NATO Participation Guide

THIMUN The Hague LVIII

January 26 – January 30, 2026

The Hague, Netherlands

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North Atlantic Treaty Organisation

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North Atlantic Treaty Organisation Map

Map of all NATO members and their date of entry into the alliance

Source: https://nwegeo.com/europe-map-nato-member-states-with-years-of-accession/

The Guide for Panellists

National/Opening Statements

Duration: 2-3 minutes

- All Panellists deliver their national/opening statements on either the briefing day or the first day of the conference.
- National/Opening statements should address points including:
  - The progress made by the state the panellist represents on each of the issues,
  - The stance of the delegation on each of the issues,
  - The relevance of the issues for the delegations and the effect change could have,
  - The background of the panellist's delegation,
  - The importance of the representation of the panellist's delegation in the NATO Summit.

Lobbying

Total Duration: First Round, 6 hours; Second Round, 2 hours; Third Round, 1 hour.

- The goal of lobbying is to "reach a consensus on a set of clauses as a forum."
- Since the aim of NATO is to adopt a joint proposal by consensus, effective lobbying is crucial.

Procedures for Lobbying:

- The NATO will lobby on the sub-questions separately.
- There will be three rounds of talks on the proposal as a whole. Every round will consist of a lobbying and plenary session. After each plenary session, further lobbying time will be allowed to enable parties to reach consensus. Tabled clauses may also be re-considered to reach an agreement during this time.
- Panellists merge clauses in small groups, but there are no "merging groups" that may potentially oppose one another during debate; hence, there is no "co-submitter signature form." However, the formation of informal sub-groups consisting of states with similar views to accelerate the process of lobbying are encouraged.
- There is no "main-submitter" in the NATO, however, there is a "submitter of a clause," who is the panellist submitting the clause to the Presidency.
- The "submitter of a clause" is the first speaker during the debate of the particular clause during sessions.

- Panellists do not go through the Approval Panel, but submit the clauses directly to the Presidency. The Presidents approve the clauses after checking for grammar mistakes, formatting errors and plagiarism. Panellists' clauses must receive the President's approval in order for them to be debated during sessions.
- The President may grant lobbying time before the Plenary Session on the entire recommendation, if it is necessary.

- ❖ NOTE:
  - ○ Before coming to the conference, Panellists prepare a number of clauses. These clauses then get merged and debated into a recommendation.
  - ○ Lobbying is the most crucial part of the NATO Summit. The aim of the Forum is to reach consensus, and apart from other forums, the NATO Summit emphasises on lobbying as much as debating. Lobbying is not a preparation phase for debating, it is the time that all Panellists are encouraged to actively lobby and merge their clauses with other Panellists.
  - ○ Operative verbs that a panellist **can** use (bolded) and *cannot use* (italicised) are as follows:

Accepts	**Congratulates**	**Further recommends**	**Seeks**
Advises	*Confirms*	**Hopes**	*Strongly affirms*
Affirms	*Declares accordingly*	**Invites**	**Strongly urges**
Approves	*Deplores*	*Proclaims*	**Suggests**
Asks	*Designates*	**Proposes**	**Supports**
Authorises	**Encourages**	**Recommends**	**Trusts**
Calls for	*Endorses*	**Regrets**	**Transmits**
Calls upon	**Expresses its satisfaction**	**Requests**	**Urges**
Congratulates	**Expresses its hope**	*Resolves*	

Proposal and Joint Comuniqué

A joint communiqué is the final document produced by the NATO Summit. The president and his deputy-presidents of NATO will edit this proposal following the conference and create a joint communiqué.

- The aim of the NATO Summit is to adopt a joint proposal by consensus.
- NATO produces one final joint communiqué by the end of the conference, which consists of preamble and operative clauses grouped under three headings (one for each issue).
- Once a final joint proposal is produced through debates, NATO holds a final vote.

The President and their deputy-presidents of the NATO are responsible for editing the final draft of the joint communiqué in such a fashion that it is presentable for the THIMUN Hague Reports Book. The joint communiqué is to include an ending section, which refers to the future aims and meetings of NATO. Complete sentences may be used in the joint communiqué text.

Rules of Procedure

Plenary Sessions

Total Duration

- First Round, 9 hours; Second Round, 3 hours; Final Round, 1 hour.

Procedures for Debate

- Debate is conducted in clause-by-clause, closed debate format.
- After taking the floor, a speaker must choose among:
  - Yielding the floor back to the presidents,
  - Yielding the floor to another Panellist,
  - Answering points of information from the House.

- ❖ NOTE:
  - This means that Panellists are not allowed to yield the floor to another panellist after having answered points of information from the House.
  - Follow-ups are allowed in NATO, but they are to be granted at the Presidents' discretion.

Procedures for Amendments:

- Amendments are conducted in a closed debate format.
- The Panellists may submit new clauses as amendments after all clauses submitted during lobbying are debated.
- When an amendment fails, the submitter does not retain the floor.
- NATO adopts amendments by consensus. Voting procedures for amendments is the same with that of clauses. See "Procedures for Voting''.

Procedures for Voting:

- When voting on clauses, Panellists may vote for, against, or abstain; no Panellist holds a veto power.
- NATO adopts clauses by consensus. If a panellist is going to vote against or abstain, the panellist must object to moving into the voting procedures. The President holds the power to cancel lobbying procedures if a panellist votes against a clause without objecting to moving into the voting procedures.
- If a Panellist votes against or abstains, the clause under consideration will be tabled by the President. Panellists may move a motion to reconsider a tabled clause at any point in the debate. Panellists may withdraw clauses at any time except for during voting procedures.
- The President may declare that the clause under consideration will be adopted with a simple majority if present in the house, only when essential for the debate.

- ❖ NOTE:
  - ○ Voting procedures for motions follow the rules outlined in the THIMUN Rules of Procedure.

Miscellaneous

Note-passing

Note passing between Panellists is allowed during the sessions.

- Note passing is done through the members of administrative staff; all notes from panellists are screened. However, notes from/to the President will not be screened.
- Note passing should not involve any verbal activity, like shouting, to get the attention of administrative staff members.
- The President may suspend note passing if they feel that it detracts from debate.
- Note passing is also suspended during any form of voting.

Other points

- Mobile phones must be switched off during sessions.
- Active Laptops are permitted during debate. However, the administrative staff will be screening laptop screens to ensure Panellists remain focused.
- Any act that will interrupt the debate is out of order.
- Eating and drinking during debate is out of order. Water is an exception.

Dress Code:

- The dress code for THIMUN is business formal.
- All male Panellists should wear their ties and blazers at all times; female Panellists may use their discretion to dress appropriately, formally and professionally.
- Sneakers and pins displaying affiliation to non-delegation related groups or organisations are prohibited.

Plagiarism:

- President and deputy presidents check clauses for plagiarism after they have been submitted. The restatement and/or copying of previous MUN and UN resolutions are considered plagiarism. Operative clauses found to be plagiarised will not be debated.
- AI is allowed as a means of research, yet the usage of it to draft speeches, clauses, amendments etc. is prohibited and will result in a deprioritisation of the delegate in question during the debate.

Schedule for the NATO Summit

Day 0 - Monday, January 26, 2026	
15:00-17:00 (possibly shorter)	<u>Ad hoc Meeting</u> - Presentation on by the President - Opening speeches
Day 1 - Tuesday, January 27, 2026	
09:00-09:30	Resume Opening Speeches
09:30-11:30	**First Round of Lobbying on Issue 1** *"Developing the Partnership for Peace Programme [PfP]"*
11:30-Lunch	**First Round of Debate on Issue 1** *"Developing the Partnership for Peace Programme [PfP]"*
11:30-14:00	Lunch Available (time to be confirmed)
Lunch-14:45	**Follow-up First Round of Debate on Issue 1** *"Developing the Partnership for Peace Programme [PfP]"*
14:45-15:45	**First Round of Lobbying on Issue 2** *"The question of Ukraine and the NATO military presence in the East of the Alliance"*

16:00-17:00	Official Opening Ceremony

Day 2 - Wednesday, January 27, 2026

09:00-10:00	**Resume First Round of Lobbying on Issue 2** *"The question of Ukraine and the NATO military presence in the East of the Alliance"*
10:00-Lunch	**First Round of Debate on Issue 2** *"The question of Ukraine and the NATO military presence in the East of the Alliance"*
11:30-14:00	Lunch Available (time to be confirmed)
Lunch-15:30	**First Round of Lobbying on Issue 3** *"The situation in the Arctic region [ocean and neighbouring countries]"*
15:30-17:00	**First Round of Debate on Issue 3** *"The situation in the Arctic region [ocean and neighbouring countries]"*

Day 3 - Thursday, January 28, 2026

09:00-10:00	**Second Round of Lobbying on Issue 1** *"Developing the Partnership for Peace Programme [PfP]"*
10:00-Lunch	**Second Round of Debate on Issue 1** *"Developing the Partnership for Peace Programme [PfP]"*
11:30-14:00	Lunch Available (time to be confirmed)
Lunch-15:00	**Second Round of Lobbying on Issue 2** *"The question of Ukraine and the NATO military presence in the East of the Alliance"*
15:00-16:15	**Second Round of Debate on Issue 2** *"The question of Ukraine and the NATO military presence in the East of the Alliance"*
16:15-17:00	**Second Round of Lobbying on Issue 3** *" "The situation in the Arctic region [ocean and neighbouring countries]"*

Day 4 - Friday, January 30, 2026

09:00-10:00	**Second Round of Debate on Issue 3** *" "The situation in the Arctic region [ocean and neighbouring countries]"*
10:00-11:00	**Third Round of Lobbying** *on all three agenda issues*
11:00-Lunch	**Third Round of Debate** *on all three agenda issues*
11:30-14:00	Lunch Available (time to be confirmed)
Lunch-14:45	**Final Round of Lobbying** *on the joint proposal as a whole*
14:45-15:45	**Final Round of Debate** *on the joint proposal as a whole.*

Note: The schedule is subject to change, also without prior notice.

Issues on Debate

- Developing the Partnership for Peace Programme [PfP]
- The question of Ukraine and the NATO military presence in the East of the Alliance
- The situation in the Arctic region [ocean and neighbouring countries]

List of Panellists

Albania	Gabriel De La Torre	American School of Madrid
Belgium	Jakob Timmermans	Lycée Français Vincent van Gogh
Bulgaria	Maria Fleming Loera	Instituto Educativo Olinca
Canada	Arshiya Baheti	The International Community School of Abidjan
Croatia	Arjun Chaturvedi	Yew Chung Int. School of Shanghai
Czechia	Emjay Stapleton	Frankfurt International School
Denmark	Anastasios Giannakitsas	Am. Community School of Athens
Estonia	Simona Istrate	Kaiserslautern High School
Finland	Aleksandr Rezvin	TASIS Portugal
France	Aurora Ruotolo	Am. Overseas School of Rome
Germany	William (Ze-Wei) Wang	Frankfurt International School
Greece	Victoria Haas-Eberhard	ACS Cobham International School
Hungary	Vasilisa Stoliarova	American School of Madrid
Iceland	Pierfilippo Peruzzi	Am. Overseas School of Rome
Italy	Sanem Korkmaz	Robert College
Latvia	Dylan Minor	Park Tudor School
Lithuania	Xuanxi Zhou	Experimental HS Beijing
Luxemburg	Joshua Lam	John Burroughs School
Montenegro	Adelie Stomnes	Kulosaari Upper Secondary School
Netherlands	Selin Izmirlioglu	Özel Izmir Amerikan Koleji
North Macedonia	Paul Jahnke	Frankfurt International School

Norway	Senem Köylüoğlu	Robert College
Poland	Ecem Sevimsavur	Üsküdar American Academy
Portugal	Mateo Morizot	Lycée Français Vincent van Gogh
Romania	Srikoustubh Karanam	International School of Brussels
Slovakia	Benno Thomas	John F. Kennedy School Berlin
Slovenia	Shruthi Mahalingam	American Int. School of Chennai
Spain	Zeynep Caglar	Özel Izmir Amerikan Koleji
Sweden	Evelyn O'Sullivan	Frankfurt International School
Türkiye	Hongming Zhang	Frankfurt International School
United Kingdom	Helene Schmitt	Int. School of the Basel Region AG
United States of America	Camille Baeur Le Gal	American Int. School of Chennai