



The NATO

"North Atlantic Treaty Organisation" (4th April 1949):

- Alliance of 28 countries from North America and Europe

The North Atlantic Treaty:

- **Article 1:** settling of any international dispute by peaceful means without endangering security, peace and justice, refraining from force and any inconsistency with the purposes of the UN
- **Article 2:** further development of international relations to eliminate political conflicts and encourage collaboration
- **Article 3:** development of individual capacity to resist armed attack
- **Article 4:** consulting of the Parties whenever any other Party is threatened
- **Article 5:** assisting of all Parties in case of an attack by taking action as it deems necessary, including the use of armed force



Structure:

Civilian structure

- North Atlantic Council
 - representatives of all 28 member states
 - oversees the political and military process
 - meetings at different level
 - **Defence Planning Committee** and **Nuclear Planning Group** have comparable authority
 - eight other commissions

Military structure

- Military Committee:
 - senior military officers of NATO members
 - provides direction and advice on military strategy
 - advice is sought prior to authorisation by the Council and the Committees
 - also meetings at different level
 - essential link between political decision-making and an integral part of decision-making in the whole Alliance

NATO's agenda:

- modernisation process
- new operations: Afghanistan, Iraq, protecting against terrorism in the Mediterranean and help for the African Union
- new capabilities and relationships



Sources:

www.nato.int

www.wikipedia.com