



EU-NATO relations: a stronger partnership to face common dangers

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On 15 March, the Subcommittee on Security and Defence (SEDE) held an exchange of views with the Secretary General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), Jens Stoltenberg, jointly with the Committee on Foreign Affairs (AFET) and in association with the Delegation for relations with the NATO Parliamentary Assembly (DNAT).

EU-NATO cooperation

NATO's Secretary General referred to the importance of cooperation between NATO and the EU to face common challenges, especially in a context where COVID-19 has facilitated the acceleration of existential threats, such as cyber-attacks, disruptive technologies, climate change, the military rise of China, etc.

He emphasized that a stronger partnership and cooperation with the EU will be an important part of NATO's work in the future. "We have a lot in common. And in a more competitive world, we can achieve more together than alone", Mr Stoltenberg underlined.

MEPs' concerns

MEPs raised concerns over the fact that Turkey does not uphold the values of democracy, rule of law and human rights that are also fundamental to NATO's core. Moreover, as certain Members warned, as a member of the Alliance, Turkey poses a double security threat to the EU's interests in the eastern Mediterranean and in its activities vis-a-vis Libya and other countries.

More EU investments in defence

Mr Stoltenberg welcomed the EU's defence initiatives to reinforce its strategy and develop its capabilities, highlighting that an EU that spends more on defence, invests in new know-hows and reduces the fragmentation of the European defence industry "*is not only good for European security, it is also good for transatlantic security*".

More information:

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