constructed as a multi-lateral decision-making body, separate from full American oversight, the combined Atlantic nations were able to form, and currently are, a strong military and political alliance.

The North Atlantic Treaty, an incredible leap away from the individual ideals of the United States, the United Kingdom, and the Republic of France, was the most perfect of imperfections. These aforementioned three states of NATO, through quarrelsome and antagonistic compromise, developed a twelve-article long document declaring the joint nations' intentions (Kaplan, 24, 25, 33-35; NATO, 2012). This initial treaty and its wording, which remain the dictum of the organization at hand to this day, is a document which would set the tone for a continually contentious alliance. Throughout the Cold War, and continuing into the modern era, the member states of NATO have consistently been at unease; the comparison of the Cold War and the modern-era NATOs have yielded few, if any, major alterations. Animosity, contentious cooperation, and combative actions have been common variables of NATO and her member states. Despite this negative interpretation, many experts contend that, without such conflict within NATO, this IGO would not have been as strong as she was; nor would it still be around to this day.

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