

XXVIII

TECMUN Jr.

North Atlantic Treaty
Organization

XXVIII TECMUN Jr.
Horario de sesiones

Miércoles 18 de noviembre

Ceremonia de Inauguración	9:00 – 10:00 h.
Receso	10:00 – 10:30 h.
Primera Sesión	10:30 – 12:00 h.
Receso	12:00 – 12:30 h.
Segunda Sesión	12:30 – 14:00 h.
Comida	14:00 – 15:00 h.
Tercera Sesión	15:00 – 16:30 h.

Jueves 19 de noviembre

Conferencia Magistral	8:30 – 9:30 h.
Receso	9:30 – 10:00 h..
Cuarta Sesión	10:00 – 11:30 h.
Receso	11:30 – 12:00 h.
Quinta Sesión	12:00 – 13:30 h.
Comida	13:30 – 14:30 h.
Sexta Sesión	14:30 – 16:00 h.

Viernes 20 de noviembre

Séptima Sesión	8:00 – 9:30 h.
Receso	9:30 – 10:00 h.
Octava Sesión	10:00 – 11:30 h.
Receso	11:30 – 12:00 h.
Novena Sesión	12:00 – 14:00 h.
Comida	14:00 – 15:00 h.
Ceremonia de Clausura	15:00 – 17:30 h.
TECMUN GLOOM ¹	18:00 – 19:00 h.

¹ TECMUN GLOOM es una experiencia únicamente para los delegados donde habrá actividades en las que los delegados y las mesas se podrán conocer.

Secretaria General: Nuria Vidal Castillo

ASAMBLEA GENERAL

Subsecretaria General: Aiko Valeria Aguilar Jiménez

Sesión Plenaria de la Asamblea General

Presidente: Javier Márquez Saucedo

- A) Medidas para controlar la creciente crisis social en Estados Unidos de América con enfoque al reciente movimiento *Black Lives Matter*
- B) Estrategias para la erradicación de los combates en el territorio de Libia provocados por los grupos del Gobierno de Acuerdo Nacional y el Ejército Nacional Libio

Primera Comisión de Desarme y Seguridad Internacional

Presidenta: Daniela Mejía Salgado

- A) Medidas para regular la fabricación, comercialización y el uso de armas letales autónomas (LAWS) para evitar una futura carrera armamentística a través de un marco legal a nivel internacional
- B) Estrategias para evitar la militarización del océano Ártico como producto de nuevas rutas de navegación

Organización Internacional para las Migraciones

Presidente: Manuel Alejandro Rosales Portillo

- A) Medidas para asegurar la integridad del pueblo migrante de Rohingya en su proceso de traslado hacia Bangladesh
- B) Problemáticas de la migración norcoreana causadas por el gobierno de la República Popular Democrática de Corea

United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

Presidente: Germán Osvaldo Nuñez Benitez

A) Suppression from the government of the People's Republic of China upon human rights, focusing on the use of economic power, censorship, indoctrination and heavy surveillance in Xinjiang

B) Oppression of women, the LGBT+ community and civil society activists in Iran, focused on the extreme measures applied by the national penal code and the Supreme Court

Organización Mundial de la Salud

Presidente: Ángel Daniel González Jasso

A) Estrategias para una segura reactivación de la economía en países de América Latina y El Caribe ante la reciente crisis causada por el COVID-19

B) Medidas para mejorar los servicios de salud pública en Yemen a causa de la presente catástrofe humanitaria

United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

Presidenta: Alejandra Bañuelos González

A) Measures for the regulation of space tourism and passenger safety

B) The increasing threat to the global astronomic and space observation community from the rise of satellite constellations and the number of space debris

CONSEJO ECONÓMICO Y SOCIAL

Subsecretario General: Armando Daniel Navarro Sánchez

Fondo de las Naciones Unidas para la Infancia

Presidenta: Sofía Victoria Solís Uribe

A) Estrategias para brindar apoyo y medidas adecuadas de salubridad y nutrición a niños desterrados a causa del conflicto bélico en la República Árabe Siria

B) Medidas para prevenir la existencia del matrimonio infantil forzado y sus consecuencias en las niñas con enfoque en África Occidental

Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente

Presidente: Arturo Rubio Díaz Vázquez

- A) Medidas para evitar la sexta extinción masiva de fauna silvestre con énfasis en los incendios del bosque tropical de la Amazonia y el bosque de Malacura en Australia
- B) Medidas para disminuir la pérdida de agua potable causadas por el fenómeno de la industria de la moda rápida en la República Popular China y la República Popular de Bangladesh

International Criminal Police Organization

Presidenta: Andrea Michelle Martínez Lozano

- A) Measures to contain and dismantle the triads, the Korean criminal organizations, and groups of organized crime in the Golden Triangle
- B) Strategies to prevent radical acts that involve the use of chemical and nuclear weapons by extremist groups, focusing on the Middle East

Commission on the Status of Women

Presidenta: María Fernanda Casillas Monroy

- A) Measures for the attention of female victims of acid attacks due to its accessibility in the Middle East and United Kingdom with emphasis on the social consequences
- B) Measures to provide opportune prevention and support for women affected by female genital mutilation as sexual repression in regions of Northern and Western Africa

Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Educación, la Ciencia y la Cultura

Presidenta: Samaria Sánchez Ramírez

- A) Acciones para garantizar un avance en materia de equidad e igualdad de género educativa ante situaciones de crisis en países de América Latina y el Caribe
- B) Medidas para asegurar la libertad de expresión y estabilidad artística, como parte de la diversidad cultural, ante la pandemia de COVID-19 con enfoque en América Latina y el Caribe

United Nations World Tourism Organization

Presidenta: Rebeca Ávila Delgado

- A) Measures to improve the development of alternative touristic areas in Latin American local communities and get rid of overtourism
- B) Measures to reactivate the Latin American tourism sector after the global pandemic caused by the spread of COVID-19

Commission Économique des Nations Unies pour l'Europe

Presidenta: Lianny Hernández Pérez

- A) Stratégies pour la protection et le placement des réfugiés Syriens en Europe pour éviter des problèmes sociaux et économiques dans l'Union Européenne, en mettant l'accent sur la République Fédérale d'Allemagne
- B) Le développement des politiques pour soutenir la promotion de l'indépendance économique des femmes et l'éradication du fossé salarial dans les pays sous-développés de l'Europe du sud-est

AGENCIAS ESPECIALIZADAS Y ORGANISMOS REGIONALES

Subsecretaria General: Montserrat Olivas Ramos

Organización de los Estados Americanos

Presidenta: Paola González Zapata

- A) Repercusiones sociales y políticas tras la censura de medios de comunicación en México, con énfasis en la persecución de periodistas por grupos de narcotráfico
- B) El neocolonialismo como un obstáculo para el desarrollo económico de las comunidades indígenas en América Latina

Comisión de Prevención del Delito y Justicia Penal

Presidente: Victor Daniel Meza Castillo

A) Estrategias para mejorar el estado de derecho y reducir la impunidad de las autoridades latinoamericanas con enfoque en la violación de derechos humanos y la ineficacia de las garantías constitucionales presentes en los movimientos sociales

B) Medidas para erradicar las prácticas de tortura en las cárceles africanas con base en Las Reglas Mínimas de las Naciones Unidas para el Tratamiento de Reclusos

United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation

Presidente: Santiago Makoszay Castañón

A) Measures to ensure radiation protection in case of a nuclear reactor accident. A study based on novel information on the effects and risks of radiation exposure due to the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station

B) Assessment of the biological mechanisms relevant to the inference of cancer risk after exposure to low-dose radiation

North Atlantic Treaty Organization

Presidenta: Mariana Cortés Gallardo

A) Political and military measures to prevent further naval and territorial conflicts between Ukraine and Russia

B) Reaffirm diplomatic and military strategies to increase the security of Afghanistan's inhabitants facing the current terrorist attacks by the Taliban

Security Council

Presidenta: Vanessa Arroyo Jerez

A) Strategies to suppress the resurgence of the Islamic State in the Syrian Arab Republic and the Republic of Iraq

B) Prevention mechanisms against the illicit trafficking of nuclear material within the Black Sea region

International Court of Justice

Presidenta: Carolina Elizabeth Vásquez Regalado

- A) Relocation of the United States Embassy to Jerusalem (Palestine v. United States of America)
- B) Application of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (The Gambia v. Myanmar)

“Make the most of yourself by fanning the tiny, inner sparks of possibility into flames of achievement”.
-Golda Meir.

Delegada/o, Ministra/o, Juez,

Lo peor que puedes hacer es subordinarte al contexto en el que resides. Esta es tu oportunidad de demostrarte que por medio de tu investigación, ideas, trabajo e innovación puedes y vas a cambiar al mundo. Entre más conocimiento adquieres, más te das cuenta de que la sociedad en la que vivimos está lejos de ser perfecta. Lo que necesita un mundo en crisis es a personas como tú que están dispuestas a alzar la voz en contra de injusticias, violencia, inequidad, fobias, machismo, entre muchas otras cosas. Necesita a personas que, a pesar de vivir durante una pandemia mundial, toma tres días para participar en un modelo en línea. Sé esa persona que el mundo anhela, esa persona que va siempre un paso más allá.

Este modelo es una muy pequeña representación de lo que en verdad está sucediendo alrededor del mundo y que decidimos ignorar porque vivimos en una posición de privilegio donde podemos asumir que nada ni nadie nos va a hacer daño; Sin embargo, como el último año nos ha demostrado, esto puede cambiar en cuestión de segundos. Así que aprovecha y toma ventaja de tu posición de privilegio y de todas las oportunidades que se te presentan gracias a ella. Porque si decides ignorar los problemas, te conviertes en una gran parte de ellos. Pelea con todo lo que tengas por lo que crees y sé la voz por los que son silenciados. Cualquiera puede quitarte lo que sea, menos el poder de alzar tu voz.

Delegada/o Ministra/o, Juez, es tu oportunidad de pensar fuera del estatus quo, de romper tus estándares y esos de toda la gente que te rodea, de ser tú misma o mismo, de romper o mejorar el sistema, de expresar tus ideas únicas y creativas y de salir de tu zona de confort que lo único que te está haciendo es nublarlo. Sí, da miedo, pero no dejes que esos pensamientos frenen tu capacidad de expresarte; Úsalos a tu favor y véncelos, porque la falta de confianza, la duda y el miedo siempre van a ser las cosas más difíciles de sobrellevar, pero, el hacerlo genera el verdadero cambio. Espero que confíes en el modelo y en el Secretariado, pero especialmente, espero que confíes en ti, que abras tu mente, que aprendas sobre una gran variedad de temas, que salgas de este modelo con una visión completamente distinta del mundo a la que tenías antes. Quiero que salgas con la capacidad de analizar críticamente y empatizar con otras personas y situaciones para que llegues a tener la habilidad de resolver estos problemas de la mejor manera posible no solo dentro de las salas de debate, sino en la vida real.

Finalmente, quiero que aproveches el momento, tu momento. Lucha contra el problema y haz la diferencia en esa sala de debate, porque esta es una simulación del mundo real, y lo que hagas ahí dentro representa lo que haces y harás por el mundo si no permites que se quede en esas 4 paredes. Recuerda que no hay experiencias que se repitan dos veces y que la que estás a punto de vivir, te marcará de por vida. Confío en ti y en tu capacidad, porque estás aquí por una razón; porque hay una chispa en ti esperando ser encendida y puede que esta sea tu única oportunidad de hacerlo. El mundo está en las manos de ti, de la juventud; si no aprendemos a tomar ventaja de esto y hacer del planeta un mejor lugar, nadie lo va a hacer. Encuéntrate en esta experiencia y cree en ti, en lo que puedes aportar al modelo y en el gran impacto que esto tendrá en las personas, porque yo te aseguro que confío ciegamente en ti.

Nuria Vidal Castillo
Secretary General for the
XXVIII TECMUN Jr.

“Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better, It's not.”

-Dr Seuss, The Lorax.

Dear judges, delegates, ministers and doctors,

Welcome to another edition to the best thing that happened in my life, another edition of a model that marks paths in the life of many ones that are or were part of it, another edition of the forum where you can raise your voice and advocate for a better world, welcome to TECMUN. Thank you all for being here in the AEOR division, the most unique part that this model has. Prepare yourself to take on this new challenge. During three days in these virtual mode, you are going to be the agent of change that is going to make a difference. They are so many atrocities occurring nowadays. Crimes against humanity, genocides, war crimes and aggression happening in Sudan, Peru, Colombia, South Africa, Mexico, and all around the world, reflect what we as human beings are doing wrong. Now is the time change, to take the reins, step out of our comfort zone and do something to fix our mess up world.

“There comes a time when we hear a certain call when the world must come together as one [...]” Few people listen to this call, and fewer are the ones that answer to it. As individuals with privileges, it's our duty to attend this call, to stand for rights things and fight for it, to make a better place for both weak and strong. Maybe sometimes we feel minuscule compared to the magnitude of the atrocities or simply unable to solve them. Sometimes we feel that our voice will not be heard or that our actions aren't going to transcend and we are not going to make a change. Throughout my short life, I discover that we are the only ones that limit our potential, maybe for others we are like superheroes at the time we think we aren't enough. It's only when someone believes in us and gave us support, at that moment we recover our confidence, we open our eyes and have faith in ourselves. We start to make a change because we know we are enough and capable of it. In this moment for these three days I want to be that someone for you, you are immense to me. You just have to believe in yourself to begin the change. Take advantage of the privilege you were born with and make more people have the same opportunities that you have now. Don't let all your work on a resolution paper or an empty verdict, attend the call. I really hope you are ready to face this big challenge, becoming the responsible one of our world and reality.

Montserrat Olivas Ramos

Subsecretary for the Special Agencies and Regional Organisms

for the XXVIII TECMUN

Dear Delegate:

For me, it is a great honor to get to meet you at this wonderful event. I admire you for taking this challenge, maybe you have already been in a model of the United Nations, or maybe it is your first time, whatever your situation is I know that you would do your best. During all the debate, you will encounter a bunch of great and passionate students, including all the chair and me, who are doing just the same thing as you, trying to outdo ourselves. Some of you might be here to get a better grade at school, or to develop your communication skills, however, we all are looking at the same problem, from different perspectives, but with a common goal.

You should be proud of yourself because representing and taking the position of a country that is completely alien to you is something that even not all adults know. The world needs young people like us, who know how to solve international issues of great importance while maintaining peace among all. We have the privilege of having a ton of information in our hands, literally. We have to learn to use it in the right way and for the benefit of all as a globalized society. That is the value that I find in TECMUN, the possibility of learning and applying our knowledge. But who knows? Maybe in 10 years, you will find yourself sitting on a UN committee as the ambassador of Mexico.

This experience will teach you not only how politics work or how to write a position paper, it would also impact the way you think. Delegate, there is something that you should always keep in mind, all people, all, have something to teach us, and it is our duty to listen and try to understand. Sometimes we can be firm in our opinion, and not let anyone else contradict us, but think about this, if only the world out there really listened to what people like us have to say, everything would be very different. I know that during the debate you have to take the position of your country and don't let your personal point of view get in between, but when you're ready to express yourself out in the real world, never forget the value of other people's opinion. I wish you all the best for this model and I look forward to hearing what you have to say.

Mariana Cortés Gallardo

President of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization

XXVIII TECMUN Jr

North Atlantic Treaty Organization

Background

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) was created in April 4th, 1949, facing the existing concern of the aftermath of World War II. Initially, the 12 founding members of the Alliance focused on demoralizing the Soviet expansionism and interdict the resurgence of the nationalist militarism in Europe. Nowadays, the organization is conformed by 30 member countries from North America and Europe which signed the North Atlantic Treaty and agreed to follow and respect all of the articles stated in it. The organization gives full support to the United Nations to deal with belic conflicts, natural or human-made disasters, and attempts against any member or partner country, including the contribution of political and military resources.

Faculties:

- If a state of warfare is introduced, the five permanent members of the Security Council must be present; this as a result of article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty. The state of warfare can only happen between member states and partner states.
- Plans and conducts operations, trains, provides education with non-governmental organizations, local authorities, sub-organizations ,and agencies.
- The organization can provide air and maritime aid to the United Nations, in addition to detailed military contingency planning and the implementation of a peace plan.
- Civil protection measures are developed by the Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre (EADRCC) to have better capabilities to overcome any natural or humanitarian disaster.

Topic A

Political and military measures to prevent further naval and territorial conflicts between Ukraine and Russia

*By: Mariana Cortés Gallardo
Erick Noel Belmonte Valdez*

Background

In 1922, Ukraine became one of the founding states of the Soviet Union and turned into the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, this union caused changes in Ukraine's economy and politics, there was an increase in industrialization and the economy; however, due to the Stalinist repression, millions of people died. After its independence, Ukraine was proclaimed a sovereign country with a semi-presidential republic; currently, its total territory is 603,550 km² and about 7.1% of Ukraine's area is occupied by Russians, including Crimea and part of the provinces of Luhansk and Donetsk. In 2014, the Crimean annex to Russia was considered illegal by many European countries, including NATO members, due to the use of unjustified military forces by Russia; besides, Russia took control of the Kerch Strait, which connects the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov, Ukraine does not recognize these actions. Further, the Donbas War causes tensions with Russia due to the role it has taken in the internal Ukrainian conflict; the citizens of eastern Ukraine mainly identify with Russian culture and federative politics, and Pro-Russian separatist groups have raised their weapons against Kyiv.²

Independence of Ukraine and Crimea annex to Russia

After the collapse and disintegration of the Soviet Union, Ukraine gained independence along with properly established territory and a new form of government; while Communism was the ideology that the Soviet Union imposed over many territories, Ukraine's main desire was to become a Democratic Republic. Ukraine was an indispensable element of the USSR, because of the geographical position, bordering five countries, and representing almost a fifth of Soviet industrial production and almost a quarter of agricultural production. On December

² **Kyiv:** the capital of Ukraine (Collins English Dictionary, n.d)

1st, 1991, Ukraine declared its independence after the referendum³, in which 90 % of the voters endorsed independence. Russia did not consider Ukraine's quick separation, as a result, its arsenal of nuclear weapons created during the Cold War remained in the hands of the Ukrainians, until 1995, when they agreed to give them back in exchange for respecting their sovereignty and independence.

As a former Soviet territory, Ukraine was immersed in most aspects of the Russian lifestyle, like their language, culture, and politics. Currently the center and West of Ukraine speak Ukrainian, while the population living in the East, closer to what was formerly known as the Soviet Union, are most likely to speak Russian. During the government of the Ukrainian elected president Viktor Yanukovich (2004-2014) the population considered him an inciter of Russian aggression against Ukraine; he also rejected a treaty for greater economic integration with the European Union, as a consequence there were many popular protests in Kyiv, forcing him to flee the country and seek refuge in Russia. As a result of the imbalance in the Ukrainian government caused by the temporary absence of a president, Russia started to mobilize its troops in February 2014 and took control over the Crimean parliament and police stations.

As well as Eastern Ukraine, Crimea was more attached to Russian culture, and on March 6, 2014, the Crimean Parliament approved a referendum where the majority of the votes led Crimea to join Russia. The referendum and the annexation were considered illegal by Kyiv and by many European countries, including NATO members, due to the use of unjustified military forces by Russia and the autonomic decision on the Crimean Parliament. As a result, Russia took control over the two territorial ends of the Kerch Strait, which

³ **Referendum:** a vote in which all the people in a country or an area are asked to give their opinion about or decide an important political or social question. (Cambridge Dictionary, n.d)

connects the Black Sea and the Azov sea; these actions were also not recognized by Ukraine. As Russia took control of the only sea access road for Ukraine in a non-legitimate way, this last one has been looking for ways which its passage through that strait and those seas are not impeded by Russia.

Russian role in the Donbas War

After Ukraine's political reorganization in 2014, some of the southeastern regions like Donetsk and Luhansk have raised their weapons against the new government, specifically, Russian speakers, also known as Pro-Russian separatist groups. The ideology of separatism arose not only from the new Ukrainian government, which was perceived as Ultra-nationalism, but also from the idea of having better economic conditions; the Donbas region has always been industrial, and the inhabitants there began to have some detachment from Kyiv since they did not receive a good salary and good working conditions. In April of the same year, the groups proclaimed themselves the Luhansk People's Republic (LNR) and the Donetsk People's Republic (DNR); at first, the movement was unclear and disorderly, but by the middle of the year almost one third of the inhabitants of Donetsk and Luhansk supported the ideal. One of the communist leaders of the DNR, Boris Litvinov, declared:

Over the past 23 years Ukraine created a negative image of the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union was not about famine and repression. [It] was mines, factories, victory in the Great Patriotic War and in space. It was science and education and confidence in the future. (2014)

Russia's presence in this conflict has caused tensions with Ukraine since the separatist groups have been receiving Russian military resources. Although Moscow keeps denying this statement there have been reports on the accumulation of Russian troops and military

equipment near Donetsk and the Russian cross-border. At a press conference, the President of Russian Federation Vladimir Putin stated that “Russia is not present in Donbas, but noted that militants received tanks and heavy artillery from the countries, which sympathize with them.” (2019). The consequences of ambiguous communication are the main concern of this belic conflict and the deterioration of Ukraine’s diplomatic relations with Russia.

Importance of the Sea of Azov and its geographical position

The Sea of Azov, a rich fishing ground in Soviet times that has been of great strategic importance to independent Ukraine, has emerged after months of growing friction as the latest flashpoint in the conflict between Moscow and Kyiv. It is a sea in Eastern Europe connected to the Black Sea by the narrow Strait of Kerch bounded in the northwest by Ukraine, in the southeast by Russia. The Don River and Kuban River are the major rivers that flow into it. There is a constant outflow of water from the Sea of Azov to the Black Sea.

In 1913, a third of the grain that Russia exported was shipped from the ports of the Azov Sea, since it was connected with a railroad to the interior of the continent; it became a strategic maritime territory for Russia's trade. The ports of Mariupol and Tahirih gained importance due to their proximity to Donetsk, becoming ports for the export of metal and coal. The Sea became a key part for Russia when opening the Volga-Don channel (connection of the Don River with the Volga) that connects the city of Moscow with the Caspian Sea. Nowadays, most ocean cargo ships carry coal, iron, metals, grain, fish, and salt; besides, the Azov Sea is well known for having a large number of oil and gas fields.

The principal ports of the Azov Sea in Ukraine are Berdyansk, Mariupol, and Prymorsk; Rostov-on-Don, Taganrog, and Yeisk are the principal ports located in Russia. The sea has an abundant supply of fish, making it relevant in the anchovy, pike, perch,

gilthead, carp, herring, sturgeon, and salmon trade. The main shipping route is the one connecting Kerch (now under Russian power) to Mariupol. This route is mainly used to transport Kerch iron ore to the Mariupol steel plants.

Current maritime legal framework between Russia and Ukraine

The Azov Sea is considered internal waters of Russia and Ukraine, only Russian and Ukrainian ships are able to navigate freely, however since the Crimean annex to Russia, Sevastopol has exercised greater power over the waters adjacent to its territory, by managing the Kerch Strait which is the only way to enter the Azov Sea. Under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, in 1982, the Kerch Strait has never been international, the requirements regarding the right of transit or innocent passage of foreign ships do not apply to it. Russia continually rejects the accusations made against it, pointing to the aggressive actions in the Azov Sea and the Kerch Strait. A new tension between Russia and Ukraine prevents the improvement of diplomatic and naval relation, contradicting the interests of regional and international security.

In 2003, the Treaty Between the Russian Federation and Ukraine on Cooperation in the Use of the Sea of Azov and the Kerch Strait was signed by Russian President Vladimir Putin and Ukraine's then-President Leonid Kuchma. The agreement makes the Sea of Azov jointly controlled territory, allowing both countries to use it freely. It was established that The Sea of Azov and the Kerch Strait are historically internal waters of both nations. Therefore, mercantile vessels and other state non-commercial vessels flying the flags of the Russian Federation and Ukraine have free navigation in this area.

Nevertheless, Russia launched the opening salvo⁴ there in 2016, with its \$3.7 billion Crimean Bridge project to link that occupied Ukrainian peninsula with southern Russia across the Sea of Azov. Since then, Russia has stepped up confrontation in and around the Azov. In May 2018, Russian border guards subordinate to the country's Federal Security Service (FSB) reportedly arrested a Ukrainian fishing vessel and its crew in the Black Sea, ostensibly for illegally fishing in what it said was Russia's exclusive economic zone. Thenceforth, Russia's FSB has detained more than 148 Ukrainian and foreign merchant ships and interrogated their crew members.

These activities have not resulted in any armed conflict. But the appearance of armed Russian ships and the increased activity of their FSB mark a dangerous escalation⁵ and highlights an imbalance of power at sea that has put nearby cities, like Mariupol, on the brink again. Ukraine is taking military action along the Azov Sea coast after President Petro Poroshenko warned on July 16, 2018, that Russia was accumulating forces and weapons in the Black and Azov Seas. The country lost up to 80 percent of its naval fleet when Russia annexed Crimea and took Ukraine's ships.

The maritime blockade that Russia is carrying out is aimed, firstly, at generating economic losses in Ukraine. And, secondly, at creating greater tensions in cities like Mariupol and other small cities and towns where people earn their living in maritime trade and fishing. Therefore, Russian actions are hindering the development of local Ukrainian industry, unfolding a new economic crisis. Nearby the Azov Sea, there are located Mariupol and Berdyansk which are Ukraine's two main steel export ports in the Azov Sea and home of hundreds of private fishing companies that employ more than 20,000 people.

⁴**Salvo:** the first part of a speech or the first in a series of actions intended to get a particular result. (Cambridge Dictionary, n.d)

⁵ **Escalation:** a situation in which something becomes greater or more serious. (Cambridge Dictionary, n.d)

Kerch Strait incident in November 2018

The Kerch Strait connects the Azov Sea with the Black Sea and is formed by the coasts of the Russian peninsula of Taman and the disputed Crimea. It is the only access point for ships traveling to and from port cities in eastern Ukraine, especially Mariupol. Since the Crimea annexation in 2014, Russia has controlled both sides of the Kerch Strait. By May 2018, Russia had completed the construction of the Crimean Bridge. Thenceforth, Russian inspections of ships have increased considerably. While the 2003 Ukraine-Russia Treaty on Cooperation in the Use of the Sea of Azov and the Kerch Strait remains legally valid, Russia insists that Ukrainian ships must request permission before entering Russian waters along the Crimean perimeter like any transnational water crossing, following the Regulations of the Law of the Sea Treaty. On the other hand, Ukraine does not recognize Russia's annexation of Crimea, therefore Ukraine maintains that the invocation of an international treaty regarding the waters of Crimea is illegitimate.

On the morning of November 25, 2018, three Ukrainian naval vessels, a tugboat, and two small gunboats, approached the southern entrance to the Kerch Strait. They attempted to pass through the strait to a Ukrainian port in the Azov Sea, following a course taken by two other Ukrainian gunboats in September. Agents from the Ukrainian Security Service (SBU) were present on board the ships; according to Ukraine, they were providing ordinary counterintelligence coverage. As they approached the Kerch Strait, the FSB Coast Guard accused Ukrainian ships of illegally entering Russian territorial waters and ordered them to leave. When Ukrainians refused, citing their right of free navigation for merchant ships and non-commercial state vessels in the Kerch Strait agreed in the 2003 Russo-Ukrainian Treaty, Russian ships attempted to intercept them and rammed the tug Yany Kapu plenty of times.

Ukrainian naval ships continued their journey, stopping about 9 miles from the Crimean bridge, and remained there for the next eight hours. During this time, the Russians placed a large cargo ship under the bridge, blocking the route to the Sea of Azov, and deployed two fighter jets and two helicopters to patrol the strait. In the evening, after having concluded that they would not be allowed to enter the Sea of Azov, Ukrainian ships turned back to the Port of Odessa. As the three boats were leaving the area, the Russian Guard pursued them, later on, firing and capturing the Ukrainian vessels about 14 miles off the Crimean coast, wounding several Ukrainian crewmen. The Russian action is indefensible, particularly since the Ukrainian ships were clearly moving away from the Kerch Strait when they were attacked.

The now ex-President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko encouraged the Parliament to impose martial law⁶ for 60 days in response to the incident with Russia following the capture of the three Ukrainian warships in the Kerch Strait. Likewise, at his request, NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg summoned an extraordinary meeting of the NATO-Ukraine Commission to discuss the situation. Martial law does not imply that Ukraine will launch an offensive, but instead actions that aim to defend the territory and guarantee the safety of citizens. Same way, Ukraine will continue to respect the Minsk agreements, which expressly prohibit the use of artillery as an offensive measure.

⁶ **Martial Law:** temporary rule by the military, during a war or an emergency. (Cambridge Dictionary, n.d)

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Topic B

Reaffirm diplomatic and military strategies to increase the security of Afghanistan's inhabitants facing the current terrorist attacks by the Taliban.

*By: Mariana Cortés Gallardo
Erick Noel Belmonte Valdez*

Background

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) has been present for more than ten years in the security of Afghanistan and has formed various aid programs since it is referred as one of the “Partners across the globe”; Afghanistan is one of the countries with the largest presence of terrorist groups in Asia as throughout its history, the country has been threatened by the most prominent extremist and insurgent groups, including Al Qaeda, ISIS, and the Taliban. The latter has currently represented the greatest danger to Kabul and its citizens; the Taliban are considered an Islamic extremist group due to their abusive treatment to women, banning most of the arts and their use of terrorism to spread their ideology; this has been the main cause of civilian casualties that arises from the use of IEDs (Improvised Explosive Devices) and civilians present between the crossfire of the Taliban and Afghanistan’s government. In the past five years the fight has led to more than 2,400 American soldiers, 1,100 NATO troops, 45,000 Afghan troops and police officers and about 43,000 civilians killed. In February 2020, the United States of America and the Taliban signed an agreement which includes the withdrawal of military forces in Afghanistan and the Taliban to never provide help or refuge to terrorists, nevertheless the relationship between the Afghan government and the Taliban is still under discussion and civilians are still at risk.

Taliban regime in Afghanistan

After the withdrawal of Soviet troops in Afghanistan in the mid-nineties, the Taliban emerged as a result of searching for a new political and social order after the communist regime

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Taliban regime in Afghanistan

After the withdrawal of Soviet troops in Afghanistan in the mid-nineties, the Taliban emerged as a result of searching for a new political and social order after the communist regime collapsed. In September 1996 the Taliban managed to have greater influence in the capital of Afghanistan, Kabul, with the support of Afghanistan’s southern Pashtun ethnic group and Islamic groups; they seized the capital having also popular support. As well, there were non-Pashtun ethnic groups who did not recognize the power of the Taliban, these groups

were located in the north, west, and center of the country, however, over the years, the Taliban gained more control of the Afghan territory until controlling nearly 95% of the territory, only a small part of the north of the country continued to rebel against the Taliban regime. In the rest of the world, this regime, which lasted approximately 5 years (from 1996 to 2001), was not recognized by the vast majority of countries, except for Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and the United Arab Emirates.

By consolidating their territorial control in Afghanistan, the Taliban implemented an imposing and strict government; governed by the Pashtun's pre-Islamic tribal code and part of Sharia influenced by austere Wahhabi doctrines. During their period of power, they greatly influenced the life of society, specifically the female sector, as their government was characterized by the subjugation of women, coercing them to wear the burqa from head to toe and enforcing the power of men over them. Along with the great oppression towards society came the prohibition of television, music, and other forms of art, as well, behaviors that they did not consider Islamic were prohibited and severely punish those who contradicted them. During all those years, Afghanistan was recognized and noted as a country that allowed refuge for Islamic militants from all over the world as leaders of terrorist groups that attempted against the security of other countries.

The main cause of the Taliban's overthrow was providing refuge to one of Al Qaeda's leaders, Osama bin Laden, who organized numerous terrorist attacks against the United States. When the Taliban government refused to extradite him to America, a military fight began between the American armed forces along with the Allies to remove the Taliban from power as they represented a threat against efforts to eradicate terrorism. With the use of military resources of the United States and Allied countries, the Taliban were expelled from

power in October 2001, and many fled to Pakistan. The Taliban became an insurgent group against the United States and NATO, whose objective then and now is to regain influence in Afghanistan and neighboring countries to impose their ideologies.

Who are the Taliban ?

The Taliban is a predominantly Pashtun, Islamic fundamentalist group that ruled Afghanistan from 1996 until 2001. They are a movement of religious students (Talib) from the Pashtun areas of eastern and southern Afghanistan who were educated in traditional Islamic schools in Pakistan. The Taliban has its origin in the invasion of the Soviet Union, when veterans of the Afghanistan war founded the faction, during the war between Mujahideen groups; this political-military faction pursues an extremist and modernist Islamic doctrine. Mohammad Omar, founder of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, founded the group in September 1994 in his hometown of Kandahar with 50 students. Within months, 15,000 students, often Afghan refugees, from religious schools or madrasas⁷ in Pakistan joined the group.

The promise made by the Taliban was to restore peace and security and enforce their austere version of *Sharia*⁸, once in power. Those early Taliban were motivated by the suffering among the Afghan people, which they believed resulted from power struggles between Afghan groups not adhering to the moral code of Islam. The first major Taliban military movement was in 1994 when they took the city of Kandahar and the surrounding provinces. Nowadays, the Taliban control most of the country's ruling without a constitution, relying on the Koran and their belief in strict Islamic law.

⁷ **Madrassa**: a college where the Islamic faith is taught. (Oxford Dictionary, n.d.)

⁸ **Sharia**: islamic canonical law based on the teachings of the Koran and the traditions of the Prophet, prescribing both religious and secular duties and sometimes retributive penalties for lawbreaking (Lexico, n.d.).

One of the main interests of the movement is to create safe environments, places where the chastity and dignity of women were sacrosanct, as *Pashtun* beliefs dictate about life in *pardah*⁹. Women are forced to wear burqas in public since according to their beliefs, the woman's face is a source of corruption that in some way they are not related to it. They are not allowed to work or study after they are 8 years old, which only allows them to have a basic education. When the aforementioned norms are not followed, they are publicly flogged for not wearing clothing to their feet, they are stoned to death if they are accused of having had sexual relations outside the marital relationship.

Why the Taliban are a threat?

Since its origin, Taliban promised to restore peace and security via Sharia law in the Pashtun areas of Pakistan and Afghanistan. According to this, its main objective as a faction is to restore the Islamic Emirate. However, they are intended to impose in any way, at any cost, their interpretation of Islamic law throughout the nation of Afghanistan and to remove any influence from any foreign culture within the country. Taliban are radical jihadist groups focused on ridding the world of the threat, as they perceive it, that Western culture represents for Islam.

Their early popularity was largely due to their success in eradicating corruption, curbing lawlessness and making the roads and the areas under their control safe for commerce to flourish. But the Taliban also introduced or supported Islamic punishments, such as public executions of convicted murderers and adulterers, and amputations for those found guilty of

⁹ **Purdah**: the practice in certain Muslim and Hindu societies of screening women from men or strangers, especially by means of a curtain (Lexico, n.d.).

theft. The Taliban banned television, music and movies, and disapproved of girls aged 10 and older going to school. They were accused of various cultural and human rights abuses.

Taliban have been internationally condemned for the severe application of their interpretation of Islamic Sharia law, which has resulted in the brutal treatment of many Afghans, especially women. During their 1996-2001 rule, the Taliban and their allies committed 15 massacres against Afghan civilians, denied the UN food supply to 160,000 starving civilians, and pursued a scorched earth policy, burning vast areas of fertile land and destroying dozens of thousands of homes. During their rule, they targeted many ethnic minorities, including Shiite Muslims, while their enforcement of identifiable badges on Hindus was likened to Nazi Germany's treatment of Jews. According to the United Nations, the Taliban and its allies were responsible for 76% of Afghan civilian casualties in 2010, 80% in 2011 and 80% in 2012. The Taliban also engaged in cultural genocide, destroying numerous monuments, including the famous 1500 year old Bamiyan Buddhas.

NATO programs to support Afghanistan

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization has welcomed Afghanistan as one of the partner countries since the conflict with the Taliban in Afghanistan directly affected one of the NATO member countries, the United States. As an official UN mandate and at the request of the Afghan government, in August 2003 NATO implemented the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in the Afghan territory, initially controlling Kabul's security, and later adding more tasks across the country; the main objective of the program was to create good conditions in which the Afghan government could safely exercise its authority throughout the country. In 2009, the NATO Training Mission to Afghanistan (NTM-A) was created, and focused on training recruits and building the institutional training capacity of the

Afghan security forces, while the ISAF was responsible for the development of field units through advice and assistance. With the cooperation of the European Union Police Mission in Afghanistan (EUPOL Afghanistan) and the Afghan Ministry of Defense, ISAF's mission ended in December 2014 and the Afghan forces assumed full security responsibility for their country.

Although NATO no longer had total control over Afghanistan's security, in 2010 it was set up the NATO-Afghanistan Enduring Partnership; after signing this partnership, it was agreed to provide mutual support, through various organizations and missions such as NATO's Construction Integrity (BI) program, which provides Afghanistan with tools to reduce the risk of corruption in the defense sectors, in addition to professional military education programs, such as the Defense Education Improvement Program (DEEP). Within these operations is the Resolute Support Mission (RSM), launched in January 2015, which is currently the most important; the purpose of this is mainly to work together with the Afghan army, police and air force on training, advisory and assistance activities in the security ministries. In 2016, at the NATO Summit in Warsaw, the Allies decided to strengthen and improve the Association within RSM; NATO has considered a long-term traditional partnership with Afghanistan. Since 2014, most of the financial sustainment of the programs that take place in Afghanistan come from the NATO-Afghan National Army (ANA) Trust Fund, in which a total of \$ 2.3 billion has been contributed from member and partner states to support the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces (ANDSF), in the same way, the Law and Order Trust Fund for Afghanistan (LOTFA), and the United States Afghanistan Security Forces Fund (ASFF) provide financial support to the Afghan government.

At the NATO Summit in July 2018 in Brussels, the Allies pledged to maintain RSM until conditions indicate that Afghanistan can manage and maintain the country's security on its own, so it was agreed to extend the financial livelihood until 2024. The RSM had around 17,000 people from 39 NATO allies and partner countries in 2019, operating in one hub (Kabul / Bagram) and four radios (Mazar-e Sharif in the north, Herat in the west, Kandahar in the south, and Laghman in the east). On March 5, 2019, Ambassador Sir Nicholas Kay, UK, assumed the role of NATO Senior Civilian Representative in Afghanistan. Although the programs and operations have made every effort to improve the security of Afghanistan, the NATO Secretary General Annual Report of 2019 mentioned

Despite all these efforts, the security situation in Afghanistan remained serious. While NATO Allies always did their utmost to prevent civilian casualties, the Taliban and other terrorist groups deliberately targeted civilians and remained responsible for the majority of civilian casualties (2019, pg. 70).

Current diplomatic relationship between Kabul and the Taliban

More than 18 years have passed since the Taliban insurgency against the Afghan government began, during this period the Taliban have regained strength; they are currently led by Mawlawi Haibatullah Akhundzada. The Taliban have a large budget and military resources, all of this obtained from opium poppy cultivation and narcotics. In a UN report, it was estimated that in 2018 they earned nearly \$400 million dollars from the illegal drug trade; in addition, the Taliban still have ties to the terrorist group Al Qaeda, as according to the 2020 UN report, it is speculated that the Taliban provide protection to Al Qaeda in exchange for resources and training. In 2019, the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA)

documented 10,392 civilian deaths and injuries, they attributed the majority of these casualties to the Taliban.

Both military and diplomatic ways have been sought to end the threat the Taliban poses to Afghan citizens; negotiations between the United States, Afghanistan, and the Taliban began just two years ago with the intermediation of Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and the United Arab Emirates, the only countries that have a diplomatic relationship with all parties. In February 2019 the Afghans and Taliban agreed to conduct negotiations in Moscow, what both sides wanted to achieve with these first negotiations was for US soldiers to withdraw from Afghan territory and for the Taliban to stop hosting terrorist groups like Al Qaeda. Within this board, the Taliban demanded the release of the prisoners and the removal of the Taliban members from the sanctions lists, however, the US authorities in Kabul rejected the decisions made in Moscow. Thanks to the meetings held in Moscow and the subsequent ones in Doha, Russia has also begun to mediate in Afghan affairs; as a result, the Taliban attempted to gain the support of the Russians by stopping the fighting in the ongoing war, and now trying to be a legitimate actor and achieve international recognition.

During most of the year 2019, there was no considerable progress in the negotiations, there were even situations that put possible peace agreements at risk; in 2019, there were a large number of deaths of citizens and the military; in September of that year a Taliban attack in Kabul killed a member of the US service, which caused greater tension between both parties. In a meeting that took place in late February 2020, the Taliban agreed to prevent Al Qaeda and the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant or ISIS from operating in Afghanistan. Similarly, on February 29, an agreement was signed between the Taliban and the United States, since the insurgent group demonstrated a reduction in acts of violence. The United

States would gradually phase out the presence of its troops in approximately 14 months, and within 10 days of signing the deal, the Taliban agreed to start talks with the central government.

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Glossary for Resolution Papers

Preambulatory Phrases

Preambulatory Phrases are used at the beginning of every Resolution Paper in order to give context about the resolutions made for the topic. Preambulatory Phrases must be written in italics followed by a sentence that gives said context. For each Resolution Paper there must be five sentences beginning with a Preambulatory Phrase.

Affirming	Desiring	Noting with deep concern
Alarmed by	Emphasizing	Noting with satisfaction
Approving	Expecting	Noting further
Bearing in mind	Expressing its appreciation	Observing
Believing	Fulfilling	Reaffirming
Confident	Fully aware	Realizing
Contemplating	Further deploring	Recalling
Convinced	Further recalling	Recognizing
Declaring	Guided by	Referring
Deeply concerned	Having adopted	Seeking
Deeply conscious	Having considered	Taking into consideration
Deeply convinced	Having examined	Taking note
Deeply disturbed	Having received	Viewing with appreciation
Deeply regretting	Keeping in mind	Welcoming

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Glossary for Resolution Papers

Operative Clauses

Operative Clauses are used at the beginning of every resolution within the Resolution Paper on the debated topic. It must be written in italics and bold.

Accepts	Endorses	Notes
Affirms	Draws the attentions	Proclaims
Approves	Emphasizes	Reaffirms
Authorizes	Encourages	Recommends
Calls	Expresses its appreciation	Regrets
Calls upon	Expresses its hope	Reminds
Condemns	Further invites	Requests
Confirms	Further proclaims	Solemnly affirms
Congratulates	Further reminds	Strongly condemns
Considers	Further recommends	Supports
Declares accordingly	Further requests	Takes note of
Deplores	Further resolves	Transmits
Designates	Has resolved	Trusts