**International Security and Simulation**

**Scenario**: The Foreign Ministers of the US, UK, Germany, Ukraine, and Poland are meeting at a Special Emergency Conference convened by NATO to create a plan to potentially deter Russia from moving across the border and continuing his aggression against Ukraine. NATO should also try to create a plan to prevent future Russian aggression and if there is a way to solve the Crimean crisis. Due to the secrecy of the meeting, the meeting will be held at Stanford University in Palo Alto, CA, on April 12 and 13.

On March 16th, 2014, Crimea voted to rejoin Russia and leave the Ukraine by a 97% vote. Russian troops had entered the Crimea on February 27th, taking over key government and infrastructure sites, effectively taking control of the Crimea region and bottling up the Ukrainian troops that were there. These events had been preceded by the ousting and fleeing of President Viktor Yanukovych by popular protest. Russian troops were also called up to the frontier of the Ukraine all along the eastern frontier. It is unknown whether those troops will be called upon to invade the eastern regions of Ukraine.

Within the eastern region of Ukraine, there have been strong protests calling for autonomy from the new Kiev government which had taken control after protests began after former Yanukovych declined closer relationships with the IMF and the EU, and accepted a $15 billion dollar bailout from the Russian Federation.

40,000 Russian troops are massed against the eastern Ukrainian border with fighter jets, tanks, and artillery ready to invade in 12 hours notice. NATO must decide whether to send troops into the region, what kind of message that would send, what domestic problems might constrain the plan, and whether the plan is feasible or not. NATO has already begun sending fighter aircraft into Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania.

Questions for all countries:

* What goals should guide your country’s behavior during the upcoming NATO meeting?
  + Economic? Domestic? Diplomatic?
* What strategies should your delegation adopt to best achieve these goals?
* What are your countries’ ability to participate in the plan that is to be implemented?
* Is your country’s security protected well enough by the ensuing plan?
* Will the plan be enough to deter Vladimir Putin?
* What economic considerations need to be accounted for?

**Ukraine**: Ukraine is not part of NATO. Therefore NATO is not required to engage in self-defense of Ukraine if attacked under the collective defense clause. However, Ukraine is a country that participates closely with NATO and is a potential candidate to becoming a NATO member. However, joining NATO might prove to be deterrence against Russia. Note that a majority of eastern Ukraine are native Russian speakers and carry close ties with Russia. Protests in the region have occurred declaring themselves autonomous from the Kiev government. The Ukrainian military is vastly undertrained, undermanned, and understaffed and would only be able to slow down the Russian Army not stop them. Ukraine has already agreed to begin holding war games with NATO in the country.

**Ukrainian Points to consider**: What is the strength of the plan? What steps going forward can you take to strengthen your army or get NATO to become part of your deterrent? Is NATO a feasible deterrent? Are the NATO countries willing to take the risks necessary to defend your country?

**United States:** The United States is a member of NATO and is duty bound to protect all countries that are members of NATO under the collective defense clause. The United States guarantees the territorial sovereignty of Ukraine and calls for the protection of all human rights of all citizens. The United States condemns the Russian movements inside the Crimea and promises there “will be costs” if the Russian aggressions continue. The United States has frozen Russian assets and issued travel bans against individuals. Further sanctions will be implemented if Russia does not stop its aggression. European forces: 67,000 troops, 130 fighter jets. However, the US calls upon other NATO members to step up its security and contribute more to the defense of Europe and Ukraine. Currently, the US accounts for 72 % of NATO defense spending. The US public however is tired of war and generally looks unfavorably on any attempts to start another engagement.

**US Points to Consider**: How can you get other NATO members to shoulder their share of the danger? How can you deter Russia from future aggression? Would your plan stand up to a vote by Congress?

**Germany:** Germany is a member of NATO, duty bound to protect all countries that are members of NATO. Germany, however, is a large dependent on oil from Russia which flows through pipelines through the Ukraine. Although this economic dependence is strong, Germany is ready to increase security on Russia’s borders. However, half of all German citizens oppose increasing security presence on Russia’s borders and are against military escalation.

**German points to consider:** How can a plan both work for the NATO without endangering the economic dependence on Russia that Germany has? How can we create a plan that will assuage the German public?

**Poland:** Poland is also a member of NATO bound under Article V of the charter. The violation of security guarantees of Crimea has prompted Poland to ask for two heavy brigades of NATO troops to be deployed to Poland, or at least 10,000 troops. Poland remembers well the failure of international guarantees in WWII first by Britain and France to stop the invasion of Germany and the Soviet Union. Poland is particularly sensitive to a strong and aggressive Russia coming from the east because it may question the commitment of its Western counterparts.

**Poland Points to Consider:** How strong of a plan does Poland want? If Ukraine were to be attacked, would Poland be next? How similar is the current scenario playing out compared to WWII? Does the plan indicate the strength of commitment from the other NATO members?

**United Kingdom:** The UK is bound under Article V of the charter to defend the security of NATO. Britain plans to join forces to bolster defenses in the Baltic States. The UK has offered to send an EU police mission to Ukraine to bolster the stability of the state and prevent future unrest from occurring. Britain hosts approximately 21,000 troops in Germany as a holdover from the Cold War. The United Kingdom is prepared for the impact that sanctions might have on Russia, and is particularly interested in creating a strong plan for deterring Russia.

**United Kingdom Points to Consider**: Will the plan tax the current austerity plans in the UK? As the most secure European country from Russian aggression, what is the interest of the United Kingdom in creating a plan to deter Russia and prevent invasion? How much does the UK really want to contribute?