FIFTH EDITION OF THE YOUTH MEDITERRANEAN DIALOGUE

September 9th – 15th 2018, Madrid, KINGDOM OF SPAIN

ORGANIZED BY CONSEJO ATLÁNTICO JUVENIL ESPAÑOL (COAJE),
THE YOUTH ATLANTIC TREATY ASSOCIATION OF SPAIN
THE CONCEPT OF THE YOUTH MEDITERRANEAN DIALOGUE

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization is a political and military alliance, created to ensure and promote security and stability in the North Atlantic Area, but also committed also to the resolution of crisis beyond its borders and to the support of its partners worldwide. Due to this international scope, more than twenty years ago NATO created the Mediterranean Dialogue Initiative with the aim “to create good relation and better mutual understanding and confidence throughout the region, promoting regional security and stability and explaining NATO’s policies and goals”.

COAJE, the Youth Atlantic Treaty Association of Spain, strongly believes that it is time to call on new generations to give them the chance to be heard. It is within this framework that we consider Madrid, the capital of the Kingdom of Spain, the geopolitical and natural connection between our two seas and therefore, between the Euro-Atlantic region and the Mediterranean region, the ideal place to bring together students and young professionals, passionate about international security and defense, to debate about the role of NATO in the world, its capacities and its biggest challenges.

Our program aims to raise awareness on the major political and security issues that our world faces today, demonstrate the need to work together as one in the international world, and finally, be a vehicle for our young generation to get involved in finding solutions for building peace and stability.

Participants will learn the importance of the Alliance when it comes to global peace, security and stability. They will have the opportunity to attend academic conferences of experts on Mediterranean security issues, to visit military and civil institutions and facilities and to learn from military officers, diplomats and representatives of defense industry.

The structure of the YMD 2018 will be different from past editions, this time dividing participants in four workshops, dealing with NATO’s main priorities and challenges. We consider this new structure will allow participants to express their views freely, what will conduct to synergies amongst participants and, over all, to the sharing of opinions and knowledge between students, young professionals, academia, military and industry spheres. Participants will close their engagement by working collectively on policy recommendations that will be published on COAJE website and social media channels to promote a youth perspective for advancing NATO’s strategic goals.
TOPICS / AREAS OF DEBATE

The Mediterranean continues today being one of the most important geopolitical areas of the world. Military, civilian and peacekeeping missions, diverse crisis, instable economic and social basis, religion and identity. So many tendencies, dilemmas and initiatives sometimes it may appear as an overwhelming territory. Land of opportunities but also of risks, Mare Nostrum faces several and multipolar challenges, from migration to rebellion and claims for democracy, from piracy to unemployment or authoritarian regimes. But specially, terrorism has become the main challenge for the region, rooted in the issues just mentioned and on debates about identity and religion.

- NATO and EU’s relevance in the South
  - EU-NATO Relations, EU’s military autonomy?
  - EU’s strategy towards the South. Responsibility to protect: Libya.

NATO started its Mediterranean Dialogue in 1994 and since then it has maintained stable relations towards the region, especially with key allies such as Morocco or Tunisia. Meanwhile, the EU, specially guided by its southern countries, has reinforced cooperation with its front shore, especially with instruments such as the Union for the Mediterranean or its Neighbourhood Policy. Both associations are also joining hands and efforts. Mutual commitment was again reinforced at the European Council in December 2017. This first workshop will discuss common initiatives, new ways of reinforcing cooperation with Southern Mediterranean and will specially focus its attention on Libya’s reconstruction.

- Adapting to an "Eastern Future": what now in Syria and Iraq
  - Syria and Iraq. Rebuilding
  - Kurds claims, evolution and recent changes

Civil war, terrorism, displaced refugees, international alliance against terrorism... this has been the scenario in Syria and Iraq over the past years. It has become a geopolitical hotspot that combines religious, political and historical claims over territories with many different possible outcomes. During this second workshop, we will present the main actors involved in those conflicts, as well as their claims and goals in order to present the possible trends of a regional reconstruction, studying all the factors that should be taken into account.
• Towards Northern Africa and terrorism in MENA
  o Countering terrorism at home: indigenous terrorism. Freedom or security?
  o Boko Haram, Al Qaida, Islamic State. Differences and similarities. Facing a multipolar phenomena

Terrorism remains one of the foremost threats on a global scale; one that states will have to deal with both at the national and international sphere, via institutions like NATO. Radicalization and ‘lone wolf’ attacks remain the forefront challenges on the global counter-terrorist agenda. Said joint action has led to an intense debate regarding the balance between security and freedom, and the limitations of each dimension.

While terrorist groups share a plethora of common characteristics, they ultimately remain markedly distinct actors, which pursue specific territorial ambitions of their own. Mingling them all into a single entity would no doubt prove a grave mistake, as specific strategies need to address the very singularities inherent to each and every one of them. Only then will the world’s nations manage to effectively opposed the threat posed by the ‘jihadists’.

• Even further, from Intervention to Prevention
  o Afghanistan. Intervention and Prevention. NATO’s role
  o NATO’s growing concern about Yemen. The influence of Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Iran

Going further to the East, peace and security have also been a long-standing priority for NATO. The Alliance and its members have strengthen their values and improve their strategies towards the others, while promoting cooperation and open discussions. Is in this context where Intervention is replaced by prevention, crisis management, security sector reform measures and, as a whole, strengthening infrastructures, and institutions. And that is also what countries such as Afghanistan and Yemen appear to need. Yemeni conflict started more than 3 years ago and is still unresolved, with its population suffering from scarcity, war and violence, dysfunctional institutions and countries of the area using their influences to fight for the territory. This fourth workshop will therefore work on proposals for challenges as those mentioned.
THE EVENT

Youth Mediterranean Dialogue

CONFERENCES
HIGH LEVEL SPEAKERS, UNIVERSITY AND II.OO.

VISITS
INDUSTRY, ARMED FORCES AND MILITARY CULTURE

MULTICULTURAL EXPERIENCE
MORE THAN 30 NATIONALITIES, CONVIVENCE

MADRID, 6 DAY-EVENT, 80 PARTICIPANTS

Towards Northern Africa and terrorism in MENA

Shipping through the Mediterranean

NATO and EU’s relevance in the South

Adapting to an "eastern Future": what now in Syria and Irak

Even further, from Intervention to Prevention

CONSEJO ATLÁNTICO JUVENIL ESPAÑOL
Youth Atlantic Treaty Association of Spain
www.coaje.es
## PROGRAM SCHEDULE

### Sunday 9th September 2018

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>During all day</td>
<td>Arrival of the participants</td>
<td>Registration process: Check in and deliverance of the academic material (Military Residence ‘Don Quijote’ Av/Doctor Federico Rubio y Gali, 61 -28040- Madrid).</td>
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<td>16:00 – 20:00</td>
<td>Free time for delegates to discover Madrid, to join the pre-discussions at the residence, or to take part in the activities organized at the military facilities.</td>
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| 20:30 – 21:30 | Welcome Remarks                                                      | Ms. Claudia Peña Butrón (COAJE President and Director of the program)  
Ms. Sonia Velázquez León (COAJE Vicepresident of Diplomacy, Academic Coordinator of the Event) |
| 21:30         | Cocktail at Don Quijote                                              |                                                                                                                  |
Monday 10th September 2018 - OPENING CEREMONY

08:00 – 09:00 Breakfast
10:00 – 12:00 First Workshop Session
12:00 – 12:30 Coffe Break
12:30 – 13:30 Second Workshop Session
13:30 – 15:00 Lunch at Don Quijote
15:45 Shuttle to CESEDEN, Spanish Centre for National Defence Studies
*Please note that visitors are requested to bring their passports*
16:30 – 18:00 INAUGURAL CEREMONY

The Youth Mediterranean Dialogue is the result of the cooperation, trust, and joint efforts of both national and international institutions whose representatives will address the delegates during this first conference with the aim of welcome them and provide them with some remarks about the program.

H.E. Rafael Sánchez Ortega, Lieutenant General of the Air Force, Director CESEDEN
Ms. Claudia Peña Butrón, President of YATA – Spain
The Hon. Ma Pilar Laguna Sánchez, President of ADALEDE
H.E. Pedro Arguelles, President of the Atlantic Treaty Association of Spain
H.E. Nicola de Santis, Head of the Middle East and North Africa Section in the Political Affairs and Security Policy Division of NATO. (to be confirmed)
Representative of the US Embassy in Madrid (to be confirmed)
H. E. Admiral Juan Francisco Martínez Núñez, Secretary General for Defence Policy (to be confirmed)
H.E. Alejandro Alavargonzález, Assistant Secretary General for Political Affairs and Security Policy (to be confirmed)
H.E. Maria Dolores de Cospedal, Minister of Defence (to be confirmed)

18:00 – 20:00 Third Workshop Session
Tuesday 11th September 2018

08:00 – 09:00 Breakfast

9:15 Shuttle to the Navy Museum

10:30 Visit of the Navy Museum

12:30 Shuttle back to Military Residence “Don Quijote”

13:00 – 15:30 Lunch at the Military Residence “Don Quijote”

15:30 – 17:30 Explain participants the relevance of NATO’s partnership and southern flank for the Alliance. Origin, development and current situation of NATO in the Mediterranean. By Mr. Nicola de Santis, Head of the Middle East and North Africa Section in the Political Affairs and Security Policy Division of NATO. (TBC)

17:30 – 18:00 Coffee break

18:00 – 19:30 Fourth Workshop Session - Academic perspective

- Workshops will be visited by experts in the topic discussed in order to provide the participants with insights. They will have the opportunity not only to learn from them, but also to ask the speaker questions that may have arisen during the first day of discussion that will help them with policy recommendations.

- Workshop Group 1, NATO and EU’s relevance in the South: Geopolitical Scenarios

- Workshop Group 2, Adapting to an "Eastern Future": what now in Syria and Iraq: Energy Resources in MENA y Subsaharian Africa

- Workshop Group 3 & 4, Towards Northern Africa and terrorism in MENA & Even further, from Intervention to Prevention: Arab World

19:30 – 20:30 Fifth Workshop Session
Wednesday 12\textsuperscript{th} September 2018

08:00 – 09:00  Breakfast

9:00  Día Madrid
Participants will have the opportunity to visit different emblematic places of Madrid. They will learn about the Spanish culture and the Spanish defense culture.
Workshop Group 1
Workshop Group 2
Workshop Group 3
Workshop Group 4

13:00  Shuttle to the Military Residence

13:45  Lunch at the Military Residence “Don Quijote”

15:45 – 17:00  Sixth Workshop Session

17:00 – 18:30  Seventh Workshop Session

18:30 – 19:00  Coffee break

19:00 – 20:30  Eighth Workshop Session
Thursday 13th September 2018

08:00 – 09:00  Breakfast
09:10          Shuttle to Torrejón Air Force Base
10:30 – 13:30  Visit to Torrejón Air Force Base: visit to “Ala 12” Military Unit, part of Air Combat Command (MACOM). F-18 fighter aircrafts and MEU (Military Emergency Unit)
*Please note that visitors are requested to bring their passports*
13:30          Shuttle to the Military Residence “Don Quijote”
14:00 – 15:30  Lunch at Don Quijote
15:30 – 17:30  Ninth Workshop Session
17:30 – 18:00  Coffee Break
18:00 – 20:00  Tenth Workshop Session
Friday 14th September 2018

08:00 – 08:45  Breakfast
9:00  Shuttle to the Guadarrama Headquarters (El Goloso)
10:00  Visit of the 12th Armored Infantry Brigade
*Please note that visitors are requested to bring their passports*
10:30 – 12:45  Visit to the Museum of Military History (WG 1 + half of WG2)
Discovering the tanks battalion (half of WG2 + WG3)
Technological devices of the Spanish Armed Forces (WG4)
*Delegates shall rotate through the three activities
13:00 – 13:30  Shuttle back to Military Residence “Don Quijote”
14:00 – 15:30  Lunch at Military Residence “Don Quijote”
15:30 – 17:00  Eleventh Workshop Session
17:15 – 19:00  Closing Session

**FINAL REMARKS**
After a week of intense debates, meetings and conferences, participants will present their policy recommendations.

17:15 – 17:30  Welcome Speech and introduction of the speakers – Ms. Sonia Velázquez León, Academic Coordinator of the Event
17:30 – 17:50  The role of the Youth in the Atlantic and Mediterranean Community – YATA International EB Member
17:50 – 18:20  Presentation of the Policy Recommendations
18:20 – 18:40  Award Ceremony
18:40 – 19:00  Final remarks and evaluation of the Youth Mediterranean Dialogue – Ms. Claudia Peña Butrón, President of YATA Spain and Director of the event
19:00 – 20:30  Free time
20:30  Gala Dinner
Saturday 15th September 2018

08:00 – 09:00  Breakfast
9:30         Check out

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Hashtag #YMD2018

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