in their opinion. Emphasized that the China is problem too and it's crucial to restore international peace. Poland pointed out the importance of increase in defense spending and emphasized that Poland Hungary and Czech republic are first three states who join NATO from eastern flank.

Turkey can't accept any occupation of territories which were not obtained by legal means. Turkey try to have a dialog between Russia and Ukraine and act as a anchor of stability and peace, it's impotant to counter terrorist state. Greece pointed out an important fact that people of Greece cannot sleep well and expressed disapproval of Turkey's actions and even proposed a punishment for Turkey and called him an irresponsible member of NATO. Nordic states speak with one voice in NATO, they managing we live in challenging times. They mentioned we need solidarity, global peace and stability and expressed to importance of cooperation between NATO states. Added it's pleasure that NATO move to the northend and it's important to excend NATO new members in future.





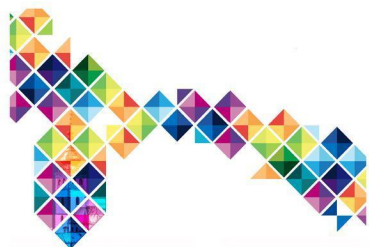
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Spain and Portugal are ready to cooperate, their position is clear, they are ready to solve this problem with Russia and Ukraine with fully cooperate with NATO members. Croatia statement discussed the security are threaten today. That Ukraine is not fighting only military with Russia but with propaganda too, its important to find common resolution of threat we all facing and we all fight for freedom. USA is proud of achievements we achieve, say about we need to stay more united that ever and and it's time to put aside our differences. Montenegro are honoured by their membership and declare we need to strenghten security of Balkan states and eastern flank. Slovakia statement declared we fight with disinformation, and we as a NATO need to continue with supporting Ukraine military and economic aid. Hungary statement was noticeably different from other member states. Absolutely did not agree with NATO policy and said that we forget about our security, forget our common values and ask other member states if we are ready for tackle this war to handle the situation, all member states forget that we have our problems. Added that we have very crucial moments in our common history. We need to deffend values and deffend European Union and NATO member states first. Italy statements told that our security are challenging byt threat of security.

After all statements from member states Secretary general of NATO open a first point of meeting and that is issues of global security. Many states agreed in importance of supporting Ukraine with the exception of Hungary and Turkey where Hungary prefer, as mentioned before to focus on Europe first and our common problems and made a very bold claim about that is not Russia who start this war but extend of NATO territory are the cause. According to the individual answers to the questions, we could characterize Turkey as a more or less neutral state in threat of security question. Then Co-Chairman open a debate about sanctions. Member states defended their position in a similar wording as in the opening statement and according to that Secretary General of NATO started a vote in which states can to vote for or against in the topic of Eastern and Northen flank defense fund. Poland proposal is to USA pay 50 billion euro, 50% as investment and 50% as participality





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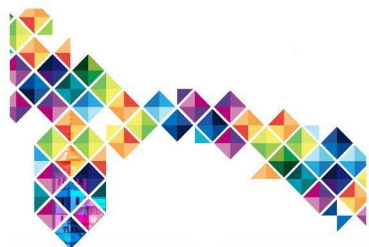


Euro in fund and added focus on defense industrial base, capability potential and prompts human sincerity equipment to refugees. Every member states is in favor only Hungary, Turkey and Greece are against this proposal.

Next part of report concerns with the second round/part of the simulation, which was mainly focused on the Turkish intrusions into north-eastern Syria and an evaluation of the proposed NATO 2030 agenda. The simulation led by Peter Šmalo, Project Coordinator of Euro-Atlantic Center, and Marek Gallo, Project Coordinator of Euro-Atlantic Center and Visegrad Youth Forum, started with a brief remark on the rules and continued with the description of a model situation.

First topic opened by delegates was already mentioned Turkish intrusion into Syria. Representatives of NATO countries had many questions for the delegate of Turkey, who tried to defend his country statement and interests with compassion to issues caused by his country actions. Participants discussed mainly migration caused by these attacks, as Turkish invasion caused migration waves to hit Europe and Schengen. Turkey admitted that their attacks do have side-effect but are necessary to protect Turkish citizens and to stop terrorism, which their country suffers to greater degree than EU countries combined. Some delegates, for example Polish one, acknowledged the Turkish cause for invasion and understood Turkey's will to protect its own citizens, but questioned the approach of Turkey. According to Poland, the invasion only prolongs the conflict and create another instability in region. Such an instability will be certainly used by countries like Russian Federation, which nowadays acts and presents itself as an enemy of NATO. Also, Turkish approach to specific groups, like Kurds, is questionable at best, and many countries expressed their concerns to treatment of former ally who helped defeat ISIS. Further suffering of people can, according to France, create opportunity to raise in power of ISIS or new terrorist groups in region. Later Turkey stated that they have fully right to defend themselves and their territory as stable Turkey means stable region and stable NATO.





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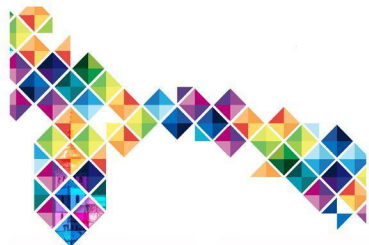


After further discussion, delegates come to the conclusion that Turkey should do everything in their power to create a buffer zone and prevent further migration, suffering and escalating conflict into permanent one (to prevent a situation reaching a deadlock). Allies pointed out that actions of Turkey must not lead to spread of hateful antiwestern ideologies but they acknowledged that Turkey should not be left alone, although communication of their intention and planned operations need to be more clear and intensive.

After abundant discussion the participants at the proposal of the chairman voted to take a 15 min. break for short consultation of the next step and on approach to Turkey. After consultation finished, two Fractions were formed. One led by Turkey and second by Poland and Baltic states. Both fractions named their spokesperson and presented their proposals and statements to discuss the issue. Poland's proposal was to create common ground which they named Operation Ice Cube. Content of this proposal was to support Turkey in their fight with terrorism, provide their army with further training and post-pone any action against Turkey by 10 months, giving alliance time to focus on Ukraine situation. Turkey agreed with this proposal and withdrawn both their statement and proposal. Delegates moved to voting about the Polish proposal, which successfully passed with 15 votes in favor, one absent on two against the proposal. The next agenda of simulation was to deal with the issue of hybrid and cyber warfare. Discourse was opened by representative of Albania, which lately suffered from massive cyberattacks.

Participants shortly shifted discussion to NATO Article 5. and polemic, if this article could be activated in such a circumstance as more and more strategic infrastructure of countries is becoming digital and cyber attacks can cause serious economic damage and danger to citizens. Clear answer to the polemic was not provided and shortly discussion fell to the question of China. While one faction, represented mainly by Hungary, defended cooperation and business with China and called for separation of business and politics, the other criticized this approach as shortsighted.





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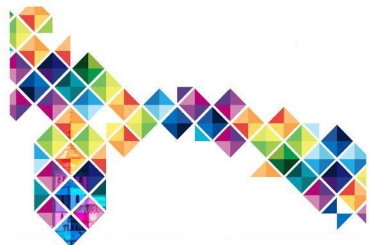


The main counterpoint was the existence of evidence in relation to China espionage and interference within their products. According to some delegates, this was proof of the inability to separate politics and business when it comes to dealing with China. More secure approach must be applied in such a case. Hungary opposed that we are reliant on China but again, other delegates opposed saying that this dependence and relationship goes both ways. Discussion shifted again and Hungary claimed that we should be more clear in relation to China – do we consider them enemy or partner? Delegate of the USA claimed that we should do business with China but not in the areas which could be considered strategic. Lately some representatives tried to form a proposal – for example Spain suggested that alliance needs to create common procedure and doctrine in case of attack. Poland agreed and added that we should train our own IT security experts and support our IT market and education, maybe include and get inspired by Baltic states. This was a final point of discussion and simulation moved to another stage.

In the last stage representatives created five work-groups with task to create proposals and measures for the new NATO 2030 agenda. Every proposal was voted on by majority and if passed successfully, moved into the final NATO 2030 package, which was voted on unanimously. First group consisted primarily of Greece, France, Turkey and Iceland. Their proposed joint maneuvers of member states on problematic southern flank. This proposal was passed. Next group was led by Germany with cooperation of Czechia, Hungary, Finland and Sweden. Their proposal was to cooperate with South Korea and to improve cyber-security of central Europe and provide financial support and intelligence for this cause. Representative of Hungary assured their partners, that success of this proposal means their full support of Sweden and Finland membership in NATO. This proposal was passed.

Third group consisted of Poland, Spain and Baltic States. Their proposal was similar to the proposal of the fourth group, which was constituted by Benelux, Macedonia and the USA. Main goal of their proposals was to increase security of important infrastructure such as energy and health-care systems.





VISEGRAD YOUTH FORUM 2022



The EU and NATO IT system needs to be developed for such a purpose. This would also require the training of experts and further education of employees. This proposal was passed. The fifth group of Bulgaria, Croatia and Slovakia proposed creation of common prevention measures and protection of critical infrastructure. They also pointed out the green policies and their relation to security issues - mainly renewable energy as a tool to lower NATO/EU dependency on China and Russia resources. This proposal was passed.

All proposals passed and were brought into one package, NATO 2030 agenda, to be voted on. The NATO 2030 agenda was passed unanimously and as a new NATO Secretary General was elected representative of Czechia.

