



NATO Parliamentary Assembly

DECLARATION

on

NATO ENLARGEMENT¹

The Assembly,

1. **Recalling** its Declaration 409 on *NATO Enlargement* adopted at the spring session in Vilnius in May 2014;
2. **Reaffirming** its full and continuous support for NATO enlargement and the membership aspirations of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Montenegro and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*;
3. **Noting** that in accordance with Article 10 of the Washington Treaty, NATO's door remains open for European countries ready and able to fulfil the requirements of NATO membership;
4. **Acknowledging** the renewal by Ukraine of its Euro-Atlantic aspirations;
5. **Welcoming** the Wales Summit decisions on the open door policy, including the renewed encouragement addressed to Bosnia and Herzegovina and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the Substantial NATO-Georgia Package which helps Georgia to advance its membership of the Alliance, and the commitment to decide on Montenegro's invitation by the end of 2015;
6. **Stressing** that NATO aspirants must continue with necessary preparations to fulfil the requirements of NATO membership as set out in Article 10 of the Washington Treaty;

¹ Presented by the Standing Committee and adopted by the Plenary Assembly on Monday 18 May 2015, Budapest, Hungary

* Turkey recognises the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name.

7. **Recalling** that NATO enlargement poses no threat to any nation but rather enhances the security and stability of the entire Euro-Atlantic region;
 8. **Stressing** that the NATO enlargement process cannot be influenced by a third party, other than by Alliance and aspirant countries;
 9. **Highlighting** the strong catalysing effect of the open door policy, **and noting** that this positive impact requires the open door policy to remain a realistic and credible prospect;
 10. **Convinced therefore** that Allies must continue to affirm and demonstrate their commitment to the open door policy;
 11. **URGES** the governments and parliaments of the North Atlantic Alliance:
 - a. to maintain the Wales Summit commitment to the open door policy;
 - b. to deliver the support agreed at the Summit for aspirant countries, and to decide on Montenegro's invitation by the end of 2015;
 - c. to continue supporting the implementation of a Substantial NATO-Georgia Package and, in accordance with the Bucharest 2008 Summit decision, to take the next step in Georgia's integration to NATO by granting it a Membership Action Plan;
 12. **URGES** the governments and parliaments of the countries striving for NATO membership:
 - a. to redouble their efforts to address outstanding issues on their path towards membership;
 13. **RECOGNISES** the difficult environment, in which Ukraine appears against a backdrop of the unprecedented aggression by the Russian Federation, and **ENCOURAGES** the Ukrainian Government and Parliament to put every effort into reforming the country according to democratic Euro-Atlantic standards
 14. **PLEDGES**, as it has done in the past, to render aspirant countries all possible assistance to help them achieve their goal of NATO membership.
-