

The Military & Aviation Committee

Study Guide



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Chapter 1

Honorable representatives,

During these critical times that we are facing right now, with multiple conflicts and global issues, we believe in the power of unity and cooperation. Collaboration between people and nations is the only aspect that helps us change tomorrow's world. By using your voice and by taking action, you can shape your future, our future and change tomorrow's faith. It is with great enthusiasm and hope that we address this letter to you, with the sincerest conviction that what we will gather to partake in will push us all to become more knowledgeable , more outspoken, more united and more confident in our own abilities.

With esteem and gratitude,
Dumitru Ilinca & Miclaus Andrei

Chapter 2

The **Military and Aviation committee** is a combination of two other committees: the **Military committee** and the **Aviation committee**.

The Military Committee (MC) is the senior military authority in NATO and the oldest permanent body in NATO after the North Atlantic Council, both having been formed only months after the Alliance came into being. It is the primary source of military advice to the North Atlantic Council and the Nuclear Planning Group, and gives direction to the two Strategic Commanders.

The Military Committee is responsible for translating political decision and guidance into military direction, and for recommending measures considered necessary for the defence of the NATO area and the implementation of decisions regarding military operations.

The Committee's principal role is to provide consensus-based advice on military policy and strategy to the North Atlantic Council and direction to NATO's Strategic Commanders. It is responsible for recommending to NATO's political authorities those measures considered necessary for the common defence of the NATO area and for the implementation of decisions regarding NATO's operations and missions.

The Aviation Committee (AVC) is the senior civil-military NATO body which advises the North Atlantic Council on all relevant aspects contributing to aviation safety and security, in support of the full range of NATO's missions.

The Aviation Committee's mission is to advise the North Atlantic Council (NAC) on aspects contributing to aviation safety and security, in support of the full range of NATO's missions. The AVC enables the Alliance to adapt to the rapidly evolving security environment and to engage in global aviation modernisation efforts pursuing Alliance core tasks to operate, train and exercise in an increasingly complex and networked airspace.

Chapter 3

Topic 1 - Developing technology for military weaponry

With the current and continued development of technology in our day-to-day world, one of NATO's most prioritised goals is creating an infrastructure in which the military weaponry is verified and approved to establish protection and peace for all the current NATO countries and not only. The number of weapons and military vehicles that the NATO countries have has to be limited so that there wouldn't be any uprisings. NATO is committed to attaching great

importance to conventional arms control. The Alliance provides an essential consultative and decision-making forum for its members on all aspects of arms control and disarmament. In case the member countries feel that new tensions and conflicts might appear, they have to assign equipment for the restoration of peace and the reassuring of safety. It's important to note that these measures are primarily relevant in minor disputes. However, if a conflict reaches a point where Article 5 is invoked, indicating an armed attack against a NATO Ally, then every member of the Alliance is obliged to respond accordingly to assist the attacked Ally.

The 1990 Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE) is referred to as a "cornerstone of European security". It imposes – for the first time in European history – legal and verifiable limits on the force structure of its 30 States Parties, which stretch from the Atlantic Ocean to the Ural Mountains. Since the Treaty's entry into force in 1992, the destruction of over 100,000 pieces of treaty-limited equipment (tanks, armoured personnel carriers, artillery, attack helicopters and combat aircraft) has been verified and almost 6,000 on-site inspections have been conducted, thereby reaching its objective of creating balance and mitigating the possibility of surprise conventional attacks within its area of application.

Now with the expanding of the Alliance's reach and the new tensions that have risen, this conduct has to be changed to be reliable in these day-to-day moments.

Topic 2 - Establishing operational and military centers aimed at defusing diplomatic tensions

Establishing multiple outposts in various volatile locations is essential for NATO to guarantee safety and effective oversight, particularly given recent escalations in conflicts. It is imperative that NATO exercises passive control over these regions to prevent further escalation, as local populations may perceive NATO presence as a threat. Every country has the right to express itself if they think that they are not safe, asking for support. Resource allocation for these outposts will be determined by several factors, including each country's GDP, as NATO members contribute 2% of their GDP to defense, the strategic necessity of constructing these outposts, and the geographical expanse of the respective countries. The areas that are more in a time of war will be prioritized as more resources will be allocated to

its neighbouring countries to help. The military centers will be placed in the NATO countries that are the closest to the zones of conflict, but also in the ones that can observe and supervise certain regions that are important and dominated by threats. Another important mechanism is the Centers of Excellence.

Centres of Excellence (COEs) are international military organisations that train and educate leaders and specialists from NATO member and partner countries. They assist in doctrine development, identify lessons learned, improve interoperability and capabilities, and test and validate concepts through experimentation. They offer recognised expertise and experience that is of benefit to the Alliance, and support the transformation of NATO, while avoiding the duplication of assets, resources and capabilities already present within the Alliance.

Chapter 4

Topic 1

- **Formation of NATO (1949):**
 - The North Atlantic Treaty was signed, forming NATO, as a collective defense alliance against the threat of Soviet expansionism in Europe.
 - The United States played a significant role in providing military support to European NATO members through the provision of troops, equipment, and strategic defense initiatives.
- **Cold War Era (1947-1991):**
 - During the Cold War, NATO countries engaged in extensive military cooperation, including joint military exercises, intelligence sharing, and the deployment of troops to reinforce the defense of NATO's eastern and western borders.
 - The United States provided military support to European NATO allies through various mechanisms, including the deployment of troops, military aid, and the stationing of nuclear weapons in allied countries.
- **Post Cold War Era (1991-present):**
 - Following the collapse of the Soviet Union, NATO expanded its focus to address new security challenges, including conflicts in the Balkans, terrorism, and regional instability.

- NATO countries have participated in numerous joint military operations, including peacekeeping missions, humanitarian interventions, and combat operations, such as in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Libya.
- Military support among NATO countries continues through various mechanisms, including the sharing of intelligence, joint training exercises, interoperability initiatives, and the mutual defense commitments outlined in Article 5 of the NATO treaty.
- **Recent Developments:**
 - NATO member states have continued to enhance military cooperation and capabilities in response to evolving security threats, including cyber warfare, hybrid warfare, and geopolitical tensions with Russia.
 - NATO's Enhanced Forward Presence initiative has seen the deployment of multinational battlegroups to Eastern European NATO member states to strengthen deterrence and defense against potential aggression.

Topic 2

A list and timeline of the most major NATO military bases established.

- 1954 - Ramstein Air Base, Germany: Ramstein Air Base becomes a key NATO installation in Germany, hosting USAFE (United States Air Forces in Europe) headquarters and serving as a major airlift hub for NATO operations across Europe.
- 1955 - Aviano Air Base, Italy: Aviano Air Base is established as a NATO base in Italy, hosting both Italian and American air force units. It becomes strategically important during the Cold War and later conflicts in the Balkans and the Middle East.
- 1957 - Incirlik Air Base, Turkey: Incirlik Air Base becomes a critical NATO installation in Turkey, hosting American and Turkish air force units. It serves as a key forward operating base during the Cold War and subsequent conflicts in the Middle East.
- 1966 - Naval Station Rota, Spain: Naval Station Rota is established as a major NATO naval base in Spain, hosting American naval forces and serving as a key port for NATO's Mediterranean operations and maritime security.

- 1999 - Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo: Camp Bondsteel was established as a major NATO base in Kosovo during the Kosovo War. It serves as the headquarters for KFOR (Kosovo Force) and plays a key role in stabilizing the region and supporting peacekeeping efforts.
- 2001 - Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti: While not directly under NATO command, Camp Lemonnier becomes a strategic base for NATO operations in the Horn of Africa region, supporting counterterrorism and maritime security missions in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden.
- 2014 - NATO Enhanced Forward Presence: In response to increased tensions with Russia, NATO establishes multinational battlegroups in Eastern European countries including Poland, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. These battle groups operate from various military bases in these countries, enhancing deterrence and defense capabilities in the region.

Chapter 5

Topic 1

North Atlantic Council (NAC) - The North Atlantic Council is the principal political decision-making body within NATO. It oversees the political and military process relating to security issues affecting the whole Alliance. It brings together representatives of each member country to discuss policy or operational questions requiring collective decisions, providing a forum for wide-ranging consultation between members on all issues affecting their peace and security.

Nuclear Planning Group (NPG) - The Nuclear Planning Group acts as the senior body on nuclear matters in the Alliance and discusses specific policy issues associated with nuclear forces. The Alliance's nuclear policy is kept under constant review, and is modified and adapted in light of new developments.

Topic 2

Gross domestic product (GDP) is a monetary measure of the market value of all the final goods and services produced in a specific time period by a country or countries. GDP is more often used by the government of a single country to measure its economic health. Due to its complex and subjective nature, this measure is often revised before being considered a reliable indicator.

The United States Air Forces in Europe – Air Forces Africa is a United States Air Force major command and a component command of both United States European Command and United States Africa Command.

Chapter 6

Topic 1

The military weaponry has greatly progressed in the last few years, as all of the NATO countries have upgraded their weapons and vehicles. For most of the members in the Alliance, due to the stability within NATO's borders, interior conflicts have always been defused through soft power. Although this applies to members, for some of its partners the same cannot be said. The Ukraine war is the primary conflict in Europe, as NATO invested around 35 billion dollars worth of equipment into this conflict. As this problem grew bigger and bigger, the NATO neighbours of Ukraine mobilised their military closer to the border, not only to ensure safety and share help but also to protect themselves in case this war escalates.

Besides firearms, one strong weapon is gathering information. This problem is the battle of information and misinformation. This is how the military weaponry evolved, to be a battle of intelligence. NATO can provide help in this area by bringing their newest pieces of technology.

At the 2023 Vilnius Summit, Allies built upon their Madrid decisions by approving new regional defence plans to counter the two main threats to the Alliance: Russia and terrorism. NATO Leaders also pledged to invest a minimum of 2% of Gross Domestic Product annually on defence, and endorsed a Defence Production Action Plan to accelerate joint procurement, boost interoperability and generate investment and production capacity. Under this Action Plan, Allies have agreed more than USD 10

billion in framework contracts, covering critical needs like 155 mm artillery, anti-tank guided missiles and main battle tank ammunition.

Topic 2

NATO has increased its military presence in the Eastern part of the Alliance as a direct result of Russia's behaviour, which reflects a pattern of aggressive actions against its neighbours and the wider transatlantic community. Russia is the most significant and direct threat to Allies' security and to peace and stability in the Euro-Atlantic area. Following the Russian invasion in Ukraine on 24 February 2022, Allies activated NATO's defence plans and deployed thousands of extra troops from both sides of the Atlantic. Over 40,000 troops, along with significant air and naval assets, are now under direct NATO command in the eastern part of the Alliance, supported by tens of thousands more from Allies' national deployments. NATO rapidly established four new multinational battlegroups in Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania and Slovakia, in addition to the existing battlegroups in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland. The eight battlegroups extend all along NATO's eastern flank, from the Baltic Sea in the north to the Black Sea in the south.

NATO also sent fighter jets to support air policing missions, bolstered naval forces in the Baltic and Mediterranean Seas, increased overall troop readiness and for the first time deployment of the highest-readiness element of the NATO Response Force to Romania. Following these acts, NATO has chosen to launch a project to build the biggest NATO military base in Europe, in Romania, at Mihail Kogalniceanu, Constanta, along the Black Sea coast. It is set to become the largest NATO military base in Europe, surpassing even the US military base in Ramstein, Germany, in terms of size and capacity. This development underscores Romania's heightened role within NATO's security framework and strengthens its strategic position in the Black Sea region, which has been of particular concern due to Russia's military dominance.

By 2030, the expanded base is projected to accommodate up to 10,000 soldiers and civilians. NATO and the United States are planning to transfer logistics and personnel from Ramstein to the Mihail Kogalniceanu base, further consolidating its significance within the alliance. The expansion project, estimated at a cost of 2.7 billion US dollars, is already underway, with infrastructure improvements such as access roads and a high-capacity electrical network in progress. In addition to military facilities, plans for the base include the construction of social amenities such as housing, schools, nurseries, pharmacies, and other essential services to support personnel and their families.

Chapter 7

Topic 1

1. What will the future of NATO look like with the further development of artificial intelligence and technology?
2. Can The People's Republic of China's rapid development in technology and military areas be considered a threat to the Alliance?
3. What is the minimum amount of armament and vehicles that a country in NATO should have?
4. Should only the NATO neighbouring countries of Ukraine send help and resources or should all the countries in the Alliance continue to do so?

Topic 2

1. Should NATO have a military base in every country?
2. In which areas or regions would NATO benefit if they would invest and create an avanpost?
3. Should the military base in Mihail Kogalniceanu represent a threat to the countries in the Black Sea region?
4. In which tensionate areas of the world should NATO interfere?

Chapter 8 - Main Actors

Topic 1

1. **United States of America**
2. **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland**
3. **Federal Republic of Germany**
4. **French Republic**

Topic 2

1. United States of America
2. Romania
3. Republic of Poland
4. Republic of Türkiye

Note: Every country has a perspective on each topic and it is very important for everybody to put their input in debate.

Chapter 9 - Research for further reading

Topic 1

- https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_49633.htm
- https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_136388.htm
- https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_49174.htm
- https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_69339.htm

Topic 2

- https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_192648.htm
- https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_222589.htm
- https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official_texts_223087.htm
- <https://balkaninsight.com/2024/03/21/romania-to-host-largest-nato-military-base-in-europe/>