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## RESOLUTION 447

on

### BURDEN SHARING: NEW COMMITMENTS IN A NEW ERA\*

The Assembly,

1. **Concerned** by threats to NATO's territories and populations which could undermine peace and security;
2. **Recognising** this security challenge demands a determined, unified, and capable Allied response;
3. **Recalling** the new adaptation measures decided upon at the 2014 and 2016 Summits in Wales and Warsaw to address these threats;
4. **Welcoming** the readiness and reinforcement initiatives announced at the 2018 Brussels Summit to ensure more rapid and effective Allied responses to any possible contingency in NATO territory;
5. **Aware** a dynamic and mobile Allied deterrence posture requires significantly larger investments;
6. **Encouraged** by continued US investment in European security via such initiatives as the European Deterrence Initiative (EDI);
7. **Understanding** deterrence is a whole-of-Alliance undertaking, requiring investment and sacrifice from all Allies so that NATO is positioned to achieve collective defence, crisis management, and cooperative security in the face of any challenge;
8. **Recalling** that Article 3 of the Washington Treaty commits all Allies to do their part to carry the burden of Alliance initiatives, operations, and tasks;
9. **Remembering** the Defence Investment Pledge undertaken at the 2014 Wales Summit which, *inter alia*, commits Allies to aim to move towards the guideline of spending 2% of their Gross Domestic Product (GDP) on defence by 2024 and investing 20% or more of their defence budgets on major equipment, including related research and development, with a view to meeting their NATO capability targets and filling NATO's capability shortfalls, and **noting** that the Defence Investment Pledge (DIP) is not only Cash, but also Capabilities and Commitments, as the so-called three "Cs" accurately reflect the Allies' level of solidarity, which indeed represents the basic pillar of the Alliance's credibility;

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\* Presented by the Defence and Security Committee and adopted by the Plenary Assembly on Monday 19 November 2018, in Halifax, Canada

10. **Encouraged** by the economic recovery across the Alliance, which has helped underwrite over USD87 billion in new defence spending by NATO European Members and Canada since 2014;
11. **Noting** that since 2014, the NATO PA has conducted a consequential and positive dialogue on burden sharing that has helped build a political consensus supporting the notion that more must be done to ensure a strong and capable NATO for the future;
12. **Applauding** the fact that five Allies are now spending over 2% of GDP on total defence spending, while 15 Allies have achieved or surpassed the 20% threshold for new investments;
13. **Welcoming** both the 2016 NATO-EU Joint Declaration, which has fostered closer NATO-EU cooperation, and reenergised collective defence efforts in Europe, including rising contributions to the European Defence Fund (EDF) and to the Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO) which are helping to deepen defence cooperation among EU member states;
14. **Aware** that the majority of Allies have not yet reached the Defence Investment Pledge guideline, and that Allies have agreed to regularly submit credible national plans for its implementation;
15. **URGES** the member governments and parliaments of the North Atlantic Alliance:
  - a. to recognise the challenging and rapidly evolving security environment facing the Alliance, while redoubling national efforts to move towards the 2% guideline for defence spending by 2024 as all Allies agreed at the 2014 Wales Summit;
  - b. to aim to increase their annual investments into new equipment and related research and development to 20% of total defence expenditures focused on obtaining a force structure best suited for not only national defence requirements, but also the most effective contribution to broader Alliance security needs according to the NATO Defence Planning Process (NDPP);
  - c. to submit credible national plans outlining the steps their nations will take to achieve the type and amount of investment in defence necessary to engage a whole-of-Alliance effort to meet the security challenges facing NATO today and in the future.
16. **ASKS** its own Members:
  - a. to familiarise themselves with the NDPP as a means of better understanding both the positive impact of their countries' contributions and the strategic and fiscal benefits of deeper coordination and synchronisation in defence planning and procurement;
  - b. to solicit information from their respective defence establishments about how their nations are responding to NATO requirements and streamlining spending to make their current contributions as effective as possible;
  - c. to help lead the debate about defence spending and their nation's contributions to the Alliance.