

## **DELEGATION OF CROATIA**

**Committee:** NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION (NATO)

**Agenda:** NATO's Indo-Pacific Involvement with Regard to the 202 Strategic Concept

**State:** Croatia (Republika Hrvatska)

The Indo-Pacific has been emerging for decades firstly through its population, secondly its economy and currently due to its military and geopolitical ambitions. The concept of Indo-Pacific, born in the early 2000s, refers to commonality in interests and issues between the two oceans and their associated countries. Of all the regions of our globe, the Indo-Pacific region is the most populated and has the potential to become the world's richest and most developed area in the next 20 years. NATO's new Strategic Concept has highlighted the importance of the Indo-Pacific for Allied security and approved the growing collaboration with like-minded partners in the region. This partnership is becoming more and more important today as the world's geopolitical centre of gravity is shifting towards the Indo-Pacific region.

The 2022 NATO Strategic Concept identifies the Indo-Pacific as important for the North Atlantic Alliance, given that developments in that region can directly affect Euro Atlantic security, and so the evolution of the international security system will require the Alliance to adopt its global outlook and perspective. As a strategic concept, the Indo-Pacific captures the interest of global powers like the USA, China, India, Australia, Japan, and the UK, and tests NATO's ability to adapt and maintain global peace in a co-ordinated world. These global powers desire to have control over Indo-Pacific region therefore this may cause threatening to the region countries' national security. Croatia is aware that we are not one of the global powers, however that is not signify we cannot be an ally for countries. Consequently, Croatia participates in the joint decisions taken by NATO on the ground of signing and accepting the NATO agreement.

Croatia is determined to safeguard the freedom and security of Allies. Its main purpose and greatest responsibility is to ensure our collaborative defence, against all threats, from all directions. We are a defensive Alliance. Our vision is clear: we want to live in a world which is safe, peaceful and free from pressure and where each country can choose its own path, free from aggression or harassment. Especially in Indo-Pacific region we want to keep the peace. We work with all who share these goals. We stand together, as Allies, to defend our freedom and contribute to a more peaceful world.