

**Country:** Turkey

**Committee:** H-NATO(Historical North Atlantic Treaty Organization)

**Topic Area:** North Macedonia Ethnic Rivalry(2001-2003)



Turkey ,officially the Republic of Turkey, is a transcontinental country located mainly on the peninsula of Anatolia in Western Asia, with a smaller portion on East Thrace in Southeast Europe. It shares borders with Greece and Bulgaria to the northwest; the Black Sea to the north; Georgia to the northeast; Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Iran to the east; Iraq to the southeast; Syria and, the Mediterranean Sea to the south; and the Aegean Sea to the west. Turkey is a medium-sized country with a population of 84 million. In 2020, real GDP growth for Turkey was 1.8 %. Turkey has the world's 20th-largest nominal GDP.

### **Our Country's Position and Policy:**

Our country, which has been acting with Atatürk's policy of "Peace at home, peace in the world." since the establishment of the republic, felt the need to become a member of various organizations in order to contribute to world peace. NATO is one of these organizations. Turkey, due to its geopolitical position, military power and historical connections, did not remain a bystander in the coordination of NATO to chaotic situations such as war, ethnic tension and terrorism in both near and far countries.

The Albanians, who are in the minority in North Macedonia, rebelled against the Northern Macedonian government and attacked the military units and state institutions with militias in order to equal more rights. 10.500 immigrants who fled from these conflicts took refuge in Turkey. The increase in unemployment rate, the problems arising from cultural, socio-economic and ethnic structure differences affected Turkey negatively with the arrival of immigrants to Turkey.

Being aware of the problems, NATO took part in the duties of surveillance of the Kosovo border, reconciliation efforts and operational arrangements in order to ensure peace in the region. Operation "Essential Harvest" was carried out in order to disarm the armed forces in North Macedonia. As of 27 August 2001, a troop team of Turkey contributed to the multinational brigade formed in North Macedonia within the scope of the operation. Subsequently, NATO formed a new force to provide support to international observers in North Macedonia and started the "Amber Fox" operation as of 27 September 2001. Turkey took place in the headquarters of this power. Contribution was made by the staff of the headquarters in the Operation "Allied Harmony", which started right after the completion of the operation and continued until March 31, 2003 under the command of NATO.

**Solution:**

Although the Ohrid Framework Agreement was signed on 13 August 2001 between the Northern Macedonian government and Albanian representatives, the innovations brought were insufficient. In order not to experience a chaotic environment in North Macedonia again, all people should be equal before the law and justice, regardless of gender, religion or race. In addition, the North Macedonian government should reconsider its legal regulations by taking the constitution and activities of developed states on human rights as an example.