

The Transatlantic Relationship: A Canadian Perspective



Brooke Smith-Windsor, PhD, August 2017

Agenda

- Cold War Origins
- Post-Cold War Evolution
- Post-Crimea Period
- Trump Era?

Cold War Origins

UN CHARTER:

Chapter VII Articles 43 & 47



Art. 43

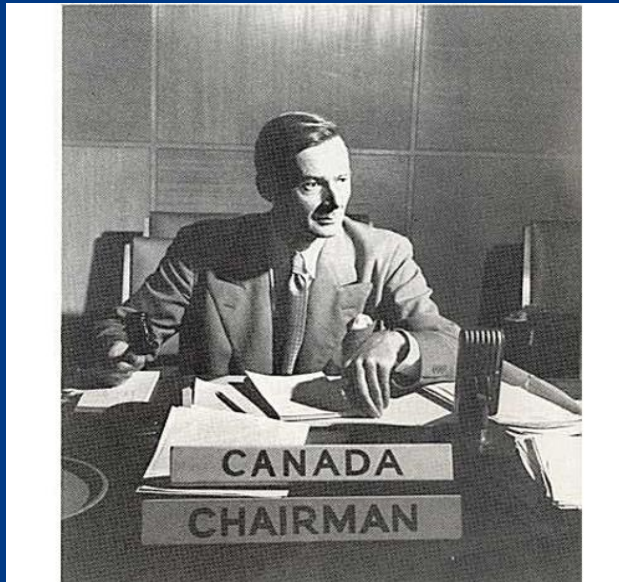
*All Members of the United Nations, in order to contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security, **undertake to make available to the Security Council, on its call and in accordance with a special agreement or agreements, armed forces, assistance and facilities, including rights of passage, necessary for the purpose of maintaining international peace and security ...***

Art. 47

There shall be established a Military Staff Committee to advise and assist the Security Council on all questions relating to the Security Council's military requirements for the maintenance of international peace and security, the employment and command of forces placed at its disposal ...



NATO's North American Roots



Canada's Rationale: Cold War

- ❑ *Concern with threat of Soviet Aggression*
- ❑ *Concern with US isolationism*
- ❑ *Influence US policy decisions*
- ❑ *Balance US influence on Canada*
- ❑ *Safeguard liberal economic order*
- ❑ *Moral responsibility to assist Europe*



UN CHARTER: Chapter VII Article 51



Art. 51

Nothing in the present Charter shall impair the inherent right of individual or collective self-defense if an armed attack occurs against a Member of the United Nations, until the Security Council has taken measures necessary to maintain international peace and security. Measures taken by Members in the exercise of this right of self-defense shall be immediately reported to the Security Council and shall not in any way affect the authority and responsibility of the Security Council under the present Charter to take at any time such action as it deems necessary in order to maintain or restore international peace and security.



UN CHARTER:

Chapter VIII Articles 52, 53 & 54



Art. 52

Nothing in the present Charter precludes the existence of regional arrangements or agencies for dealing with such matters relating to the maintenance of international peace and security as are appropriate for regional action, provided that such arrangements or agencies and their activities are consistent with the Purposes and Principles of the United Nations. All Members of the United Nations, in order to contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security, undertake to make available to the Security Council, on its call and in accordance with a special agreement or agreements, armed forces, assistance and facilities, including rights of passage, necessary for the purpose of maintaining international peace and security ...

Art. 53

The Security Council shall, where appropriate, utilize such regional arrangements or agencies for enforcement action under its authority ...

Art. 54

The Security Council shall at all times be kept fully informed of activities undertaken or in contemplation under regional arrangements or by regional agencies for the maintenance of international peace and security ...

Washington Treaty: Article 5



Art. 5

*The Parties agree that an armed attack against one or more of them in Europe or North America shall be considered an attack against them all and consequently they agree that, if such an armed attack occurs, each of them, in **exercise of the right of individual or collective self-defence recognized by Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations**, will assist the Party or Parties so attacked by taking forthwith, individually and in concert with the other Parties, such action as it deems necessary, including the use of armed force, to restore and maintain the security of the North Atlantic area.*



Washington Treaty: Article 7



Art. 7

*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.***



Post-Cold War Evolution

Canada's Rationale: Post-Cold War



- ☐ *Crisis management & peace enforcement mechanism*
- ☐ *Stabilizing agent*
- ☐ *Democratizing agent*
- ☐ *Collective defence*
- ☐ *Check on US power*
- ☐ *Trans-Atlantic consultative forum*

Expeditionary Forces





Agenda for Peace 1992



This wider mission for the world Organization will demand the concerted attention and effort of individual States, of regional ...organizations and of all of the United Nations system. [These] could include treaty-based organizations, whether created before or after the founding of the United Nations, regional organizations for mutual security and defence, organizations for general regional development or for cooperation on a particular economic topic or function, and groups created to deal with a specific political, economic or social issue of current concern.

-- UN Secretary General

NATO's greatest assets for the UN in Peace Support Operations:

- Military Capability
- Command and Control
- Security Sector Reform
- Moral Authority of Liberal Democracies



Positive Perceptions (2)



*The sheer size and complexity of peacekeeping operations makes it imperative to explore new avenues of cooperation with regional organizations such as NATO. **With its existing military structure, resources and political weight, NATO has a lot to contribute to the concept of peacekeeping, particularly in its more muscular form [...]** In this context, NATO's willingness to participate in United Nations operations holds promise of a vast qualitative as well as quantitative expansion of the means for collective action that are at the disposal of the United Nations.*

-- Under-Secretary General for
Peacekeeping Operations 1993

Positive Perceptions (3)

UN's greatest assets for
NATO in Peace Support Operations:

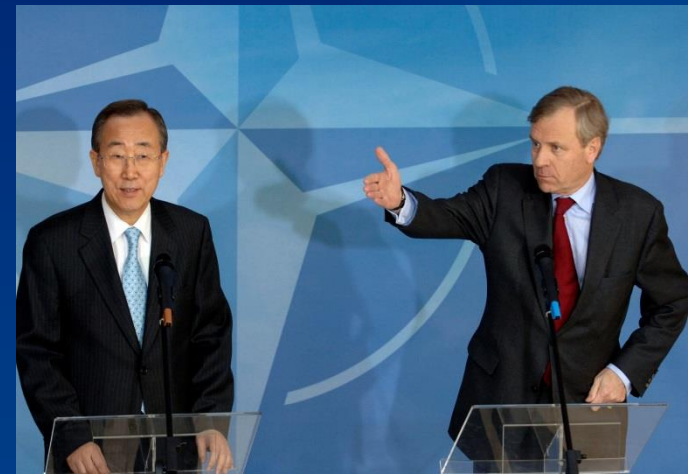
- Legitimacy
- Development
- Political Process
- Check on US Power



UN-NATO Joint Declaration 2008



- *Welcoming over a decade of cooperation between the United Nations and NATO ...*
- *Calls for a framework of regular consultation and coordination to improve:*
 - *communication and information sharing*
 - *protection of civilian populations*
 - *capacity-building, training and exercises*
 - *lessons learned*
 - *planning and support for contingencies*
 - *operational coordination and support*
- *Taking into account respective mandates and capabilities.*



Libya & R2P

2011

- ***No-fly zone and arms embargo enforcement to protect civilians.***

“Member States, acting nationally or through regional organizations or arrangements ...”

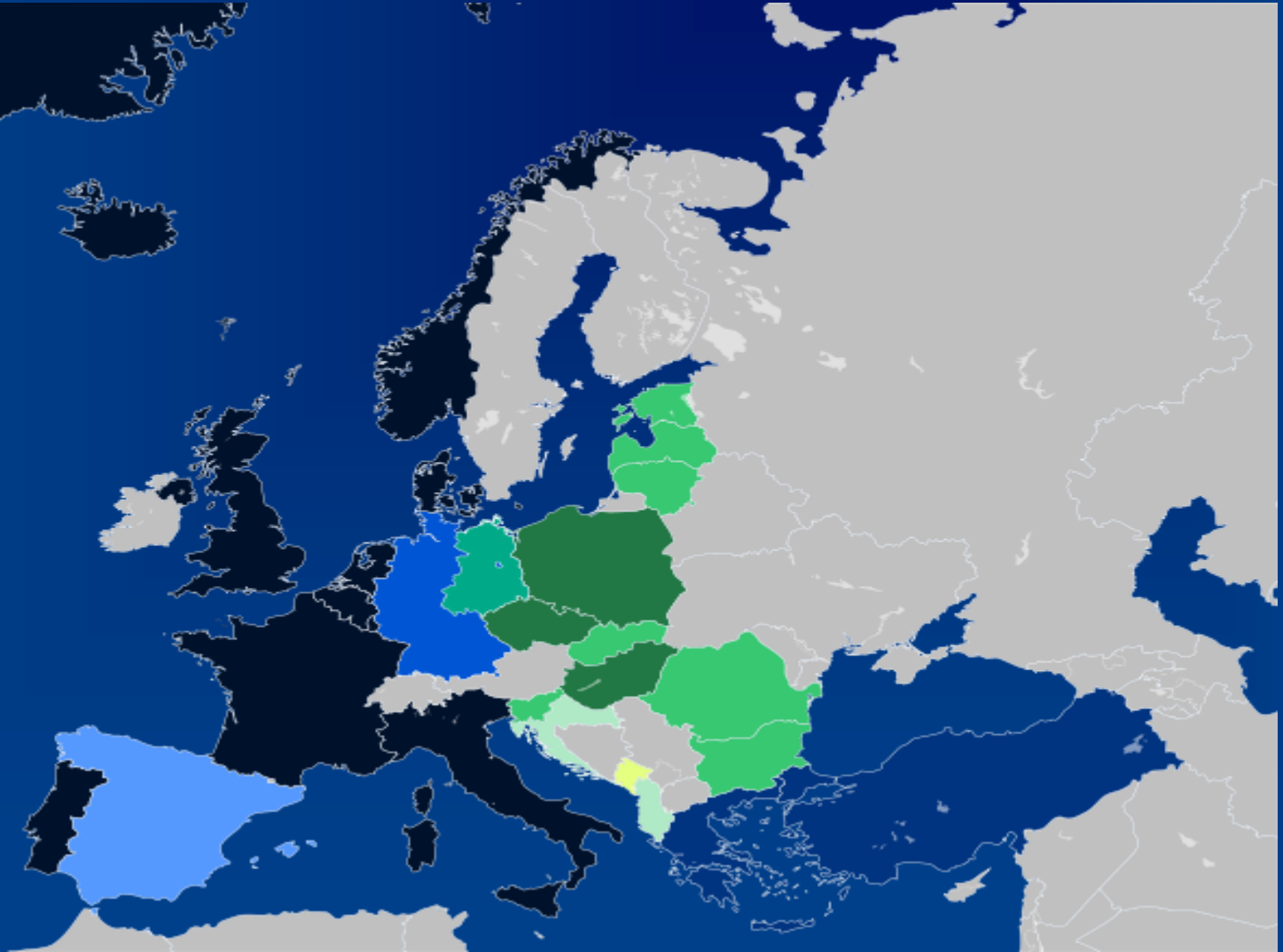
-- UNSCR 1973, 2011



NATO enlargement



1949
1952
1955
1982
1990
1999
2004
2009
2017

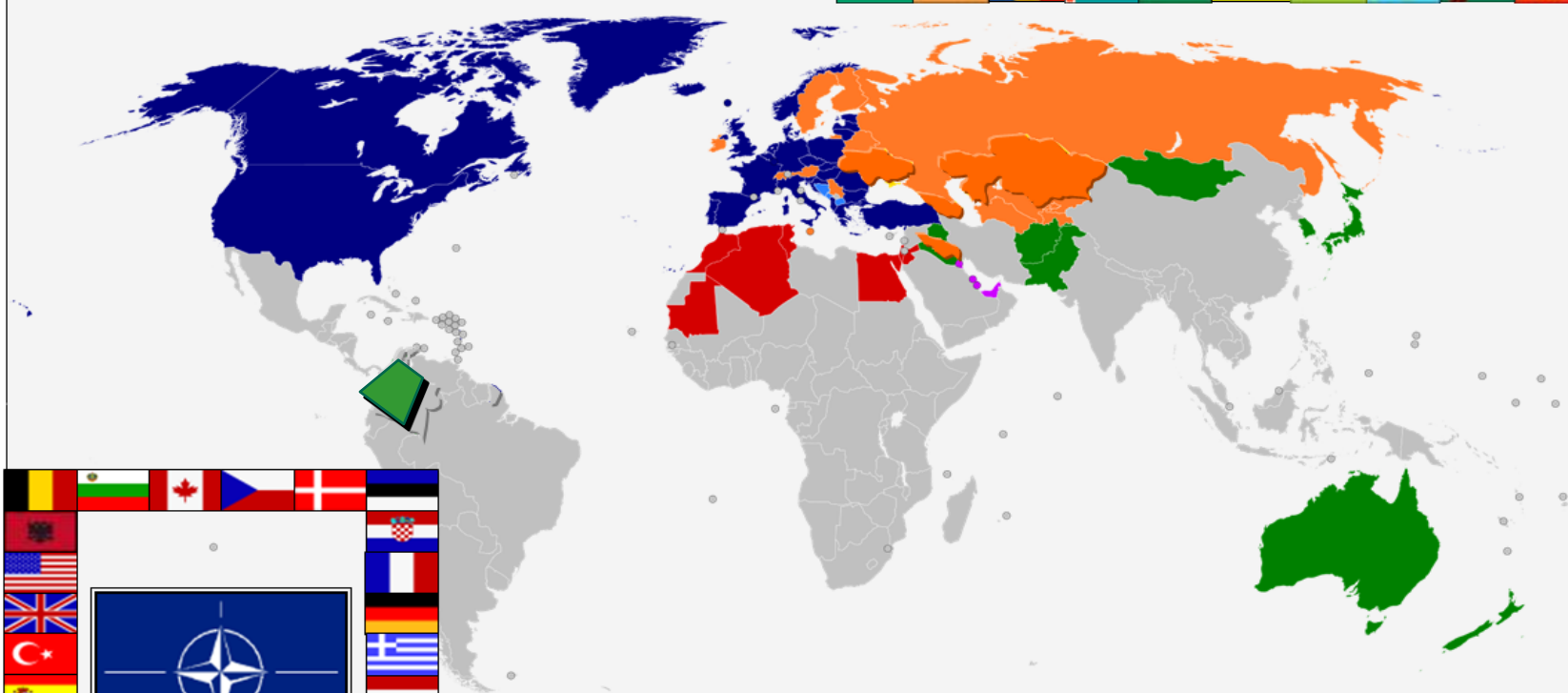


NATO Partnerships

Istanbul Cooperation Initiative



Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council



Mediterranean Dialogue



Partners across the Globe



Post-Crimea Period

*The General Assembly called on states to “**desist and refrain**” from actions aimed at disrupting **Ukraine’s national unity and territorial integrity**, including by modifying its borders through the threat of use of force.”*

*Called on states **not to recognize any change in the status of Crimea.***

*-- UN General Assembly Resolution 68/262,
March 2014*



Wales Summit Declaration

Sep 2014



*We, the Heads of State and Government of the member countries of the North Atlantic Alliance, have gathered in Wales at a pivotal moment in Euro-Atlantic security. **Russia's aggressive actions against Ukraine have fundamentally challenged our vision of a Europe whole, free, and at peace.** Growing instability in our southern neighbourhood, from the Middle East to North Africa, as well as transnational and multi-dimensional threats, are also challenging our security. These can all have long-term consequences for peace and security in the Euro-Atlantic region and stability across the globe.*

*We are **reaffirming our strong commitment to collective defence and to ensuring security and assurance for all Allies.***

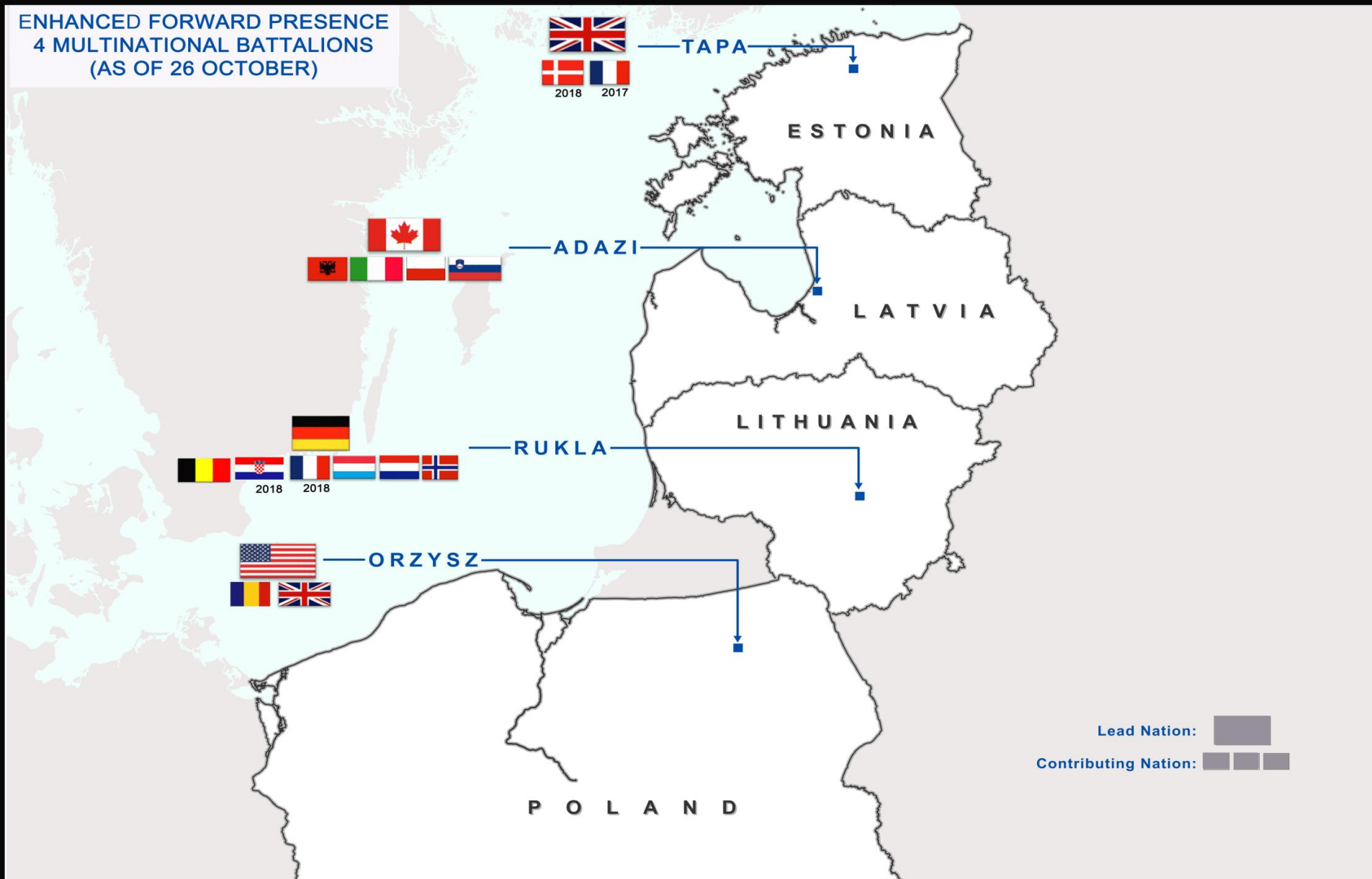
--September 2014



Collective Defence



ENHANCED FORWARD PRESENCE
4 MULTINATIONAL BATTALIONS
(AS OF 26 OCTOBER)



Three Core Tasks:

- Collective Defense
- Crisis Management
- Cooperative Security (Partnerships)



Trump Era?



PARESH
CagleCartoons.com


Implications for NATO (1)

- *'America First' = NATO's 'Indispensable Ally' or US Isolationism/Withdrawal from Europe?*
- *'Let's make a deal': 2% of GDP on Defense Spending or else ... ?*
- *Rapprochement with Russia?*
- *US Pivot to Asia?*
- *US Posture in Middle East?*



Implications for NATO (2)



“Getting results-- > NATO member 
Canada will increase military spending
70 percent over next decade.”

Senior Assistant - White House

“The fact that our friend and ally has come to question the very worth of its mantle of global leadership puts into sharper focus the need for the rest of us to set our own clear and sovereign course.” “As the Prime Minister has outlined, our objective is to restore constructive Canadian leadership in the world.”

Canadian Foreign Minister

