



Delegate of Albania

Committee: North Atlantic Treaty Organization

Topic: Future of NATO Forces in Afghanistan, Is NATO Experiencing Brain Death?, Transatlantic Strategy on China

## Country: Albania

NATO, North Atlantic Treaty Organization, was founded in 1949 by US, Canada and Western European countries to defend themselves in the event of a possible aggression or an attack by the Soviet Union. Today It has 30 members including Albania. Albania is located in the Balkans and she has 3 million population. Our country mostly consists of mountains and rivers, only the western part is plain which contains our capital, Tirana. Albania became an independent nation in 1912. We had been invaded in both world wars and replaced as a communist state in 1945. During this period, we had been Soviet aligned until 1960, and PRC aligned until 1978. We had rocky relationships that started well and ended poorly. We successfully transitioned to a democratic system in 1991 and has been affiliated to NATO in 2009. As for today, we plan to keep our relationship with China on an ambassadorial level.

Afghanistan has dealt with 3 civil wars since 1978. In 2001, US declared war on Afghanistan – thus the rest of NATO- due to terrorist attacks. NATO currently supports Afghan army troops against Taliban forces. In 2013, NATO withdrew almost 130k foreign troops out and instead have sent non-combat personnel to advise, train and assist Afghan security forces. Various countries from NATO have a total number of 16k personnel. NATO is working closely with UN on our mission to restore & ensure long overdue peace and stability in Afghanistan. NATO plans to decrease their personnel to 12k in the upcoming months. We will continue our aid on Afghanistan both financially and equipment. These acts are proof that NATO has been working on both actively and passively throughout the last decades. We acknowledge that NATO may seem dormant recently, but NATO sure isn't braindead. NATO has been continuing her efforts non-stop. Since there aren't any urgent issues we seek to solve, it may be misunderstood as if NATO had expired; which is completely unfounded and untrue. World peace –at least Europe- is at its peak in the 21th century. NATO is unable to do what it was originally established for, aid each other in the event of a war. There has been remarkable progress that is yet to be understood.

China has a massive impact on the world, from economy, politics to environmental problems, climate change. Though it is a fact that as China grew, so did the basic human rights violations. These acts done by China are severely concerning. We condemned these acts in the previous months along with other countries as we want to prevent further actions. China is an important trade partner to NATO including Albania. We plan to limit our imports(%8). Tough since we are a rather small country, our efforts will be ineffective.

We use %1.1 of our GDP in military, and we plan to increase it to %3 as NATO requires so after fixing our economy. We plan to implement a huge economical scheme. Our goal is to become a self-sufficient nation and lessen the imports. Albania plans to accomplish things that may seem baffling, considering our population and size. We want to renew NATO, state a firm poise against China and contribute to the peacekeeping mission; with the help of the other reverend NATO members of course. We will endorse any propositions that targets NATO cooperation at its focal point. We will try our best to show that in unity comes strength and that Albania is neither dull nor less than any other country.