**NAME:** North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)

**DATE OF CREATION:** 1949

**MEMBER COUNTRIES:**
- Albania
- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Canada
- Croatia
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Estonia
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary
- Iceland
- Italy
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Montenegro
- Netherlands
- Norway
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Turkey
- United Kingdom
- United States

**FUNDAMENTAL ROLE:**
to guarantee the freedom and security of its member countries by political and military means.

**SECRETARY GENERAL:** Jens Stoltenberg

**NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL:** the top political decision-making body within NATO.

**MILITARY FORCES:**
NATO has very few permanent forces of its own. Once members agree, by consensus, to engage in an operation, they contribute forces on a voluntary basis.

NATO has an integrated military command structure, allowing the Alliance to implement political decisions that have military implications.

**PARTNERSHIPS:**
- Partnership for Peace: Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Finland, Georgia, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Malta, Republic of Moldova, North Macedonia, Russia, Serbia, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan
- Mediterranean Dialogue: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Mauritania, Morocco, Tunisia
- Istanbul Cooperation Initiative: Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, United Arab Emirates
- Global partners: Afghanistan, Australia, Colombia, Iraq, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mongolia, New Zealand, Pakistan

Partner countries do not have the same decision-making authority as member countries.

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