

## REAFFIRMING TRANSATLANTIC COHESION AND IMPLEMENTING 2021 NATO BRUSSELS SUMMIT DECISIONS<sup>1</sup>

### RESOLUTION 471

The Assembly,

1. **Recognising** the ongoing profound changes in the global strategic environment, marked by the reignition of geopolitical competitions, the challenges to the rules-based global order posed by the Russian and Chinese authoritarian regimes, the increasing urgency of global threats such as climate change and pandemics, and the proliferation of emerging and disruptive technologies;
2. **Recognising** that the strong transatlantic bond between Europe and the United States and Canada remains the cornerstone of stability and security in and beyond the Euro-Atlantic area;
3. **Highlighting** the significance of the 2021 Brussels Summit in revitalising the transatlantic bond and laying out a clear path for NATO's ongoing adaptation to this new strategic environment;
4. **Welcoming** in particular the greater emphasis placed at the Summit on shared democratic values, which constitute the foundation of NATO, along with shared security concerns, and distinguish it from other military alliances;
5. **Applauding** the endorsement by Allied Heads of State and Government at the Brussels Summit of the NATO 2030 agenda and its key lines of effort, including the development of NATO's new Strategic Concept;
6. **Recognising** that many of these priorities align with the Assembly's own recommendations and **grateful** to the NATO leadership for the active and fruitful engagement with the Assembly on NATO 2030;
7. **Emphasising** the important opportunity that the upcoming development of the new Strategic Concept offers to seal a new transatlantic strategy for the changing security environment, reaffirm the Alliance's democratic values, and bolster transatlantic unity, and **looking forward** to contributing to this process;
8. **Highlighting** in particular the Allied leaders' pledge to deepen and broaden political consultations in NATO;
9. **Paying tribute** to Allied and partner armed forces for their service and the sacrifices they made in Afghanistan since 2001, ensuring that Afghanistan did not serve as a terrorist safe haven and facilitating significant democratic, economic, and human rights achievements in the past 20 years;

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<sup>1</sup> presented by the Political Committee and adopted by the Plenary Assembly on Monday 11 October 2021

10. **Recognising** that Russia's aggressive actions, both military and hybrid, including through proxies, increasingly threaten Euro-Atlantic security and contribute to instability along NATO borders and beyond;
11. **Recognising** that the rise of China is one of the most complex geopolitical shifts in generations that presents systemic challenges to the global rules-based order, but also brings opportunities to engage on areas of relevance to the Alliance;
12. **Stressing** the importance of the Mediterranean and the Middle East regions for Euro-Atlantic security;
13. **Acknowledging** that NATO's adaptation to meet current and emerging challenges from all directions and across domains will require a further evolution of its deterrence and defence posture;
14. **Convinced** that meeting Allied level of ambition requires additional resources, both through national defence expenditure and NATO common funding;
15. **Commending** NATO and individual Allies for demonstrating solidarity and providing invaluable support with medical supplies and equipment to Allies and partners requiring assistance during the COVID-19 pandemic;
16. **URGES** member governments and parliaments of the North Atlantic Alliance:
  - a. to reassert, in the updated NATO Strategic Concept, the solidarity of the Alliance in the face of old and new threats, and to re-affirm the importance of North American political engagement and military presence in Europe, as well as the transatlantic commitment to the shared principles of democracy, individual liberty, human rights, and the rule of law, which are enshrined in the North Atlantic Treaty;
  - b. to identify, building upon their agreement at the Brussels Summit, practical ways in which NATO can help promote and defend these shared democratic values, including by considering the Assembly's proposal to establish within NATO's institutional structure a centre on democratic resilience that would serve as a resource to monitor threats to democracy and assist Allies and partner nations, upon request, in strengthening their resilience to these threats;
  - c. to specify and implement the Allies' ambitious decisions on enhanced political consultations and demonstrate political will to use NATO consultation mechanisms in an equally ambitious manner;
  - d. to fully implement the decisions taken at the Brussels Summit to further reinforce and modernise the NATO Force Structure and develop the full range of forces and capabilities to meet current and future deterrence and defence needs;
  - e. to take the necessary steps to enhance coherence between relevant national and NATO activities, plans and concepts, including those on deterrence, defence and future warfighting;
  - f. to ensure the implementation of defence spending commitments in line with the 2014 Defence Investment Pledge, and to consider increasing the level of NATO common funding, which would send a strong political message of the Alliance's cohesion, resolve and commitment to partnerships;

- g. to continue investing in maintaining NATO's technological edge and make full use of the Defence Innovation Accelerator for the North Atlantic (DIANA) and the US-EU Trade and Technology Council (TTC);
- h. to strengthen strategic partnership with the EU, while respecting the organisations' different mandates and NATO's role as the bedrock of European security, and actively cooperate on military mobility, emerging and disruptive technologies, climate change and security, resilience and space security, as well as other areas of common interest, and to promote the fullest possible involvement of non-EU NATO Allies in the EU's defence-related initiatives;
- i. to continue holding Russia accountable for its ongoing and unacceptable violations of international law and norms and aggressive actions; as well as adopting necessary responses, including the application of sanctions, while remaining open to meaningful dialogue, when possible, in specific areas such as arms control;
- j. to develop a more comprehensive and joint Euro-Atlantic strategy on China, based on the growing convergence of European and North American views on China, enhancing the Alliance's preparedness to meet challenges posed by the rise of China, explicitly declaring unconditional solidarity with the Allies, which are under unprecedented pressure from China for their active support of human rights in China and countries in the East Asian region, while continuing to seek opportunities for constructive dialogue with Beijing;
- k. to continue NATO and Allies' counterterrorism efforts, and update the NATO Counterterrorism Action Plan to take account of the evolving threat of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations;
- l. to continue efforts to ensure that NATO retains the ability to project stability, particularly by intensifying NATO's assistance and capacity-building support to partners in NATO's neighbourhood;
- m. to engage fully in the lessons learned process from the Alliance's mission in Afghanistan which NATO Foreign Ministers endorsed on 20 August 2021;
- n. to continue fully recognising and addressing the security implications of climate change;
- o. to deepen partnerships and forge new ones with countries and organisations around the world with shared values, including in the Asia-Pacific;
- p. to reaffirm their commitment to NATO's Open Door policy, and to step up support for Ukraine, Georgia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina and to help them accelerate their Euro-Atlantic integration;
- q. to continue considering the Mediterranean as an area of vital interest for the security of the Alliance, by strengthening support for the stability, defence and related development of security capabilities of partner countries, also in light of the challenges posed by the significant and increasing presence of China and Russia in the area;
- r. to continue enhancing and including in their actions the Women, Peace and Security Agenda.