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## Ministerial Statement

To the North Atlantic Council,

This Ministerial Statement is submitted to present the main priorities and views of the Republic of Türkiye, as a long-standing NATO member since 18 February 1952, about the future role of NATO after the Cold War. It reflects Türkiye's position on security, cooperation, and alliance unity during this period of change.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Türkiye emphasizes the importance of political dialogue and diplomacy in the post-Cold War era. Türkiye supports NATO's efforts to reduce tensions with former Eastern Bloc countries and to build partnerships based on trust and respect. Türkiye believes that long-term peace can only be achieved through cooperation and peaceful solutions.

The Ministry of National Defence underlines that while tensions have lessened, security risks still exist. For this reason, NATO must remain as a strong and credible defensive alliance. Türkiye supports arms control and disarmament efforts. However, collective defense and nuclear weapons have a double-edged nature. Such military forces should only be used as a last resort, and NATO's defensive nature must be preserved.

The Ministry of Interior highlights the importance of regional stability, especially in the Balkans, Eastern Europe, and the Black Sea region. Developments in these regions directly affect Türkiye's national security and internal stability since Türkiye is a country located at the crossroads of Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. Türkiye supports NATO policies that prevent conflict, manage crises, and protect civilian populations.

In conclusion, Türkiye reaffirms its commitment to NATO's transformation after the Cold War. Türkiye supports alliance unity, political cooperation, and collective defense, and stands ready to contribute responsibly to peace and stability in Europe and beyond.

Respectfully submitted,

Gündüz Suphi Aktan

Ambassador of the Republic of Türkiye to Greece