

**FOURTH EDITION OF THE YOUTH MEDITERRANEAN DIALOGUE**  
**THE ALLIANCE IN THE MENA REGION: SHIPPING THROUGH THE MEDITERRANEAN**

September 10<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> 2017, Madrid, KINGDOM OF SPAIN

**ORGANIZED BY CONSEJO ATLÁNTICO JUVENIL ESPAÑOL (COAJE),  
 THE YOUTH ATLANTIC TREATY ASSOCIATION OF SPAIN**



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### THE CONCEPT OF THE YOUTH MEDITERRANEAN DIALOGUE

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The North Atlantic Treaty Organization is a political and military alliance, created to ensure and promote security and stability in the North Atlantic Area, but also committed also to the resolution of crisis beyond its borders and to the support of its partners worldwide. Due to this international scope, more than twenty years ago NATO created the Mediterranean Dialogue Initiative with the aim "to create good relation and better mutual understanding and confidence throughout the region, promoting regional security and stability and explaining NATO's policies and goals".

COAJE, the Youth Atlantic Treaty Association of Spain, strongly believes that it is time to call on new generations to give them the chance to be heard. It is within this framework that we consider Madrid, the capital of the Kingdom of Spain, the geopolitical and natural connection between our two seas and therefore, between the Euro-Atlantic region and the Mediterranean region, the ideal place to bring together students and young professionals, passionate about international security and defense, to debate about the role of NATO in the world, its capacities and its biggest challenges.

Our program aims to raise awareness on the major political and security issues that our world faces today, demonstrate the need to work together as one in the international world, and finally, be a vehicle for our young generation to get involved in finding solutions for building peace and stability.

Participants will learn the importance of the Alliance when it comes to global peace, security and stability. They will have the opportunity to attend academic conferences of experts on Mediterranean security issues, to visit military and civil institutions and facilities and to learn from military officers, diplomats and representatives of defense industry.

The structure of the YMD 2017 will be different from past editions, this time dividing participants in four workshops, dealing with NATO's main priorities and challenges. We consider this new structure will allow participants to express their views freely, what will conduct to synergies amongst participants and, over all, to the sharing of opinions and knowledge between students, young professionals, academia, military and industry spheres. Participants will close their engagement by working collectively on policy recommendations that will be published on COAJE website and social media channels to promote a youth perspective for advancing NATO's strategic goals.





### WORKSHOP AREAS

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As outlined by the Alliance Strategic Concept of 2010, NATO has three core tasks: collective defence, crisis management and cooperative security. To achieve and fulfil these objectives, NATO dedicates its efforts to promote stability and to strengthen its deterrence and defence capability. Due to this particular focus, workshops will be developing as follows:

- **360 degrees approach: investing in capabilities for a credible deterrence**

NATO's overall strategy includes preventing conflict and war, protecting Allies, maintaining freedom of decision and action, and upholding the principles and values it stands for: individual liberty, democracy, human rights and the rule of law.

Today, the Alliance is faced with a security environment that is more diverse, complex, fast moving and demanding than at any time since its inception. It faces challenges and threats that originate from the east and from the south, from state and non-state actors, from military forces and from terrorist, cyber and hybrid attacks. The Alliance must be able to address the full spectrum of current and future challenges and threats from any direction, simultaneously.

In order to implement a credible deterrence and defence strategy, NATO must maintain the full range of capabilities necessary to ensure the safety and security of its Allies. It is therefore adapting to new threats such as cyberattacks, without forgetting about the conventional risks such as ballistic missiles attacks. More specifically, NATO is strengthening its deterrence and defence posture focusing on areas such as conventional forces, forward presence, joint air power and maritime forces, as well as cyber defence, civil preparedness and hybrid threats, including in cooperation with the European Union.

- **A maritime approach. The protection of the Mediterranean Sea**

Spain, as a peninsula surrounded by the Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea, as well as most countries in North Africa and Middle East are fully aware of the importance of maritime security. The 2011 Alliance Maritime Strategy states NATO's commitment to helping protect vital sea lines of communication and maintain freedom of navigation, including through surveillance, information-sharing, maritime interdiction, and contributions to energy security, including through the protection of critical infrastructure.

Therefore, NATO is encompassing a complete revamp of its maritime forces and an extensive multi-year programme of maritime exercises and training.





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The strategy also promotes the enhancement of the cooperation between NATO and its partners, as well as other international actors, in particular the European Union. The security of the Mediterranean is a vital interest shared by NATO and MD partners; for this reason, the Alliance is supporting the Middle East and North Africa countries in reinforcing their maritime capacities, as part of the defence capacity-building initiatives, and in improving the interoperability of their maritime forces.

In addition, in October 2016, NATO launched the operation "Sea Guardian" in the Mediterranean to support maritime situational awareness, counter-terrorism at sea and capacity-building, providing assistance with the refugee and migrant crisis.

- **NATO's approach to the Middle East.**

As stated by NATO Secretary General in October 2016, at the celebrations for the 65th Anniversary of NATO Defence College, the Middle East is a very important region for NATO, as Allies share many of the same security threats and challenges as MENA countries. The increased focus on the southern flank of the Alliance reflects NATO's view that Allies' security is closely linked to security and stability in the Mediterranean and Middle East region. The Mediterranean Dialogue and Istanbul Cooperation Initiative, as two distinct frameworks respectively dedicated to the Mediterranean and the Gulf regions, offer a platform to foster NATO-MENA relations bilaterally and multilaterally in many areas of shared interest.

Recognising MD and ICI partners' fundamental contribution in preventing conflicts and in developing regional security and stability in the MENA region, the Alliance is enhancing political dialogue and practical cooperation with them. The MD and the ICI are mutually beneficial partnerships through which NATO seeks partners' contribution to its activities taking into account their ideas, proposals and first-hand knowledge of specific issues and partners can take advantage of NATO's expertise and added value in the fields of security and defence. The reciprocity of the relationships is ensured by regular political consultations and practical cooperation in specific areas, according to partners' interests and needs.

In addition, at the Warsaw Summit in 2016, NATO and the European Union strengthened their strategic partnership in light of the common challenges they are facing to the east and the south, outlining more than 40 areas of cooperation. They include hybrid threats, operational cooperation including at sea, cyber security and defence, defence capabilities, defence industrial cooperation, exercises and provision of assistance to partners to the east and south in the field of defence capacity building. In the context of supporting partners to build defence capabilities and increase their resilience,





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Tunisia was identified as a pilot country together with Bosnia-Herzegovina and Moldova. In the near future, a series of activities in the fields of strategic communications, cyber defence and ammunition storage and safety will be implemented in these countries with the support of both NATO and the EU.

- **Projecting stability towards the South. Cooperative security in North Africa and the Middle East.**

Through cooperative security, NATO engages with partners to help building security and stability beyond its borders. To this end, NATO offers a number of tools and mechanisms to support the enhancement of political dialogue and practical cooperation with partners, including MD ones. NATO has developed Individual Partnership Cooperation Programmes with all MD countries. These programmes allow for bilateral, tailored-made cooperation in different areas, in line with MD partners' interests and needs. For example, they participate in political bilateral and multilateral consultations with NATO at different levels, they attend NATO seminars and training courses; they take part in NATO exercises to improve the interoperability of their armed forces with Allied ones and be able to contribute to NATO-led operations and missions. Areas of practical cooperation with MD partners include the fight against terrorism, non-proliferation of WMD and small arms and light weapons, cyber defence, crisis management, defence policy and planning, fighting corruption and integrating gender perspectives in the security and defence sector

Moreover, NATO is currently providing support to Jordan and Iraq through its Defence Capacity Building Initiative, a tailored and specialised support in specific areas provided to partners which demand assistance measures that exceed what is offered through the existing programmes. For example, through this programme Jordan is receiving tailored and specialised support in the areas of military exercises, countering improvised explosive devices (C-IED) and border security, while Iraqi security forces are receiving training in Jordan and in Iraq in the areas of C-IED, explosive ordnance disposal and demining, military medicine and.

In January 2017, the new NATO-ICI Regional Centre was inaugurated in Kuwait. It represents another very useful tool to enhance cooperation between NATO and ICI countries, improve mutual understanding and inform partners about NATO's policies and perspectives, especially in the domain of projecting stability, through their direct participation into NATO activities.

Moreover, as part of NATO's efforts to counter terrorism, in May 2017, NATO joined the Global Counter-ISIL Coalition and is providing AWACS surveillance aircrafts to improve situational awareness and contributing to the efforts to defeat ISIL.





### WORKSHOP SUB-TOPICS

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#### **360 degrees approach: investing in capabilities for a credible deterrence**

- Deterrence
- New threats: cybersecurity
- Traditional threat: ballistic missiles

#### **A maritime approach. The protection of the Mediterranean Sea**

- 2011 Alliance Maritime Strategy: maritime operation Sea Guardian
- Counter terrorism
- Refugee crisis
- Protection from piracy

#### **NATO's approach to the Middle East**

- Mediterranean Dialogue partnership and the Istanbul Initiative, reinforcing NATO-MENA relations.
- Training mission in Jordan: DAESH defeat and the situation of Kurdish people
- Training mission in Iraq: achieving stability in Syria
- NATO's new centre in Kuwait

#### **Projecting stability towards the South. Cooperative security in North Africa and the Middle East**

- NATO's Individual Partnership Action Plan with Morocco and Tunisia
- Morocco and the Saharawi conflict
- Tunisia and democracy
- Sahel area, especially in Mali, Mauritania and Niger





### THE EVENT





### PROGRAM SCHEDULE

#### Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September

- During all day**      **Arrival of the participants**  
Registration process: Check in and deliverance of the academic material  
(**Military Residence 'Don Quijote' Av/Doctor Federico Rubio y Galí, 61 - 28040- Madrid**).
- 16:00 – 20:00**      Free time for delegates to discover Madrid, to join the pre-discussions at the residence or to take part in the organized activities.
- 20:30 – 21:30**      **Opening Act at Don Quijote**
- 21:30**      Toast. Welcome remarks  
**Ms. Claudia Peña Butrón** (COAJE President and Director of the program)  
**Ms. Sonia Velázquez León** (COAJE Vice-president of Organization, Academic Coordinator of the Event)





### PROGRAM SCHEDULE

#### Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September - OPENING CEREMONY

- 08:00 – 09:00** Breakfast
- 9:15 - 10:00** "NATO Digital Transformation: Programme Management Aspects", by **Mr. César Pérez Vázquez**, Head of the Command and Control Networks and Critical Information Systems Department, at the Defence and Security Division of ISDEFE.
- 10:00 – 11:30** **First** Workshop Session
- 11:30 – 12:00** **Coffee Break**
- 12:00 – 13:00** **Second** Workshop Session
- 13:00 – 14:45** Lunch at Don Quijote
- 15:15** Shuttle to CESEDEN, Spanish Centre for National Defence Studies
- 16:00 – 17:30** **INAUGURAL CEREMONY**

*The Youth Mediterranean Dialogue is the result of the cooperation, trust, and joint efforts of both national and international institutions whose representatives will address the delegates during this first conference with the aim of welcome them.*

**H.E. Rafael Sánchez Ortega**, Lieutenant General of the Air Force, Director CESEDEN (TBC)

**Ms. Claudia Peña Butrón**, President of YATA Spain

**H.E. Pilar Laguna Sánchez**, Dean of the Faculty of Law and Social Sciences URJC and President of ADALEDE

**H.E. Pedro Arguelles**, President of the Atlantic Treaty Association of Spain

**H.E. Benjamin G. Ziff**, Chargé d'Affaires at the U.S. Embassy in Madrid.

**H.E. Nicola de Santis**, Head of the Middle East and North Africa Section in the Political Affairs and Security Policy Division of NATO

**H.E. Admiral Juan Francisco Martínez Núñez**, Secretary General of Defense Policies.



- 17:30 – 17:45** Shuttle back to **Military Residence "Don Quijote"**
- 18:15 – 20:15** **Third** Workshop Session
- 21:00** Dinner time at Don Quijote





### PROGRAM SCHEDULE

#### Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September

- 08:00 – 09:00** Breakfast
- 9:15** Shuttle to the Navy Museum
- 10:30** Visit of the **Navy Museum** (Navy's history, life in a galleon, scientific expeditions, Nao San Diego)
- 13:00** Shuttle back to Military Residence "Don Quijote"
- 13:30 – 15:30** Lunch at the Military Residence "Don Quijote"
- 16:30 – 17:30** Masterclass on **Terrorism (TBC)**.
- 17:30 – 18:00** Coffee break
- 18:00 – 19:30** **Fourth workshop session – Experts conferences: academic perspective**

*Workshops will be visited by experts in the topic discussed in order to provide the participants with insights. They will have the opportunity not to only learn from them, but also to ask the speaker questions that may have arisen during the first day of discussion.*

#### **360° degrees approach: investing in capabilities for a credible deterrence**

- Expert from the Spanish Joint Command of Ciberdefence.
- Mr. Felix Arteaga. Main researcher of Real Instituto Elcano. Specialized in Security and National Defence.

#### **Maritime security: the protection of the Mediterranean**

- Expert analyst from the Spanish Institute for Strategic Studies
- US Navy Representative

#### **NATO's approach to the Middle East**

- Mr. Haizam Amirah. Main researcher of Real Instituto Elcano. Specialized in Arab World, North Africa and Magreb
- Mr. Alfredo Gutiérrez Kavanagh, European Doctor, expert on International Law and Islamic political and judicial systems in the Middle East.

#### **Projecting stability towards the South. Cooperative security in North Africa and the Middle East.**

- **Mr. Eduard Soler I Lecha**, Senior researcher and scientific coordinator of MENARA Project (Middle East, Magreb and Mediterranean), CIDOB.
- Expert analyst from the Spanish Institute for Strategic Studies

- 21:00** Dinner Time at "Don Quijote"





### PROGRAM SCHEDULE

#### Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September: MADRID DAY

08:00 – 09:00 Breakfast

9:30: Shuttle to Alcalá de Henares

#### MADRID DAY

During Madrid Day, participants will have the opportunity to get to know **Alcalá de Henares** city and the emblematic historic and cultural places around. This way participants will get to know a little bit more of the Community of Madrid, the province of the Spanish capital.

Participants will be divided into **three groups** to visit the city, counting with English tourist guides.



14:00 – 15:00 Shuttle back to the Military Residence

15:10 Lunch time

15:45 – 17:00 **Fifth** workshop session

17:00 – 18:30 **Sixth** workshop session

18:30 – 19:00 Coffee break

19:00 – 20:30 **Seventh** workshop session

21:00 Dinner time at Don Quijote





### PROGRAM SCHEDULE

#### Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September

- 08:00 – 08:30** Breakfast
- 09:00** Shuttle to Torrejón Air Force Base
- 09:30 – 10:45** **Visit to Torrejón, joint Spanish-US Air Force Base**  
Visit to ALA 12 ("Wing 12"), one of the most famous Spanish Air Force Combat
- Welcome by the Chief Colonel of ALA 12
  - Visit to F-18 fighter aircraft
  - Visit to the ALA 12 Museum, just renewed and modernized



**11:30**

#### **GROUP 1: NATO Combined Air Operations Center**

- **11:30-12:30:** Conference by Center's General Director.
- **12:30:** smaller group of participants will visit Operations Room of CAOCT Center.
- **13:00:** British flag lifting ceremony (from time to time, CAOCT honours NATO's members with this military ceremony, lifting each time a Member's flag).
- **13:30:** Toast with the British Ambassador in CAOCT cafeteria with CAOCT staff.
- **14:00:** Lunch with CAOC staff.
- **15:45:** Shuttle back to Military Residence Don Quijote



#### **GROUP 2: SPANISH AIR MUSEUM**

- **11:30-12:00:** Shuttle to Cuatro Vientos Air Force Base
- **12:00-13:30:** Visit to the Air Museum, one of the most famous of its kind in the entire world
- **13:30-15:30:** Lunch at Barberan Club
- **15:45:** Shuttle back to Military Residence Don Quijote



- 17:00 – 18:45** **Eighth** Workshop Session
- 18:45 – 19:00** Coffee Break
- 19:00 – 20:00** **Ninth** Workshop Session
- 20:30** Dinner time at Don Quijote





### PROGRAM SCHEDULE

#### Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September

08:00 – 09:00

Breakfast

9:30

Shuttle to the **Guadarrama Headquarters (El Goloso)**

10:00 – 12:45

Visit of the **XII Armored Infantry Brigade** \*\* **Please bring your passport**

- Visit to the Museum of Military History
- Discovering the tanks battalion
- Technological devices of the Spanish Armed Forces (WG4)



\*Delegates will rotate through the activities



13:00 – 13:30

Shuttle back to Military Residence "Don Quijote"

14:00 – 15:30

Lunch at Military Residence "Don Quijote"

15:30 – 17:00

**Tenth** Workshop Session

#### **Closing Session - FINAL REMARKS**

*After a week of intense debates, meetings and conferences, participants will present their policy recommendations.*

17:15 – 19:00

**Welcome Speech and introduction of the speakers** – Ms. Sonia Velázquez León, Academic Coordinator of the Event

**Presentation of the Policy Recommendations**

**Final remarks and evaluation of the Youth Mediterranean Dialogue** – Ms. Claudia Peña Butrón, President of YATA Spain and Director of the event

#### 20:30 GALA DINNER





## PROGRAM SCHEDULE

### Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September

08:00 – 09:00 Breakfast  
9:30 Check out



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