

INVESTICE DO ROZVOJE VZDĚLÁVÁNÍ

OPORANATO

It is a political and military alliance, which encourages consultation and cooperation of defence and security issues to build and trust and prevent conflict. NATO is committed to the peaceful resolution of disputes. If diplomatic efforts fail, it has the military capacity needed to undertake crisis management operations. These are carried out under Article 5 of the Washington Treaty and/or under a UN mandate, alone or in cooperation with other countries and international organizations.

At the end of World War II, the devastated nations of Western Europe decided to form a common defence against the Threat of The Soviet Union. The Brussels Treaty, in March 1948, included Belgium, France, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. Talks then began with the United States and Canada to create a stronger defence organization that would span the North Atlantic. Along with the North American countries, Denmark, Iceland, Italy, Norway and Portugal were invited to join. These nations all signed the Treaty of Washington in April 1949, creating the NĀTO Alliance. NATO states its primary mission as guarding the freedom and security of its member countries. Conflict resolution is one of its secondary missions.

NATO has not undergone significant structural change since its foundation. Nowadays NATO has 28 members, two are North American countries ([Canada](#) and the [United States](#)) and 26 are [European](#) countries. The Czech Republic has been a member of [NATO](#) since 12 March 1999. All members have militaries, although [Iceland](#) does not have a typical army (it does, however, have a military [coast guard](#) and a small unit of soldiers for [peacekeeping](#) operations). Three of NATO's members are [nuclear weapons states](#): [France](#), the [United Kingdom](#), and the [United States](#).

The member states are:

Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States.

The chief governing body of the alliance is the North Atlantic Council, formed by the permanent ambassadors of all members. Headquarters are in Brussels, the Council is chaired by a Secretary General – now it is Anders Fogh Rasmussen, with a permanent, multinational staff. A Defence Planning Committee formulates strategic policy. A Military Committee of

permanent military representatives from all members (except Iceland) supervises the various NATO military commands; the chairman is invariably a European officer.

The present-day NATO began to take shape in 1991. The Strategic Concept adopted by NATO Heads of State and Government in Rome in November 1991 outlined a broad approach to security based on dialogue, cooperation and the maintenance of a collective defence capability. Allied leaders also issued a Declaration on Peace and Cooperation, which defined the future tasks and policies of NATO.

The Czech Republic, as a NATO member, benefits from the protection of the most powerful military organization in human history. On the other hand, the Czech Republic is brought under pressure to increase its military spending.

Exercises:

I) Answer the questions:

- a) When was NATO formed?
- b) How many members are there in NATO?
- c) What is the chief governing body of the Alliance?
- d) When did present-day NATO begin to take shape?
- e) When was the establishment of the North Atlantic Co-operation Council (NACC) proposed?
- f) What countries would NACC consist of?

KEY: a) On 4 April 1949 with the signing of the North Atlantic Treaty in Washington.

b) 28

c) North Atlantic Council

d) in 1991

e) in 1991

f) NATO member states and co-operation partners

II) Match the expressions in column A with suitable ones in column B (sometimes more than one answer is possible) to get collocations:

A

1) economic

2) expansionist

3) military

B

a) background

b) reconstruction

c) establishment

4) defence

d) policy

5) political

e) threat

KEY: 1b, 2d, 3e, 4c, 5a

III) Fill in the correct preposition:

- 1) NATO was created 4 April 1949 in Washington.
- 2) After the end of the Second World War Western European countries mainly faced the need economic reconstruction.
- 3) The political and ideological background this process was alerting.
- 4) Both Western European countries and their North American allies were concerned the expansionist policies and methods of the USSR.
- 5) There was a threat outside aggression or internal subversion.
- 6) To cope the situation Belgium, France, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom signed the Brussels Treaty in March 1948.
- 7) Negotiations with the United States and Canada then followed the creation of a single North Atlantic Alliance.
- 8) Denmark, Iceland, Italy, Norway and Portugal were invited the Brussels Treaty powers to become participants in this process.
- 9) The juridical basis further NATO's enlargements embodied in Article 10 of the Treaty.
- 10) the Prague summit (November 2012) NATO extended invitations to Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia and all these became member countries in March 2004.

KEY: 1) for, 2) by, 3) of, 4) between, 5) of, 6) against, 7) on, 8) in, 9) in, 10) to.

IV) Find synonyms for the words in bold (you can use a dictionary):

- 1) The North Atlantic **Treaty**
- 2) ... the background of this **process**
- 3) ... to develop a common **defence** system
- 4) ... they intended to maintain their own military forces at full **strength**
- 5) There was a threat of outside aggression or internal **subversion**.

KEY: 1) agreement, contract, pact, settlement, 2) development, course, progression, 3) protection, resistance, 4) power, force, potency, 5) rebellion.

V) Complete the following sentences using appropriate expressions:

values ensures objectives security purpose
establishment rights

- 1) NATO's essential is to safeguard the freedom and security of its members.
- 2) The Alliance works for the of a just and lasting peaceful order in Europe.
- 3) The order is based on the common of democracy, human and the rule of law.
- 4) Solidarity within the Alliance that all member countries can rely upon the efforts of other countries in dealing with basic challenges.
- 5) The Alliance enables the members to realise their essential national security through collective effort.

KEY: 1) purpose, 2) establishment, 3) values, rights, 4) ensures, security, 5) objectives

VI) QUIZ on the NATO

1. What does NATO stand for?

- a) North American Trade Organisation
- b) New Age Trade Organisation
- c) North Atlantic Treaty Organisation

2. What are its core functions?

- a) to develop collective self-defence
- b) to carry out peacemaking, peacekeeping and peace building operations
- c) to fight against terrorism
- d) to assist people in disasters
- e) to establish Free Trade
- f) to protect the Atlantic Ocean

3. When was the North Atlantic Treaty signed?

- a) 1967
- b) 1959
- c) 1949

4. Where was the North Atlantic Treaty signed?

- a) Paris
- b) Washington
- c) New York

5. Which country is not part of NATO?

- a) England
- b) Portugal
- c) China

6. How many member states does NATO consist of?

- a) 12
- b) 26
- c) 54

7. Where is the headquarters of NATO?

- a) Brussels
- b) Stockholm
- c) Haag/ The Hague - the only city with definite article (capitalized)

8. Which NATO member state does not have its own standing army?

- a) Estonia

- b) Luxembourg
- c) Iceland

9. What states are eligible for NATO membership?

- a) EU members
- b) European
- c) any state

10. The ISAF, which started on 20 December 2001, is a NATO-led mission for security and development in what country?

- a) Iraq
- b) Afghanistan
- c) Pakistan

11. Who chairs the North Atlantic Council (main body of NATO)

- a) the Chairman of the Military Committee
- b) the Secretary General
- c) the Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic

12. When did the Czech Republic join NATO?

- a) 1999
- b) 1990
- c) 2004

13. Which other countries joined NATO together with the CR?

- a) Poland
- b) Hungary

c) Slovenia

d) Romania

KEY: 1c, 2a,b,c,d, 3c, 4b, 5c, 6b, 7a, 8c, 9b, 10b, 11b, 12a, 13a,b.

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"History will see the accession of the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland as a key step towards a Europe of co-operation and integration, towards a Europe without dividing lines".

(Javier Solana, Secretary General of NATO).

Reading

Once you have read the questions, quickly read the article entitled “The Accession of the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland” and write down the answers to the questions. First read the following questions.

- 1. When did the Czech Republic join NATO?*
- 2. Which other countries joined NATO that day? How many member countries does the Alliance consist of?*
- 3. Which measures did the new members have to complete prior to accession?*
- 4. Did work on the integration of the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland finish on accession day?*
- 5. Which main stages (events) preceded the accession of the three new member countries?*

The Accession of the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland

One of the highlights of the [Washington Summit](#) was the presence, for the first time, of the Heads of State and Government of the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland. These three countries formally joined the Alliance on 12 March 1999, bringing the number of member countries to 19. The entry of these three democracies into the Alliance, under [Article 10 of the Washington Treaty](#), is part of a continuing process.

A number of measures were successfully completed by each of the new members prior to accession, in order to ensure the effectiveness of their future participation in the Alliance. These included measures in the security sphere (e.g. arrangements for receiving, storing and using classified information), as well as in areas such as air defence, infrastructure, force planning and communication and information systems. However, work on the integration of the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland did not finish on accession day. Full integration will require continuing efforts over a longer period.

These are the main stages leading up to the accession of the three new member countries:

10 January 1994. At the NATO Summit in Brussels, the 16 Allied leaders said they expected and would welcome NATO enlargement that would reach to democratic states to the East. They reaffirmed that the Alliance, as provided for in Article 10 of the Washington Treaty, was open to membership of other European states in a position to further the principles of the Washington Treaty and to contribute to security in the North Atlantic area.

September 1995. The Alliance adopted a [Study on NATO Enlargement](#). Without giving fixed criteria for inviting countries to join, the Study described a number of factors to be taken into account in the enlargement process. It also stipulated that the process should take into account political- and security-related developments throughout Europe. The Study remains the basis for NATO's approach to inviting new members to join.

During 1996, an intensified individual dialogue was undertaken with 12 interested Partner countries. These sessions improved their understanding of how the Alliance works and gave the Alliance a better understanding of where these countries stood in terms of their internal development as well as the resolution of any disputes with neighbouring countries. The Study identified this as an important precondition for membership.

10 December 1996. The NATO Allies began drawing up recommendations on which country or countries should be invited to start accession talks, in preparation for a decision to be made at the [Madrid Summit of July 1997](#).

Early 1997. Intensified individual dialogue meetings took place with 11 Partner countries, at their request. In parallel, NATO military authorities undertook an analysis of relevant military factors concerning countries interested in NATO membership.

8 July 1997. Allied leaders, [meeting in Madrid](#), invited the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland to start accession talks with the Alliance. They also reaffirmed that NATO would remain open to new members.

September and November 1997. Accession talks were held with each of the three invited countries. At the end of the process, the three countries sent letters of intent confirming commitments undertaken during the talks.

16 December 1997. NATO Foreign Ministers signed [Protocols](#) to the North Atlantic Treaty on the accession of the three countries.

During 1998, Allied countries ratified the Protocols of Accession according to their national procedures.

12 March 1999. After completion of their own national legislative procedures, the Foreign Ministers of the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland deposited instruments of accession to the North Atlantic Treaty in a ceremony in Independence, Missouri, in the United States. This marked their formal entry into the Alliance.

16 March 1999. The national flags of the three new member states were raised at a [ceremony](#) at NATO headquarters, Brussels.

The door to NATO membership remains open to other European countries that are ready and willing to undertake the commitments and obligations stemming from NATO membership and contribute to security in the Euro-Atlantic area. The admission of new democratic members into NATO is itself part of a wider process of greater integration in Europe involving other European institutions.

In the 50 years of its existence, the Alliance has played a major part in preserving peace and stability on the territory of its members. The process of enlargement is aimed at extending the zone of security and stability to other European countries.

Writing

Write a paragraph summary based on the article entitled “The Accession of the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland.
