

5TH ANNUAL
CBA MIDDLE SCHOOL
MODEL UN

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SECRETARIAT GENERAL.....WILLIAM WALSH, BRYAN SOLER
CRISIS DIRECTOR.....DANIEL TRAVEL



Topic 1: NATO and the Ukraine

Topic 2: Ukraine's track to NATO Membership

November 3, 2017

Chair: John Meany

Co-Chair: Luke Croken

Letter From the Dais

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the Fifth Annual Christian Brothers Academy Model United Nations Conference! We are John Meany and Luke Croken, your Chair and Co-Chair. We hope that you are ready to dive into the the world of Model United Nations and the tensions that surrounded the NATO and Russia, forming in Eastern Europe. Our debate will take place in November of 2017 as we explore issues relating towards NATO and the Ukraine.

Included in this background guide is information summarizing the topics that will be tackled in this committee. Although a brief history regarding NATO will be introduced in this guide, extra research and preparation is necessary. We cannot wait to welcome all of you to our school in November for an interesting and involved debate. We hope that you will have a good time and that this debate will fuel an interest in Model UN throughout high school and beyond. If you have an any questions regarding this committee, whether it be about procedure or character roles, do not hesitate to email either of us.

Sincerely,

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Keep in mind that the topics are based on the essential issues of the 2016 NATO summit in Warsaw, Poland

NATO and the Ukraine

NATO has held a firm position in support of Ukraine's sovereignty since the very beginning of the Russia-Ukraine conflict. The alliance immediately condemned and refused to recognize the "illegitimate" annexation of the Crimea by Russia in March of 2014. NATO has also condemned the deliberate destabilisation of eastern Ukraine as a result of Russian military intervention and support for pro-Russian militants within Ukraine. This resulted in a decision by NATO to suspend all reasonable civilian and military cooperation with the Russian Federation.

Throughout the crisis, regular discussions have taken place within the NATO-Ukraine Commission to consider the direct threats that the territorial integrity, political independence and security of Ukraine are facing. NATO has repeatedly expressed its unwavering support for and solidarity with Ukraine in joint statements issued by NUC foreign ministers in April 2014, December 2014, and May 2015 and by heads of state and government at the NATO summit meetings in Wales in September of 2014 and Warsaw in July of 2016.

NATO has greatly been in favor of the settlement of the conflict in the eastern section of Ukraine by conversation and diplomatic means. It has supported the September 2014 Minsk Agreement and brought in the adoption of the Package of Measures for the implementation in February 2015. Any signatories of the Minsk Agreements are required to comply with the promises they signed up to. Russia's destabilization of Eastern Ukraine is deliberate and must stop immediately. Russia is doing this through political, military, and financial supports of militants.

Since the Warsaw Pact has collapsed, NATO has been gaining ground on Russia. NATO has been increasingly stepping up its assistance to Ukraine by putting measures into place to enhance Ukraine's ability to provide for its own security. Additionally, NATO has developed their practical

support to Ukraine by adding new programs and enhancing existing programmes. They decided to strengthen existing programmes on defence education, professional development, security sector governance and security-related scientific cooperation, to reinforce the advisory presence at the NATO offices in Kiev and to launch substantial new programmes, with the help of Trust Funds which are mechanisms that allow individual treaty members and partner countries to provide financial support for concrete projects on a voluntary basis. NATO's enlargement is a very sore point for Russian leaders and some in the Kremlin believe that NATO's enlargement destroys their dream of restoring Russia's world grandeur.

NATO has worked with Ukraine on a number of issues such as peace-support operations, defence and security sector reform, military-to-military cooperation, armaments, civil emergency planning, science and environment, and public diplomacy. NATO's goal in supporting Ukraine is to help the country enhance its ability to provide for its own security following the events with Russia.

The NATO-Ukraine Commission (NUC) directs cooperative activities and provides a forum for consultation between the Allies and Ukraine on security issues of common concern. The NUC can meet at various levels, including heads of state and government, ministers of foreign affairs, and ambassadors. The Declaration to Complement the 1997 Charter on a Distinctive Partnership between NATO and Ukraine, signed in 2009, gave the NUC a large role in creating political dialogue and cooperation to spearhead Ukraine's reform efforts. The main tool to support this process is the Annual National Programme (ANP), which reflects Ukraine's national reform objectives and annual implementation plans. The ANP is composed of five sections: political and economic issues, defence and military issues, resource, security issues, and legal issues. NATO assesses progress under the ANP annually and are always available and ready to support Ukraine in times of crisis.

Ukraine's track to Membership

For several year Ukraine has been attempting to gain membership into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). Now more than ever it is important that NATO makes a decision as to whether or not to grant Ukraine membership. Ukraine requests a decision be made so that they can plan their strategy against Russia with knowledge of whether or not it will have the full support of the entire alliance, rather than marginal support which it has received thus far. The members must analyze the information they gather and the arguments presented in Topic A.

Immediately after receiving independence from the Soviet Union in 1991, Ukraine joined the North Atlantic Cooperation Council (replaced by the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council). In 1994 Ukraine joined the Partnership for Peace, becoming the first Commonwealth of Independent States to do so. In 1997, at a summit in Madrid, Spain, the Allies and Ukraine sign the Charter on a Distinctive Partnership, which outlined further terms of cooperation and development of relations and establishes the NATO-Ukraine Commission. From the early years of Ukraine's independence it was clear that both parties were interested and enjoyed the idea of Ukraine's membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

This became even more apparent in 1999 when the NATO Liaison Office was opened in Kiev. Later that year, the Polish-Ukrainian Battalion deployed as part of the NATO-led peacekeeping force in Kosovo. In 2000 Ukraine expressed its intent to be an active NATO member when it hosted a multinational disaster-response exercise, Trans-Carpathia 2000. Ukraine headed a project in 2002 to destroy 400,000 landmines in Donetsk.

In 2004, Ukraine took perhaps its biggest step to displaying its country's willingness to join NATO when the Ukrainian parliament ratifies the Host Nation Support Agreement with NATO. Later, that same year they signed the Strategic Airlift Agreement with NATO, furthering their involvement with the alliance. In 2014, at the 2014 NATO Summit in Wales, Allied leaders meet Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko, reaffirming their support for Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity. At the NATO Summit in Warsaw, Allied leaders meet President Poroshenko and agree to step up support for Ukraine, endorsing a Comprehensive Assistance Package which aims to help make the country's defence and security institutions more effective, efficient and accountable. They also review the security situation and welcome the government's plans to reform.

Questions to Consider:

Where does NATO, and your delegation specifically, stand on issue of the Ukraine-Russia conflict?

What should NATO's involvement be in the conflict?

How important is the sovereignty of Ukraine to the members of NATO?

Is Ukraine capable of being a contributing member of NATO?

If Ukraine is granted membership, how much will their conflict with the Russian Federation strain the resources of NATO and its existing members?

Additional Resources:

http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/events_132023.htm

http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/topics_37750.htm

http://www.mfa.gov.pl/en/foreign_policy/nato_2016/