



North Atlantic Treaty Organization

President: Aiden Moreno Patlán

Moderator: Alejandra Sophia Partidas Salvetti

Conference Officer: Ana Paula Gómez Fernández



"Courage is the resistance to fear, the mastery of fear, not the absence of fear."
– Mark Twain

Dear delegates,

It is an honor to welcome you to TOLMUN 2024, a particularly significant model as we celebrate its 30th anniversary, which for three decades has encouraged thousands of students to use their full potential for the well-being of the world in which we live. On behalf of the Tecnológico de Monterrey and the Organizing Committee, we extend our greetings and our gratitude for being part of this important history.

For 30 years, TOLMUN has been a place where bold and committed young people become the leaders of tomorrow to dialogue, debate, and above all, to transform the world. This model has witnessed countless ideas that have challenged the status quo, brave voices that have raised their hands in favor of justice, and the construction of a better future.

This year, more than ever, we find ourselves at a moment where you, the delegates, have the opportunity to continue the story. It is not just about representing different nations, but about expressing your way of thinking and coming together as one to solve problems.

The heart of this model is you, the delegates, who motivate us year after year with your enthusiasm, talent and commitment that allows you to continue writing the history of TOLMUN and without realizing it you are already doing something that many others do not do; raising your voice and facing the challenges of the world.

Never stop participating, debating, and above all, daring. You are already changing the world. Let's celebrate 30 years of doing it together!

On behalf of the entire organizing committee, thank you very much for your participation in TOLMUN 2024, good luck delegates, we wish you much success.

Sincerely:

Valeria Tapia Morales
Secretaria General

Maria Fernanda Zenil Cruz
Subsecretaria General



"Carry out a random act of kindness, with no expectation of reward, safe in the knowledge that one day someone might do the same for you"
–Diana, Princes of Wales

Estimated delegates,

On behalf of the NATO committee, it is an honor as Chair of the committee to be with you at this edition of the Model United Nations, TOLMUN 2024.

The MUNs symbolize a large part of us. They are the possibility of a change in perspectives on society's problems. They are the hope that all is not lost, and that any conflict can be resolved through mere dialogue. They are the patience and discipline learned by participating in them, the opportunity to learn and be informed about our planet, its countries, culture and visions. The experience of a Model United Nations not only makes you grow as a faithful delegate, but also as a person.

We see MUNs as an opportunity to develop values and skills, from unity, respect and peace, to problem solving, dialogue skills, taking a stand and finding solutions in crisis situations. They make it possible to create a culture of global peace from our environment and perspective. As small and perhaps insignificant as an activity such as a MUN may seem, an experience like this is the cradle and foundation of any great leader of tomorrow who wants to strive to change the world in the best way, and we are honored to be part of their formation.

We would like to think that, by the end of this model, you will feel as we do; that you will be living proof of how enriching all these activities are, how many doors of opportunity blossom and how many new ways of looking at society are born after experiencing a model UN that go beyond a room where a debate takes place. We hope that this MUN will spur and inspire you to participate in many more.

Although we are aware that participation in such an environment may seem difficult, we want to assure you that we will do everything we can to make your experience in this committee a memorable one in the best possible way and to bring out the best in you. We are deeply proud of your bravery and courage in deciding to take part in a committee, because believe us, we were there too; and to be prepared for any situation within the debate. Thank you so much for being here.

Sincerely,
The Chair of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization
President: Aiden Moreno Patlán
Moderator: Alejandra Sophia Partidas Salvetti
Conference Officer: Ana Paula Gómez Fernández



ABOUT THE COMMITTEE

Taking heavily into consideration the UN Charter and with only 14 Articles, the organization was founded the 4th of April of 1949 in the city of Washington D.C. with the signing of the North Atlantic Treaty, said treaty aimed to be the representation of the signing countries of their commitment to share the benefits of a collective defense as well as the responsibilities and risks, considering the recent conflict that had just ended and the increasing threats of another one, at that time was considered worth-it but most importantly necessary.

In its origins, NATO wasn't as big as it is today, just having 12 founding members (Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, the United Kingdom and the United States) but as the world became more violent and unstable, many different countries seeking stability and security applied to be part of the organization, as of the second half of 2024, the total members of NATO amounts to 32 countries. Nevertheless the organization has signed different agreements with other non-NATO countries, furthermore expanding its presence in the global stage.

The organization has had a list of military exercises and interventions that aimed to maintain peace and security in North America and Europe being one of the main beliefs "Ensuring stability at home by engaging outside of NATO" (NATO 2024), but as the world changes, NATO also adapts to the new challenges that change poses, one of the main examples being the strategic decisions taken during the Cold War to protect Western Europe from the U.S.S.R.'s influence and further expansion. NATO also deeply values diplomatic efforts, international cooperation and negotiations when a crisis erupts and considers the use of force very carefully and as a last resort, yet it is not hesitant when it has to be taken, always having in mind the security and well-being of its member states and allies.

Although the only specification regarding binding voting and decision making is found in Washington's Treaty Article 10, the organization has always taken into consideration every member and their worries at the time of taking action or making decisions; this has had various consequences, such as raising tensions within the organization when multiple members disagree in the a general consensus, yet it has also ensured the cooperation between all. Thus based on said precedent, for this committee all substantial votings in order to be approved must have a three quarters of the NATO present members favorable vote.

Nowadays NATO has to face rising global tensions in almost every corner of the world, now having the dilemma of having to balance the interests of their members and the well-being of its allies as well as more and more skepticism regarding the purpose of the organization, its structure and the internal conflicts outside problems generate.

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TOPIC A

The impact of the displacement of financial markets, investments and supply chains caused by the Ukraine-Russia conflict.

In the early spring of 2014, following the violent collapse of the government of President Viktor Yanukovich in Kyiv and the Russian occupation of Ukraine's Crimean peninsula, Moscow-backed militants started seizing regional government buildings and local police stations across eastern Ukraine; a brutal armed conflict then ensued. Ever since April 2014, the ongoing Russo-Ukrainian conflict has heavily impacted the two countries, the armed conflict itself re-erose in February of 2022, now driven by the Russian invasion of Ukraine

The Russian-Ukrainian conflict is a unique challenge to the global financial markets given the fact that Russia plays a central role in energy markets and is a major global economy. Due to increased geopolitical risk and unprecedented sanctions, the effect on Russian markets is likely to have spillover effects on regional and international markets, further increasing instability.

In the aftermath of the armed conflict, the first sanctions from the EU and the international community were diplomatic and financial, but as the armed conflict progresses and an end to it seems likely distant, a number of countries have been led to broaden the scope of economic retaliation, specially trade sanctions. While these are unprecedented, they are somehow clearly insufficient insofar as the Russian economy continues to enjoy a steady stream of revenue from oil, gas, and coal sales, vital resources that Europe has to buy, especially in the colder months.

The armed conflict in Ukraine represents a challenge for the global economy, harming growth and putting upward pressure on inflation when it is already at dangerously high levels. While Ukraine is not a significant trading partner for any major economy, countries such as China, the US, Germany, France, and Italy represent some of the major import partners for Russia; Many European countries rely heavily on Russia too for oil and gas imports, having import shares over 75%; in great part of Eastern Europe said imports vary between oil, natural gas and solid fuels, but what they all have in common is its use by the Russian Government and Gazprom as trade-tokens at the time of negotiations.

On the other hand, the economic activity in the mainly affected regions of Ukraine has practically ceased, apart from the maintenance of public utilities, basic retail trade and medical services which were still somehow possible. Finance Minister Serhiy Marchenko estimated that by mid-March 2022, the Russian invasion will have forced 30% of the economy to stop working; Adding on to that, the total value of damaged/destroyed objects due to the invasion is estimated to be about 62.6 billion USD, however the cost of repairs is likely to be way higher than that amount, and as the conflict continues and more destruction is done, this number will only continue to increase, becoming one of the greatest problems in the aftermath of the conflict.

There are several channels through which the conflict impacts on the world economy; the Ukrainian and Russian economies are key suppliers of commodities, including titanium, palladium, wheat, and corn, disruptions to the supply chain of these commodities would keep prices high, intensifying the financial burden to the people that rely on such commodities.

Key questions

1. Does your country rely on Russian fuels such as gas or oil?
2. Has your country suffered any economic problems due to market changes?
3. Which economic actions has your country taken against Russia?
4. Has your country faced goods shortages due to the effect of the armed conflict in the supply chains?

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TOPIC B

Expansion of the organization's jurisdiction below the Tropic of Cancer.

The fifth article of the NATO founding treaty states the obligation of the member states to defend any of them in the case they happen to be a victim of an armed attack, thus creating a sense of protection and security that has ultimately discouraged conflicts with NATO member states; the problem with this article is its wideness, at the time of its signing, multiple countries still had ultramar territories, although the countries main territory was stable, the ultramar territories were not, and that could potentially have initiated another great diplomatic or even armed conflict in the world, thus Article 6 was written; In this article the delimitations of the organization's jurisdiction were established but the most important line was "... or on the Islands under the jurisdiction of any of the Parties in the North Atlantic area north of the Tropic of Cancer" (The North Atlantic Treaty. 1949).

Originally meant to protect the countries of the organization from really possible conflicts due to some member's unstable ultramar territories, Article 6 has already had various consequences such as the armed conflict between the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom, in theory the United Kingdom had all the arguments in other to enact Article 5, but due to the Tropic of Cancer restriction, she had to go into the conflict alone, fortunately for her, the United Kingdom had the strongest army among the countries involved and didn't really need much help, but it could have been a really different story would the NATO member have been other. This has raised concerns at the time of analyzing the true efficacy of the organization, the article worked when the countries had colonies but now, with the various independences that have happened and more established countries, some like the United States and France have entire regions without the NATO protection such as Hawaii or the French Guiana respectively; on the other hand there is the case of Spain's Canary Islands which are just merely above the Tropic of Cancer and thus, fall under NATO jurisdiction.

Increasing the area of jurisdiction will give thousands of NATO citizens, as well as important assets such as the largest European Union space center located in the French Guiana, the organization's protection and will be helpful to those countries that would otherwise be on their own because, although they are not as common nowadays, NATO members still have several ultramar territories all around the world. Yet doing so would mean a greater region to patrol and defend, diluting the NATO forces. Furthermore there have been tensions regarding the GDP military expenditure, some countries have already stated their position and have made clear that, if the 2% threshold is not met, they wouldn't be helping in case of an armed conflict.

However, nowadays when the world has been more divided than ever and the surging of new threats towards NATO countries has been ramping, some member states have called for a much needed unity and increasing cooperation to jointly face those challenges so not to be consumed by them, always taking into account every member's economic situation, political reasons and interest to join the organization. It has become more crucial than ever to well define the scope of the organization and, as the powder keg the world is right now, seems to be much needed.



Key questions

1. Has your country recently been involved in armed conflicts?
2. Does your country have any territory below the Tropic of Cancer?
3. Is the military spending of your country more or less than the 2% of the GDP threshold and if not, does it plan to meet it?
4. Has your country aided other countries at times of conflict?
5. Is your country involved in any dispute that could potentially lead to an escalation?

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CHAIR CONTACT

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NOTE: Search in the following drive for the committee you belong to and upload your position sheet there. Deadline: October 1st

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1rAAW1-t9XMhqn5GwERTqPgmZCAIztI5S?usp=sh>