



# CONGRESMUN

MODELO DE NACIONES UNIDAS DEL H. CONGRESO DE LA UNIÓN



# NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION

Handbook

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#ELMODELODETODOS



## Dear Heads of State,

We are pleased to welcome you to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization within the framework of CONGRESMUN 2018. Our team is waiting anxiously for the working days and we hope you are too. The main goal is to provide each Head of State with the opportunity to bring their best arguments, their finest negotiations methods and the deterrent rhetoric characteristics of a diplomat to discuss and find viable solutions.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization represents a challenge to everyone, please prepare yourself with the necessary anticipation; it is really important for us to have the high-quality debate that is expected in the biggest Model of the country. In the following pages, you will find a general view of both topics; however, we invite you to investigate and prepare yourself by your own.

CONGRESMUN is a great opportunity for you to understand the challenges of the western civilization and the importance of a world-wide knowledge to face the upcoming situations under the optic of a military and political alliance that remains as one of the most important regional organisms. Inside the floor, you will have to work cooperatively to find realistic actions, within our time frame, for the problematic topics that are waiting ahead. It will be our privilege to be the International Staff of the Alliance.

Regardless of trophies and medals we would like you to have an amazing experience, meet new people and gain lots of knowledge. We hope you have fun and a great experience during the MUN.

If you want to contact us write an email to the International Staff address: [nato.congresmun.xi@gmail.com](mailto:nato.congresmun.xi@gmail.com). See you soon!

**Sincerely yours,**

**Secretary-General, Isaac Abel García Serrano**

**Assistant Secretary-General, María Inés Provencio Lameiras**

**Operative-Assistant, Julieta Neftalí Zacatenco Herrera**



## Characteristics and Functions

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is an international organization without sovereign rights. Their Member States retain their full sovereignty and independence. NATO is based on the North Atlantic Treaty under concordance with the Article 51 of the UN Charter. This organization does not only involves a defence alliance, but also a military and political consensus of 29 European and North American member states with the aim of their own security and global stability. However, according to the article VII:

*“This Treaty does not affect, and shall not be interpreted as affecting in any way the rights and obligations under the Charter of the Parties which are members of the United Nations, or the primary responsibility of the Security Council for the maintenance of international peace and security.”<sup>1</sup>*

NATO’s essential purpose is to safeguard the freedom and security of its members through political and military means. According to the NATO official resources the two basic points of action are defined as:

- Political – “NATO promotes democratic values and encourages consultation and cooperation on defence and security issues to build trust and, in the long run, prevent conflict.”<sup>2</sup>
- Military – “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 - NATO’s founding treaty - or under a United Nations mandate, alone or in cooperation with other countries and international organizations.”<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The North Atlantic Treaty Organization, recovered form: [http://www.nato.int/nato\\_static/assets/pdf/stock\\_publications/20120822\\_nato\\_treaty\\_en\\_light\\_2009.pdf](http://www.nato.int/nato_static/assets/pdf/stock_publications/20120822_nato_treaty_en_light_2009.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> What is NATO? NATO [ Basic Points ] website: <http://www.nato.int/nato-welcome/index.html>

<sup>3</sup> Ibidem



NATO summit meetings provide cyclic opportunities for Heads of State and Government of member countries to evaluate and provide strategic direction for Alliance activities. NATO summit meetings are reunions of the North Atlantic Council (NAC) - the Alliance's main political decision-making body - at the most relevant level, the Heads of State and Government of the member countries. Mainly because of the political significance of summit meetings, the agenda items typically stresses issues of overarching political or strategic importance. These items can be related to the internal maintenance of the Alliance as well as NATO's links with external partners.<sup>4</sup>

### Implementation of the summit decisions

According to the definitions of the NATO resources: “the decisions taken at a summit are given in declarations and communiqués. These are public documents explaining the Alliance's decisions and reaffirming the support of the Allies for aspects of NATO policy. The decisions are then put into practice by the relevant actors according to the area of competence and responsibility: the subordinate committees of the NAC and the command structure of NATO covering the entire spectrum of the functions and activities of the organization.”<sup>5</sup>

The first articles of the treaty oblige members to peacefully resolve conflicts and make friendly arrangements for international relations. The preservation of the Western-liberal social order with political, economic, social and cultural cooperation and recognition of democratic principles is also an integral part. In the case of an armed attack on any of the members, the Treaty obliges the other Member States to take collective and self-defence.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>4</sup> Summit meetings NATO website: [http://www.nato.int/cps/nl/natohq/topics\\_50115.htm](http://www.nato.int/cps/nl/natohq/topics_50115.htm)

<sup>5</sup> Summit Meetings [Implementation of the summit decisions] NATO website: [http://www.nato.int/cps/nl/natohq/topics\\_50115.htm](http://www.nato.int/cps/nl/natohq/topics_50115.htm)

<sup>6</sup> North Atlantic Treaty Organization. (2006). The Handbook. May 21, de The North Atlantic Treaty Organization website: <http://www.nato.int/docu/handbook/2006/hb-en-2006.pdf>

Member States shall undertake the responsibility of holding consultations under the Article IV concepts on prompt decisions on military action whenever a Member State so requests. These consultations have so far been invoked three times by Turkey: once in 2003 over the Iraq invasion, again in June 2012 after the shooting down of a Turkish military jet, and once again in October 2012 after Syrian attacks on Turkey and their counterattacks. Another “Article 4 meeting” was also convoked by Latvia, Lithuania, and Poland in March 2014 as a response to the territorial 2014 Crimean crisis. (as of May, 2017).

The core of duties is Article V, which governs the alliance elemental issues. Afterwards, the states can define an armed attack on a member country as an attack on all and mobilize the joint capacities against the attacker. The measures to be taken could be defined by each member state according to its own rules. The alliance was called to face a common threat for the first and only time (as of May, 2017) on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001, after the terrorist attacks.

## Summary

All the NATO members work together and cooperate to achieve a consensus decision, which expresses the desires of all the members of the Treaty. Since the main goal is to ensure the safety of its members and their capability to defend themselves and their allies, the NATO works with cooperative security. In other words, the NATO understands a threat to one of its members as a threat to the whole treaty, ensuring support and allies to the signatories and working with and for each other to maintain peace. Preventive measurements are taken in first place, as peaceful actions. However, if the peace attempts fail, the NATO Alliance will be prepared to respond militarily if needed by means of collective defence.





## TOPIC A: INTELLIGENCE EXCHANGE REGARDING SUSPECTS OF TERRORISM

The new millennium brought a new and lethal senseless form of warlike conflict: terrorism, which poses a direct threat to all NATO members and its citizens, prosperity and international stability. It is a persistent global threat that knows no border, nationality or religion and is a challenge that the international community must tackle together. NATO's work on counter-terrorism focuses on improving awareness of the threat, developing capabilities to prepare and respond, and enhancing engagement with partner countries and other international actors. However, the information about terrorism suspects remains partly incomplete because the lack of shared information among the members. Since the information is not shared, terrorist might not be identified in other countries members. Also, members of subversive organizations and groups can enter through any country in Europe and move freely without being recognized.<sup>7</sup>

Sharing and exchanging information would not only help to prevent further attacks, but to relate the suspects, investigate and stop terrorism. Example given, Najim Laachraoui, suicide bomber at the Brussels airport on the attack of the 22<sup>nd</sup> of march, 2016, was identified as an accomplice of Salah Abdeslam, main suspect of the Paris attack in November 13. Salah Abdeslam, one of the most wanted terrorist in Europe, was arrested in Belgium days before the attack.<sup>8</sup>

### Historical Background

Since the terrorist attacks on the 11<sup>th</sup> of September 2001, the United States intelligence agencies have revolute, increasing enormously their capacities and abilities to collect information about suspects of terrorism both American and foreign.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>7</sup> NATO. (2017). Countering Terrorism. May 26, 2017, de The North Atlantic Treaty Organization website: [http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics\\_77646.htm?selectedLocale=en](http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_77646.htm?selectedLocale=en)

<sup>8</sup> BBC . (2016). Brussels explosions: What we know about airport and metro attacks. May 23, 2017, from BBC International website: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-35869985>

<sup>9</sup> T.C. Sottek and Joshua Kopstein. (2013). Everything you need to know about PRISM. May 25, 2017, de

Thanks to the new technologies developed to collect information and trace the tracks of suspects, the security has enormously increased, and the attacks have dropped decay.

During the past years, many tools have been designed for surveillance, research and control of information with the main purpose of protecting the civilians, controlling and preventing criminality. Even though, the surveillance mechanisms have brought controversy to the population, since the privacy of all the users has been invaded. It is on debate, whether the right of privacy is being violated by the government, and if such tools are worth it. However, under the constant threat of danger, such tools have not been removed.

Surveillance tools and programs such as the so-called MATRIX and PRISM have extent the virtual data of the population by collecting information from internet services. The Multistate Anti-Terrorism Information Exchange (MATRIX) was a project “initiated in response to the increased need for timely information sharing and exchange of terrorism-related and other criminal information among members of the law enforcement community”<sup>10</sup> which ensured the accurate and effective information to the local state law.

PRISM, whose existence has been indirectly confirm by the United States authorities, has allowed the United States National Security Agency to gain information of private communication of users via Internet services. However, companies like Google, Yahoo! and Facebook have denied giving access to any information.<sup>11</sup> The invasion of privacy that the program implies has been criticized and questioned its constitutional validity. Still, the NSA’s security efforts have revoluted the technological tools, allowing it to expand its surveillance.

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The Verge website: <https://www.theverge.com/2013/7/17/4517480/nsa-spying-prism-surveillance-cheat-sheet>

<sup>10</sup> Florida Department of Law Enforcement Office of Statewide Intelligence. (2003). Multistate Anti-Terrorism Information Exchange. May 25, 2017, from Florida Department of Law Enforcement Office of Statewide Intelligence: [https://www.aclu.org/sites/default/files/field\\_document/official%20matrix%20faq.pdf](https://www.aclu.org/sites/default/files/field_document/official%20matrix%20faq.pdf)

<sup>11</sup> Timothy B. Lee. (2013). Here's everything we know about PRISM to date . May 25, 2017, from The Washington Post website: [https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2013/06/12/heres-everything-we-know-about-prism-to-date/?utm\\_term=.a487fc155b1d](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2013/06/12/heres-everything-we-know-about-prism-to-date/?utm_term=.a487fc155b1d)

Recognizing that the joint efforts regarding terrorism will enforce the fight against it, agreements have been signed among the Member States of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. By establishing proper methods and strategies to share and exchange terrorism-related information, the members of the Treaty would strengthen their ability to ensure their own protection against the threat of terrorism. Such agreement has already been signed by the United States of America and the Republic of Slovenia.<sup>12</sup>

Nevertheless, the efforts made could not stop the chain of terrorist attacks in the European Union. The European Members of the NATO were not prepared for the diverse attacks they had to face in the past two years. Starting on November 13 with the attacks in Paris, France, several explosions and chaos started to spread in the continent, killing and risking the safety of thousands of people.

The connection of the attack in Paris on the night of the 13 of November 2016 (which left about 129 deaths and over 350 injures) with the Brussels airport and metro attack. Months later, the Islamic State was confirmed as the author through jihadist forums on the internet. Both attacks are just a clear example of the threat the European members are facing.<sup>13</sup> Najim Laachraoui and Mohamed Abrini, who participated in both attacks, lived for weeks in an apartment in Brussels without being identified. There, they produced the bombs used in the Brussels attacks.

Ever since, other members like Germany have suffered from diverse attacks. Trucks have hit multitudes in bazaars and streets, women have been massively sexually harassed (Cologne New Year's Eve) and bombs have been detonated. Since the European Union controls no border, terrorist have free access to any European Nation, moving freely to commit crimes in any Nation they want.

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<sup>12</sup> United States and Republic of Slovenia. (2011). Agreement between the United States of America and the Republic of Slovenia For The Exchange of Terrorism Screening Information. May 25, 2017, from United States Government website: <https://www.state.gov/documents/organization/180822.pdf>

<sup>13</sup> Carmen Ayuso and Tomás Ondarra. (2015). Oleada de ataques terroristas en las calles de París . May 26, 2017 from El País website: [http://elpais.com/elpais/2015/11/13/media/1447450949\\_993293.html](http://elpais.com/elpais/2015/11/13/media/1447450949_993293.html)



## Current Situation

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization has been working for decades to achieve a collective defence against any threat to its members. Besides, the NATO has been developing new capabilities and technologies in order to tackle terrorism which does not recognize no border, nor nationality nor religion. However, the lack of collective information represents a difficulty to accomplish its main goal.<sup>14</sup>

It is now the mission of the member States of the Treaty to find the best way to solve their communication issue regarding terrorism-related information to tackle it from the roots, and protect each other from further threats. In an era where information is capable of saving and destroying, and the threat is able to move everywhere it wants to, it is urgent to create a way to share information and collect information about suspects of terrorism every member can be aware of; it is a matter of both national and international security. The twenty first century threats demand twenty first century tools and solutions. However, it must be considered that privacy plays an important role in the matter. Even though, it is in each member's policy to decide whether the privacy of its users is more important than their safety.

## Guide questions

- ✓ Does your Country have a base of information regarding suspects of terrorism?
- ✓ Has your Country applied any research tool of similar to MATRIX or PRISM?
- ✓ What would be the best way to maintain the members informed of updates and profiles?
- ✓ How does your Country stands for privacy?
- ✓ What mechanism could the NATO use to begin a project of collective information?
- ✓ Has your Country already signed up any agreement regarding exchange of terrorism-related information?

<sup>14</sup> The North Atlantic Treaty Organization. (2017). Countering Terrorism. May 27, 2017, from The North Atlantic Treaty Organization: [http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics\\_77646.htm?selectedLocale=en](http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_77646.htm?selectedLocale=en)

## Possible research sources:

1. NATO International: [www.nato.int](http://www.nato.int)
2. National Security Agency: [www.nsa.gov](http://www.nsa.gov)
3. The BBC News: [www.bbc.com](http://www.bbc.com)
4. The New York Times: [www.nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com)
5. The Wall Street Journal: [www.wsj.com](http://www.wsj.com)
6. CIA's World Factbook: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/>
7. The Washington Post: [www.washingtonpost.com](http://www.washingtonpost.com)



## TOPIC B: STRATEGIES AGAINST DAESH IN SYRIA

The Syrian Civil War is an ongoing, armed confrontation of different groups since 2011, which is taking place with increasing duration under increasing involvement of international powers, such as the United Nations Security Council and the League of Arab States, who have ethno-religious, economic and geopolitical pursue interests. The humanitarian and political crisis has left over 400.000 deaths and caused millions of refugees.<sup>15</sup>

The United States administration has cited post-9/11 approval for the use of military force and the 2002 Iraq War Resolution (enforced through the United Nations Security Council)<sup>16</sup> as the internal legal justification for this open conflict. However, some legal experts are in doubt, especially as Iraq's military operations to Syria and Libya has expanded.

The armed forces of Syria, under the command of President Bashar al-Assad, and the armed groups of the opposition are immerse with international allied war parties. The conflict triggered a peaceful protest against the authoritarian regime of Assad during the Arab Spring in early 2011. There was a growing influence of fighters in addition to the influx of arms, opening space for more and more foreign volunteers and mercenaries to fight in Syria. The original motivation of the opposition to reach the democratization of Syria moved into the background. Instead, the struggle of different organizations for religious and ethnic reasons came to the fore.

As the conflict growth, the international community has seen a massive escalation of the tensions between the main belligerents, rising up to the use of chemical weapons against civilian population and causing the death of thousands. The main belligerents of

<sup>15</sup> Natalia Sancha. (2017). La guerra siria, en cifras. June 20, from El País Website: [http://internacional.elpais.com/internacional/2017/03/14/actualidad/1489493449\\_639847.html](http://internacional.elpais.com/internacional/2017/03/14/actualidad/1489493449_639847.html)

<sup>16</sup> Hastert J. Dennis. (2001-2002). H.J.Res.114 - Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002. June 22nd, de United States Congress Sitio web: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/107th-congress/house-joint-resolution/114>



the conflict are: The Syrian Government, supported mainly by Russia and Iran, the Opposition forces represented by the Syrian Free army, supported by Qatar, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates among others, including members of NATO; the Democratic Federation of Northern Syria (Rojava) or the Western Kurdistan, supported mostly by the French Republic, the United States of America and Russia, and finally two Islamic radical groups, the front al-Nusrat and the so called Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant.<sup>17</sup>

## Historical Background



**Figure 1.** The Syrian conflict: areas of control. (The Economist, 2016)

The so-called Islamic State is a terrorist-active Sunni-Islamist militia, active since 2003, is conformed by tens of thousands of members, who are currently controlling parts of Iraq and Syria, running a jihadist "state formation project" declared as a "caliphate"<sup>18</sup> since June 2014. The organization is also active in other countries and is promoting members for civil wars and terrorist attacks. It is also accused of genocide, the destruction of the cultural heritage of mankind, as well as other war crimes.

The Organization beginnings go back to the Iraqi resistance. In 2004, the organization was under Al Qaeda approbation in Iraq (AQI).

<sup>17</sup> United Nations Task Group. (2014). Final Communique. May 30, de United Nations Sitio web: <http://www.un.org/News/dh/infocus/Syria/FinalCommuniqueActionGroupforSyria.pdf>

<sup>18</sup> Political system represented as a sovereign State of al muslim faith, ruled by a so-called *caliph* and united by the islamic ideology.





Since 2007 was known under the name of Islamic State in Iraq (ISI), and from 2011 to June 2014 under Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) as well as Islamic State in Iraq And the Levant (ISIL) or as the transcribed Arabic acronym Daesh (Dā'isch / داعش).

ISIL is involved in the Syrian Civil War, fighting against the regime of President Bashar al-Assad, but also against the Free Syrian Army and against the Kurdish minority in the north of the country. Since August 2014, the IS troops have been targets of air raids on an international alliance, in which several Western and Arab states have been participating since the last September (2016). Furthermore, in the second Libyan civil war during 2015, ISIL was fighting against both, the internationally recognized government of Prime Minister Abdullah Thenn,i and the counter-government forces around Khalifa al-Ghweil, calling for an "emirate" in Libya.

Until autumn 2013, the main military burden has been largely transferred to Islamic insurgents, which also reorganized themselves structurally. In September, estimations indicate that the 100,000 oppositional fighters are recruiting 10,000 al-Qaeda al-Jihadists, 30,000 to 35,000 radical Syrian Islamists, and 30,000 "moderate" Islamists. Secular and nationalist combat groups, on the other hand, constitute only a minority. The Islamic State group, as part of the al-Qaeda organization, established itself as the dominant military presence in northern Syria in 2013.

After months of tensions in the opposition camp, an Islamic rebellious coalition, led by the Islamic Front, opened the offensive against the al-Qaeda offshoot ISIS in January 2014, accusing the ruthless implementation of the Sharia's in the areas occupied by it. During heavy fighting in northern and eastern Syria, nearly a thousand armed men perished on both sides.<sup>19</sup> Since June 2014, the organization proclaimed itself to be the Islamic State; according to the political scientist Volker Perthes, the organization, which he characterizes as a "jihadist state-building project," wishes to underscore past extant names that it wants to expand beyond Iraq and the Levant.<sup>20</sup>

<sup>19</sup> Bill Roggio et. Al. Analysis: Shifting Dynamics of Rebel Infighting in Syria, The Long War Journal, 17. January 2014, consulted on June 11th, 2016 website: [http://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2014/01/analysis\\_shifting\\_dy.php](http://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2014/01/analysis_shifting_dy.php)

<sup>20</sup> Volker Perthes: Viel mehr als eine Terrormiliz. In: Süddeutsche Zeitung, September 25 2014, consulted



With the extent, professionalism and strategic use of media on a wide variety of levels, from the mobile video game of a fighter to high-gloss magazines, ISIL is the first terror organization to lead its real struggle simultaneously in the media. It is thus attempted to make the caliphate state called extra virtual. This kind of propaganda and cyber attack to the international population is often achieved by muslims living in Western countries. Normally, the affected people in the countries bordering on Syria and Iraq are not very receptive to ISIL's propaganda through other media and their personal reference. Violent propaganda has the goal to cause fear, insecurity and chaos. This strategy includes the preferences of young muslims socialized in Western societies.

## Current Situation

The administration of US President Barack Obama assembled a coalition of sixty countries to "degrade, limitate and ultimately dismantle and defeat ISIL like the did with Al-Qaeda".<sup>21</sup> This expresses the particularly hypocritical situation where many of these countries, especially the Sunni Arab countries, have contributed with nothing more than rhetorical support. Late July 2016, the coalition held more than 14,093 air strikes, 77% of US forces in Iraq and Syria, according to the Pentagon.

In Iraq, the United States has over 3,000 uniformed military units used by the Iraqi military and paramilitary forces of the Kurdistan Regional Government, Peshmerga, armed to snatch the Islamic State from large cities and strategic points. Ramadi fell in December 2015, and Fallujah in June 2016. Since August 2016, the United states backed by local forces are successfully fighting in Mosul, the second largest city in Iraq. However, a large part of the Iraqi army is still in disarray and the concern remains that Sunni residents of cities, which have been released of the Islamic State, will find their

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on June 11 2016: <https://web.archive.org/web/20150307161812/http://www.tagesschau.de/ausland/irak-offensive-101.html>

<sup>21</sup> Erin Dooley, Obama Says US Will 'Degrade and Ultimately Defeat' ISIS Like Al Qaeda, ABC News, September 4, 2014, consulted on June 21, 2017 website: <http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/president-obama-us-degrade-ultimately-defeat-isis-al/story?id=25261946>



place at least from forces so hostile to them remains. Human rights groups say that Shiite militias (also known as popular mobilization forces) expelled, disappeared and killed residents of Sunni and mixed neighborhoods; also causing uncertainty and their safety in danger.

The United States of America began a three-month program in Syria, to train five thousand "elements of proven Syrian opposition capability" in the spring of 2015 and equipped them to attack the state's Islamic forces - but not the Assad regime and its allies. Even though, the Obama administration has abandoned the \$ 500 million program in October 2015. Instead, the White House said it would accept a loose approach that protected only commander kept individual fighters.<sup>22</sup>

With the new administration of president Trump it has been claimed a policy of "America First". A different vision of the transnational affairs, the cooperation and the good will of the Americans, which leaves its ties as unsure. However, the Alliance has to settle that it cannot join the US-Led coalition against ISIL, which certain individual countries already have. So far, the only direct involvement of the Alliance was the permission to use the Inkrík Turkish air base, owned by the American government, but under control of NATO for airstrikes.

Meanwhile, the Russian government has made its move to support the Assad regime, the Russian intervention in the Syrian Civil War began on September 30<sup>th</sup> 2015, mainly with air attacks on the part of the Syrian government. The aim of the air raids is, according to Russian data, withdraw the terrestrial forces of ISIL away from the occupied cities. The Alliance; however, considers that the Russian air forces are concentrating their attacks on moderate rebel groups. There has even been a low-level military engagement between the Russian expeditionary Air Force and the Air Force of a member state, Turkey. From this event, the Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg mentioned "a troubling escalation in Russia's military activities in Syria".

<sup>22</sup> Medyan Dairieh, The Islamic State, Vice News, December 26, 2014, consulted on June 12, 2017 website [https://news.vice.com/video/the-islamic-state-full-length?utm\\_source=vicenewsfb](https://news.vice.com/video/the-islamic-state-full-length?utm_source=vicenewsfb)



He insisted that Moscow's support for the Assad regime was not a constructive policy. While there's been plenty of condemnation of Moscow, the Alliance has few options to influence Russian behavior.<sup>23</sup>

ISIL is considered the richest terrorist organization in the world with an estimated fortune of two billion US dollars (as of January 2015).<sup>24</sup> In the conquest of Mosul and the plundering of the Central Bank, in June 2014 alone, 429 million US dollars came into the hands of Daesh. The "business model" is based on several pillars:

- Robbery: An additional source of income is the sale of antique finds from excavations at archaeological sites and the plundering of museums. By the end of 2014, archaeological finds alone from Syria worth 30 million US dollars were smuggled into the West and brought there with fake papers into the art trade.<sup>21</sup>
- Petroleum: Daesh is largely financed by the proceeds from the sale of crude oil from conquered oil fields. Up to the first air strikes on them in October 2014, oil was pumped and sold daily for 3 million US dollars. Since the end of 2014, the figures have declined to about 360,000 US dollars per day.<sup>25</sup>
- Taxes: The Islamic State levies taxes on traders who are subject to 10% VAT and turnover tax and collect duties (between 200 and 500 US dollars per shipment). ISIS in Mosul also receives rental income of more than 20,000 apartments and stores of 3 million US dollars per month. ISIL keeps records of all transactions.<sup>26</sup>

Despite escalating losses in Iraq and Syria, the ability of Daesh to carry out (or inspire) attacks far beyond those countries should not be overlooked. This spring alone, the group has claimed bombings or assaults in Sweden, Egypt and the U.K.<sup>27</sup>

<sup>23</sup> Syria crisis: NATO renews pledge amid Russia 'escalation, the BBC, October 8, 2015, consulted on June 12, 2017 website: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-34471849>

<sup>24</sup> Kathleen Caulderwood, Mosul Bank Robbery Isn't the Only Thing Funding ISIS, International Business Times, June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014, consulted on June 12, 2017 website: <http://www.ibtimes.com/mosul-bank-robbery-isnt-only-thing-funding-isis-1601124>

<sup>25</sup> Erika Solomon et. Al. Inside Isis Inc: The journey of a barrel of oil, Financial Times, February 26, 2016, consulted on June 12, 2017, website: <http://ig.ft.com/sites/2015/isis-oil/>

<sup>26</sup> Ashley Frantz, How ISIS makes and takes money, CNN, February 20, 2015, consulted on June 12, 2017, website: <http://edition.cnn.com/2015/02/19/world/how-isis-makes-money/index.html>

<sup>27</sup> Ian Bremmer, The Top 5 Countries Where ISIS Gets Its Foreign Recruits, Time, April 24, 2017,

It has to be considered that both, Sweden and the United Kingdom, are members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Meaning, the assault represent a direct threat and attack to both nations and the Treaty.

As defeated fighters return home from the front lines, the possibilities of an attack inspired by the acts of radicalisms, seen recently in Europe, are rising to alarming levels. The Alliance must now take a firm position against the spread of this notorious and dangerous group, to ensure the development of the western civilization and the safety of all citizens and member states, protecting what we stand for, democracy, liberty and prosperity.

### Guide questions

- ✓ Has Your country joined the US-led Coalition officially? Would Your country support a military intervention in Syria?
- ✓ Which has been Your country contribution to the global offensive against terrorism?
- ✓ Which is Your country policy throwers citizens traveling to Syria, Libya, South Sudan and Iraq for no apparent reason?
- ✓ Have citizens of Your nation been fully identify as members of ISIL?
- ✓ Has your country suffered an ISIL claimed terrorist attack? If so, the terrorists were identified as citizens of your country?
- ✓ What has been done by the United Nations and has already failed? Why do You think that that happened?
- ✓ Which should be the collective response of the Alliance to the ISIL problematic? A focus on the source in Syria and Iraq or at the homeland soil of the Alliance?

### Recommended Filmography and Sources:

1. Medyan Dairieh, The Islamic State, Vice News, December 26, 2014 website:  
[https://news.vice.com/video/the-islamic-state-full-length?utm\\_source=vicenewsfb](https://news.vice.com/video/the-islamic-state-full-length?utm_source=vicenewsfb)
2. NATO International: [www.nato.int](http://www.nato.int)
3. The BBC News: [www.bbc.com](http://www.bbc.com)
4. The New York Times: [www.nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com)
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