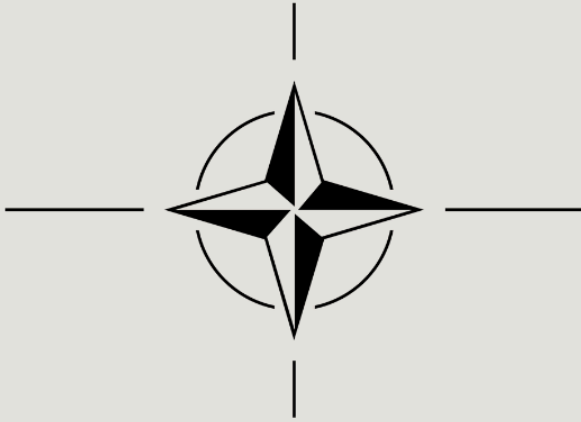




NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE:
ENGLISH

PRESIDENT:
PAULO KOI MARTÍN DEL
CAMPO

MODERATOR:
AKEMI ALMANZA
NAKAZONA

OFFICIAL ASSISTANT:
FRIDA PÉREZ CARBALLO



HAYASMUN
5° EDICIÓN

TOPIC:
GREECE - TURKEY
TERRITORIAL HOSTILITY,
WHICH HAS LED TO
NUMEROUS POLITICAL
MURDERS AND MASS
GENOCIDES.

ABOUT THE COMMITTEE

The committee of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) has the job to guarantee the well being of its members through political and Military means. It promotes a democratic solving problem environment by cooperating towards the security and peacefulness of its European member states. “NATO is committed to the peaceful resolution of disputes. If diplomatic efforts fail, it has the military power to undertake crisis-management operations. These are carried out under the collective defense clause of NATO's founding treaty.” (NATO)

Member countries are consulting on security issues of any field. Civilian and military experts help by exchanging information with the committee delegations and the military representatives. But, what is NATO's principal goal?

NATO is engaging the security of Europe and North America, all of this based on common values and human rights. The most important thing for them is to ensure the security of any alliances between any other member countries because if a crisis occurs they can rely on the crisis prevention and management that these alliances bring for them.

INTRODUCTION

“The impossible costs a little more, and the defeated are only those who lower their arms and surrender.”

-José Mujica

The dispute between Turkey and Greece encompasses different aspects such as the delimitation of territorial waters, economic zones, national airspace and the use of the continental shelf (*“Area of seabed around a large landmass where the sea is relatively shallow compared with the open ocean” Oxford Languages*). This conflict has led to such severe crises to the point of leading the two countries near the outbreak of an armed conflict

Both Turkey and Greece are the two littoral states with rights and interests in the Aegean Sea, this involves their security, economic and political viewpoints recognized by international laws. The Aegean Sea has acted as a bridge in trade relations and cultural exchange. However, the violations of The Lausanne Peace Treaty (agreement that established political balance between Greece and Turkey) have been the main cause of the crisis between these countries for the past years.

This issue brought on a threat to peace and security in Europe to the point of being the principal cause of mass genocides so it is crucial to highlight the importance of making a deeper analysis in order to find a peaceful solution that meets the needs of both side's demands.

Currently the political leaders of this geopolitical conflict are Recep Tayyip Erdogan (Turkish president), Katerina Sakellaropoulou (Greece President) and Kyriakos Mitsotakis (Prime Minister of Greece).

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Lausanne Peace Treaty (1923) established a political balance between Greece and Turkey, since both of the countries have legitimate rights and interest in the Aegean Sea including those who are part of this region. This treaty was supposed to let both of the countries' affairs work as they pleased. "The basic thinking of the Lausanne Treaty is to grant to coastal States limited areas of maritime jurisdiction and leave the remaining parts of the Aegean to the common benefit of Türkiye and Greece. It is clear that if one of the littoral States unilaterally extends its jurisdiction in the Aegean and deprives the other coastal State from exercising its existing rights, it is no longer possible to speak of the Lausanne balance in the Aegean." (Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

Some of the principal points to consider about the Aegean relationship are: That the any new maritime areas should be based on a mutual consent on how they could be placed in the most equitable form and The Perception Greece has since they think this territory is supposed to be completely part of Greece without considering the rights and interests of Turkey being one of the coastal states.

In this case, the main problem came to the light when Greece decided to alter the status quo in its favor. In 1936 Greece extended their territorial waters from 3 miles to 6 miles; This means that Turkey's access to international waters could affect its economical activities, the potential disputes could have escalated if they did not disclose this through international legal frameworks.

The continental Shelf is a form of delimitation to implement an equilibrium of rights and interests. The UN security council (august 1976) made Greece and Turkey resume direct negotiations over their differences so that they ended up with mutually acceptable solutions. The same year the "Bern Agreement" in which both of the governments agreed to refrain from any initiative or act concerning the Aegean continental shelf. Agreement that Greece did not follow by planning drilling operations in the disputed areas.

The political balance in the Aegean which was already established in 1923 emphasizes the demilitarized status of the Eastern Aegean Islands under Greek sovereignty. Since the 1960s Turkey had expressed its disagreement even though Greece met Turkey's security needs. This triggered Greece to make an initiative to establish a framework for peaceful coexistence and this brought to light the complexity of Turkish-Greek Relations and the outgoing challenges that caused unilateral actions.

Another dilemma that has caused a stir is the Greek-Cyprus situation (Population of the Island of Cyprus that its population is both Greek and Turkish). Since 1964 when the Cyprus community was divided because of the geopolitical disagreements. "The Greek Cypriots promised us that we would solve the Cyprus problem but that's not what happened," said Erdogan. This dispute kept getting worse after the proclamation both countries had regarding the undersea wealth in 2017. Then in 2019 The European Union had to intervene and denounced their actions as "illegal" under international law. (Psaropoulos, J. T.)

CURRENT RELEVANCE

The so-called “positive agenda” that is supposed to be dealing with 31 potential areas of cooperation, has not been of any use since the senior Greek diplomat “There hasn’t been any preparation for that to happen.”

The agreements that were an option to be established are not bad at all, some of them could actually make the situation of each country improve.

One of the accords involves building a bridge that connects each border and another that will promote student exchanges. There is another accord that explains how the hydrocarbons divided the two countries and how this can also mean that other forms of energy can be used as an interconnector to trade energy. There are also multiple agreements that discuss important points such as tourism, sports and small businesses.

“[Prime Minister] Kyriakos, my friend, we won’t threaten you if you don’t threaten us,” Erdogan told Kathimerini newspaper in an interview published on the eve of the visit. “Let’s strengthen the trust between our two countries. Let’s increase bilateral cooperation in all areas,” Erdogan said. The plans of training to lead all of this territorial dispute have many ideas to consume the treaty however, when the time comes to face each other another problem comes along.

In the past years these nations had already pre-established agreements that would keep the requests of each country at bay; however, in one way or another, these agreements ended up being interrupted because one of them ended up breaking them in some way. Therefore, up to this point anything could happen.

Last year both leaders were re-elected, this could mean a possible improvement in current ties and even a parallel alternative of agreements.

“The climax will be a pact of friendship declaring our intention to resolve differences peacefully,” Syrigos said. (Member of the Hellenic Parliament)
(Psaropoulos, J. T.)

UN ACTIONS

As previously stated, the UN takes this matter into serious consideration and recognizes its importance, that is why it has taken action by doing treaties to appease the situation. Below are some of the mentioned treaties:

- The UN Security council called on Turkey and Greece to put their greatest effort and interest in resolving this problematic situation and to reduce tension between said countries with the only purpose of maintaining peace as it is established in its Resolution 395 (August, 1976).
- On July 24, 1923 after several months, the Lausanne Peace Treaty was signed by both countries. This document consisted on the recognition of the boundaries of the modern state of Turkey.

INTERNATIONAL ACTIONS

On 28 September 2021, Greece and France signed the Franco-Greek defense agreement whereby either country is obliged to defend the other in the case of attack by a third party. France will supply Greece with navy frigates worth around €3 billion and is committed to help defend Greece if Turkey attacks. The pact is considered to be a landmark and the first of its kind ever signed between NATO allies, and is believed to be the first step in Europe's strategic autonomy and the creation of a European army. The deal was welcomed positively by other NATO allies such as the United States, Germany, and the EU's Commission, however it is opposed by Turkey as "harmful". According to experts, the deal aims to become the basis for the creation of a European defense structure with its own autonomous dynamics and priorities, and part of Greece's efforts in deterring Turkey's neo-Ottoman expansionist policies in the region.

The foreign ministers of Egypt and Greece, Sameh Shoukry and Nikos Dendias respectively, signed a maritime agreement partially demarcating the EEZs between the two countries, in line with the UNCLOS which recognizes the right of the islands to their continental shelf and EEZ. According to the Greek side, the Egyptian-Greek agreement

cancels in practice the Turkish-GNA memorandum. Turkey opposed the agreement and considers it "null and void", claiming that "there is no mutual sea border between Egypt and Greece"

On 9 June 2020, and in response to Turkey's moves in the region, Greece and Italy signed through their Foreign Ministers Nikos Dendias and Luigi Di Maio a "historic" agreement for the demarcation of the EEZ between the two countries. The agreement confirms the full rights of islands to their continental shelf and EEZ, in line with the UNCLOS. It uses the median line that was used for the 1977 Italy-Greece continental shelf demarcation agreement as the basis of the EEZ boundary.

BULLET POINTS

- Maritime Boundary Disputes in the Eastern Mediterranean
- The Status and Future of Cyprus
- Cultural and Historical Grievances
- Militarization and Security Challenges
- Future Diplomatic Relations and NATO's Role

NATIONS

→ Kingdom of Belgium: This nation has had a very high level political relationship with Turkey since the Turkish-Belgian Business Council was established. Both of these nations have had similar aims toward promoting commercial linkages. More than anything their relationship is purely economical.

→ Republic of Bulgaria: Bulgaria is always following the diplomacy the European Union frameworks established. Since this country does not play a central role in this conflict.

→ Dominion of Canada: Generally, this country supports the international diplomacy of the EU and does not play any important role but, in 2020 Canada said was ready to be "an honest broker" (Sevunts L.)

→Republic of Croatia: This country's actions are based on the diplomatic actions of the EU but has had close political interactions with Greece.

→Czech Republic: Another country that completely supports the initiative the EU offers for peaceful resolutions.

→Kingdom of Denmark: Since Denmark is one of the founding members of NATO, this country plays by the standards the EU presents and focuses more in diplomatic solutions.

→Republic of Estonia: Another country that did not took a direct role towards the conflict and does not plan to engage any direct action.

→Republic of Finland: Finland supports any diplomatic efforts as long as these promote dialogue and peace rather than taking sides.

→French Republic: France has been actively involved in the recent events regarding the Aegean dispute. "France intends to stand by Greece and help it to confront multiple tensions in the Aegean and the eastern Mediterranean," Parly told To Vima newspaper in an interview. (Reuters)

→Federal Republic of Germany: It has advocated for dialogue and de-escalation in the conflict and is focused on diplomatic solutions but not in taking sides. In 2017 "Germany, conducted marine scientific research with permission from the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the Aegean Sea. The research involved taking core samples from the seabed." (Talmon S.)

→**Hellenic Republic (Greece):** Greece advocated for sovereignty and seeks a resolutions with diplomatic and legal channels, always trying according to the support from EU and NATO.

→Republic of Hungary: Promotes constant negotiation between the two countries

→Iceland: Regarding the maritime delimitation, Iceland wants to follow the recommendations the conciliation commission established.

→The Italian Republic: Works with the EU framework to contribute finding a peaceful solution.

→ Republic of Latvia: Greece has shown it is a close ally to Latvia because they share the thought of wanting to strengthen the EU.

→ Republic of Lithuania: This country aims to the stability of Greece and Turkey.

→ Grand Duchy of Luxembourg: Another country that aligns with the negotiation EU has had.

→ Republic of Montenegro: This nation does not play any direct role in this conflict since it is a recent new member of the EU.

→ Kingdom of the Netherlands: The Netherlands does not play sides in this conflict but wanted to help by creating the Boat Refugee Foundation in order to help children that have been affected by this conflict.

→ Kingdom of Norway: Norway has not decided to support a specific nation.

→ Republic of Poland: As a member of the EU Poland aspects this conflict to be solved by peaceful negotiations without taking a prominent role.

→ The Portuguese Republic: For Portugal, fostering stability and negotiation between both countries seems to be the right way to solve the problem.

→ Republic of Romania: The Greco-Romanian relations establish a non-aggression and arbitration pact this means that in the event of intervention, Romania would have preferences to help Greece.

→ Slovak Republic: This nation does not play an important role in the conflict but plans to help in whatever is actually necessary since it is not one of the major influential countries in this regard.

→ Republic of Slovenia: The Slovenian efforts have been relatively of a low-profile since it is not one most important influences.

→ Kingdom of Spain: Spain has been playing a neutral role however, in the case of being necessary do not forget that Turkey and Spain have an armament deal that could be very useful in case of having to collaborate in the department of the defense industry.

→Kingdom of Sweden: Sweden is commonly recognized for being a very peaceful nation that avoids armed conflicts, it is most likely that it will follow the arrangements of the EU planed.

→**Republic of Turkey:** Turkey disputes in maritime and diplomatic actions and the conflict affects specific economical areas so everything that this nation decides form now on will play a crucial part of what could be unleashed.

→United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: Every decision Great Britain decides to make will majorly affect the current conflict since this is a major European power in NATO and this country generally has been supporting Greece.

→United States of America: Up to this point, the United States has been balancing relations between the two affected countries but tis could change depending on the actions each country decides to take.

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