Comitee: North Atlantic Treaty Organization

Country: Norway

Agenda Item: Potential NATO Measures to Counter the Growing

Danger Posed by the Eastern Bloc

In the past few decades, there has been polarization in the world globally. Most of the countries nowadays have been forced to join either the Western Bloc or Eastern Bloc as an effect of this polarization, and both blocs started to take actions to strengthen their blocs. The Western Bloc started this race by accepting the membership applications of Czechia, Poland, and Hungary, which were approved despite being defined as impossible, as declassified documents state that Soviet negotiators thought it to be out of the question. Another move made by the Western Bloc was launching the Membership Action Plan at the Washington Summit to help the countries aspiring to NATO membership.The Eastern Bloc did not overlook the actions of the Western Bloc and established the organization BRICS in 2009. BRICS was founded on the premise that international institutions were overly dominated by Western powers and had ceased to serve developing countries. This organization started with four founding countries (Brazil, Russia, India, and China), and Egypt, Iran, the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, and Ethiopia joined on January 1, 2024. These countries include 40% of the current population, which is a statistic worth mentioning. Also, there are more than 40 countries, such as Argentina, Algeria, Bolivia, Indonesia, Egypt, Ethiopia, Cuba, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Comoros, Gabon, and Kazakhstan, that have expressed interest in joining the forum. Most countries see BRICS as an opportunity to gain a more stable economy and strengthen their military conditions. The Russo-Ukrainian war is another topic that has a connection with polarization, but its main reason depends on the history of the region. The main reason why NATO joined the Russo-Ukrainian war is because of NATO’s collective defense mechanism, which is at the very heart of NATO. These wiews of the strong powers have clashed, and the Cold War mixed with direct conflict.

Norway’s wiew about this problem can be understood by an interview with the foreign minister of Norway, Espen Barth. In this interview, Espen Barth states, "Putin shall not prevail. We are committed to supporting Ukraine for as long as it takes—not just militarily, but also in rebuilding and securing their future within a rules-based international order." We can understand from that sentence, which was stated 10 months ago, that Norway is against Russia, a country with which Norway has a borderline. We can also think that Norway would most probably move with NATO in a possible conflict between any country. We can also predict that Norway will not get into any conflict with Russia from the statement of the current NATO Secretary General, who is also the former Prime Minister of Norway. The statement is, “We can also think that Norway would most probably move with NATO in a possible conflict between any Eastern Bloc country and a

Western Bloc country.” This statement helps us predict Norway’s actions, and that prediction is simply that Norway will not make any move without NATO's approval.

We would like to propose a few solution ideas to this ongoing problem, which can help NATO solve this issue. One of these ideas is expanding NATO membership and partnership. This idea comes with risks, one of which is the BRICS wiew on this solution. If they wiew it as part of the “who can gain more countries to its bloc” race, they will most probably continue increasing the number of countries in BRICS, and if that happens, it will not help solve the current problem. But if they don’t wiew it like that, it can put NATO in an advantageous position, making it a fifty-fifty chance. Another solution idea is increasing the military presence in Eastern European countries that are part of NATO, such as Norway and Finland. Deploying troops to planned locations will help NATO decrease military pressure.

Bibliography:

1This information is stated at study guide part 3 page 11

2 This information is from study guide part 3.3 page 23

3 The information is stated at:

URL: <https://www.reuters.com/world/what-is-brics-who-are-its-members-2023-08-21/#:~:text=WHO%20ARE%20THE%20MEMBERS%3F,grouping%20became%20known%20as%20BRICS>

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5This information is stated at:

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9This interview mentioned is:

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