

NATO Source Sets

Source: Excerpt from Article 5

Instructions: Read the “Excerpt from Article 5” two times. On the **first read**, mark words or phrases that you do not know and then clarify them with your classmates or teacher. On the **second read**, underline or highlight passages that reveal something important or interesting. In the space below the excerpt, write a one sentence summation of the excerpt in your own words. Be prepared to share with your classmates.

Excerpt from Article 5 of the NATO Treaty

The Parties agree that an armed attack against one or more of them in Europe or North America shall be considered an attack against them all and consequently they agree that, if such an armed attack occurs, each of them, in exercise of the right of individual or collective self-defense recognized by Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations, will assist the Party or Parties so attacked by taking forthwith, individually and in concert with the other Parties, such action as it deems necessary, including the use of armed force, to restore and maintain the security of the North Atlantic area.

Your summary of Article 5:

Source Set: NATO and the War in Ukraine

Instructions: Read your assigned source(s) below two times. On the **first read**, mark words or phrases that you do not know and then clarify them with your group or teacher. On the **second read**, underline the words “NATO” and “Article 5” each time they appear. Highlight or mark passages that reveal something you think is important about the source’s perspective about NATO. Answer the questions that follow for your sources.

1. U.S. President Bill Clinton speech, October 22, 1996

Remarkable generations of Americans invested in Europe’s peace and freedom with their own sacrifice. They fought two world wars. They had the vision to create NATO and the Marshall Plan. The vigor of those institutions, the force of democracy, the determination of people to be free—all these helped to produce victory in the Cold War. But now that that freedom has been won, it is this generation’s responsibility to ensure that it will not be lost again, not ever....

[F]or NATO to fulfill its real promise of peace and democracy in Europe it will not be enough simply to take on new missions as the need arises. NATO must also take in new members, including those from among its former adversaries. It must reach out to all the new democracies in Central Europe, the Baltics and the New Independent States of the former Soviet Union. At the first NATO summit I attended in January of 1994, I proposed that NATO should enlarge steadily, deliberately, openly....

I know that some in Russia still look at NATO through a Cold War prism and, therefore, look at our proposals to expand it in a negative light. But I ask them to look again. We are building a new NATO, just as we support the Russian people in building a new Russia. By reducing rivalry and fear, by strengthening peace and cooperation, NATO will promote greater stability in Europe and Russia will be among the beneficiaries.

2. Russian President Vladimir Putin speech at the Munich Conference on Security Policy, March 10, 2007

I think it is obvious that NATO expansion does not have any relation with the modernisation of the Alliance itself or with ensuring security in Europe. On the contrary, it represents a serious provocation that reduces

the level of mutual trust. And we have the right to ask: against whom is this expansion intended? And what happened to the assurances our western partners made after the dissolution of the Warsaw Pact [Soviet military alliance]? Where are those declarations today? No one even remembers them. But I will allow myself to remind this audience what was said. I would like to quote the speech of NATO General Secretary Mr Woerner in Brussels on 17 May 1990. He said at the time that: “the fact that we are ready not to place a NATO army outside of German territory gives the Soviet Union a firm security guarantee.” Where are these guarantees?

The stones and concrete blocks of the Berlin Wall have long been distributed as souvenirs. But we should not forget that the fall of the Berlin Wall was possible thanks to a historic choice—one that was also made by our people, the people of Russia—a choice in favor of democracy, freedom, openness and a sincere partnership with all the members of the big European family.

3. Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko speech, February 9, 2019

Only full-fledged membership in the European Union and NATO can decisively and irrevocably guarantee our independence, national security, freedom, and well-being.

4. U.S. President Biden speech, March 6, 2022

The Kremlin wants to portray NATO enlargement as an imperial project aimed at destabilizing Russia. Nothing is further from the truth. NATO is a defensive alliance. It has never sought the demise of Russia. In the lead-up to the current crisis, the United States and NATO worked for months to engage Russia to avert a war. I met with him [Putin] in person and talked to him many times on the phone. Time and again, we offered real diplomacy and concrete proposals to strengthen European security, enhance transparency, and build confidence on all sides. But Putin and Russia met each of the proposals with disinterest in any negotiation, with lies and ultimatums. Russia was bent on violence from the start....

But as I've made clear: American forces are...not in Europe to engage in conflict with Russian forces. American forces are here to defend NATO Allies. Yesterday, I met with the [U.S.] troops that are serving alongside our Polish allies to bolster NATO's frontline defenses. The reason we wanted to make clear is their [Russia's] movement on Ukraine: Don't even think about moving on one single inch of NATO territory.

We have a sacred obligation under Article 5 to defend each and every inch of NATO territory with the full force of our collective power.

5. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, address to NATO leaders, March 24, 2022

Yes, it is true we are not members of the alliance, not part of the most powerful defensive alliance in the world, not one of those nations that are subject to Article 5 and entitled to defense. But we have a feeling that we are in a gray zone between the West and Russia, and yet we are defending all our shared values.... I want you to know the alliance can yet stop Ukrainian deaths of Russian strikes, Russian occupation, by providing us all with all the weapons we need. Yes, we are not members of the alliance and I am not making demands. But Ukrainians have never thought that the alliance and the countries of the alliance are different things. That in matters of life and death, you can be a power, apart and not together, that NATO can be afraid of Russia's actions.

I'm sure you understand now that Russia isn't going to stop at Ukraine. It will not. It will go further against the Eastern members of NATO—the Baltic states and Poland, definitely. Will NATO stop worrying how Russia will respond? Are you sure that Article 5 can work?

6. President Andrzej Duda of Poland, remarks to U.S. President Biden, March 26, 2022

But let me stress one thing, sir: This is a very difficult situation, what is happening in Ukraine right now—this Russian aggression and this huge tragedy of the Ukrainian people. All of us, together, are experiencing

it with them. And this also creates a great sense of threat for my compatriots, for the Polish people, because we know what Russian imperialism stands for, and we know what it means to be attacked by Russian armed forces, because our grandfathers and great-grandfathers experienced that; sometimes even our parents experienced that.

So, thank you for your presence. And thank you, first and foremost, for your incredible leadership, strong leadership. Thank you for this very strong voice of the United States which leads us and which very resolutely calls on Russia to stop its aggression against Ukraine.

We stand with the United States. And along with the United States, we want to pursue this policy. And we very much hope for decisive and strong leadership of the United States across the entire NATO.

7. Report from the Swedish Government, May 2022

Russia's invasion of Ukraine is the most extensive military aggression in Europe since the Second World War. The negative effects for European and international security are far-reaching. Russia's actions are a flagrant violation of international law and the European security order. Russia's warfare includes war crimes and other serious violations of international humanitarian law. Since the war against Georgia in 2008 and the war against Ukraine that started in 2014, including the illegal annexation of Crimea, it has been clear to all that Russia has violated and opposed the European security order....

For Sweden, the primary effect of NATO membership would be that Sweden would become part of NATO's collective security and be covered by the security guarantees enshrined in Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty. [Sweden applied for NATO membership on May 18, 2022.]

Russia (or the Soviet Union) has never attacked a NATO Ally, but it has recently attacked non-NATO countries. Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the measures NATO has taken highlight the distinction between the countries that are covered by NATO's defense guarantees and those that are not. The importance of being covered by guarantees has increased as Russia has shown its readiness to carry out a large-scale military attack on a neighboring country.

8. Russian President Vladimir Putin speaking at ceremony to claim for Russia four Ukrainian regions partly occupied by Russian military forces, September 30, 2022

[I]t is precisely in greed, in the intention to maintain its unlimited power, that there are...real reasons for the hybrid war that the "collective West" [the United States and its allies] is waging against Russia. They do not wish us freedom, but they want to see us as a colony. They do not want equal cooperation, but robbery. They want to see us not as a free society, but as a crowd of soulless slaves....

The West is counting on impunity, on getting away with everything. In fact, it has gotten away with everything so far. Agreements in the field of strategic security go to the wastebasket; agreements reached at the highest political level are declared false; firm promises not to expand NATO to the east, as soon as our former leaders bought into them, turned into a dirty deceit; treaties on anti-missile defense and intermediate and shorter-range missiles have been unilaterally broken under far-fetched pretexts.

All we hear from all sides is that the West stands for order based on rules. Where did they come from? Who even saw these rules? Who agreed? Listen, this is just some kind of nonsense, sheer deception, double or already triple standards! It's just designed for fools.

Russia is a great millennial power, a country-civilization, and will not live by such rigged, false rules.

Name: _____

Questions—Source Set: NATO and the War in Ukraine

Assigned Source Number:

Source Title:

Date of Source:

1. What ideas, beliefs, or attitudes does the source express about NATO?

2. What evidence does the source provide in support of the ideas, beliefs, or attitudes?

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