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Committee: Nato

Country: Iceland

Agenda item: Addressing the Strategic Implications of China's Expanding Global Influence

Honorable Chair, distinguished delegates,

Iceland, as a founding member of NATO, maintains its security through international cooperation, collective defense, and strong diplomatic engagement, given that it does not possess a standing military. Iceland views China's expanding global influence not as an outright threat, but as a strategic challenge that must be managed carefully and responsibly in line with NATO's mission and international law.

Iceland recognizes China as a geopolitical rival whose activities raise legitimate security concerns, particularly regarding cybersecurity, critical infrastructure, and developments in the Arctic region. China's growing interest in the Arctic is of special importance to Iceland, as the region's resources, strategic trade routes, and environmental vulnerabilities intersect. Reykjavík believes that increased competition among major powers in the High North must not undermine regional cooperation or infringe upon the sovereign rights of Arctic states.

While Iceland supports strengthening NATO's understanding of China, it stresses that the Alliance must remain united, consistent, and guided by principles of dialogue, transparency, and deterrence. Furthermore, Iceland emphasizes that any strategic shift toward the Indo-Pacific should not compromise NATO's core responsibility: the protection of the Euro-Atlantic area.

In conclusion, Iceland advocates for a balanced, diplomatic, and coordinated approach in addressing the challenges posed by China's growing influence during this critical moment in international affairs.