



# SPRING SESSION

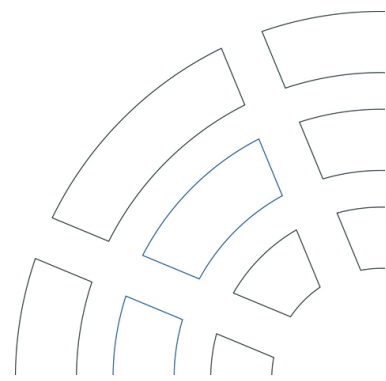
19-22 MAY 2023

SPRING SESSION MINUTES

PLENARY SITTING

MONDAY 22 MAY 2023

CONFERENCE ROOM 1,  
EUROPEAN CONVENTION CENTER  
LUXEMBOURG, GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG



**I. Opening of the Sitting**

1. **The Spring Session was opened at 8:45 on Monday 22 May 2023 with Joëlle Garriaud-Maylam (France), President of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, in the chair.**
2. **The President** declared the Spring Session of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly open.

**II. Address by Joëlle Garriaud-Maylam, President of NATO Parliamentary Assembly**

3. **The President** addressed the Assembly.

**III. Address by H. E. Mr Fernand ETGEN, President of the Chamber of Deputies of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg**

4. **Mr Etgen** addressed the Assembly.
5. **The President** thanked Mr Etgen.

**IV. Address by H. E. Mr Xavier BETTEL, Prime Minister of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg**

6. **Mr Bettel** addressed the Assembly.
7. **The President** thanked Mr Bettel.

**V. Address by H. E. François BAUSCH, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg**

8. **Mr Bausch** addressed the Assembly.
9. **The President** thanked Mr Bausch.

**VI. Online address by the Minister of Defence of Ukraine, H.E. Mr Oleskii REZNIKOV**

10. **Mr Reznikov** addressed the Assembly.
11. **The President** thanked Mr Reznikov.

**VII. Joint question and answer period with H. E. Mr Xavier BETTEL and H.E. Mr François BAUSCH**

12. Mr Bettel and Mr Bausch answered questions from **Zaida Cantera** (Spain), **Julie Dzerowicz** (Canada) and **Ana Maria Catauta** (Romania).

**VIII. Address by Mr Yehor CHERNIEV, Head of the Ukrainian Delegation to the NATO PA**

13. **Mr Cherniev** addressed the Assembly.
14. **The President** thanked Mr Cherniev.

**IX. Address by Mircea Geoana, Deputy Secretary General of NATO, followed by a question and answer period**

15. **Mr Geoana** addressed the Assembly and answered questions from **Michael R. Turner** (United States), **Ms Cantera**, **Michal Szczerba** (Poland), **Nicu Falcoi** (Romania), **Ms Dzerowicz**, **Theo Francken** (Belgium), **Gerald E. Connolly** (United States), **Alec Shelbrooke** (United Kingdom), **Ante Bacic** (Croatia), **Audronius Azubalis** (Lithuania), **Njall Trausti Fridbertsson** (Iceland), **Andrea Giorgio Orsini** (Italy), **Ahmet Berat Conkar** (Türkiye) and **Philippe Folliot** (France).
16. **The President** thanked Mr Geoana.
17. Vice-President **Nicu Falcoi** (Romania) took the Chair.

**X. Presentation by Ms Linda SANCHEZ, on the text adopted by the Standing Committee on A New NATO in an Age of Strategic Competition: Accelerating NATO's Adaptation at the Vilnius Summit [058 SESP 23 E rev.1], followed by a debate and vote on the draft Declaration**

18. **Linda Sanchez** (United States) presented the draft declaration.
19. **Irakli Beraia** (Georgia) moved **amendment 1** as follows:

In paragraph 6, after the words "aggression against Ukraine", insert:

*as well as the continued illegal occupation of the Abkhazia and South Ossetia/Tskhinvali regions of Georgia.*

20. **Ms Sanchez** responded.
21. **Amendment 1 was adopted.**
22. **Andrés Ingi Jónsson** (Iceland) moved **amendment 2** as follows:

After sub-paragraph 17.g., insert the following new sub-paragraph:

*to reaffirm their resolve to seek a safer world for all, and to take further practical steps and effective measures to foster arms control, nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, bearing in mind that the Strategic Concept states that as long as nuclear weapons exist, NATO will remain a nuclear alliance;*

23. **Ms Sanchez** responded.
24. **Mr Turner**, **Ms Cantera**, **Mr Folliot**, **Mr Shelbrooke** and **Wolfgang Hellmich** (Germany) spoke.
25. **Mr Jonsson** responded.
26. **Amendment 2 was rejected.**
27. **Mr Shelbrooke** deferred to **John Spellar** (United Kingdom) for the presentation of amendment 3.
28. **Mr Spellar** moved **amendment 3** as follows:

In sub-paragraph 17.i., after the words “terrorist groups” insert:

*, and to remain vigilant about the increasing crime-terror nexus*

29. **Ms Sanchez** responded.

30. **Amendment 3 was adopted.**

31. **Lorenzo Cesa** (Italy) moved **amendment 4** as follows:

In sub-paragraph 17.k., after the words “2% of GDP for defence”, insert:

*that includes all expenditures and investments required to ensure national security and resilience*

He then suggested an oral modification to the amendment.

32. **Ms Sanchez** responded. She noted that she would only entertain comments on amendment 4, not on the suggestion for modification.

33. **Mr Cesa withdrew amendment 4.**

34. **Mr Beraia** moved **amendments 5 and 6** as follows:

In sub-paragraph 17.s., after the words “Moldova while continuing to”, insert:

*actively*

And at the end of the sub-paragraph, insert the words:

*as well as moving Georgia forward towards eventual NATO membership*

35. **Ms Sanchez** responded and suggested an oral **modification** to amendment 6. The modified amendment 6 would read:

*as well as support Georgia in taking steps towards eventual NATO membership.*

36. **Mr Beraia** spoke.

37. **Amendment 5 and Amendment 6, as orally modified, were adopted.**

38. **The draft declaration [058 SESP 23 E rev.1], as amended, was adopted.**

39. The Chair thanked Ms Sanchez.

**XI. Presentation by Mr Michal SZCZERBA on the text adopted by the Standing Committee on United and Resolute in Support of Ukraine [078 SESP 23 E], followed by a debate and vote on the draft Declaration**

40. **Michal Szczerba** (Poland) presented the draft declaration.

41. **Yehor Cherniev** (Ukraine) moved **amendment 1** as follows:

In paragraph 14, after the words “in prejudice of Ukrainian children”, insert:

*, which is an act of genocide according to the UN Convention on the Prevention and*

*Punishment of the Crime of Genocide of 1948*

42. **Mr Szczerba** responded and suggested an oral modification. The modified amendment 1 would read:

*and noting that the forcible transfer of children from one group to another group, with the intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group is an act of genocide according to the UN Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide of 1948.*

43. **Mr Cherniev** spoke.

44. **Amendment 1, as orally modified, was adopted.**

45. **Mr Cherniev** (Ukraine) moved **amendment 2** as follows:

In paragraph 20, after the words “denouncing”, insert:

*the ideology and practices of ruscism,*

46. **Solomiia Bobrovska** (Ukraine) spoke.

47. **Mr Szczerba** responded and suggested an oral modification. The modified amendment 2 would read:

After the word, weapon, insert:

*as part of its ideology and practices of ruscism*

48. **Mr Francken, Ms Bobrovska, Mr Azubalis, Bozena Bojbasa Jelusic** (Montenegro), **Ms Cantera, Oleksander Merezko** (Ukraine) and **Ms Dzerowicz** spoke.

49. **Mr Szczerba** replied and repeated the oral modification.

50. **Sven Clement** (Luxembourg), **Cheryl Gallant** (Canada), **Mr Francken** and **Ms Bobrovska** spoke.

51. **Amendment 2, as orally modified, was adopted.**

52. **Mr Cherniev** (Ukraine) moved **amendment 3** as follows:

In sub-paragraph 25.a., after the words “for Ukraine to prevail”, insert:

*and restore in full its territorial integrity*

53. **Mr Szczerba** responded.

54. **Ms Dzerowicz** spoke.

55. **Amendment 3 was adopted.**

56. **Mr Francken** moved **amendment 4** as follows:

After sub-paragraph 25.b., insert the following new sub-paragraph:

*to explicitly recognise the Wagner group as a criminal and terrorist organisation, and to firmly condemn its actions in Ukraine and other parts of the world;*

57. **Mr Szczerba** responded.

58. **Mr Cherniev** spoke.

59. **Amendment 4 was adopted.**

60. **Mr Cherniev** moved **amendment 5** as follows:

In sub-paragraph 25.g., replace the words “robust future security arrangements” with:

*firm future security guarantees*

61. **Mr Szczerba** responded.

62. **Amendment 5 was adopted.**

63. The Chair thanked Mr Szczerba.

64. **The draft declaration [078 SESP 23 E], as amended, was adopted.**

65. **Mr Szczerba** took the floor.

## **XII. Presentation by Ms Joëlle GARRIAUD-MAYLAM and vote on amendments to the Rules of Procedure [096 SESP 23 E]**

66. **The President** introduced the amendments to the Rules of Procedure [096 SESP 23 E]. Amendments 1. a) to d) related to the number of seats and weighted votes allocated to the Finnish delegation following Finland’s accession. Amendment 2 related to the change of name of the Republic of Turkey to Türkiye. All these amendments had been approved by the Standing Committee at its meeting on Friday 19 May 2023.

67. **The amendments were agreed to.**

68. **The President resumed the chair.**

## **XIII. Address by Mr Jarmo LINDBERG, Head of the Finnish Delegation to the NATO PA**

69. **Mr Lindberg** addressed the Assembly.

70. **The President** thanked Mr Lindberg.

## **XIV. Address by Mr Hans WALLMARK, Head of the Swedish Delegation to the NATO PA**

71. **Mr Wallmark** addressed the Assembly.

72. **The President** thanked Mr Wallmark.

**XV. Presentation by Mr Wolfgang HELLMICH, NATO PA Treasurer, and vote on the Financial Documents [044 FIN 23 E bis, 050 FIN 23 E bis, 095 FIN 23 E]**

73. **The Treasurer** presented the financial documents.

74. **Mr Jonsson** took the floor.

75. **The President** replied.

76. **The documents [044 FIN 23 E bis, 050 FIN 23 E bis, 095 FIN 23 E] were adopted.**

**XVI. Closure of the Session**

77. **The President** paid tribute to those members of the Turkish Delegation to the NATO PA who would soon leave the Assembly, following the last parliamentary elections.

78. **The President** thanked Lydia Mutsch, Head of the Delegation of Luxembourg to the NATO PA, her colleagues in the Luxembourg parliament, the Assembly Secretariat and everyone else who contributed to the success of the Session.

79. The session closed at 13:00

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