The North Atlantic Treaty Organization and its Cumulative Ideology

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Abstract

This essay first outlines the foundations of the North Atlantic Treaty and how this treaty, based on its format, was indirectly bound to create internal contention, given the ideologies of the United States, the United Kingdom, and the Republic of France. Next, the essay explores the inner-workings of NATO politics, operations, and the details of the contentious situations within NATO during both the Cold War-era and also the post-Cold War era. Following, it compares the ideologies, operations, and contentious format of the two aforementioned NATOs, and exposes their similarity over time. The essay concludes that the seemingly disruptive and unstable nature of NATO facilitated its relative success in both operative and ideological missions, in the past and present.

Key Words:
The Marshall Plan: The primary foreign policy plan of the United States and, subsequently, NATO during the Cold War; it called for the containment of communism and the reconstruction of post-World War II Western Europe.

Cold War Era: The time period between the years of 1949-1989.
Eastern Bloc: Eastern European nations which acted as satellite states for the Soviet Republic during the Cold War era.

Post-Cold War Era: The years of 1989-present.

Warsaw Pact: A coalition of Eastern Bloc nations, ruled informally by the Soviet Republic.

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