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RESOLUTION 457

on

NATO @ 70: CELEBRATING 70 YEARS OF PEACE AND SECURITY THROUGH UNITY*

The Assembly,

1. **Underlining** that NATO has advanced peace and security in the Euro-Atlantic area for more than 70 years and **reaffirming** that the Alliance remains the cornerstone of transatlantic security;
2. **Stressing** that its unique strength lies in Europe and North America's commitment to ensure each other's security, and **reaffirming** that all Allies are committed to the fundamental principle, enshrined in Article 5 of the Washington Treaty, that an attack against one Ally is considered as an attack against all Allies;
3. **Acknowledging** that threats such as extreme nationalism and polarised societies challenge the Alliance from within;
4. **Welcoming** the meeting of NATO Heads of State and Government in London in December 2019 to celebrate NATO's anniversary as an opportunity to ensure that the Alliance is prepared for future security challenges;
5. **Noting** that NATO continues to be the most successful security organisation because it has been credible and that that credibility is based on NATO's military capabilities and a common unity of purpose;
6. **Emphasising** that NATO's success is also due to its adherence to common values: a commitment to democracy, individual liberty, human rights, and the rule of law;
7. **Welcoming** the tangible progress on Allied defence spending and military equipment modernisation following the Defence Investment Pledge made at the 2014 Wales Summit, but also **noting** that the relative imbalance in defence spending and military capabilities within NATO remains to be addressed;
8. **Convinced** that the prospect of further enlargement and the spirit of cooperative security promote stability and security in the Euro-Atlantic region and **reaffirming** its commitment to, and support for, NATO's Open Door policy;
9. **Stressing** the crucial contribution of NATO partnerships, such as the Mediterranean Dialogue, to security and stability in the Euro-Atlantic area, the MENA region and beyond;
10. **Applauding** the important steps taken to strengthen NATO-EU cooperation, and **recognising** the strategic potential that could be realised by further exploiting their complementary capabilities;

* presented by the Political Committee and adopted by the Plenary Assembly on Monday 14 October 2019, London, United Kingdom.

11. **Recognising** that Russia's aggressive stance and actions and continued instability on NATO's southern flank challenge the security of NATO member and partner countries and pose new security threats, including in the cyber domain;
 12. **Aware** that global trends such as shifts in economic and military power, demographics, and rapidly developing technologies require NATO to continuously revisit its strategic outlook;
 13. **URGES** member governments and parliaments of the North Atlantic Alliance:
 - a. to update the Strategic Concept to reflect the new security environment, in particular with regard to cyber and hybrid threats, the aggressive behaviour of Russia, the growing prominence of China, the threats to the Alliance's southern flank due to the persistence of Islamist terrorist groups and the fragility of some state structures in that region;
 - b. to continue and reinforce efforts to implement the Defence Investment Pledge as fair sharing of the defence burden is crucial for Alliance cohesion and necessary to rebuild and maintain the military capabilities to deter and defend against potential adversaries;
 - c. to rededicate the Alliance to the shared democratic values that constitute its founding principles by developing democracy resiliency programmes in member states and by considering the creation of a Democratic Resiliency Coordination Centre (DRCC) within NATO's institutional structure in order to help NATO member states strengthen democratic institutions;
 - d. to ensure adequate support to relevant Centres of Excellence, particularly the NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence, the NATO Strategic Communications Centre of Excellence and the European Centre of Excellence for Countering Hybrid Threats, in order to support democracy resilience programmes in member states;
 - e. to develop the NATO-EU relationship further, particularly in the fields of cyber defence and military mobility;
 - f. to continue supporting its partners in the East – Ukraine and Georgia in particular – against Russian interference, and to maintain, and if possible increase, assistance for their reform processes, especially for those countries aspiring to integrate into Euro-Atlantic structures (currently Bosnia-Herzegovina, Georgia and Ukraine);
 - g. to continue to develop political and practical cooperation with NATO partners, including the United Nations, the African Union, the Arab League, and the Gulf Cooperation Council;
 - h. to work towards opening up more partnerships with Latin American countries, following the example of Colombia, to strengthen the security and stability of the Euro-Atlantic area and to promote our shared commitment to democracy, the rule of law, human rights, and individual liberty.
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