

ANNEX A: OVERVIEW OF THE NATO COMMITTEE ON THE CHALLENGES OF MODERN SOCIETY

The North Atlantic Treaty was signed in Washington, USA on 4th April 1949, which at the time, created an alliance of ten European and two North American independent nations (NATO, 2000). All articles of the Treaty conform to the spirit of the Charter of the United Nations. The number of North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) members has grown and currently stands at nineteen (Table 1 and Fig. 1).

The main roles of NATO have always been concerned with security co-operation between Member countries. Following the end of the Cold War and the division of Europe, NATO (often referred to as the “Alliance”) has been restructured to enable it to contribute more effectively to the development of co-operative security structures for the whole of Europe (NATO, 1998).

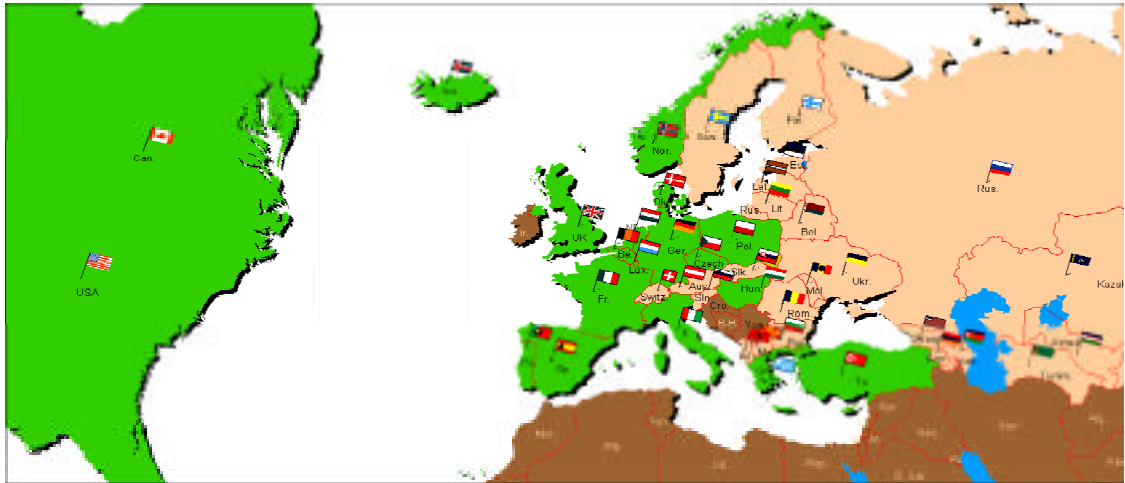
NATO is developing practical partnerships with many non-NATO countries as part of its transformation. The aim is to create a more transparent Europe in terms of trust and understanding between nations. This has led to the formation of the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council (EAPC). The EAPC provides the political framework for the “Partnership for Peace” (PfP) programme, an initiative that strives to meet NATO’s wider aims (NATO, 2000). Membership of the EAPC currently stands at forty-six. It is made up of NATO Member and Partner countries (Table 1 and Figure 1).

Table 1. Countries of the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council

| COUNTRIES OF THE EURO-ATLANTIC PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL | |
|--|---|
| NATO MEMBERS* | PARTNERS |
| Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States of America | Albania, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia**, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan |

* Note some of these countries were Partner Countries for part of the period of the Pilot Studies under review

** Turkey recognises the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name





 NATO Member countries
 Partner countries (now includes Croatia and Ireland)

Figure1 Map Showing NATO Member and Partner countries (NATO, 1999)

The concept of co-operative security includes a broad range of transboundary global concerns. These include maintaining a strong scientific base, preserving the physical environment, managing natural resources, and improving health. The areas of science and society are the interest of the NATO Scientific and Environmental Affairs Division, Sillard, (2000). It is divided into two operational programmes, namely the Science Programme, and the environment and society programmes of CCMS.

NATO established the Committee on the Challenges of Modern Society (CCMS) in 1969 in recognition of the potential offered by the Alliance for co-operation in tackling problems affecting the environment and quality of life. Its creation was seen to provide the Alliance with a new “social dimension” in that it could respond to concerns about civilian-related as well as military-related issues (NATO CCMS, 2000a).

CCMS aims to address practical environmental problems already under study at a national level by bringing together the expertise and technology available in other Member countries, Sillard, (2000). CCMS does not engage in any research activities itself. Work is carried out on a decentralised basis through Pilot Studies that are funded by nations. Since 1992, participation by experts from Partner countries has been encouraged, thus casting the net of potential resources further. Studies have been undertaken in fields such as environmental pollution, noise, urban problems, energy and human health.

Subjects for Pilot Studies are proposed by government agencies of NATO Member countries (NATO CCMS, 2000a). Partners can propose new Pilot Studies provided there is an Alliance Country as Co-pilot and at least two other Alliance Countries as participants.

Proposing nations are required to assume Pilot roles, meaning they take responsibility for the planning, development and financing of the work (NATO CCMS, 2000a). Pilot countries are also responsible for the preparation and dissemination of results, and the promotion of any follow-up action required. Co-pilot countries and other countries may volunteer to participate, usually sharing the workload according to their interests.

Pilot Study activities typically run for three to four years and usually consist of a combination of workshops, seminars and/or international conferences (NATO CCMS, 2000a). There are several important concepts, or “goals”, that characterise the work of CCMS. These are: -

- An emphasis on work methods that allow the group to arrive swiftly at valid conclusions.
- The need for results to be entirely open and accessible not just within NATO, but to other international organisations or individual countries elsewhere in the World.
- That work should be geared towards making recommendations for action that benefit all. Ultimately this could lead to concrete action in relation to policies and legislation adopted by countries.

Since 1996, CCMS has introduced new tools for co-operation within the framework of the CCMS programme (NATO, 1998). These include *ad hoc* 6 to 18 month “Short Term Projects” focused on specific topics and workshops to disseminate information in well-defined areas. The CCMS meets twice a year in plenary session and annually with EAPC countries. It is at these sessions that decisions are taken on the proposals for Pilot Studies (NATO CCMS, 2000a).

CCMS offers two types of financial assistance in relation to Pilot Study participation. These are known as the Fellowship Programme and the CCMS Study Visit Programme.

- The Fellowship Programme sponsors a number of scholars each year through provision of modest grants to encourage research linked to ongoing CCMS pilot studies (NATO CCMS, 2000a). Fellows can either conduct research under the guidance of Pilot Study Directors, or by working as members of the Pilot Study team. Applications to the Fellowship Programme are limited to citizens of NATO countries on an open competition basis. The deadline for submitting applications to the CCMS Secretariat is February 28th of each year.
- The CCMS Study Visit Programme exists for experts who have difficulty in obtaining the funds necessary to attend Pilot Study gatherings (NATO CCMS, 2000a). This financial assistance scheme is aimed at covering travel and/or living expenses. This Programme is open to experts from both NATO and Partner Countries. Requests for assistance need to be endorsed by the appropriate Pilot Study Director and the National CCMS Co-ordinator before being put to the CCMS Secretariat. Countries currently eligible for support under the CCMS Study Visit Programme are Albania; Armenia; Azerbaijan; Belarus; Bulgaria; Croatia; Estonia; Georgia; Kazakhstan; Kyrgyz Republic; Latvia; Lithuania; Moldova; Romania; Russian Federation; Slovak Republic; Slovenia; Tajikistan; the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; Turkmenistan; Ukraine; Uzbekistan.

A list of available CCMS Publications can be accessed through the CCMS web site at www.nato.int/ccms/publi-2.htm. Part I of the list contains publications of individual NATO government printing offices and are available free of charge. They are commonly referred to as the CCMS “Blue Book” Series. Publications can be obtained by contacting CCMS at: -

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Part II of the Publications List contains Pilot Study books produced commercially by Plenum Press. They can be ordered from: -

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