 ***Position Paper***

Comittee: North Atlantic Treaty Organization

Country:Portugal

Portugal's lands are geographically the westernmost part of the European continent and surrounded by the Atlantic Ocean on the south and west, its location makes it a complete atlantic country. Due to its location, it is directly linked to NATO. Portugal's location is also reflected in its economy. Portugal has a rich history dating back to ancient times. Although the Catholic Church has the state religion, Portugal has a constitution that separates religion and state affairs, however, there is no official state religion, but the Catholic Church still has certain privileges in Portugal. In proportion to this, the majority of the people belong to the Catholic religion. While Portugal rose with geographical discoveries in the 15th and 16th centuries, it experienced a period of decline from the 17th to the 20th centuries. With Portugal's transition from dictatorship to democracy, it entered the European Union and showed a rapid transformation and development. The Portuguese armed forces are responsible for defending Portugal against threats from outside and supporting international peace by protecting Portugal's interests. Portugal continues its military investments and states that it is a peace-loving country.

 The body of NATO is located in Portugal, of the 12 assigned countries. Portugal has joined NATO to protect its territory and cooperate with other countries. It was a pretty big step for a country trying to expand both its position and its results, but Portugal had some concerns that it would lower their concerns about the possibility of their lands being used for naval and air bases and possible exploitation. The Portuguese stated this and it was resolved. Portugal's landing in NATO created a victory in terms of getting on the international stage, as well as strengthening its additional prestige and status.

NATO cannot ignore the security and military implications of China's growing presence in and around the Euro-Atlantic region and its relationship with Russia. Another way NATO can mitigate risk is through agreements with other countries in the Indo-Pacific region. The Portuguese perspective on the Indo-Pacific Region with a focus on India helped Europe rethink its role in the Indo-Pacific and with it the rapidly changing world order. Portugal's selection of India as a foreign priority for the Presidency of the Council of Europe was a special occasion. It was prepared bilaterally with visits, contacts and agreements.