



NATO Parliamentary Assembly

RESOLUTION 442

on

BURDEN SHARING – FULFILLING THE PROMISES*

The Assembly,

1. **Recognising** and **applauding** NATO's crucial role for peace and stability in the Euro-Atlantic region and beyond;
2. **Emphasising** that NATO is an alliance based on shared values and that its response to threats is rooted in its commitment to individual freedom, democracy, human rights, and the rule of law;
3. **Aware** that Russia's provocative actions and instability on NATO's southern flank pose severe challenges to the rules-based European security architecture, the security of NATO members and partners' eastern and southern flanks and also pose new security challenges, including in the cyber domain;
4. **Concerned** about Russian disinformation activities aimed at changing public attitudes in NATO member and partner countries, thereby attempting to put Western value systems in question and to undermine the cohesion of the Alliance;
5. **Determined** that the security of Allies is indivisible, and that all must contribute to addressing shared challenges, assume their fair share of responsibilities and commit the necessary resources;
6. **Aware** that the current transatlantic burden sharing arrangement within NATO is politically unsustainable over time;
7. **Reminding** that all NATO member states have agreed to develop and maintain a full range of capabilities necessary to deter and defend against potential adversaries;
8. **Welcoming** the Wales Defence Investment Pledge and the subsequent decisions taken at the Summit in Warsaw and the Special Meeting in Brussels;

* Presented by the Political Committee and adopted by the Plenary Assembly on Monday 9 October 2017, Bucharest, Romania

9. **Applauding** the progress achieved in reversing the trend of declining defence expenditures in member countries but **noting** that many years of underinvestment in defence have eroded Allied forces;
10. **Underlining** that a comprehensive approach combining political, civilian and military instruments is necessary to address today and tomorrow's security challenges and **acknowledging** that diplomacy and non-defence efforts such as economic aid play an important part in this endeavour;
11. **Recognising** that all decisions on defence are national and must reflect domestic priorities and command public support;
12. **Acknowledging** that the effects of the financial and economic crisis continue to strain public budgets;
13. **Noting** that in today's volatile and changing international security environment, it is necessary to create new capabilities - and provide extra funding for their development. This is particularly the case for cyberspace, which already is part and parcel of our security environment today and will be even more so in future;
14. **URGES** member governments and parliaments of the North Atlantic Alliance and NATO:
 - a. to maintain the momentum that has been generated by the recent increase in defence spending and provide sufficient financial resources for the modernisation of our forces, thereby allowing NATO to respond to all challenges from wherever they emanate, and to preserve the Alliance's ability to accomplish its three core tasks;
 - b. to live up to the Wales Defence Investment Pledge and move towards spending a minimum of 2% of Gross Domestic Product on defence, and more than 20% of defence budgets on major equipment, including related research and development (R&D);
 - c. to ensure that Allied countries work towards a more balanced sharing of the costs and responsibilities in fulfilling all three essential core tasks of the Alliance: collective defence, crisis management and cooperative security;
 - d. to ensure that defence investments are directed towards meeting new capability priorities and not towards other ends, like employment, which are not expressly defence-related and are thus better achieved by other means;
 - e. to further strengthen and deepen NATO-EU cooperation by improving compatibility and synergy between the two institutional frameworks;
 - f. to better inform the citizens of NATO member countries about the need to provide the necessary resources for defence and about NATO's vital role in providing for our security;
 - g. to redouble efforts, as part of burden sharing, to meet the ongoing troop and capability requirements and/or shortfalls of ongoing NATO operations, missions and assurance measures, in particular the Resolute Support Mission (RSM) and the Tailored Assurance Measures (TAMT) for Turkey.