

Atlanta Urban Debate League

Pandemic AFF

Middle School Novice

2022-2023



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AUDL Middle School Novice Speech Order & Times

1 st Affirmative Constructive (1AC)	4 minutes
Cross-Examination (2N asks questions to the 1A)	2 minutes
1 st Negative Constructive (1NC)	4 minutes
Cross-Examination (1A asks questions to the 1N)	2 minutes
2 nd Affirmative Constructive (2AC)	4 minutes
Cross-Examination (1N asks questions to the 2A)	2 minutes
2 nd Negative Constructive (2NC)	4 minutes
Cross-Examination (2A asks questions to the 2N)	2 minutes
1 st Negative Rebuttal (1NR)	2 minutes
1 st Affirmative Rebuttal (1AR)	2 minutes
2 nd Negative Rebuttal (2NR)	2 minutes
2 nd Affirmative Rebuttal (2AR)	2 minutes
Affirmative Team Prep Time:	5 minutes
Negative Team Prep Time:	5 minutes

Pandemic 1AC (Argument Overview)

Summary

The Pandemic Affirmative contains four parts: a plan, Inherency, Solvency, and a Disease Advantage. The purpose of the Affirmative is to learn from the challenges of COVID-19 and help the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) prepare for the next pandemic. Specifically, the plan calls for the United States to increase its security cooperation with NATO to stockpile supplies, develop technology, and prepare logistical support for the next pandemic.

Inherency: Inherency is the problem in the status quo (the current state of things) that the affirmative plan will help to alleviate/fix and proof that the plan is not already being done. In this 1AC, the De Maio evidence says that NATO itself has admitted that the alliance was not prepared for COVID-19. In particular, the evidence concludes that the organization did not have the means or political will to respond to COVID-19.

Solvency: Solvency is proof of why the proposed plan will work and solve the harms/problems that would happen without the plan. In this 1AC, the Levy evidence says NATO can do three things to help prepare for the next pandemic. First, NATO can work through its Science & Technology Organization to develop technology and help with disease surveillance. Second, NATO can leverage its Science for Peace & Security program, which helped develop rapid COVID-19 tests during the pandemic. Third, the author concludes that NATO can help with logistics and supply stockpiles through its Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Center.

Advantage (Disease): An advantage explains the benefits gained from doing the plan and is sometimes called “Harms” because the plan avoids something harmful that would happen in the status quo. Advantages end with an **Impact**.

In this 1AC, the Disease Advantage makes three claims. First, the Rogers evidence says that disease outbreaks are inevitable as more and more diseases jump from animals to humans. As a result, only new investment in public health can prevent the next pandemic. Second, the Levy evidence cites NATO’s success in responding to COVID-19 as proof that the organization should receive new investment. Third, the Wade evidence concludes that pandemic prevention is a racial justice issue, since people of color are significantly more likely to bear the costs of a pandemic.

Deterrence Disadvantage (Argument Overview)

Summary

The Deterrence Disadvantage contains four parts: Uniqueness, Link, Internal Link, and Impact. A Disadvantage argues that the costs of the Affirmative plan are more important than (outweigh) the potential benefits (advantages). In particular, the Deterrence Disadvantage argues that by forcing NATO to spend limited funds on public health, the plan trades off with NATO's core mission, which is protecting the alliance from foreign threats like Russia.

Uniqueness: Uniqueness is the argument that the status quo (current state of things) is good now but could take a turn for the worse if the plan were to happen. In the Deterrence DA, the Lasconjarias evidence says that COVID-19 has hurt the economy of European countries, leading to high levels of debt and smaller budgets. In fact, the author concludes that any further cuts to defense spending by European countries would harm the security of NATO.

Link: A link is the negative change to the status quo made by the Affirmative plan. In the Deterrence DA, the Ceccoruli evidence argues that NATO cannot do everything. By expanding NATO's mission to include public health concerns like pandemic prevention, the plan forces NATO to spend limited funds on items not related to deterrence. As a result, the plan trades off with NATO's core mission, which is to secure the alliance from foreign threats like Russia.

Internal Link: An Internal Link is the series of events that takes place between the change made by the plan (Link) and the ultimate negative consequence of that change (Impact). In the Deterrence Disadvantage, the Kochis et al. evidence says that Russia is a serious threat to the existence of NATO countries, and that NATO must refocus its spending on its core mission to deter future conflict.

Impact: An Impact is the ultimate negative consequence of the change to the status quo made by the plan. In the Deterrence Disadvantage, the Schlosser evidence says that the invasion of Ukraine proves that Russia is not only aggressive, but will be under pressure as the war drags on to attack NATO supply lines. The author concludes that this risks World War 3, especially given Russia's history of threatening nuclear attacks.

Pandemic Affirmative (1AC Shell)

Pandemic 1AC — 1/5

Greetings! My partner and I propose the following plan:

The United States federal government should substantially increase its security cooperation with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) to fully fund and support pandemic response and prevention programs under Article 3 of the Washington Treaty.

Contention One is Inherency:

NATO is not prepared for the next pandemic. It lacks the funding and capacity to manage future crises

De Maio 2020 – Nonresident Fellow at the Brookings Institution

(Giovanna, Nonresident Fellow At The Brookings Institution. NATO's Response To COVID-19: Lessons For Resilience And Readiness. Foreign Policy at Brookings Institution. October 2020. <https://www.brookings.edu/research/natos-response-to-covid-19-lessons-for-resilience-and-readiness/>)

LESSONS LEARNED **A military alliance such as NATO is not a first responder in a health crisis**, as most tasks must be implemented at the domestic level. **However, given the impact** and the spillover effects **of COVID-19 on** the very day-to-day operations of **the alliance** — military personnel are not immune from viruses — **as well as** on supply chains, and **economies and societies around the world, it was paramount for NATO to take initiative** both **to protect its member states** against malign actors and to offer crucial support in the spirit of solidarity. **In spite of these successful initiatives, the Operations Division of NATO headquarters in Brussels has admitted⁶⁴ that the alliance was ill-prepared to handle such a crisis.** As Rittmann noted, **the alliance lacked its own means and political bandwidth to do more.**⁶⁵ **For this reason, NATO and its member states should not miss the opportunity that the COVID-19 crisis offers to set up more structured plans to ensure readiness in crisis management.** In particular, they should expand the concept of security to include the most pressing non-military global security threats: climate change, health risks, and social resilience against disinformation.

Pandemic 1AC — 2/5

Contention Two is Solvency:

**NATO programs are critical to pandemic prevention, but status quo support fails.
Only the plan revitalizes NATO and prevents future crises**

Levy 2021 – Leadership Fellow at the Atlantic Council

(Jaclyn, Millenium Leadership Fellow At The Atlantic Council And The Director of Public Policy At The Infectious Diseases Society of America. The Best Defense: Why NATO Should Invest In Resilience. New Atlanticist. June 10, 2021.

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/new-atlanticist/the-best-defense-why-nato-should-invest-in-resilience/>)

NATO should start advancing resilience by leveraging and strengthening **the following** policies, **programs,** and partnerships: **The NATO Science & Technology Organization (STO) develops** innovative **solutions with** global **experts to ensure** that **the Alliance’s technological capacity meets its needs** in a quickly changing world. Allied governments contributed **approximately 500 million euros** to STO last year, forming a pool of already-allocated funding that could support resilience-building efforts. **To advance** and sustain **technological innovation** that enhances global resilience, **the STO’s** Science and Technology Board **should push for** a sustained allocation of **funding** specifically **for** resilience research, **biomedical research** and development, **and** ambitious pilot **programs focused on** sharing **pathogen surveillance** data between countries and their health systems, **developing** biomedical **research** infrastructure, **and** **conducting training** simulations **for** biothreat and **public-health emergencies.** **The NATO Science for Peace and Security (SPS) Programme,** as **defined by the Alliance,** promotes dialogue and cooperation “based on scientific research, technological innovation, and knowledge exchange. [It] offers funding, expert advice and support to... security-relevant activities that respond to NATO’s strategic objectives.” During the pandemic, SPS **led efforts to** advance the **development** of **rapid COVID-19 tests.** In the future, **SPS should invest in ways to** identify and **combat** swiftly **rising global antimicrobial resistance, synthetic** biology **threats,** and agricultural vulnerabilities; **it should also invest in** assessments and fortifications of medical and **biosecurity stockpiles.** **The Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre (EADRCC) has experience supporting responses to infectious-disease outbreaks,** which threaten to increase as a consequence of climate change, industrialization, and global migration. **EADRCC activities leverage emerging technologies to enhance resilience and build capacities for crisis response.** Previous joint exercises with the SPS Program have included testing innovative telemedicine and communications platforms. **EADRCC’s successful logistical coordination during the COVID-19 pandemic underscores its unique value; in the future, the EADRCC should expand its role in international cooperation and information-sharing between military medical services and civilian health systems.** The **Joint Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Defence (JCBRN) Centre of Excellence,** a NATO military body focused on CBRN defense advice, education, training, and exercises, can convene member states and partners for training simulations and security activities related to novel threats in the context of regional and global issues. JCBRN should act on this capacity, in coordination with the **Crisis Management and Disaster Response Centre of Excellence,** to ensure that NATO member countries are prepared to combat future outbreaks and biological events. **Strengthening bio-preparedness efforts through modeling and planning will help drive** a resilient **crisis response.** Established during the pandemic, **the NATO Pandemic Response Trust Fund** stockpiles medical equipment and supplies for members of the Alliance and partners in need. Beyond the current pandemic, it **can** help **defend against future** chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and public-health **threats—only if NATO maintains and adapts these stockpiled resources for** other **critical public-health** and infrastructure **needs.** Looking ahead, the **NATO 2030 initiative** aims to elevate democratic leadership around the world, advance biomedical science and global technology, and position NATO and its partners to tackle novel global security challenges through a lens of flexibility and adaptation. **Strategic investments** in these efforts **will establish resilient frameworks for addressing emerging threats, which is critical for successful collective defense. Realizing the full potential of these** and other **programs will require additional support** from NATO operations, planning, policy, and civilian divisions. **Allies** and international organizations **should** also **continue working with NATO on the ground** to support equipment procurement and regional needs. In today’s unpredictable security environment, successfully responding to threats requires resilience—and **NATO is well-positioned to make resilience a reality.**

Pandemic 1AC — 3/5

Advantage One is Disease:

First, disease outbreaks are inevitable. Only investment in public health can prevent the next pandemic and save millions of lives

Rogers 2022 – Journalist For CNN Health

(Kristen, Journalist For CNN Health. There Will Be Another Pandemic, Infectious Disease Experts Say. Here Are 6 Ways We Can Prepare For It. CNN Health. June 1, 2022. <https://www.cnn.com/2022/06/01/health/prepare-for-next-pandemic-life-itself-wellness/index.html>)

More than **two years into the** Covid-19 **pandemic, we have reached a crossroads**. On one hand, **"this is the most teachable moment the world has had about** the importance of **public health in 100 years**," said Dr. Tom Frieden, former director of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "On the other hand, **we're** really **at risk of heading full steam ahead into the** neglect phase of the **'panic-neglect cycle.'** " The **panic-neglect cycle** is the habit of underinvesting or paying inadequate attention to the public health infrastructure and functions needed to prevent, identify, contain and respond to infectious disease outbreaks. **Another pandemic seems inevitable. We "live in an age of pandemics,"** said Dr. Larry Brilliant, an epidemiologist and CEO of Pandefense Advisory, an interdisciplinary network of experts engaged in pandemic response. **More than six out of every 10 infectious diseases originated in animals and jumped to humans. This risk has "been increasing for the last 20 years,"** Brilliant said. **"Every year, the risk increases more."** Public health "certainly had a number of missteps" during the Covid-19 pandemic, but the experience has offered lessons, Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, said at the **Life Itself conference**, a health and wellness event presented in partnership with CNN. "The **investment in** basic and clinical **biomedical research allowed us to, with unprecedented speed, develop highly effective vaccines** that essentially, (we never would) have imagined you could have done it that quickly," he added. **"We need to keep making those investments, not only in science ... but in the public health infrastructure."** We must also remember "what it means to have a public health system that was not able to respond in a manner that was matching to the challenge that we're facing," he said. "What we don't want is to have our children, and perhaps our grandchildren, forget what we've been through." **Whether we're going to apply lessons from the current pandemic remains to be seen.** Frieden said, **but doing so is key to ending that cycle, so that outbreaks don't become pandemics with countless consequences -- including millions of lives lost and drastic effects on health care, mental health, the economy, education, relationships and careers.**

Second, NATO investment under Article 3 solves. Preparation for the next pandemic is key

Levy 2021 – Leadership Fellow at the Atlantic Council

(Jaclyn, Millenium Leadership Fellow At The Atlantic Council And The Director of Public Policy At The Infectious Diseases Society of America. The Best Defense: Why NATO Should Invest In Resilience. New Atlanticist. June 10, 2021.

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/new-atlanticist/the-best-defense-why-nato-should-invest-in-resilience/>)

There are many lessons from the last fifteen months, but among them is a time-honored proverb: **an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.** Many **public-health** and security **crises are a product of** critical **infrastructure vulnerabilities,** but an expanded **focus on resilience** in developing a global security strategy **can prevent the next crisis. Responding to** emergencies such as **pandemics is far more expensive than preventing them** and creates **additional costs** such as strained political cohesion and waning support for public institutions. Policies emphasizing resilience should **fundamentally aim** to minimize damage, restore stability quickly, and generate improved strategies for similar issues. To this end, there are several steps NATO can take to build a preventive, resilience-based approach to emerging global challenges. **Article 3 of the North Atlantic Treaty includes resilience as a critical element of its mission to achieve collective defense, and the Alliance supports multiple programs to build resilience against non-traditional threats.** At its 2016 Warsaw Summit, NATO **committed** to “continue to enhance our resilience against the full spectrum of threats, including hybrid threats, from any direction,” and added that “resilience is an essential basis for credible deterrence and defence and effective fulfilment of the Alliance’s core tasks.” In June, NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg said during **an appearance at the Atlantic Council** that a critical part of the Alliance’s agenda over the coming decade is to support “resilience technologies.” The COVID-19 pandemic has made clear NATO’s value in an unpredictable world. **In 2020, NATO troops supported civilian efforts to combat the spread of COVID-19 by airlifting patients and medical equipment, building field hospitals, distributing supplies, repatriating civilians, establishing quarantine facilities and triage centers, assisting with decontamination, and sharing medical expertise. After this pandemic** recedes, **NATO’s** proposals for responding to biothreats and other novel challenges **should include investments in resilience to help combat “black swan” events, which may turn** existing **health** or environmental **emergencies into security crises. “Resilient societies are our first line of defense,” said** NATO Deputy Secretary General Mircea Geoană in December, adding that **“we have to put a much greater emphasis on resilience”** across government, the private sector, and civil society.

Third, pandemic prevention is key to racial justice. Systemic racism means people of color are uniquely at risk

Wade 2020 – Contributing Correspondent at Science Magazine

(Lizzie, Contributing Correspondent for Science. From Black Death To Fatal Flu, Past Pandemics Show Why People On The Margins Suffer Most. Science Magazine. May 14, 2020. <https://www.science.org/content/article/black-death-fatal-flu-past-pandemics-show-why-people-margins-suffer-most>)

But careful archaeological and **historical work** at East Smithfield and elsewhere **has revealed** that intersecting **social and economic inequalities shaped the course of the Black Death and other epidemics**. "Bioarchaeology and other **social sciences have repeatedly demonstrated** that **these** kinds of **crises play out along the preexisting fault lines of each society**," says Gwen Robbins Schug, a bioarchaeologist at Appalachian State University who studies health and inequality in ancient societies. **The people at greatest risk were often those already marginalized—the poor and minorities who faced discrimination in ways that damaged their health or limited their access to medical care** even in prepandemic times. In turn, the pandemics themselves affected societal inequality, by either undermining or reinforcing existing power structures. **That reality is on stark display during the COVID-19 pandemic**. Although **the disease** has memorably struck some of the world's rich and powerful, including U.K. Prime Minister Boris Johnson and actor Tom Hanks, it **is not an equal-opportunity killer**. In hard-hit **New York City, Latino and black people have been twice as likely to die from COVID-19 as white people**. Cases there **have been concentrated in poorer ZIP codes, where people** live in crowded apartments and **can't work from home or flee to vacation homes**. "The ways that **social inequalities** are manifested ... **put people at higher risk**," says Monica Green, an independent historian who studies the Black Death. **"We should all be learning in our bones, in a way that will never be forgotten, why [the coronavirus pandemic] has happened the way it has."**

Pandemic Affirmative (2AC)

2AC Case (Overview)

What Is A Case Overview?

A **Case Overview** is an argument made in the **2nd Affirmative Constructive (2AC)**. An effective overview will both **explain** your plan / advantage to the judge and do **impact calculus**. Read your Case Overview **at the beginning of your 2AC, before** doing line-by-line or answering specific Negative arguments. The Case Overview should be **no longer than 45 seconds** and **MUST refer** to your Affirmative evidence!

Case Overview – Template

The impact of the Affirmative is...

My plan solves the impact because...

Vote Affirmative because the Case outweighs the Disadvantage...

First, Magnitude...

Second, Risk...

Third, Timeframe...

2AC Case (Disease)

What Is A Case Argument?

A Case Argument is an argument made by the **Negative in the 1NC against the Affirmative's Case** (inherency, solvency, or advantage). To answer a Case Argument, we can use **BOTH** our **own arguments** (analytics) and **evidence**. Use the following template in the **2AC** to answer the Negative's case argument using the **They Say, We Say** model.

Need help? Try using **DRMO** (deny, reverse, minimize, outweigh) to answer their argument.

2AC Case Argument – Template

The Negative says...

But, we say...

Outbreaks are inevitable. Only investment in public health can make COVID-19 the last pandemic

Gates 2022 – Co-Founder of Microsoft

(Bill, Co-Founder of Microsoft / Billionaire Philanthropist. Let's Make This The Last Pandemic. GatesNotes: The Blog of Bill Gates. May 2022.
<https://www.gatesnotes.com/How-to-Prevent-the-Next-Pandemic>)

The great epidemiologist Larry Brilliant once said that “outbreaks are inevitable, but pandemics are optional.” I thought about this quote and what it reveals about the COVID-19 pandemic often while I was working on my new book. On the one hand, it's disheartening to imagine how much loss and suffering could've been avoided if we'd only made better choices. **We are** now more than **two years into the pandemic. The world did not prioritize global health until it was too late, and the result has been catastrophic. Countries failed to prepare** for pandemics, **rich countries reduced funding for R&D, and most governments failed to strengthen their health systems**. Although we're finally reaching the light at the end of the tunnel, COVID still kills several thousand people every day. On the other hand, Dr. Brilliant's quote makes me feel hopeful. **No one wants to live through this again—and we don't have to. Outbreaks are inevitable, but pandemics are optional.** The world doesn't need to live in fear of the next pandemic. **If we make key investments that benefit everyone, COVID-19 could be the last pandemic ever.**

2AC Block (Deterrence DA) – 1/3

What Is A 2AC Block?

A 2AC Block is a **pre-written** set of arguments to respond to a Negative **off-case** position. This 2AC block responds to the **Deterrence DA** and should be read in the **2AC** after answering the Negative case arguments. To **finish** the block, **write your own** (analytic) **arguments** to answer **each part** of the Disadvantage.

Need help? Try using **DRMO** (deny, reverse, minimize, outweigh) to answer their arguments.

2AC Block – Template

First, disease outweighs war...

A. _____

B. History proves the benefits of the plan outweigh the costs

Lodovico and Sabeti 2022 – Researchers At Harvard

(Yolanda, Policy Lead in The Sabeti Lab At The Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard. Pardis, Professor of Biology At Harvard. Breakthrough Technologies for Pandemic Preparedness. Breakthrough: The Promise of Frontier Technologies for Sustainable Development. P. 23 – 46. The Brookings Institution. Note: This evidence has been modified for grammar.)

Even **before the next** outbreak or **pandemic strikes, immediate action** to advance the recommendations of both panels are **[is] critical** for a number of reasons. Most evidently, **infectious disease has generated more personal and economic devastation than any war in modern history. Every year, the impacts of annual infections eclipse those of all major wars, but traditional defense budgets, including that of the United States, contribute very little to combating the** bioterror **threat posed by infectious pathogens. The cost of crisis response,** once a major outbreak hits, **far exceeds that of building resilient health systems for pandemic preparedness.** In 2016, the Commission on a Global Health Risk Framework for the Future explained why an additional US\$4.5 billion dedicated to pandemic preparedness each year would considerably improve global resilience against infectious disease.⁵ By comparison, **the 2014–16 Ebola outbreak in West Africa cost** an estimated US\$ **\$53 billion** in economic losses **and 11,300 deaths.**⁶ **One year into the COVID-19 pandemic, estimated economic losses thus far have reached several trillions of dollars and deaths have surpassed 4 million,** with extensive morbidity beyond.^{7,8}

2AC Block (Deterrence DA) – 2/3

Second, no link...

A. _____

B. NATO pandemic response does not trade off with deterrence

Jovic-Lazic 2021 – Senior Research Fellow

(Ana, Senior Research Fellow At The Institute Of International Politics And Economics. The COVID-19 Pandemic And Its Impact On NATO. International Organizations And States' Response To COVID-19. Article 8 (p. 145-161). https://doi.org/10.18485/iipe_response2covid19.2021.ch8)

According to the Special Report of the Defense and Security Committee of the NATO

Parliamentary Assembly from November 2020, NATO's pandemic crisis response policy does not jeopardize its ability to provide credible and effective deterrence and that its forces remain on alert in case of an attack. Also, as further stated, **missions and operations critical to the Alliance's security are fully staffed and focused on fulfilling their goals** (Mesterhazy, 2020). **For the Alliance, it was critical to demonstrate to the international community and its allies that NATO used its capabilities and resources to directly participate in the fight against COVID-19 while also remaining ready to fulfil its primary missions of collective defence, crisis management, and cooperative security** (NATO, April 2020).

2AC Block (Deterrence DA) – 3/3

Third, no impact...

A. _____

B. Putin won't risk nuclear escalation with the West

Vershbow and Lodal 2022 – Researchers at the Atlantic Council

(Alexander, Distinguished Fellow At The Atlantic Council. Jan, Former President of The Atlantic Council. Will Putin Use Nuclear Weapons In Ukraine? Our Experts Answer Three Burning Questions. Atlantic Council. May 10, 2022.

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/new-atlanticist/will-putin-use-nuclear-weapons-in-ukraine-our-experts-answer-three-burning-questions/>)

In my view, **the probability is very low**—not zero, but less than 5 percent. **Putin's nuclear saber-rattling has been aimed at deterring the United States and its allies** from escalating their involvement in the war and introducing advanced military capabilities that could give Ukrainian forces a decisive advantage. **If Russian forces suffered another humiliating defeat** in the campaign to control [the southeastern Ukrainian region of] Donbas, **Putin could be pressed by hardliners** to deliver on his nuclear threats; **but he is unlikely to do so, since this would only galvanize a harsh US and allied response without providing any significant military advantage**. **Even in the wake of a major military setback, Putin would not likely run the risk of uncontrolled escalation by being the first to break the nuclear taboo**. He is more likely to escalate conventional attacks on Ukrainian civilians and infrastructure, as well as against allied [weapons] resupply operations. —[Alexander Vershbow](#) is a distinguished fellow at the Council's Scowcroft and Eurasia centers, served as US ambassador to Russia from 2001 to 2005, and was deputy secretary general of NATO from 2012 to 2016. **The likelihood is very low. Nuclear deterrence works in peacetime, and it has worked to prevent the use of such weapons in past crises and confrontations (such as in Cuba, on the Korean peninsula, and in Vietnam)**. —[Jan Lodal](#) is a distinguished fellow at the Scowcroft Center and was president of the Atlantic Council from 2005 to 2006.

Pandemic Negative (1NC)

1NC Disadvantage (Deterrence) – 1/4

First is Uniqueness: NATO defense spending is on the brink. Overstretching budgets will wreck the alliance

Lasconjarias 2022 — Researcher at the NATO Defense College

(Guillaume, Researcher At The NATO Defense College. Working Group Report: Military Instrument of Power and Pandemics: A Long-Term Perspective. Pandemics And International Security: The Outlook For NATO. P. 102 - 112. February 14, 2022.

<https://www.iai.it/en/pubblicazioni/pandemics-and-international-security-outlook-nato>)

In Europe, questions have arisen about the longer-term effects of the pandemic on defence policy and the military: considering the dramatic increase of sovereign debts in many states, in clear terms, how will the pandemic affect defence capacities and spending (see Marrone, 2021)? The pandemic has severely affected the economy within the European Union. Some 2020 estimates forecasted that the size of most EU economies would only reach pre-pandemic levels in 2022 or 2023. The speed of the recovery remains in question, but what is clear is that **the combination of high public debt and poor fiscal position will probably lead to budget cuts. Recent history proves that cutting defence spending is sometimes seen as a quick fix solution** to implement austerity measures. **However, in an era where geopolitical uncertainties are becoming the norm, where the rise of systemic rivals is a reality, further reducing defense budgets seems not be an option. Even when priorities shift** towards the socio-economic domains, **when it comes to national security and defence, most European Nations are not** ¹⁰⁸ **PANDEMICS AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY: THE OUTLOOK FOR NATO considering to diminish their investment.** As a matter of fact, and even if the effort remains uneven, European nations have begun to adjust their defence budgets since 2014 in a rather constant manner. **The crisis years between 2008 and 2012 already resulted in major cutbacks in budgets and capabilities, and the latter have only just returned to 2008 spending levels. Were Europeans to make further major cutbacks in their budgets, they would deal a fatal blow to the most fragile military capacity of some frail states and to Europe's capacity for collective action.** In this respect, **the willingness shown by a large majority of Allies within NATO to maintain the growth of defence expenditures, despite the economic crisis, is a positive sign** that needs to be confirmed in the mid- to long term (see French MoD, 2021).⁴ Despite the high level of ambition portrayed by the EU for the European Defence Fund (EDF) and the proposed funding for military mobility, cuts have already been made on both initiatives in 2020 because of the Covid-related shift of the EU 2021-2027 budget towards socio-economic priorities.⁵

Second is the Link: Expanding NATO's mission to include public health trades off with deterrence

Ceccoruli 2022 — Professor of International Relations

(Michela, Senior Assistant Professor of International Relations AT The University of Bologna. Working Group Report: International Cooperation To Address Pandemic. Pandemics And International Security: The Outlook For NATO. P. 46 – 50. February 14, 2022.

<https://www.iai.it/en/pubblicazioni/pandemics-and-international-security-outlook-nato>)

Fit for the purpose...or not? Envisaging **NATO as an active actor in future challenges has required** a close **scrutiny over the possible problems** such an occurrence might cause. Two main concerns were mainly academically driven, one was decidedly more practical and the last one stood in between. All of them made for a rich, variegated and insightful debate in the WG. The opportunity of NATO's involvement was at first evaluated within the broader issue of civil-military cooperation. Indeed, **the military sector has been a constant presence in the governance of the pandemic**, spanning from NATO to national resources. But wondering whether NATO should play a role in the future requires answering to two preliminary questions: has NATO stepped in because it is better at performing some functions? Or instead to fill gaps? The answer stands most likely in between; however, the two inferences imply different arguments and reasonings. In the first case it is possible to imagine a role for NATO in the future, one that is interoperable with other governance tools and that is displayed when asked for. In the second case, instead, participants agreed that there is a major health issue at the basis that has to be fixed, with all related components and consequences. That is, the civil sector has to catch up soon. Somehow **related to the concern of NATO intrusion in a field that is not its own was a second concern, that of the potential securitization of a non-security issue. Engaging NATO would stir the concern of those fearing that appropriate forum of discussion is diverted from "health" to somewhere else, with fundings following suit.** If we proceed in tasking the military, the next crisis is going to be coped with differently, has been pinpointed by some. Also, a pertinent suspicion regarded the consequences of a security framing on transparency and democratic practices, on legitimacy and accountability, as evidence from other securitization processes has made clear. Not all participants, though, were skeptical of "bringing security in": perhaps, a distinction between militarization and securitization, was suggested, could better serve the cause of edging different domains while keeping an eye on potential security repercussions of global challenges. **On a more practical level,** it was suggested that **NATO's involvement in health crises might in fact overstretch its capacities, drain resources and take them out of core and urgent domains/situations. NATO cannot defend everything** was repeatedly affirmed during the Conference. **As NATO has already a lot in its plate, diversion of personnel, tools and efforts in general (its sustainability) may be more counterproductive than beneficial to the Alliance.**

Third is the Internal Link: NATO defense spending is key to deter war with Russia

Kochis et al. 2022 — Policy Analyst at the Heritage Foundation

(Daniel, Senior Policy Analyst At The Heritage Foundation. Thomas Spoehr, Director of the Center For National Defense At The Heritage Foundation. Luke Coffey. Patty-Jane Geller, Senior Policy Analyst At The Heritage Foundation. The Russian Threat: Bolstering NATO Deterrence At A Critical Time. Heritage Foundation. March 14, 2022. <https://www.heritage.org/defense/report/the-russian-threat-bolstering-nato-deterrence-critical-time>)

The security and prosperity of the transatlantic community, including the United States, rests on the foundation of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). Russia's ongoing war of naked aggression against Ukraine, a NATO non-member state, should put to rest any lingering questions about the modern utility of the Alliance and about which threat should be the focus of NATO's upcoming strategic concept. The answer is clear: The U.S. must lead the Alliance to a wholesale refocusing on the organization's raison d'être of collective defense. While the Alliance faces challenges emanating from an unstable Mediterranean basin and terrorism originating from the Middle East, the fact remains that **Russia continues to be the only existential threat to member states. NATO must send a strong signal that it is strengthening deterrence measures explicitly in response to the increased threat from Russia. Deterrence measures should include an Alliance-wide recommitment to defense spending**; a persistent and continuing U.S. presence in Eastern European member states; updated Alliance operational planning in light of Russia's position in Belarus and Ukraine; and an increase in U.S. air, ground, and naval forces in the European theater as a sign of continued commitment to the NATO treaty's Article 5. These deterrence measures must be carried out with the recognition that, from a long-term perspective, China is the largest peer challenger from whom the U.S. must expect hostile action. Any improvements to the U.S. force posture must not be to the detriment of the nation's ability to counter China. The Importance of NATO Deterrence Has Only Increased From the Arctic to the Levant, **Russia remains an aggressive and capable threat to NATO** and the interests of its members. For member states in Eastern Europe, Russia represents a real and potentially existential threat. **Russia's entrenched position in Belarus, along with its ongoing actions to cleave Ukraine, a nation that borders four NATO members**, in two, scramble the geostrategic map of Europe and necessitate changes to NATO operational planning, **exemplify**ing **the need for the Alliance to take** swift and resolute **steps to bolster deterrence** measures along its eastern flank.

1NC Disadvantage (Deterrence) – 4/4

Fourth is the Impact: War with Russia goes nuclear. Only NATO can save us from World War 3

Schlosser 2022 — Contributing Editor at The Atlantic

(Eric, Former Contributing Editor At The Atlantic. What If Russia Uses Nuclear Weapons In Ukraine? The Atlantic. June 20, 2022.

<https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2022/06/russia-ukraine-nuclear-weapon-us-response/661315/>)

Before the attack on Ukraine, the five **nations** allowed to have nuclear weapons by the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)—the United States, the United Kingdom, Russia, China, and France—**had reached agreement that the use of such weapons could be justified only as a purely defensive measure** in response to a nuclear or large-scale conventional attack. In January 2022, those five countries issued a [joint statement](#) affirming Ronald Reagan's dictum that **"a nuclear war must never be fought and can never be won."** **A month later, Russia** violated norms that had prevailed under the NPT for more than half a century. It **invaded a country** that had given up nuclear weapons; **threatened nuclear attacks** against anyone who tried to help that country; **and committed acts of nuclear terrorism** by shelling the reactor complexes at Chernobyl and Zaporizhzhya. Nunn supports the Biden administration's strategy of "deliberate ambiguity" about how it would respond to Russia's use of a nuclear weapon. But he hopes that some form of back-channel diplomacy is secretly being conducted, with a widely respected figure like former CIA Director Robert Gates telling the Russians, bluntly, how harshly the United States might retaliate if they cross the nuclear threshold. During the Cuban missile crisis, President John F. Kennedy and First Secretary Nikita Khrushchev both wanted to avoid an all-out nuclear war—and still almost got one, because of misunderstandings, miscommunications, and mistakes. Back-channel diplomacy played a crucial role in ending that crisis safely. Nunn describes Russia's violations of long-standing norms as "Putin's nuclear folly" and stresses that **three fundamental things are essential for avoiding a nuclear catastrophe: rational leaders, accurate information, and no major blunders.** **"And all three are now in** some degree of **doubt,**" he says. If Russia uses a nuclear weapon in Ukraine, Nunn thinks that an American nuclear retaliation should be the last resort. He favors some sort of horizontal escalation instead, doing everything possible to avoid a nuclear exchange between Russia and the United States. For example, if Russia hits Ukraine with a nuclear cruise missile launched from a ship, Nunn would advocate immediately sinking that ship. The number of Ukrainian casualties should determine the severity of the American response—and any escalation should be conducted solely with conventional weapons. Russia's Black Sea fleet might be sunk in retaliation, and a no-fly zone could be imposed over Ukraine, even if it meant destroying anti-aircraft units on Russian soil. **Since the beginning of the invasion, Russia's nuclear threats have been aimed at discouraging the United States and its NATO allies from providing military supplies to Ukraine.** And the threats are backed by Russia's capabilities. Last year, during a training exercise involving about 200,000 troops, the Russian army practiced launching a nuclear assault on NATO forces in Poland. **"The pressure on Russia to attack the supply lines from NATO countries to Ukraine will increase, the longer this war continues,"** Nunn says. **It will also increase the risk of serious blunders and mistakes. An intentional or inadvertent Russian attack on a NATO country could be the beginning of World War III.**

1NC Case (Disease) – 1/2

What Is A 1NC Case Block?

A 1NC Case Block is a **pre-written** set of arguments to respond to the **Affirmative's advantage**. This 1NC Case Block responds to the **Disease Advantage** and should be read in the **1NC** after reading the **Deterrence Disadvantage**. To **finish** the block, **write your own** (analytic) **arguments** to answer the **Disease Advantage**.

Need help? Try using **DRMO** (deny, reverse, minimize, outweigh) to answer their arguments.

1NC Case Block - Template

First, the status quo solves...

A. _____

B. We're already preparing for the next pandemic

Schreiber 2022 — Journalist for The Guardian

(Melody, Journalist For The Guardian. America Marks Two Years of COVID – Is It Prepared For The Next Pandemic?. The Guardian. March 14, 2022. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/mar/14/america-coronavirus-covid-pandemic-vaccines-public-health>)

Now, **even as Covid-19 remains a threat, US public health officials and researchers are looking to the next potential pandemic** – whether it's influenza, another coronavirus, antimicrobial resistance, or a different health threat entirely – **as they hope to build on the progress and avoid the pitfalls of the past two years. Knowledge of how respiratory viruses work – and how to battle them – has increased exponentially** during this outbreak. But at the same time, misinformation about infectious diseases, especially vaccines and treatments, has multiplied, presenting new challenges.

Scientists, several of whom have advised Joe Biden, **recently released a 136-page “roadmap” for moving from Covid crisis to what they term the “next normal”**. These investments include **supporting health workers and strengthening health systems**, as well as supporting survivors with long-term symptoms. **A new disease forecasting center, the Center for Forecasting and Outbreak Analytics, will become part of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), aiming to prepare for the next big outbreak. And a new bill with strong bipartisan support would create a 9/11-style commission to investigate the Covid response and learn from it.**

1NC Case (Disease) – 2/2

Second, the plan can't solve...

A. _____

B. NATO pandemic response fails. They can't even protect themselves

Shea 2020 — Senior Fellow at Friends of Europe

(Jamie, Senior Fellow For Peace, Security and Defence at Friends of Europe. Never Waste A Good Crisis: Are Pandemics NATO's New Security Challenge?. Friends of Europe. April 6, 2020.

<https://www.friendsofeurope.org/insights/never-waste-a-good-crisis-are-pandemics-natos-new-security-challenge/>)

NATO has highly professional military **forces to buttress national resilience but they are useless if they cannot be used,** and so another urgent task is to better protect NATO's forces against disease and biological agents. **The military have proven no more resilient to coronavirus than the civilian population. A US nuclear-powered aircraft carrier is out of action in Guam with a crew of 4,000 stricken with the virus. A Dutch submarine has had to return home and two German corvettes have stopped operation. Navies** with their personnel working at close quarters **seem to be particularly vulnerable to diseases. Meanwhile, allies have been withdrawing their contingents home early from important overseas missions in Afghanistan and Iraq.** So, for the first time, allies have to choose between deploying their troops at home or abroad.

Pandemic Negative (2NC / 1NR)

2NC Deterrence DA (Overview)

What Is A Disadvantage Overview?

A **DA Overview** is an argument made in the **2nd Negative Constructive** (2NC). An effective overview will both **explain** your disadvantage to the judge and do **impact calculus**. Read your DA Overview **at the beginning of your 2NC, before** doing line-by-line or answering specific Affirmative arguments. The DA Overview should be **no longer than 45 seconds** and **MUST refer** to your Negative evidence!

DA Overview – Template

The impact of the Disadvantage is...

The plan causes the impact because...

Vote Negative because the Disadvantage outweighs the Case...

First, Magnitude...

Second, Risk...

Third, Timeframe...

2NC Deterrence DA (Impact – Turns Case)

Disadvantage turns the case. War makes disease outbreaks more likely

The Lancet 2022

(War And Infectious Diseases: Brothers In Arms. The Lancet, Editorial. Volume 22, Issue 5, P563. May 01, 2022.

[https://doi.org/10.1016/S1473-3099\(22\)00235-3](https://doi.org/10.1016/S1473-3099(22)00235-3))

On Feb 24, 2022, Russia invaded Ukraine. The invasion has resulted in death, injury, and the displacement of people. Even if ongoing peace talks bring a cessation to hostilities, Ukraine will likely continue to suffer for years to come. **War is always accompanied by infectious disease outbreaks**, and Ukraine will likely be no exception. The Russian invasion has severely damaged [Ukraine's health-care infrastructure](#), with WHO confirming at least 70 Russian attacks on health-care facilities across Ukraine. Such **attacks**, combined with the destruction of roads, bridges, and public transportation networks, **prevent citizens from receiving medical help, increasing the risk of long-term injury and infection**. And, **once the fighting has stopped, reduced access to healthcare will hamper a population trying to rebuild**. Specialist services have also been disrupted. Russian military assaults have forced the closure of the AIDS Healthcare Foundation's HIV clinics in Kharkiv and Mariupol, raising the risk of treatment interruption in people with HIV in these cities. Interruption is associated with an increased risk of developing drug-resistant HIV, narrowing treatment options and increasing transmission. Tuberculosis control efforts have been similarly impacted. **Those suffering from tuberculosis**, who have been fleeing conflict zones to reach safer regions of Ukraine, **risk discontinuity of treatment, increasing risk of death, transmission, and emergence of drug resistance**. **SARS-CoV-2 will also spread** as physical distancing is made difficult in underground shelters and vaccination efforts are disrupted by the war. Vaccination efforts were already low before the invasion, with only 35% of Ukraine residents fully vaccinated against SARS-CoV-2. This low vaccination rate is just one of the health concerns that countries welcoming fleeing Ukrainians need to consider. Ukrainian refugees are also likely to be more vulnerable to infection given their living conditions during their escape. These are current infectious disease concerns, and **we can, sadly, look to other conflicts to identify possible long-term consequences**. **Syria has been gripped by civil war since 2011**. In 2016, during the 6-month Siege of Aleppo, pro-government forces cut supply lines and attacked medical facilities, leaving a city of 250 000 short of medicine and food. **One of the outcomes of the civil war and the siege has been, in 2017 and 2018, a measles outbreak** across northern Syria, including Aleppo, **after the disease had been absent in the country since 1999**. A similar story could play out in Ukraine. In October 2021, Ukraine reported a case of paralytic polio prompting the government to begin vaccinating 100 000 unprotected children, a rollout halted by the invasion. The war in Ukraine hopefully will not become a protracted conflict. As with Syria, the longer a conflict goes on, the more resources are diverted from health towards warfare. **In Afghanistan, after 20 years of US (and their allies) military presence in the country**, 2 million children are malnourished. Lack of food weakens the immune system and is part of the reason **Afghanistan is currently trying to rapidly vaccinate its population to halt their own measles outbreak**. **Yemen, suffering from a civil war since 2014, has also seen a** similar redistribution of resources. 4 million Yemenis have been internally displaced with reduced access to suitable water and sanitation services, increasing the risk of diarrhoeal diseases. In 2017, **a cholera outbreak with a suspected 2.5 million cases** was responsible for 3868 deaths. Before the war, cholera had been absent from Yemen.

2NC Deterrence DA (Link)

What Is A 2NC Disadvantage Block?

A 2NC DA Block is a **pre-written** set of arguments to extend each part of the Disadvantage and respond to the Affirmative's 2AC off-case arguments. This 2NC DA Block extends the Deterrence DA by **extending** the 1NC Arguments and doing **evidence comparison**. To **finish** the block, **write your own** (analytic) **extensions** to extend the **Deterrence DA**.

2NC DA Block – Template

First, extend the link. My 1NC link evidence says...

My evidence is better than the Affirmative's because...

Yes tradeoff. Pandemic response takes limited resources away from deterrence

Lasconjarias 2022 — Researcher at the NATO Defense College

(Guillaume, Researcher At The NATO Defense College. Working Group Report: Military Instrument of Power and Pandemics: A Long-Term Perspective. Pandemics And International Security: The Outlook For NATO. P. 102 - 112. February 14, 2022. <https://www.iai.it/en/publicazioni/pandemics-and-international-security-outlook-nato>)

This only highlights the continuity in the full spectrum of **armed forces'** roles. Whilst their primary task is to protect their country and, if necessary, to go into combat in a full-scale war, they **have the unique flexibility to respond to almost whatever sort of crisis may emerge**, on national soil or abroad as an instrument of last resort. Therefore, the military instrument has become – if it has not always been – a mean for attaining foreign policy objectives as well as to protect the national interests also domestically. **When the Covid-19 turned into a global crisis**, worldwide, **military forces were among the first to respond** because a variety of reasons: they represent a significant pool of trained, disciplined men and women that can be quickly called upon; they are resourceful, mobile and flexible; they know how to operate even in dire situations; because in many cases they are innovative and responsive, and for sure know how to make the best use of their equipment. In spite of these exceptional measures, and whilst taking part in the global response to the pandemic, armed forces remained at the same moment focused on maintaining their ability to deliver credible and effective deterrence

(Mesterhazy, 2020: 3). **This** ability to operate "full spectrum" is deeply engrained in the military's DNA if not in their means of action, yet it **raises a lot of additional concerns**. **First** of all, it seems that **the military is tasked to perform more and more "civilian" actions in a world which has become more and more complex, raising the problem of being able to act decisively** – and not just timely. **Second, the military might be considered as a "Swiss army knife" that ends up responding to any given mission, yet without having the associated means. Tasks have been multiplied and resources have shrunk, creating some "bonsai armies". How can militaries perform with the same level of efficiency in a large array of missions, from crisis management at home to high intensity conflict**, if nobody seriously defines what are the priorities? **How could and should these armed forces be reorganized and restructured to cope with these new requirements?** **In an era of renewed great power competition**, where both the socio-economic context and the international security environment have never looked as uncertain as they do today, **there seem to be only hard choices to be made and states have to weigh defense concerns against other** (social, economic) **pressing problems**.

1NR Case (Disease) – 1/2

What Is A 1NR Case Block?

A 1NR Case Block is a **pre-written** set of arguments to respond to the **Affirmative's advantage**. This 1NR Case Block answers the **Disease Advantage** by **extending** the 1NC Case Arguments and doing **evidence comparison**. To **finish** the block, **write your own** (analytic) **extensions** to answer the **Disease Advantage**.

Need help? Try using **DRMO** (deny, reverse, minimize, outweigh) to answer their arguments.

1NR Case Block – Template

First, extend the status quo solves. My 1NC inherency arguments say...

My evidence is better than the Affirmative's because...

1NR Case (Disease) – 2/2

Second, extend the plan can't solve. My 1NC solvency arguments say...

My evidence is better than the Affirmative's because...

Specifically, NATO lacks expertise and supplies for pandemic response

Lundquist 2021 — Retired Captain in the U.S. Navy

(Edward, Retired Captain In The U.S. Navy. NATO Learns Lessons From COVID-19 Crisis. National Defense Magazine. August 30, 2021.

<https://www.nationaldefensemagazine.org/articles/2021/8/30/nato-learns-lessons-from-covid-19-crisis>)

While the alliance has access to military resources and expertise, **NATO's** role in coordinating national and multinational responses to such events is under the leadership of civilian authorities with the military in a supporting role. **Officials** also **admit that the lessons of floods and earthquakes are vastly different events from the current pandemic, and that the airborne virus poses very different logistical challenges**. Geoană said NATO needs to engage more with civilian authorities who are primarily the first responders to better support civil disaster response efforts. "This crisis has underlined the importance of working closely and sharing information and expertise with other international organizations, such as the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the World Food Program and, of course, our strategic partner — the European Union," he said. "Regular communication has meant we could avoid duplication and collaborate when appropriate." **The alliance's COVID logistics response has not been entirely successful**, however. Geoană said **NATO's 'just-in-time' approach to supply chains, which had been adopted to increase efficiency and reduce costs, did not work under extreme pressure. 'When the whole world is simultaneously crying out for medical equipment and supplies, the market simply cannot cope.'**" he said. "We have to be honest here. The truth is, we were not adequately prepared for a global health crisis on this scale."