NATO Rights and Responsibilities

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akademický rok: 2009/2010

ZADÁNÍ BAKALÁŘSKÉ PRÁCE

(PROJEKTU, UMĚLECKÉHO DÍLA, UMĚLECKÉHO VÝKONU)

Jméno a příjmení: **Michal ZAPALAČ**

Studijní program: **B 7310 Filologie**

Studijní obor: **Anglický jazyk pro manažerskou praxi**

Téma práce: **Práva a povinnosti NATO**

Zásady pro vypracování:

Studium literatury zabyvající se právy a povinnostmi NATO
Úvod
Podněty pro založení NATO
Práva a povinnosti NATO skrze dobu existence aliance
Srovnání práv NATO s ostatními aliancemi
Vyhodnocení a zpracování získaných poznatků
Závěr

Rozsah práce:

Rozsah příloh:

Forma zpracování bakalářské práce: tištěná/elektronická

Seznam odborné literatury:

Kaplan, Lawrence S.. NATO Divided, NATO United: The Evolution of an Alliance. Westport, Connecticut: Praeger Paperback, 2004.
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Duignan, Peter. NATO: Its Past, Present and Future. Palo Alto: Hoover Institution Press, 2001.

Vedoucí bakalářské práce: **PhDr. Katarína Nemčoková**
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Datum zadání bakalářské práce: **21. ledna 2010**

Termín odevzdání bakalářské práce: **7. května 2010**

Ve Zlíně dne 21. ledna 2010

L.S.

prof. PhDr. Vlastimil Švec, CSc.   doc. Ing. Anežka Lengálová, Ph.D.
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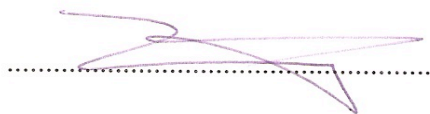
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ABSTRAKT

Tahle práce se zabývá právy a povinnostmi Severoatlantické Aliance. Práce pojednává o založení aliance a vývoji aliance s ohledem na její práva a povinnosti. Práce dochází k závěru, že Severoatlantická aliance je v dnešní době jedna z nejdůležitějších mezinárodních organizací na světě díky své schopnosti přizpůsobování svých práv a povinností světovému dění.

Klíčová slova:

NATO, Severoatlantická aliance, Evropa, studená válka, komunismus, Druhá světová válka, armáda, válka, spolupráce, bezpečnostní politika, vojenská politika, mezinárodní vztahy, vojenská organizace, Severoatlantická smlouva

ABSTRACT

This thesis analyses the rights and responsibilities of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. The thesis deals with the foundation of alliance and its evolution regarding the rights and responsibilities of the Alliance. The thesis concludes that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization is nowadays one of the most important international organizations thanks to its ability to adapt its rights and responsibilities to the world events.

Keywords:

NATO, The North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Europe, Cold War, Communism, World War Second, military, war, cooperation, security policy, military policy, international relations, military organization, North Atlantic Treaty

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization is considered as one of the greatest organizations securing the world we live in for over half of a century. The purpose of this thesis is to analyze the background for founding the Organization, identify the various rights and responsibilities of the Alliance, their evolution in accordance to world events, and to evaluate the Organization's ability to fulfill these rights and responsibilities by itself and by cooperating with other alliances as well.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization was founded in 1949, soon after the World War II, and within this thesis, the reader is going to be acquainted with the events of that time that led towards the establishment of the Alliance. Consequently I will try to familiarize the reader with the rights and responsibilities of the Organization sequent upon the North Atlantic Treaty signed by the member countries on the April 4th 1949 in Washington. I am going to go through the existence of the Alliance and describe major events such as the end of Cold War and the terrorist attacks on the United States, and its effect upon the rights and responsibilities of the Organization and the way how the Alliance dealt with these events. The cooperation of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and two major other alliances, the European Union and the United Nations, is going to be examined as well.

The overall aim of this thesis is to demonstrate the importance of the Alliance in securing its members and also preserving the worldwide peace.

1 FOUNDATION OF NATO

The origins of the North Atlantic Organization can be traced back to the World War II, which was the main catalyst for founding the Alliance.

1.1 Influence of the World War II

The Second World War, lasting from 1939 to 1945, was the deadliest conflict in human history. It was a military conflict that involved most of the nations all over the world, including all of the great powers such as Great Britain, United States or Soviet Union. Even though these countries had different political ideology, they were fighting together to bring down their common enemy, the fascism and its leader, Adolf Hitler. Over 37 million Europeans died in this war and most of the countries were ravaged, there was an obvious necessity for a change. [1]

During the war, United Kingdom and United States had worked out a plan how to deal with the postwar world in case of their victory, which they didn't doubt would come. In August 1941, the President of the United States of America Franklin Delano Roosevelt and the Prime Minister of Great Britain Winston Churchill signed "The Atlantic Charter". This agreement promised a peaceful way how to deal with the destroyed countries after the war. It was a summary of American goals in World War II. The Atlantic Charter expected a post-war world controlled by the United States and Great Britain. Their goal was to create a world where all countries were free and independent. In such world of free nations, people would live in economic freedom with democratic rights. This global community was supposed to encourage free trade, easy access to resources and raw materials, and foreign investment throughout the world. This sociality would be held together and protected by the United Nations. [2]

The end of the war brought a completely different solution though. Once the war ended in 1945 with the victory of the Allies, the winning powers wanted each share of their cake, leaving a lot to discuss. The world has been left split into two radically different groups of countries. An intense rivalry developed between the communist and the non-communist countries. This actuality was a significant threat for a postwar Europe. Eastern

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[1] DeLaine, Linda. "Russian Life: Post WWII Years." Russian Life magazine.
http://www.russianlife.com/article.cfm?Number=633 (accessed March 10, 2010).
[2] "THE ATLANTIC CHARTER (1941)." Welcome to the America Information Web.
http://usinfo.org/docs/democracy/53.htm (accessed April 24, 2010).

Europe and Western Europe were separated by the ideological and political distinctions of their views, leaving Europe unable to negotiate the postwar conditions.

The Soviet Union was becoming a dangerous superpower, controlling half of the Europe. The Soviets refused to accept the predominance of the United States and the United Kingdom. They turned down the American vision of global economic and political leadership, even though the United States offered help and a tremendous amount of money to rebuild the ravaged country of Soviet republics. The Soviets stood behind the opinion that the United States and Great Britain were empires using their economic, political and military power to control the global community of nations. They defended the interest that they also could become one of such powers, controlling the block of countries in eastern Europe. Their goal was to be treated equally to the United States and Britain, which was rejected and Soviet Union has been accused of being a threat to the world peace and democracy. This is considered as an onset of the Cold War.

The Cold War was a struggle between the Soviet Union and the Western world, especially the United States. This quarrel lasted for over 45 years and it was a period of time of political misunderstanding, military tension and economic competition. Even though there hasn't been a direct armed conflict between the two main participants, it were decades spent with espionage, propaganda, nuclear arms race and technological competitions, such as the exploration of outer space. Neither of the countries involved wanted to give up their political and economical beliefs, which led to a necessity of military alliances to defend these convictions.

As a result of these disagreements, the Soviet Union created the Eastern Bloc to strengthen its position. The Eastern Bloc was a fellowship of the communist countries of eastern Europe that were occupied by the Soviet Union after the war. The members were East Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria and Soviet Union. [3]

Even after the formation of this alliance, the United States were still trying to follow their postwar goal by offering these countries the "Marshall Plan", which was a reconstruction plan for rebuilding and creating a stronger economic foundation. The countries that were not under direct oversight of the Soviet Union, especially Czechoslovakia, were considering the utilization of amounts offered by the United States.

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[3] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO E-Bookshop." 60 years of NATO. http://www.nato-bookshop.org/index.php?inc=download&idpub=124&idtaal=2&taal=ENG&wat=pdf (accessed March 12, 2010).

This betrayal of the Eastern bloc, being helped by the western countries would be humiliating for the Soviet Union. To put a stop to this rebelliousness and to reach an absolute supervision in these countries, communist governments were gradually implemented into all of them. This denoted a thorough political and media controls and also a strict prohibition of emigration.[4]

The Soviet Union's main goal was to separate the communist countries of the Eastern bloc from those democratic on the west. The first action to reach this aim was the Berlin Blockade, performed in the June of 1948. The Soviet Union blocked all the access points to Berlin, so no Western Allies could get into the city, leaving only the Soviets in charge of supplying the city, practically giving them the control over the city.[5]

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[4] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO E-Bookshop." 60 years of NATO. http://www.nato-bookshop.org/index.php?inc=download&idpub=124&idtaal=2&taal=ENG&wat=pdf (accessed March 12, 2010).
[5] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO E-Bookshop." 60 years of NATO. http://www.nato-bookshop.org/index.php?inc=download&idpub=124&idtaal=2&taal=ENG&wat=pdf (accessed March 12, 2010).

2   A NEED OF AN ALLIANCE

Seeing what Soviet Union and Germany are capable of, the countries of Western Europe were searching for a new form of military alliance to protect themselves. The United Kingdom and France were already members of the "Treaty of Dunkirk", which was a defense pact against a possible postwar German attack. In March 1948, Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg joined this alliance, signing the Brussels Treaty, to be able to face the possible attack of either Germany or Soviet Union. The Brussels Treaty represented the first step in the post-war reconstruction of western European security and brought the Western Union Defense Organization into being. It was also the first step in the process leading to the signature of the North Atlantic Treaty in 1949 and the creation of the North Atlantic Alliance.[6]

One year later, it was certain that the resurgent Germany is harmless, making the countries of western Europe focus on the threat coming from the east of Europe. The Soviet Union was maintaining its expansion of communism and keeping its army at high capacity. It was obvious, that if countries of Western Europe are supposed to be able to face the attack of the Soviet Union, the alliance would have to include the United States and Canada.

Fortunately, by that time, the United States broke their traditional policy of diplomatic isolationism. The Marshall Plan provided by the United States' government had merit in economic stabilization in countries of Western Europe. However, the recovered countries were still in need of a confidence in their security before beginning of negotiating and trading with each other. It was necessary to joint the military cooperation with the economic and political progress.

With goals being set, the negotiation and discussions for creating a new alliance could begin.

2.1   Establishment of NATO

On April 4th 1949, NATO, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, was created through the signing of the North Atlantic Treaty in Washington. The Washington Treaty has been originally signed by 12 countries; Belgium, Netherlands, Luxembourg, France, United

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[6] Schmidt, Gustav. *A History of NATO: The First Fifty Years*. Volume 2 ed. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2001.179

Kingdom, United States, Canada, Portugal, Italy, Norway, Denmark and Iceland. Since then, the alliance had spread into having 28 members in total. [7]

According to the Treaty of 1949, NATO's purpose was to ensure the freedom and security of member countries using political and military means. NATO preserves the Allies' collective values of democracy, individual liberty, the rule of law and the peaceful resolution of disputes and promotes these values throughout the Euro-Atlantic area. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization provides a forum in which countries from North America and Europe can consult together the security issues of common interest. [8]

The relation between the European and North American members is the essential element of the Alliance. NATO was founded as an inter-governmental organization in which each member country keeps its sovereignty. All NATO decisions are made jointly by the member countries on the basis of consensus. NATO's most important decision-making body is the North Atlantic Council, which brings together representatives of all the Allies at the level of ambassadors, ministers or heads of state and government. Each member country participates fully in the decision-making process on the basis of equality, regardless of its size, political, military and economic strength.[9]

NATO has no operational forces of its own other than those assigned to it by member countries or contributed by Partner countries for the purpose of carrying out a specific mission. It has a number of mechanisms available to it for this purpose – the defense planning and resource planning processes that form the basis of cooperation within the Alliance, the implementation of political commitments to improved capabilities, and a military structure that combines the functions of a multinational force planning organization with an Alliance-wide system of command and control of the military forces assigned to it. In other words, under the command of NATO's strategic commanders, the Organization provides for the joint planning, exercising and operational deployment of forces provided by the member countries in accordance with a commonly agreed force planning process. In sum, an important part of NATO's role is to act as a catalyst for generating the forces needed to meet requirements and enabling member countries to

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[7] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO On-line library: NATO Transformed." NATO.
http://www.nato.int/docu/nato-trans/html_en/nato_trans01.html (accessed March 12, 2010).
[8] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO - Official text: The North Atlantic Treaty, 04-Apr.-1949." NATO.
http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/official_texts_17120.htm (accessed March 12, 2010).
[9] *NATO Handbook. Brussels: Nato Office Of Information Belgium, 2006. 15*

participate in crisis management operations which they could not otherwise undertake on their own.[10]

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[10]*NATO Handbook. Brussels: Nato Office Of Information Belgium, 2006. 16*

3   NATO RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

All NATO rights and responsibilities are stated in the North Atlantic Treaty signed in year 1949. The fundamental aim of these rights and responsibilities have not changed since then, their fulfillment has just been moved to different parts of the world during the 60 years of the existence of the alliance. Many international incidents throughout the time of the existence of NATO led to slight changes the alliance had to undergo to adapt to the world events.

Based on common values of democracy, human rights and the rule of law, the Alliance has striven since its origin to secure a lasting peaceful order in Europe. However, the achievement of this aim can be jeopardized by crisis and conflict outside the Euro-Atlantic area. The Alliance therefore not only ensures the defense of its members but contributes to peace and stability beyond the geographical space defined as the North Atlantic Treaty area through partnerships and crisis management operations.

The master attitude by which the Alliance works is common devotion and mutual cooperation among independent states in support of collective security for all its members. Solidarity and unity within the Alliance, through daily collaboration in both the political and military fields, guarantee that no single ally is forced to depend on its own national efforts alone in dealing with basic security disputes. Without depriving member countries of their right and duty to assume their sovereign responsibilities in the field of defense, the Alliance enables them through collective efforts to meet their essential national security objectives.

3.1   The North Atlantic Treaty

The North Atlantic Treaty itself comprises of 14 articles that set up the operation of the Alliance.

The general vision of the alliance is stated in the introduction of the treaty. The member countries commit themselves into following of the Charter of the United Nations and its principles, as well as the commitment to peaceful relationships with all peoples and governments. Countries, which are part of this organization, also confirm the resolve to ensure the freedom of people of the Allies based on the principles of democracy and obeying of law. The members also promise to maintain stability within the Euro-Atlantic region. The last point made in the introduction is the engagement of the member countries, stressing their collective cooperation in issues concerning the alliance.

In the article one of the North Atlantic Treaty, the cornerstone of the alliance is set. The Alliance's main goal is to safeguard worldwide peace. The member countries take on the settlement of international quarrels by peaceful ways and profess to not using the military forces when not necessary.[11]

Article two of the Treaty is not directly connected to the threat of a military attack. It states, that the Alliance acts as a unification not only in military means, but also in non-military matters as well. The cooperation of the member states in the economic field should be another way of the Alliance to secure stability within the North Atlantic area.

The third article of the Treaty focuses on the issue of an absolute collaboration among the associates of the alliance in case of an armed attack. The members should co-operate as a unity to accomplish the objectives of the Treaty.[12]

Article four points out the fact that all decisions made by the alliance are made on the basis of consensus, therefore a discussion and negotiation is needed before decisions are made. According to this article, all issues that affect the Alliance's interests or deals with development of the Organization are supposed to be talked over.[13]

Article five is the most noted part of the North Atlantic Treaty, acting as a warning for possible enemies. This article states the absolute unity of the members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. If an armed attack against one or more of the allies occurs, it would be considered as an attack against the whole alliance. This article was originally implemented only as a threat to potential enemies, but in year 2001, the Alliance invoked this article for the first time in its history after the terrorist attacks upon United States. The whole alliance got uniformly engaged in the war against terrorism.[14]

The sixth article specifies what territories are also parts of the alliance, regarding article five. As a part of the Alliance are taken not only the area of member countries of NATO, but also the Algerian departments of France, the islands under the jurisdiction of any member of the Alliance that lies in area north of the Tropic of Cancer and the aircrafts

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[11] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO - Official text: The North Atlantic Treaty, 04-Apr.-1949." NATO. http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/official_texts_17120.htm (accessed March 12, 2010).
[12] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO - Official text: The North Atlantic Treaty, 04-Apr.-1949." NATO. http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/official_texts_17120.htm (accessed March 12, 2010).
[13] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO - Official text: The North Atlantic Treaty, 04-Apr.-1949." NATO. http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/official_texts_17120.htm (accessed March 12, 2010).
[14] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO - Official text: The North Atlantic Treaty, 04-Apr.-1949." NATO. http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/official_texts_17120.htm (accessed March 12, 2010).

and ships belonging to the Allies.[15]

Article seven mentions the precedence of United Nations Charter and assures of its observance in order to maintain worldwide peace. The Treaty shall not affect in any way the rights and obligations of Allies under the Charter and reaffirms the primary responsibility of the UN Security Council for the maintenance of international peace and security.[16]

Article eight deals with the importance of the alliance and suggests following the treaty and its attitudes towards the worldwide peace. None of the members is allowed to engage into an international conflict without the approval of the Alliance.[17]

Article nine points out the necessity of establishing councils to discuss matter affecting the members of the alliance. The members of the councils are usually departmental ministers of member countries. The council is required to meet in the shortest span of time as possible to allow the member countries to act swiftly in the matter it concerns.[18]

Article ten deals with accession of new members and the way how to progress in such situations. This article shows the openness of NATO regarding intake of new members. All members of the alliance must agree on accession of new member country. From the year 1949 till nowadays, the Alliance has been joined by 14 new members. In 1952, Turkey and Greece joined the Alliance. Three years later Germany became part of NATO. Another enlargement process took place as late as 1982, when Spain joined the Alliance. After the end of Cold War, the Alliance has expanded into central and western Europe. During the 1990s and early 2000s, ten more countries entered the Alliance. All new members came from the former Eastern Bloc, extending the area of the Alliance into the countries of Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia. Three more countries, Croatia, Albania and Macedonia, are nowadays applying for the membership in the Alliance.[19]

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[15] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO - Official text: The North Atlantic Treaty, 04-Apr.-1949." NATO. http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/official_texts_17120.htm (accessed March 12, 2010).
[16] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO - Official text: The North Atlantic Treaty, 04-Apr.-1949." NATO. http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/official_texts_17120.htm (accessed March 12, 2010).
[17] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO - Official text: The North Atlantic Treaty, 04-Apr.-1949." NATO. http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/official_texts_17120.htm (accessed March 12, 2010).
[18] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO - Official text: The North Atlantic Treaty, 04-Apr.-1949." NATO. http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/official_texts_17120.htm (accessed March 12, 2010).
[19] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO - Official text: The North Atlantic Treaty, 04-Apr.-1949." NATO. http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/official_texts_17120.htm (accessed March 12, 2010).

Article eleven focuses on the ratification of the treaty.[20]

Article twelve deals with the future of the treaty, recommending its revision. These revisions should be made when new issues occur, affecting the Alliance itself, or the goals it follows, the security and peace in the Euro–Atlantic region. Even though the Treaty is in force since 1949, none of the members has ever requested the revision of the Treaty.[21]

Article number thirteen of the Treaty points out the possibility of denunciation. The only case of coming close to fulfilling this article was in 1960s, when France withdrew from the alliance's defense system but still remained member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.[22]

Article fourteen is just a formality, stating the preservation of the treaty itself.[23]

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[20] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO - Official text: The North Atlantic Treaty, 04-Apr.-1949." NATO. http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/official_texts_17120.htm (accessed March 12, 2010).
[21] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO - Official text: The North Atlantic Treaty, 04-Apr.-1949." NATO. http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/official_texts_17120.htm (accessed March 12, 2010).
[22] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO - Official text: The North Atlantic Treaty, 04-Apr.-1949." NATO. http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/official_texts_17120.htm (accessed March 12, 2010).
[23] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO - Official text: The North Atlantic Treaty, 04-Apr.-1949." NATO. http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/official_texts_17120.htm (accessed March 12, 2010).

4 RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF NATO THROUGHOUT THE TIME OF ITS EXISTENCE

The signing of the North Atlantic treaty had created an alliance with clear aims to protect the worldwide peace. However the way of reaching these aims had to undergo many modifications while the world was changing during the time of the existence of the alliance.

The first impulse for revising the functioning of the alliance occurred only one year after its establishment. In 1949, the Soviet Union launched an atomic bomb and one year later, in 1950, the Korean War broke out.

4.1 The Korean War

This conflict in Far East had an immense impact on the alliance. Prior to the start of the Korean War, the allies expected to maintain the worldwide peace without the need of an actual military involvement. The fact of comprising the military strength of North America and Western Europe in one alliance made the members feel, that no country in the world would want to engage in combat against such alliance. The actual threat to the worldwide peace in form of the Korean War acted as an unifying force for the allies, forcing the members of the alliance to refine the military capacities to reach a better preparedness for future.[24]

Asia and Pacific had been the traditional focus of American foreign policy. It seemed probable that the Americans would turn their back on the newly established alliance and focused once again on Asia. The fears proved to be groundless. Rather than abandon NATO and Europe, American policymakers envisioned the North Korean invasion of South Korea as an attack of the Communists against the West. US President Truman even speculated that the Soviet Union had incited North Koreans to test NATO's resolve. Even though this proved to be an incorrect judgment, it was sufficient to equate divided Korea with divided Germany. It was assumed that if Communist achieved to control the Korean peninsula, they would then unleash the Communist forces of East Germany to attack West Germany. With this in mind, the alliance focused not only on defending the South Korea, but also on strengthening the troops in West Germany to cope with an anticipated attack

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[24] Kaplan, Lawrence S.. *NATO Divided, NATO United: The Evolution of an Alliance*. 1 ed. Westport, Connecticut: Praeger Paperback, 2004. 10

from the communist East Germany. East Germany would, much like North Korea, serve as Soviet surrogates.[25]

During this war, the United States demanded of its allies a buildup of their armed forces. The Korean War transformed the North Atlantic Treaty Organization into a genuine military organization.

4.2 Accession of a "key" member

During the 1950s, the political stability in Western Europe was finally re-established thanks to the security provided by the Alliance and thanks to the aid given by the United States. For the first time in its history, the alliance was joined by new members. In 1952 Greece and Turkey became members. In 1955, only ten years after the end of the World War II, NATO was facing a difficult decision, the accession of West Germany. The question was obvious: should West Germany be re-armed and allowed to join a military alliance. Eventually in May 1955, West Germany was allowed to become a member of the alliance. In reaction to this move, the Soviet Union formed the Warsaw Pact.[26]

The Warsaw Pact was an alliance of Eastern communist nations led by the Soviet Union. The purpose of this alliance was to counter the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, strengthen Soviet control over its communist states and boost its power in diplomacy. Member states of the Warsaw Pact were the countries controlled by the Soviet Union after the World War II, People's Republics of Albania, People's Republic of Bulgaria, Czechoslovak Republic, German Democratic Republic, People's Republic of Hungary, People's Republic of Poland, People's Republic of Romania and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. These countries all combined comprised over twice as many active soldiers ready to fight, than the countries of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.[27]

Creation of the Warsaw Pact made NATO alter the strategic doctrine of "Massive Retaliation". This was an agreement within the Alliance, which stated, that if the Soviet Union attacked the allies, NATO would counter with nuclear weapons. The acceptance of this peremptory doctrine was tasked to discourage the Soviets from any attack against the

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[25] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO E-Bookshop." 60 years of NATO. http://www.nato-bookshop.org/index.php?inc=download&idpub=124&idtaal=2&taal=ENG&wat=pdf (accessed March 12, 2010).
[26] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO E-Bookshop." 60 years of NATO. http://www.nato-bookshop.org/index.php?inc=download&idpub=124&idtaal=2&taal=ENG&wat=pdf (accessed March 12, 2010).
[27] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO E-Bookshop." 60 years of NATO. http://www.nato-bookshop.org/index.php?inc=download&idpub=124&idtaal=2&taal=ENG&wat=pdf (accessed March 12, 2010).

members of NATO. Any minor aggression performed by the Soviet Union could have led to a nuclear war. The adoption of this doctrine allowed the allies to focus more on their economic growth, rather than on investing enormous amount of money into the defence system.[28]

4.3 The Suez Dispute

The first tangle among the members of the alliance arose in year 1956 and almost resulted in the destruction of the alliance. Great Britain and France contravened their rights and responsibilities stated in the North Atlantic Treaty by starting a military operation without previous discussion with other members of the Alliance. [29]

The issue was the Suez Canal. The Egyptian dictator nationalized the Suez Canal, despite the fact that it had been built and controlled by Great Britain and France for over a century. In this situation, Great Britain and France were supposed to act in accordance with the Treaty and work within the framework of the United Nations to retrieve the canal. This process would take weeks though, so both countries, joined by Israel, decided to act on their own. [30]

In October 1956, Israel army defeated Egyptian ground army near Suez and anticipated French and British naval support. The naval invasion has been put on hold after Egyptian appeal to the United Nations for support against the aggression of these two major members of NATO.[31]

The result of this forthcoming operation could have been devastating for the Alliance. The United States joined Soviet's position to oppose the Suez invasion and denounced Britain's violation of Washington Treaty. Both countries, Great Britain and France fortunately truckled to the pressure and retreated from the Suez canal, saving the Alliance from further friction.[32]

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[28] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO E-Bookshop." 60 years of NATO. http://www.nato-bookshop.org/index.php?inc=download&idpub=124&idtaal=2&taal=ENG&wat=pdf (accessed March 12, 2010).
[29] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO E-Bookshop." 60 years of NATO. http://www.nato-bookshop.org/index.php?inc=download&idpub=124&idtaal=2&taal=ENG&wat=pdf (accessed March 12, 2010).
[30] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO E-Bookshop." 60 years of NATO. http://www.nato-bookshop.org/index.php?inc=download&idpub=124&idtaal=2&taal=ENG&wat=pdf (accessed March 12, 2010).
[31] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO E-Bookshop." 60 years of NATO. http://www.nato-bookshop.org/index.php?inc=download&idpub=124&idtaal=2&taal=ENG&wat=pdf (accessed March 12, 2010).
[32] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO E-Bookshop." 60 years of NATO. http://www.nato-bookshop.org/index.php?inc=download&idpub=124&idtaal=2&taal=ENG&wat=pdf (accessed March 12, 2010).

4.4 The Space Race

Surprising responsibilities for the alliance had occurred in the end of the first decade of its existence. The Soviet Union has launched the Sputnik satellite in 1956. It was a shock for both Americans and Europeans to experience a potential enemy flying over their countries. The Soviet Union showed the potential of their missile technology, which was more advanced than the one of the allies. The Soviet's ability to launch any missile into such a distance energized the consultation and scientific cooperation within the Alliance and led to establishment of the "NATO Science Programme".[33]

4.5 French Withdrawal

The unity of the alliance was again jeopardized in 1960s due to French objections against American and Britain dominion within the alliance. The newly elected French president Charles de Gaulle protested against the strong role of United States and Great Britain and demanded equal conditions for France. France also required expansion of the alliance into countries of French interest, primarily the French Algeria. United States, neither Great Britain granted French suit in this case, which started French disaffiliation from the NATO.[34]

France started to build its own defense system, independent of NATO. In 1959, France withdrew its fleet from NATO and restricted locating of nuclear weapons on French territory. Later in 1966, french president de Gaulle required all NATO commands to be removed from French soil within a year and also leaving of all French personnel from the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe. This withdrawal led to a relocation of the Headquarters from Paris to Belgium.[35]

Even though France withdrew from the defense system of the alliance, it still remained as a member of NATO, committed to defend Europe from possible attack of Soviet Union with its own facilities.[36]

The French withdrawal from NATO's military command structure showed the

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[33] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO E-Bookshop." 60 years of NATO. http://www.nato-bookshop.org/index.php?inc=download&idpub=124&idtaal=2&taal=ENG&wat=pdf (accessed March 12, 2010).
[34] Kaplan, Lawrence S.. *NATO Divided, NATO United: The Evolution of an Alliance*. 1 ed. Westport, Connecticut: Praeger Paperback, 2004. 29-34
[35] Kaplan, Lawrence S.. *NATO Divided, NATO United: The Evolution of an Alliance*. 1 ed. Westport, Connecticut: Praeger Paperback, 2004. 29-34
[36] Kaplan, Lawrence S.. *NATO Divided, NATO United: The Evolution of an Alliance*. 1 ed. Westport, Connecticut: Praeger Paperback, 2004. 29-34

strength of the Alliance. Unlike the Warsaw Pact, NATO was able to tolerate different opinions on certain issues among its members.

4.6   1970s & 1980s

During the 1970s and 1980s, the Alliance had to undergo few conflicts, which however didn't have any effect on the Alliance's rights nor responsibilities. The Alliance was able to cope with conflicts such as the Greek withdrawal from NATO's military command structure in 1974 or Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979, which was the last major operation Soviet Union could afford to undertake.

In 1980s, the economy of the whole Eastern Bloc started to struggle. In that time, the Soviet Union's military expenditure was three times larger than the one of NATO with an economy that was three times smaller. The Warsaw Pact was disintegrating mainly because the economic crisis, but also thanks to weakening power of Communism. In order to cut costs and save the union, in 1985, Soviet Premier Mikhail Gorbachev signed a treaty with NATO, eliminating all nuclear missiles. This settlement is being considered as the beginning of the end of the Cold War.[37]

4.7   The End of the Cold War

The end of the Cold War, which got under way after the collapse of the regime in East Germany in 1989, meant the loss of the biggest enemy for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Within a short period of time, extraordinary political changes occurred in Central and Eastern Europe, leaving NATO facing absolutely different challenges than ever before.

With the disappearance of traditional adversaries, it seemed that the existence of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization is useless. Even though the disintegration of the Soviet Union removed the threat opposed by this country and its possible military invasion, an increased instability was apparent in the newly formed countries. Many conflicts broke out in former Yugoslavia and in parts of former Soviet Union and threatened to spread. The countries of NATO realized that this would be their next goal, the preservation of peace

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[37] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO E-Bookshop." 60 years of NATO. http://www.nato-bookshop.org/index.php?inc=download&idpub=124&idtaal=2&taal=ENG&wat=pdf (accessed March 12, 2010).

and stability in Europe and prevention of regional conflicts.[38]

During the Cold War, NATO was a static Alliance, waiting, if the Soviet Union is going to attack, or not. After the end of the Cold War, the Organization had to change its priorities and its new responsibility was to ensure peace even outside the area of member countries. The conflicts in non-member countries could easily spread throughout the unstable Europe and affect the members of the Alliance, which made the Organization focus on the whole Europe.

The first NATO responsibility after the Cold War was to safeguard the reunification of Germany in late 1990. Even though there were vast differences in lifestyle and wealth, the unification was successful, broadening the extent of the alliance by the area of former East Germany.[39]

4.8 Balkan Conflict

Since the end of the Cold War, NATO has turned into more of a peacekeeping organization; nevertheless its military capacity was still needed. The first military involvement of NATO after the Cold War took place in the Balkan. The fall down of communism invoked nationalistic and ethnic violence in Yugoslavia. At first the Alliance didn't see the urgency to step in, but later, when the conflict broke out into an ethnic cleansing and civil war, NATO's responsibility was to restore peace in the area. Yugoslavia's instability could have had an effect on the security of the Allies in case of the war spreading north to the boarders of Hungary or east to the boarders of Turkey.[40]

The war in former Yugoslavia was for NATO a conflict that brought new challenges and required changes within the alliance. It wasn't just a military operation. NATO was required to restore and preserve peace after the battle was over, resulting into enhancing peacekeeping abilities. The political basis for the NATO's new role in peacekeeping was set up at the meeting of the Alliance in 1992. Foreign ministers of member countries agreed to support the peacekeeping actions led by the United Nations in former

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[38] Hartley, Keith, and Todd Sandler. *The Political Economy of NATO: Past, Present and into the 21st Century*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1999.201
[39] Schmidt, Gustav. *A History of NATO: The First Fifty Years*. Volume 2 ed. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2001
[39] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO Handbook: The Strategic Concept of the Alliance." NATO - Homepage. http://www.nato.int/docu/handbook/2001/hb0203.htm (accessed March 12, 2010).
[40] *NATO Handbook. Brussels: Nato Office Of Information Belgium, 2006. 143*

Yugoslavia. [41]

During the war, which lasted till 1995, NATO has supported military and peacekeeping actions led by the United Nations. The Alliance monitored and ensured the observance of the no-fly zone above Bosnia and Herzegovina and backed up the forces of United Nations by air strikes as well.[42]

On August 30th 1995, NATO had merit in ending the war by launching several air strikes in Bosnia and Herzegovina that destroyed the positions of Serbs. This aerial operation lasted until September 15th. After the end of this successful action, peace negotiations began under the command of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.[43]

On the break of the millennium, NATO supported another operation in former Yugoslavia. The conflict in Kosovo in 1999 was another peacekeeping operation for the Alliance. In the area, conflict between the Serbian military and Albania separatists arose. Many attempts to solve this quarrel without the use of weapons has been made, but none worked. The peacemakers couldn't even get into Kosovo to start negotiating peace talk. To bring this conflict to an end, NATO decided to proceed with the air strikes that were bombing the area for 78 days straight. In the beginning of June 1999, the Serbian army finally gave up and started to pull back from Kosovo. After the departure of the Serbian army, NATO started to draw off its forces also. Although the conflict has ended over a decade ago, some NATO troops still patrol the area, maintaining peace and keeping both ethnic groups out of conflict.[44]

These operations in Balkan had shown NATO, that the peacekeeping process is sometimes way more difficult than the peacemaking. NATO rose to the occasion and provided for quite smooth stabilization of Europe after the Cold War. All these operations were a joint action of NATO and other international organizations, strengthening NATO through the companionship with other international organizations.

Before the year 2001, NATO had a lot of responsibilities in Balkan, but the biggest challenge after the end of Cold War was just about to come.

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[41] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO Review." NATO's Past, Present and Future. http://www.nato-bookshop.org/index.php?inc=download&idpub=69&idtaal=2&taal=ENG&wat=pdf (accessed March 12, 2010).
[42] Kaplan, Lawrence S.. *NATO Divided, NATO United: The Evolution of an Alliance*. 1 ed. Westport, Connecticut: Praeger Paperback, 2004. 116
[43] Kaplan, Lawrence S.. *NATO Divided, NATO United: The Evolution of an Alliance*. 1 ed. Westport, Connecticut: Praeger Paperback, 2004. 116
[44] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO" NATO in the 21st Century. http://www.nato-bookshop.org/index.php?inc=download&idpub=2&idtaal=2&taal=ENG&wat=pdf (accessed March 12, 2010).

4.9   After the 9/11

On September 11th 2001, the terrorist organization Al-Qaeda performed series of suicide attacks on the United States. Members of this terrorist organization hijacked four airplanes. Terrorists crashed two of those airplanes into the World Trade Center buildings in Lower Manhattan in New York. Both buildings collapsed soon after the attack, destroying nearby buildings and killing more than 2500 people. Another plane has been crashed by the hijackers into the headquarters of the United States department of Defense in Virginia. The fourth plane crashed in the woods in Pennsylvania, after the effort of the passengers to regain the control of the aircraft. During these attacks, nearly 3000 people were killed.

For the first time in its history, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization had to invoke Article 5 of the Treaty. In this article it's stated, that an attack on any member of the alliance is going to be considered as an attack on the whole organization.[45]

As a result of these attacks, the member countries of the Alliance decided on an even tighter cooperation, which resulted in greater sharing of intelligence. To put a stop to terrorist attacks, NATO decided to assist to the non-member countries that were threatened by the terrorism in exchange of the access to the ports and airfields in particular countries. Alliance also negotiated the rights of over flights of United States' and Allies' military aircrafts during the operations against terrorism.[46]

Soon after the attacks, the "War of Terrorism" has been announced by the President of the United States George W. Bush. The purpose of this war was to ruin the Al-Qaeda organization and bring its members to justice. As a part of this war, the United States were aiming at overthrowing the rule of Taliban in Afghanistan.

As a part of the "War on Terrorism", NATO's responsibility was guarding of the Mediterranean Sea to prevent movement of terrorists and their weaponry. The part of this task was also to improve the security of shipment in the area around Gibraltar. During this operation, over 100 ships were boarded because they were violating the international law. Another hundreds of ships were escorted out of the area controlled by the Alliance.[47]

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[45] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO Review." NATO's Past, Present and Future. http://www.nato-bookshop.org/index.php?inc=download&idpub=69&idtaal=2&taal=ENG&wat=pdf (accessed March 12, 2010).
[46] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO Review." NATO At 60. http://www.nato-bookshop.org/index.php?inc=download&idpub=120&idtaal=2&taal=ENG&wat=pdf (accessed March 12, 2010).
[47] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO Review." NATO At 60. http://www.nato-bookshop.org/index.php?inc=download&idpub=120&idtaal=2&taal=ENG&wat=pdf (accessed March 12, 2010).

4.9.1 Afghanistan

During the war in Afghanistan, NATO was the leading organization in peacekeeping process. For the first time in its history, NATO led an operation outside the area of Europe or North America. NATO's goal was to ensure peace in the country and to help set up conditions for establishing a representative government. At first, the Alliance was supposed to maintain peace in and around the capital city of Kabul, but later on, the operations of the Alliance had spread into the rest of the country.[48]

After the establishment of working government, NATO has started to assist with maintaining security and help the government spread its influence throughout the whole country. Very important for the Alliance was to ensure fair elections, this was the first step in the process of reconstructing the country.

In the year 2003, NATO was appointed to lead the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) which was created by the United Nations to ensure peace in Afghanistan. The force is a cooperation of all countries of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, as well as non-member countries from all over the world, such as Albania, Croatia, Finland, New Zealand, Sweden and Switzerland. This organization provides for NATO an indirect way, how to fight terrorism.[49]

4.9.2 Iraq

As a part of the war against terrorism and the fight against countries possessing weapons of mass destruction, NATO got involved in the conflict in Iraq.

The combination of unsuitable political situation in the country and possible possession of weapons of mass destruction resulted into an invasion to Iraq by United States and United Kingdom on March 20th 2003. Even though the weapons of mass destruction haven't been found, the president of Iraq Saddam Hussein has been accused of supporting Al-Qaeda and the Palestinian suicide terrorists, which was enough to justify this invasion. The aim of the military troops of the United States and the United Kingdom has shifted from the weapons of mass destruction onto an effort to establish democracy in the country and capture Saddam Hussein.

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[48] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO." Security Through Partnership. http://www.nato-bookshop.org/index.php?inc=download&idpub=32&idtaal=2&taal=ENG&wat=pdf (accessed March 12, 2010).
[49] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO." Security Through Partnership. http://www.nato-bookshop.org/index.php?inc=download&idpub=32&idtaal=2&taal=ENG&wat=pdf (accessed March 12, 2010).

Since December 2004, NATO got also involved in this conflict. Its task was to assist Iraqi military and police. Later on, this mission has evolved into a training of Iraqi's forces, performed by NATO.[50]

4.9.3 Internal Changes

The terrorist attacks upon the United States meant for NATO not only the military assistance in conflicts in Asia, but also a reason for internal changes to better cope with the new threats opposed by the enemies.

The first step in these changes was the "Military Concept for Defence against Terrorism", which was agreed on in November 2002 in Prague. The Alliance stated its preparedness to break any attempts of terrorism and to punish the terrorist organizations and the countries supporting them. Also the Alliance offered to protect member countries, and countries of European Union from these attacks, and support the fight against terrorism.[51]

At the same summit, the "Partnership Action Plan on Terrorism" has been introduced. This plan includes not only members of NATO, but also its partner countries. The document sets up the cooperation regarding the fight against terrorism and outlines the roles of the Alliance and the partner countries. All countries agree on collective effort to fight terrorist organizations using military, diplomatic, political and economic capabilities. The agreement on this plan is crucial because it comprises the strength of countries of NATO, United Nations and the European Union.[52]

Regarding the weapons of mass destruction, the Alliance adopted new measures to enhance its capabilities to cope with this way of threat. A mobile laboratory has been included as a new equipment for the Alliance, helping to deal with nuclear, biological and chemical threat. New teams of scientists specialized in the biological and chemical weapons were created and a disease surveillance system has been introduced.[53]

In 2004, new anti-terrorist measures were introduced to improve NATO's ability to deal with possible threats. Important step in cooperation of the Allies is allowed by the

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[50] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO Review." NATO's Past, Present and Future. http://www.nato-bookshop.org/index.php?inc=download&idpub=69&idtaal=2&taal=ENG&wat=pdf (accessed March 12, 2010).
[51] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO." Security Through Partnership. http://www.nato-bookshop.org/index.php?inc=download&idpub=32&idtaal=2&taal=ENG&wat=pdf (accessed March 12, 2010).
[52] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO." Security Through Partnership. http://www.nato-bookshop.org/index.php?inc=download&idpub=32&idtaal=2&taal=ENG&wat=pdf (accessed March 12, 2010).
[53] *NATO Handbook. Brussels: Nato Office Of Information Belgium, 2006. 173*

mutual sharing of information. This helps NATO to act fast in response to any attack and provide needed help. A new form of cooperation with partner countries increases the ability to prevent the attacks from happening.[54]

To ensure the safety of the Alliances in all possible ways, NATO also enhanced the security against the cyber attacks. All major information and communication systems has been secured to the highest level possible.[55]

Concerning the terrorist attacks, the Alliance also had to improve its actions after the possible attacks. A new "Civil Emergency Action Plan for the Improvement of Civil Preparedness against Possible Attacks against Civilian Populations with Chemical, Biological and Radiological Agents" was introduced. This plan makes all member countries to create effective capabilities that are able to deal with the situation after an attack. Also within this plan, an agreement is made that all such capabilities are available for use within the whole organization in case of any member is attacked.[56]

The most important measure to fight the terrorism is the cooperation of NATO with other organizations. The exchange of information and the joint actions is crucial in fight against such threat. After the 9/11, NATO started to work even closely with the European Union, the United Nations, the "Organization for Security and Co-Operation in Europe", "EUROCONTROL" and others to bring down the mutual enemy.[57]

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[54] *NATO Handbook. Brussels: Nato Office Of Information Belgium, 2006. 173*
[55] *NATO Handbook. Brussels: Nato Office Of Information Belgium, 2006. 173*
[56] *NATO Handbook. Brussels: Nato Office Of Information Belgium, 2006. 173*
[57] *NATO Handbook. Brussels: Nato Office Of Information Belgium, 2006. 174*

5 NATO AND OTHER ALLIANCES

In order to reach the alliance's goals, NATO has got to cooperate with other coalitions all over the world. The targets of these alliances are similar to those of NATO. The worldwide peace, economic stability and democratic society are aims that unite NATO with many alliances in the world.

5.1 NATO and the European Union

The most important partnership in order to maintain stability and boost prosperity in Europe is the one between the European Union, former European Community, and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Both NATO and European Union were founded shortly after the World War II. The purpose of these alliances was to make postwar Europe stable again. NATO's way of reaching this stability was through collective defense provided by partnership of United Stated and its European Allies to counterbalance possible threats from Soviet Union. The European Union's method was to provide political stability to its members by assuring democracy and free market.[58]

NATO and the European Union have both, since their establishment, contributed to sustaining and reinforcing security and stability in Western Europe. NATO achieved this aim as a strong defensive political and military alliance. Since the end of the Cold War, NATO has broaden its activity to a wider Euro-Atlantic area by accessing new members and by developing new partnerships as well. The European Union accomplished improved stability by encouraging innovative economic and political integration, originally among western European countries and afterwards also by affiliating new member countries.[59]

As a result of continuous success of NATO and European Union, ensuring political, economic and military development, many countries became members of both these organizations, creating a strong connection between the alliances.

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[58] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO - Topic: EU-NATO: a strategic partnership." NATO - Homepage. http://www.nato.int/cps/en/SID-DC1874A1-A92A2CCC/natolive/topics_49217.htm?selectedLocale=en (accessed March 12, 2010).
[59] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO - Topic: EU-NATO: a strategic partnership." NATO - Homepage. http://www.nato.int/cps/en/SID-DC1874A1-A92A2CCC/natolive/topics_49217.htm?selectedLocale=en (accessed March 12, 2010).

5.1.1 The Evolution of NATO – EU Relations

Even though both alliances exist since World War II and they share common interests and objectives, official relationship between them haven't existed right up until the year 2000. The development of these organizations during the Cold War was individual for each one of them. A clear separation of rights and responsibilities and lack of formal contacts between them, led to a half of century of reluctance against cooperation. Although countries from Western Europe had established the Western European Union in 1948 as a defense organization, once NATO was founded in 1949, it was its job to preserve security in Europe since then. [60]

In the early 1990s, it was obvious that European Union should be more concerned about its foreign policy. The conflict in western Balkan had shown the inability of Europe to prevent or resolve such conflict. European Union needed to improve its conflict prevention and crisis management, as well as to come up with a new approach to develop a capability to take military actions in appropriate circumstances without the help of NATO.[61]

An important step in this direction was taken in 1992 with the Treaty of Maastricht, which included an agreement to develop a "Common Foreign and Security Policy". Also, as a part of European Union, the Western European Union was made to develop defense capabilities on the basis of the Treaty of Amsterdam. This treaty focused on humanitarian search and rescue missions, peacekeeping missions, crisis management tasks including peace enforcement, and environmental protection – providing the basis for the operative development of a common European defense policy.[62]

In the same timeframe, in 1994, a European Security and Defense Identity within NATO was developed on the Brussels summit. This conduced to useful arrangements to enable the Alliance to support European military operations taken on by the Western European Union. In this way, the Western European Union stood as an independent defense element of the European Union and also acted as reinforcement for the European section of NATO. Because many countries were members of both NATO and EU, an unnecessary duplication of command structures, planning staffs and military assets

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[60] *NATO Handbook. Brussels: Nato Office Of Information Belgium, 2006. 244*
[61] *NATO Handbook. Brussels: Nato Office Of Information Belgium, 2006. 244*
[62] *NATO Handbook. Brussels: Nato Office Of Information Belgium, 2006. 245*

occurred. This gave birth to negotiations about cooperation between NATO and EU, WEU.[63]

The arrangements made for NATO - WEU cooperation from 1991 to 2000 laid the groundwork for the following development of the future NATO - EU relationship. In practice these arrangements were designed to ensure that if a crisis arose in which the NATO decided not to intervene but the Western European Union chose to do so, the WEU could request the use of NATO's assets and capabilities to perform an operation under its own political control and strategic direction.[64]

5.1.2 NATO – EU Cooperation

Finally in early 2000s, cooperation between NATO and EU has been arranged. In March 2003, both alliances agreed on basic rules of this cooperation. Very important fact of this agreement for EU was the opportunity of using NATO's planning capabilities in their own operations. [65]

The first ever mission accomplished by these two organizations together was in March 2003 in Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. In this operation, NATO provided necessary security for EU monitors of the peace plan. This successful joint action led to determination of both alliances to continue to build on their achievements in working together to bring an end to conflict and to help the Balkan region as a whole. [66]

On the basis of these successful operations, the European Union and NATO started to work on other issues as well. Through information exchanges on their individual actions, consultations and contacts at expert and staff level, and joint meetings, NATO and the European Union also cooperate on issues such as the fight against terrorism, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, the situation in Moldova, Mediterranean issues and cooperation in Afghanistan. Additional spheres of information exchange and cooperation include protection of civilian populations against chemical, biological,

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[63] *NATO Handbook. Brussels: Nato Office Of Information Belgium, 2006. 246*
[64] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO - Topic: EU-NATO: a strategic partnership." NATO - Homepage. http://www.nato.int/cps/en/SID-DC1874A1-A92A2CCC/natolive/topics_49217.htm?selectedLocale=en (accessed March 12, 2010).
[65] *NATO Handbook. Brussels: Nato Office Of Information Belgium, 2006. 247*
[66] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO - Topic: EU-NATO: a strategic partnership." NATO - Homepage. http://www.nato.int/cps/en/SID-DC1874A1-A92A2CCC/natolive/topics_49217.htm?selectedLocale=en (accessed March 12, 2010).

radiological and nuclear attacks and other civil emergency planning.[67]

5.2 NATO and the UN

A direct relationship with the United Nations is the essential principle of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. The United Nations Charter, signed on June 26th 1945 provides the legal basis for creation of NATO. The United Nation's role is an overall responsibility for international peace and security, accomplished by tight cooperation with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.[68]

The articles of the Washington Treaty signed in 1949 make clear, that the UN Charter is the framework, within which NATO functions. In the first lines of the Treaty, members confirm their belief in the principles of the United Nations Charter.[69]

The UN Security Council decisions have provided the mandate for NATO's major peace-support operations in the Balkans and in Afghanistan. More recently, NATO has provided logistical assistance to the African Union's UN endorsed peacekeeping operation in the Darfur region of Sudan.[70]

The relationship between the United Nations and NATO has developed into a much more complex engagement in Afghanistan and the western Balkans. This recent cooperation has allowed for political, conceptual, and institutional advancements, including a focus on the fight against terrorism, human trafficking and enslavement, and civil military cooperation.[71]

The official connection between the UN and the North Atlantic Alliance was a formality established by the founding documents of the Alliance in 1949, but working relations between the establishments remained limited until 1992, when the Western Balkans experienced increased conflict which intensified the necessity for reasonable cooperation between the two organizations.[72]

In July of 1992, Alliance Standing Naval Force ships, along with NATO Maritime

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[67] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO - Topic: EU-NATO: a strategic partnership." NATO - Homepage. http://www.nato.int/cps/en/SID-DC1874A1-A92A2CCC/natolive/topics_49217.htm?selectedLocale=en (accessed March 12, 2010).
[68] *NATO Handbook. Brussels: Nato Office Of Information Belgium, 2006, 255*
[69] *NATO Handbook. Brussels: Nato Office Of Information Belgium, 2006, 255*
[70] *NATO Handbook. Brussels: Nato Office Of Information Belgium, 2006, 256*
[71] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO - Topic: United Nations, NATO's relations with the UN." NATO - Homepage. http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/topics_50321.htm (accessed March 12, 2010).
[72] *NATO Handbook. Brussels: Nato Office Of Information Belgium, 2006, 256*

Patrol Aircrafts began monitoring operations in the Adriatic Sea in support of a United Nations embargo against former Yugoslavia. In November, NATO and the Western European Union started to enforce resolution plans backed by the UN Security Council to prevent increased tensions in the conflict.[73]

The commitment of the Alliance to cooperate with the United Nations Security Council on the peacekeeping missions was made by foreign ministers of NATO members countries in December 1992. Arrangements were made individually by member countries, and also by the Alliance as a whole, preparing NATO to support United Nations with aerial operations to protect the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR). Another task for the NATO flying squadron was to protect the "safe areas" laid out by the United Nations.[74]

On December 14th, 1995, NATO was given another responsibility from the United Nations. After signing the Dayton Agreement, which was the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina, NATO was given the authority to ensure military aspects of the peace agreement. This was the first peacekeeping operation for NATO. To fulfill this task in the Balkan, NATO created the Implementation Force (IFOR), that has been changed for the Stabilization Force (SFOR) a year later. During NATO's activity in this peacekeeping process, the Alliance worked closely with other international and humanitarian organizations.[75]

Another conflict that brought together both alliances was the war in Kosovo in 1998. NATO was once again supporting United Nations Security Council with its military capabilities to ensure quick termination of the conflict and subsequent effort to maintain peace in the area. For this assignment, NATO created the Kosovo Force (KFOR) in June 1999 to safeguard the international security and to assure the reconstruction of the afflicted area in Kosovo.[76]

On the break of the millennium, in 2000 and 2001, another successful co operations between the NATO and the United Nations took place in Serbia to appease the ethnic disorder and in the Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, where alliances prevented the civil

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[73] *NATO Handbook. Brussels: Nato Office Of Information Belgium, 2006, 256*

[74] *NATO Handbook. Brussels: Nato Office Of Information Belgium, 2006, 256*

[75] *NATO Handbook. Brussels: Nato Office Of Information Belgium, 2006, 257*

[76] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO - Topic: United Nations, NATO's relations with the UN." NATO - Homepage. http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/topics_50321.htm (accessed March 12, 2010).

war from breaking out.[77]

After the attacks on the World Trade Center in New York, NATO and United nations were very important force in the conflict in Afghanistan. On August 11th 2003, the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) fell within NATO's cognizance. The mission of this force was to ensure security in and around the capital city of Afghanistan Kabul. Gradually, the force has been tasked to safeguard the security not only in the capital city, but also in other regions of the country. It was necessary to extend the authority of the Afghan government and to take care of the reconstruction. Later in 2004, the Alliance had to send in more troops to increase the safety during the presidential elections and then again in 2005 during the parliamentary and municipal elections.[78]

In the aftermath of another conflict that was the part of the "War against terror" the Iraqi war, NATO's responsibility is to train the Iraqi security forces and supply them with needy weaponry.[79]

In June 2005, the cooperation of NATO and United Nations has moved for the first time to Africa. The African Union requested help from international organizations to put a stop to the violence that was taking place in Sudan, in the area of Darfur. This mission was a team work of both United Nations and NATO, but also the European Union. NATO's task in this operation was to provide an airlift to the peacekeepers and also to help the African Union run the military headquarters.[80]

The latest mission achieved by NATO based on the request of the United Nations was in October 2008. In that time, the United Nations' Secretary General asked NATO to patrol the international waters near Somalia and deter piracy in that territory. NATO's part was to guarantee safety for ships passing by this area and escort them out of the danger area.[81]

5.3   Partner Countries

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization co-operates not only with other international organization, but is also supported by partner countries, that share the same values as the

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[77] *NATO Handbook. Brussels: Nato Office Of Information Belgium, 2006, 257*
[78] *NATO Handbook. Brussels: Nato Office Of Information Belgium, 2006, 257*
[79] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO - Topic: United Nations, NATO's relations with the UN." NATO - Homepage. http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/topics_50321.htm (accessed March 12, 2010).
[80] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO - Topic: United Nations, NATO's relations with the UN." NATO - Homepage. http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/topics_50321.htm (accessed March 12, 2010).
[81] NATO Public Diplomacy Division. "NATO - Topic: United Nations, NATO's relations with the UN." NATO - Homepage. http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/topics_50321.htm (accessed March 12, 2010).

Alliance. The countries collaborate with NATO in various operations and in exchange, the Organization provides security and stability to these countries. This way, NATO created a worldwide web of partner countries, such as Egypt, New Zealand, Russia, Ukraine, Israel, Jordan and many others.

CONCLUSION

The purpose of this bachelor thesis was to analyze the functioning of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization concerning its rights and responsibilities throughout the time of the existence of the Alliance.

In the thesis, I have covered the reasons for founding the Alliance, which was the insecurity of Western Europe caused by the threat opposed by the Soviet Union and partly by the postwar Germany. I went through all the articles of the founding Treaty and explained the rights and responsibilities for the Alliance resulted from these agreements.

Furthermore I have covered the world events that had an impact on the Alliance, resulting in slight changes in its rights and responsibilities. All the important events of the second half of the 20th century, and beginning of the new millennium, are listed and analyzed their relation to NATO's duties. These events include the outbreak of the Korean War soon after establishing the Alliance, the French withdrawal from the NATO's defense system, the end of the Cold War, the Balkan Wars in the 1990s and the terrorist attacks performed upon the United States in the beginning of the new millennium.

In the end of the work, I have analyzed NATO's cooperation with two major alliances, the European Union and the United Nations. I went through the conflicts that were solved by the cooperation of these alliances and outlined responsibilities of each organization in these operations.

All the points above support the statement, that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization is one of the most important Alliances in the world.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

EU	European Union
IFOR	Implementation Force
ISAF	International Security Assistance Force
KFOR	Kosovo Force
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
SFOR	Stabilisation Force
UN	United Nations
US	United States
WEU	Western European Union

APPENDICES

P I   The North Atlantic Treaty

The North Atlantic Treaty

Washington D.C. - 4 April 1949

The Parties to this Treaty reaffirm their faith in the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and their desire to live in peace with all peoples and all governments.
They are determined to safeguard the freedom, common heritage and civilisation of their peoples, founded on the principles of democracy, individual liberty and the rule of law.
They seek to promote stability and well-being in the North Atlantic area.
They are resolved to unite their efforts for collective defence and for the preservation of peace and security. They therefore agree to this North Atlantic Treaty :

Article 1

The Parties undertake, as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, to settle any international dispute in which they may be involved by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security and justice are not endangered, and to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force in any manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations.

Article 2

The Parties will contribute toward the further development of peaceful and friendly international relations by strengthening their free institutions, by bringing about a better understanding of the principles upon which these institutions are founded, and by promoting conditions of stability and well-being. They will seek to eliminate conflict in their international economic policies and will encourage economic collaboration between any or all of them.

Article 3

In order more effectively to achieve the objectives of this Treaty, the Parties, separately and jointly, by means of continuous and effective self-help and mutual aid, will maintain and develop their individual and collective capacity to resist armed attack.

Article 4

The Parties will consult together whenever, in the opinion of any of them, the territorial integrity, political independence or security of any of the Parties is threatened.

Article 5

The Parties agree that an armed attack against one or more of them in Europe or North America shall be considered an attack against them all and consequently they agree that, if such an armed attack occurs, each of them, in exercise of the right of individual or collective self-defence recognised by Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations, will assist the Party or Parties so attacked by taking forthwith, individually and in concert with the other Parties, such action as it deems necessary, including the use of armed force, to restore and maintain the security of the North Atlantic area.

Any such armed attack and all measures taken as a result thereof shall immediately be reported to the Security Council. Such measures shall be terminated when the Security Council has taken the measures necessary to restore and maintain international peace and security .

Article 6 [1]

For the purpose of Article 5, an armed attack on one or more of the Parties is deemed to include an armed attack:

- on the territory of any of the Parties in Europe or North America, on the Algerian Departments of France (2), on the territory of or on the Islands under the jurisdiction of any of the Parties in the North Atlantic area north of the Tropic of Cancer;
- on the forces, vessels, or aircraft of any of the Parties, when in or over these territories or any other area in Europe in which occupation forces of any of the Parties were stationed on the date when the Treaty entered into force or the Mediterranean Sea or the North Atlantic area north of the Tropic of Cancer.

Article 7

This Treaty does not affect, and shall not be interpreted as affecting in any way the rights and obligations under the Charter of the Parties which are members of the United Nations, or the primary responsibility of the Security Council for the maintenance of international peace and security.

Article 8

Each Party declares that none of the international engagements now in force between it and any other of the Parties or any third State is in conflict with the provisions of this Treaty, and undertakes not to enter into any international engagement in conflict with this Treaty.

Article 9

The Parties hereby establish a Council, on which each of them shall be represented, to consider matters concerning the implementation of this Treaty. The Council shall be so organised as to be able to meet promptly at any time. The Council shall set up such subsidiary bodies as may be necessary; in particular it shall establish immediately a defence committee which shall recommend measures for the implementation of Articles 3 and 5.

Article 10

The Parties may, by unanimous agreement, invite any other European State in a position to further the principles of this Treaty and to contribute to the security of the North Atlantic area to accede to this Treaty. Any State so invited may become a Party to the Treaty by depositing its instrument of accession with the Government of the United States of America. The Government of the United States of America will inform each of the Parties of the deposit of each such instrument of accession.

Article 11

This Treaty shall be ratified and its provisions carried out by the Parties in accordance with their respective constitutional processes. The instruments of ratification shall be deposited as soon as possible with the Government of the United States of America, which will notify all the other signatories of each deposit. The Treaty shall enter into force between the States which have ratified it as soon as the ratifications of the majority of the signatories, including the ratifications of Belgium, Canada, France, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States, have been deposited and shall come into effect with respect to other States on the date of the deposit of their ratifications. ([3])

Article 12

After the Treaty has been in force for ten years, or at any time thereafter, the Parties shall, if any of them so requests, consult together for the purpose of reviewing the Treaty, having regard for the factors then affecting peace and security in the North Atlantic area, including the development of universal as well as regional arrangements under the Charter of the United Nations for the maintenance of international peace and security.

Article 13

After the Treaty has been in force for twenty years, any Party may cease to be a Party one year after its notice of denunciation has been given to the Government of the United States of America, which will inform the Governments of the other Parties of the deposit of each notice of denunciation.

Article 14

This Treaty, of which the English and French texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited in the archives of the Government of the United States of America. Duly certified copies will be transmitted by that Government to the Governments of other signatories.

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[1] The definition of the territories to which Article 5 applies was revised by Article 2 of the Protocol to the North Atlantic Treaty on the accession of Greece and Turkey signed on 22 October 1951.
[2] On January 16, 1963, the North Atlantic Council noted that insofar as the former Algerian Departments of France were concerned, the relevant clauses of this Treaty had become inapplicable as from July 3, 1962.
[3] The Treaty came into force on 24 August 1949, after the deposition of the ratifications of all signatory states.