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By Ernesto López 06.08.2023

NATO is rearranged



Sources: The Rocket to the Moon

US Rudder Stroke to Become Strong Against China-Russia Tandem

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) was founded on April 4, 1949, driven by 12 countries: the United States, Canada, Belgium, Denmark, France, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, Norway, the Netherlands, Portugal and the United Kingdom. Subsequently, 18 more joined: Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Turkey. Finland recently joined, giving a total of 31 countries. Of those, 29 are European and only two from North America. And Sweden's accession approval is about to fall.

In a first stage, NATO (led by the United States) and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) maintained an extensive Cold War: both conglomerates were aware that their respective nuclear arsenals were sufficient to destroy each other. Under these conditions they limited themselves to participating in conventional wars or supporting one or another sector with which they had affinity. This is what happened, for example, in the Vietnam War (1955-1975), in which Washington participated with its own troops in favor of Saigon and Moscow propped up Hanoi: the then USSR provided North Vietnam with advisers, anti-aircraft units, war planes, radar systems, surface-to-air missiles and the famous AK 47 rifle. Likewise, immediately after the triumph of the Cuban Revolution, at the beginning of 1959, Moscow supported the revolutionaries and the United States supported their antagonists. This situation and/or trend was maintained, in different scenarios, from the end of World War II until the fall of the USSR in 1991.

Kiev made a point: in 1990 the parliament approved the Declaration of State Sovereignty of Ukraine with the purpose of getting rid of Russian tutelage. This decision opened a path of turbulence due to the non-recognition by Moscow. In 1991 the old USSR was dissolved and with it the Warsaw Pact, which opened the way to the autonomy of Ukraine as well as Belarus, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, among other countries that had been under the Soviet orbit. And how could it be otherwise, they were approaching NATO.

In 1999, several of these countries joined the organization: the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland. And in 2004: Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania and Poland. Ukraine, on the other hand, is a separate case. The Kremlin has indicated more than once that the inclusion of Ukraine in the Atlantic organization would imply a high risk for Moscow, since it would increase the level of threat to its security.

A remarkable salad

Like any organization of this kind, NATO has had a treaty that governs it since 1949 – the Washington Treaty – which has been practically unchanged since its creation. Its article 5 has no waste. It reads: "The parties agree that an armed attack against one or more of them taking place in Europe or North America shall be considered an attack directed against all of them and accordingly agree that if such an attack should occur each, in exercise of the right of individual or collective self-defence, recognized by Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations, shall assist the party or parties under attack, and shall thereafter take individually and in agreement with the other parties such measures as it deems necessary, including the use of armed force, to restore security in the North Atlantic area. Any armed attack of this nature and all measures taken thereunder shall be immediately brought to the attention of the Security Council. These measures shall cease when the Security Council has taken the necessary steps to restore and maintain international peace and security."

There is a glaring incongruity in this crucial article. The first – and long – paragraph indicates that in the event of an armed attack that occurred in Europe or North America, NATO would help "the party or parties attacked" by even appealing to the use of armed forces. But it goes on to say it would do so "to restore the security of the North Atlantic."

It gives the impression that there is a dense geographical salad here. Is NATO's support for Kiev to restore security in the North Atlantic? The only waters that bathe Ukraine are those of the small Sea of Azov and those of the Black Sea, which reach only a small coast on which Odessa is located. How is this understood?

A renewal of approaches

At the NATO meeting held in Vilnius, capital of Lithuania, in mid-April this year, approaches and approaches to the international situation were updated. The final document of the meeting contains 90 long points. Some of the most significant will be listed below:

5. "Peace in the Euro-Atlantic area has been shattered. The Russian Federation has violated the norms and principles that contributed to a European security order..."

6. "The declared ambitions and coercive policies of the People's Republic of China challenge our interests, security and values."

7. "Russia bears full responsibility for its illegal, unjustifiable, unprovoked war against Ukraine."

9. "We are committed to achieving a just peace that upholds the principles of the UN Charter, in particular sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence. We stress that this cannot be realized without Russia's full and unconditional withdrawal."

12. "The security of Ukraine is of great importance to allies and the Alliance... We have established the NATO-Ukraine Council that will serve as a crisis consultation mechanism between the two."

25. "The deepening strategic partnership between the People's Republic of China and Russia, and their attempts to reinforce each other to undermine the rules-based international order, is against our interests."

34. "In response to a radically changed security environment, we are strengthening NATO's collective defence against all threats, from all directions."

41. "NATO's Integrated Air and Missile Defence (AISD) remains key to credible deterrence and defence, and the Alliance's indivisible security and freedom of action, including NATO's ability to reinforce and provide a strategic response. NATO's AIAD is an essential and ongoing mission in times of peace, crisis and time of conflict."

44. "The strategic nuclear forces of the Alliance, particularly those of the United States, are the supreme guarantee of the security of the Alliance. The independent strategic nuclear forces of the United Kingdom and France have a deterrent role of their own and contribute significantly to the overall security of the Alliance."

45. "NATO shall take all necessary measures to ensure the credibility, effectiveness, safety and security of the nuclear deterrent mission. This includes continuing to modernise NATO's nuclear capability and updating planning to increase the flexibility and adaptability of the Alliance's nuclear forces, while exercising strong political control at all times (...)".

64- "We continue to face increasing hybrid threats and challenges from state and non-state actors, who use hybrid activities, including through interference and harmful use of technologies, to attack our political institutions, our critical infrastructure, our societies, our democratic systems, our economies and the security of our citizens (...)".

73. "The European Union remains a unique and essential partner for NATO. Our strategic partnership is essential to the security and prosperity of our nations and the Euro-Atlantic area. It is based on our shared values, our determination to meet common challenges and our unequivocal commitment to promote and safeguard peace, freedom and prosperity. NATO recognises the value of a stronger and more capable European defence that contributes positively to transatlantic and global security and that is complementary and interoperable with NATO (...)."

These are some of the items contained in the document. It should also be noted that the reluctance to incorporate Ukraine into NATO is based on the fact that if it did, the Atlanticist organization would have to enter fully into the war against Russia.

Final

It is clearly stated from the US point of view itself – with the scarce subtlety that usually accompanies it – that the great power of the North has had to take a turn to accommodate a change of situation on an international scale, in which competitive antagonists are already clearly outlined: China and to a lesser extent Russia which, At this time, they walk associated.

Source: <u>https://www.elcohetealaluna.com/la-otan-se-reacomoda/</u> Rebelion 05.08.2023