U. S. NATO & Europe: Adapting to a New Security Environment

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Transformational Change Moment Has Come to NATO

- The U.S. Trump Administration Does not Share the Traditional Collective Security Values of NATO
- It is Unlikely That A Post-Trump NATO Will Revert to the Pre-Trump NATO
- Europe and NATO Need to Develop New Approaches for Their Collective and Multilateral Security Concerns

Prior to 2017, the Ties Binding NATO Allies Had Been Weakening

- The U.S. European dyad had been fraying for some time
- Priorities among the European NATO members have also been diverging

President Trump Accelerated the Deterioration in U.S. – European Relationships

 Pres. Trump is giving voice to a strong current of public opinion in the U.S. that is not supportive of the Transatlantic ideal and holds an exaggerated assessment on the importance and strength of the U.S. in the world.

The Issues Dividing the Alliance Have Been Ignored for Too Long

- Differences among the national publics on the proper role and purpose of NATO
- Differences between the U.S. and NATO members on the salience of the Russian threat on how to respond
- Differences in threat perceptions among European NATO members

The 2% Defense Allocation Issue Was a Canard.

- 2% was used to deflect debate on serious issues.
- 2% was used to defer reform and return to past models of behavior

Returning to the Past for NATO is a Fairy Tale.

- U.S. unqualified commitment to the NATO alliance will not return.
- Over time, the reluctance of the U.S. government to execute Trump's lead will break.
- There is no going back.

Moving Beyond Today's NATO - I

- NATO, over the past 70 years, has kept the peace in Europe and brought much of Europe together under a single collective security umbrella.
- Madeleine Albright's 3 Ds No Duplication, No Discrimination, No Decoupling needs to be jettisoned.
- Today's European collective security environment, however, has moved beyond the 20th century centralized military forceon-force grand alliance structure.

Moving Beyond Today's NATO - II

- The European security challenges take place today in a much more variable and complex networked world with multiple instruments of power.
- Threats as varied as cyber, migration flows, climate change, nationalism, and hybrid warfare do not respond well to the deployment of brigades or squadrons of fighter aircraft.

Moving Beyond Today's NATO - III

- Today's European security threats are more amenable to:
 - Decentralized, regional, and flexible networked decision-making,
 - Voluntary and cooperative participation by members and other impacted parties,
 - Targeted application of multiple and issue specific instruments of power.

Moving Beyond Today's NATO - IV

- NATO's members, particularly in Europe, can use the crisis of decisionmaking to:
 - Reform the organization into a more flexible and adaptable community,
 - Identify and provide specific threatbased appropriate resources and expertise,
 - Respond in a targeted way to the full range of security issues impacting Europe.

Moving Beyond Today's NATO - V

- The old way of NATO decision-making is no longer effective:
 - Need for full transparency
 - Need for expanded participation and inclusion, even at the sub-national levels
 - Need for new generations and new publics to become engaged
 - Need for reflection, openness and honesty on the nature of the problems
 - Need to consider and experiment with new approaches