



netherlands
atlantic
association



2023

Annual report

2023 AT A GLANCE

PROGRAMS

32 programs with more than 90 speakers and over 2,355 participants:

- 9 programs of the StudiumGenerale for 15 participants
- 12 programs of the Young Atlantic Association with more than 40 speakers and 575 students and young professionals
- 3 education programs with 9 speakers and 172 teachers and pupils
- 7 public programs with over 22 speakers and more than 1125 participants

WEBSITE

- 35,230 hits
- 23,444 users
- 64,157 pages viewed

PUBLICATIONS

- 4 issues of *Atlantisch Perspectief* with a total of 32 articles

PATRONS

- 433 patrons

PRIMARY AUDIENCE

- Over 1,000 *Atlantisch Perspectief* readers
- 1,700 invitees for public programs
- 23,444 website visitors
- 8 podcasts with 1,339 listeners
- 3,173 LinkedIn followers
- 1,953 Twitter followers
- 1,162 Instagram followers
- 2,700 Facebook followers

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FOREWORD

2023 was a dynamic year in many ways. We saw a continuation of the Russian war in Ukraine, escalating and new conflicts — including in the Middle East — and increasing tensions between the United States and China. Moreover, it became increasingly clear that American attention to Europe cannot be taken for granted. The world is changing before our eyes.

These developments also increased interest in the activities of the Netherlands Atlantic Association Foundation, as a driver of the public debate on transatlantic security. We saw this reflected in well-attended meetings, some of which were organized by the tireless Young Atlantic Association. This year we were able to welcome exceptional speakers again. In addition to Ministers Wopke Hoekstra of Foreign Affairs and Kajsa Ollongren of Defense, a special mention goes to President Maia Sandu of Moldova. She was our guest in September for a discussion about security and democracy on the borders of Europe. In October we organized a successful election debate in De Balie in Amsterdam about geopolitics and defense, with seven spokespersons from political parties.

New technologies are playing an increasingly important role in international politics. For example, the ‘tech cold war’ between the US and China, which in 2023 revolved around the semiconductor industry, a key sector of the Dutch economy. We also participated in this discussion: as a partner of the ‘Summit on Responsible Artificial Intelligence in the Military Domain’, RE-AIM 2023, we organized the session ‘War Against the Machine?’ on ethical issues surrounding artificial intelligence and warfare. In addition, we were the organizer of an event about the new NATO Innovation Fund (NIF) that is being established in the Netherlands. We visited ASML with the participants of the StudiumGenerale program. The concerns felt in Europe and America about the cyber resilience of our critical digital infrastructure and the growing risk of (digital) espionage in knowledge-intensive sectors also rank increasingly high on the agenda of the Netherlands Atlantic Association.

In 2023, we used new instruments to better reach the intended target groups – experts and the interested public, young people and teachers – and to allow them to participate in the discussion. With the editorial staff of *Atlantisch Perspectief* we have taken a new online path that we will explore further in the coming year. This is important to continue to meet the changing needs of our audience. With the podcast series ‘*De Atlantische Blik*’ everyone can now listen to the meetings of the Netherlands Atlantic Association.

It is hardly a bold prediction to state that in 2024 - the year of the American presidential elections and the 75th anniversary of the founding of NATO

- the transatlantic bond will again be in the spotlight. I look forward to engaging again this year in a broad conversation on transatlantic affairs, together with all those who want to be involved. I would like to expressly thank the other board members of the Netherlands Atlantic Association, the Atlantic Education Commission, the Young Atlantic Association and the Editorial Board for their continued enthusiasm and commitment in 2023. And, of course, the Association’s staff, which once again delivered an impressive program in 2023.



Lokke Moerel,
chair



Anna van Zoest,
director

THANKS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Netherlands Atlantic Association expresses its gratitude to the institutions, companies and individuals who have provided financial support to the association in 2023.

Without the subsidies from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Defense, the Netherlands Atlantic Association would not have been able to carry out its programs. The NATO Public Diplomacy Division, the American Embassy in The Hague, the municipality of The Hague, the Christian University of Applied Sciences Windesheim, NHL Stenden University of Applied Sciences, and, of, course, the individual patrons also made important financial contributions to the realization of the various programs.

The Netherlands Atlantic Association is very grateful to the Nederlandse Bank, Shell International B.V., the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Defense, the Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations, the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy, Royal Haskoning DHV, Damen Naval, TNO, ASML, ING and Thales Nederland for their contributions to the StudiumGenerale program.

Finally, the Association would like to thank the many speakers who took part in the conferences and other programs as well as the authors who offered their contributions to Atlantisch Perspectief and other publications.

The programs of the Netherlands Atlantic Association are the result of active cooperation with many groups and institutions in the Netherlands and abroad. In 2023 the Association cooperated with the following organizations:

- ASML
- Atlantic Commission of Germany
- Atlantic Commission of Norway
- Atlantic Council of the US
- Embassy of the United States of America
- Embassy of the United Kingdom
- Christian University of Applied Sciences Windesheim
- Clingendael Institute
- Damen Naval
- De Nederlandsche Bank
- ING
- KVBK
- Leiden University
- Ministry of Defence
- Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy
- Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- NCTV
- NATO's Public Diplomacy Division
- NHL Stenden University of Applied Sciences
- Radboud University Nijmegen
- Roosevelt Institute
- Royal Haskoning DHV
- Shell International B.V.
- Thales Nederland
- The American Chamber of Commerce in the Netherlands
- TNO
- Utrecht University

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Netherlands Atlantic Association Foundation has an Executive Committee and a Management Board; the members of the Executive Committee are also members of the Management Board. Both boards meet at least four times per year. Members of the Executive Committee and the Management Board include representatives of political parties in parliament as well as experts in the fields of transatlantic relations and security policy.

There were several changes in the composition of the Management Board in 2023.

Drs. D.J. (Dirk-Jan) **van den Berg** stepped down as Chair on January 1. He was succeeded by Prof.dr.mr. E.M.L. (Lokke) **Moerel**.

Drs.T.A. **Krijger** stepped down as vicechair on June 1.

Ms. E. (Elsine) **van Os** and Mr. Ikol. M. (Mostafa) **Hilali MA** left the Board as of July 1.

On July 1, 2023 the following members joined the Management Board:

VADM (ret.) B.W.J. (Ben) **Bekkering** (former Head, Netherlands Permanent Military Representative to NATO and the EU), Ms. drs. A. (Ardi) **Bouwers** (Director China Circle consultancy; lecturer at the University of Amsterdam), Ms. dr. M. (Marjanne) **de Kwaasteniet** (Member of the Peace and Security Committee of the Advisory Council on International Affairs; former Netherlands Ambassador to Turkey and to NATO), Lt. General (ret.) C.J. (Kees) **Matthijssen** (former Force Commander UN-mission MINUSMA in Mali), Ms. drs. B.I. (Bianca) **Pander** (Americanist and Partner, BKB | The Campaign Office) and Prof. dr. H. (Haroon) **Sheikh** (Senior researcher The Netherlands Scientific Council for Government Policy, extraordinary professor in Philosophy, Vrije University).

Ms. S. (Salima) **Belhaj** (former member of Parliament and defense spokesperson for D66, Tweede Kamer der Staten-Generaal) left the Management Board on December 6, 2023.

On December 31, 2023 the members of the **Executive Committee** of the Netherlands Atlantic Association were:

- Prof.dr.mr. E.M.L. (Lokke) **Moerel**, Chair, Global Expert New Technologies & Cyber; Senior Counsel, Morrison & Foerster LLP
- M.W. (Michiel) **van Campen MA**, Treasurer Executive Director, Permits Foundation; proprietor Van Campen International Business Development
- Ms. M. (Marije) **Meines**, Secretary Senior advisor, RadarAdvies
- Drs. A.M.C. (Angelien) **Eijsink** Independent advisor; former defense spokesperson for the PvdA and former Chair of the Standing Committee on International Affairs, Tweede Kamer der Staten-Generaal;
- LTC. dr. R. (Ronald) **Vuijk** Secretary Platform Defensie Bedrijfsleven; Chair Royal Association of Reserve Officers (KVNRO); consultant of the Berenschot consulting firm; former defense spokesperson for the VVD, Tweede Kamer der Staten-Generaal

On December 31, 2023 the members of the **Management Board** of the

Netherlands Atlantic Association (excluding those who were members of the Executive Committee) were:

- VADM (ret.) B.W.J. (Ben) **Bekkering** former Head, Netherlands Permanent Military Representative to NATO and the EU
- Drs. D.G. (Derk) **Boswijk** Spokesperson for Defense, Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality and member of the US contact group of the CDA, Tweede Kamer der Staten-Generaal
- Dr. N.V. (Norbert) **Both** PhD Project manager, Shell Nederland B.V.
- Drs. A. (Ardi) **Bouwers** Director China Circle consultancy; lecturer at the University of Amsterdam Mr. R.P. (Ruben) Brekelmans MPA, MSC Foreign Affairs spokesperson for the VVD, Tweede Kamer der Staten-Generaal
- Drs. A.M.A. (Annemijn) **van den Broek** Head of the Directorate for Security Policy (DVB) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; deputy observer on behalf of the Ministry on the Management Board
- Drs. R.H. (René) **Cuperus** Senior Associate Fellow, Clingendael Institute; visiting researcher at the Germany Institute of the University of Amsterdam, member of the Advisory Council on International Affairs (AIV, Committee on European Integration)
- B. (Boukje) **van den Eijnden MA** Chair, Netherlands Atlantic Youth
- Mr. J.A. (Joost) **Flamand** Director of the Directorate for Security Policy (DVB) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; observer on behalf of the Ministry on the Management Board
- Drs. B.M. (Marc) **ter Haar** Executive Director, American Chamber of Commerce (AmCham) in the Netherlands
- Dr. M. (Marjanne) **de Kwaasteniet** Member of the Peace and Security Committee of the Advisory Council on International Affairs; former Netherlands Ambassador to Turkey and to NATO
- Lt. General (ret.) A.J.H. (Ton) **van Loon** Former Commandant First German-Dutch Army Corps
- Drs. H. (Hans) Luyendijk, chair Atlantic Education Committee rector-administrator (interim), Christelijk Gymnasium Sorghvliet, The Hague
- Lt. General (ret.) C.J. (Kees) **Matthijssen** Former Force Commander UN-mission MINUSMA in Mali
- Drs. B.I. (Bianca) **Pander** Americanist and Partner, BKB | The Campaign Office
- Prof. dr. H. (Haroon) **Sheikh** Senior researcher The Netherlands Scientific Council for Government Policy, extraordinary professor in Philosophy, Vrije University
- Ms. L.V. (Laurien) **Sillevis MA** Acting Director International Affairs, Ministry of Defense, observer on behalf of the Ministry on the Management Board
- Mr. G.J.A. (Truus) **Valkering** Former director of International Affairs, Tata Steel Europe

REPORT 2023

StudiumGenerale

The *StudiumGenerale* program of the Netherlands Atlantic Association has been in existence since 2011 and is aimed at young professionals from both private and public sectors. The main objective is to encourage the participants to look at transatlantic relations from different perspectives. A second goal is to expand the network of participants as well as that of the Netherlands Atlantic Association.

The eleventh cohort of the StudiumGenerale young professional entered the program in 2023. The program continued through January 2024.

The 15 members of the eleventh cohort came from Royal HaskoningDHV, Shell International B.V., Thales Nederland, ASML, Damen Naval, the Nederlandsche Bank, ING, TNO, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Defense, the Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations, and the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy.

Programs

STUDIUMGENERALE COHORT XI (11)

Date: **March 24-25**

Subject: Orientation days: transatlantic relations in historical perspective, including a battle tour of the Battle of the Scheldt

Speakers: Damian **Pargas** (Roosevelt Institute) and colleagues, Giles **Scott-Smith** (Dean LUC/Professor Transnational Relations and New Diplomatic History, Leiden University, The Netherlands Institute of Military History (NIMH))

Participants: 15 participants of the StudiumGenerale, Netherlands Atlantic Association

Date: **March 31**

Subject: A conversation about European security architecture

Speakers: Joost **Flamand** (Director DVB), Vincent **Roza** (MFA coordinator for economic resilience and security)

Venue: Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Participants: 15 participants of the StudiumGenerale, Netherlands Atlantic Association

Date: **April 21**

Subject: Netherlands defense policy. Discussion session on Ukraine, China, disruptive technologies (among other topics)

Speakers: Joris **Geeven** (Head Ukraine Taskforce & Policy coordinator NATO), Vincent **Commandeur** (Ukraine Taskforce), Menno **van der Eerden** (FRONT), Hilbert **Voogd** (Commandant Landelijke Bijstand Organisatie)

Venue: Ministry of Defense

Participants: 15 participants of the StudiumGenerale, Netherlands Atlantic Association

Date: **May 26**

Subject: Security and new technologies, opportunities and challenges

Speakers: Aernout **Reijmer** (Chief Information Security Officer), Emmeke **Hulshof** (participants in the SG from ASML), Lokke **Moerel** (Global Expert New Technologies & Cyber; Senior Counsel, Morrison & Foerster LLP)

Venue: ASML, Veldhoven

Participants: 15 participants of the StudiumGenerale, Netherlands Atlantic Association

Date: **June 16**

Subject: Economic security: what will be the impact of geopolitical trends and developments on Dutch companies?

Speakers: Hester **Somsen** (deputy National Coordinator Terrorism and Security and director Cybersecurity, Resilience, State Threats and Economic Security), NCTV staff

Venue: NCTV, Ministry of Justice and Security

Participants: 15 participants of the StudiumGenerale, Netherlands Atlantic Association

Date: **September 28**

Subject: A tilting world order: a conversation with Haroon **Sheikh**

Speaker: Haroon **Sheikh** (Senior researcher The Netherlands Scientific Council for Government Policy, extraordinary professor in Philosophy, Vrije University)

Venue: Netherlands Atlantic Association office, The Hague

Participants: 15 participants of the StudiumGenerale, Netherlands Atlantic Association

Date: **November 10**

Subject: Maritime security and NATO. Conversation with experts, followed by a visit to Damen Naval Shipyards

Speakers: Richard **Keulen** (Director Corporate Strategy and Innovation); Henk **Overdulve** (Customs Affairs and Export control expert)

Venue: Damen Naval Shipyards, Vlissingen

Participants: 15 participants of the StudiumGenerale, Netherlands Atlantic Association

Date: **November 24**

Subject: Economic polarization and political culture: the 2024 US Presidential election. Conversation with Laila Frank, John Adams Institute, workshop Campaign Office BKB

Speakers: Ian **Kenny** (John Adams Institute), Laila **Frank** (Americanist), Bianca **Pander** (Campaign Office BKB)

Venue: Restaurant Nieuw Amsterdam, Campaign Office BKB, Amsterdam

Participants: 15 participants of the StudiumGenerale, Netherlands Atlantic Association

Date: **December 15**
 Subject: The American view on the Netherlands. Visit to the US Embassy
 Speakers: H. E. Ambassador **Shefali Razdan Duggal**; embassy staff
 Venue: American Embassy, Wassenaar
 Participants: 15 participants of the Studium Generale, Netherlands Atlantic Association

Young Atlantic Association

The Young Atlantic Association has been active since 2007. The aim of the organization is to enhance awareness among students and young professionals and to increase their involvement in common security issues in the United States and Europe. The Young Atlantic Association is a platform for dialogue about the future of NATO for young people within the Netherlands as well as in other NATO countries and NATO-partner countries. To achieve this the Young Atlantic Association organizes various national and international events aimed at a young audience (18-35 years), in cooperation with a large number of partner organizations.

In 2020 the Young Atlantic Association Advisory Council was established. The Council provides (solicited and unsolicited) advice and the benefit of experience to the Young Atlantic Association.

Board

There were a number of changes to the Board of the Young Atlantic Association in 2023.

Niels **Mulder**, Iris **Meines**, Carlijn **Kroesen**, Lotte **van den Boom**, Lisette **Brussee**, Ilse **Spelman** and Anders **Lörtzer** left the Board on July 1, 2023.

Rochine **Abdullah**, Koen **Donatz**, Paul **Holleman**, Michelle **Hogendoorn**, Lars **Gerrits** and Mats **Liesker** joined the Board on July 1, 2023.

On December 31, 2023 the members of the Board of the Young Atlantic Association were:

- Boukje **van den Eijnden** (chair)
- Gijs **Weijenberg** (vicechair)
- Laura **Oostdam** (secretary)
- Victor **Niekrake** (coordinator)
- Rochine **Abdullah**
- Koen **Donatz**
- Lars **Gerrits**
- Tjadina **Herbert**
- Michelle **Hogendoorn**
- Paul **Holleman**
- Mats **Liesker**
- Lucas **Moers**

On December 31, 2023 the members of the Young Atlantic Association Advisory Council were:

- W. (Wilbert) **Bekendam** MSc
Consultant, McKinsey & Co., Amsterdam
- S. (Sophie) **Bijloos** MSc
Proprietor, Governance Kompas b.v., Utrecht

• K. (**Karlijn**) Jans PhD
Senior EU Policy Officer, Ministry of Defense, The Hague

Programs

In 2023, the Young Atlantic Association once again expanded its reach, offering a platform for young people and young professionals interested in transatlantic security issues. During the year, the Young Atlantic Association succeeded again in organizing a multitude of well-attended activities on a wide range of topics.

The Young Atlantic Association, together with the Netherlands Atlantic Association, reflected on the first year of the war in Ukraine and the impact of this conflict on the international order. Together with the Netherlands Atlantic Association, the Young Atlantic Association organized a conversation with Minister of Foreign Affairs Wopke Hoekstra on the eve of the NATO summit in Vilnius. Several board members also participated in international conferences, including the NATO Public Forum, a major conference organized in conjunction with the NATO summit.

The annual flagship event of the Young Atlantic Association, NATO Night, was given a new look this year and will continue under the name 'Atlantic Assembly'. Instead of an evening program, the working group organized a full-day program with various panels, workshops and interviews. In addition, the Netherlands returned to the polls in 2023. On the occasion of the parliamentary elections on November 22, the Young Atlantic Association organized in collaboration with Leiden University the Geopolitical Election Debate, in which the most important international security issues were discussed with various politicians.

In 2023, the Young Atlantic Association also focused on developments beyond the transatlantic area, including China, Russia's growing influence on the African continent and the world of cybersecurity. In addition, the Young Atlantic Association visited NATO headquarters in Brussels, a trip that had not taken place for several years due to COVID-19. Along with its public programs, the Young Atlantic Association once again produced several episodes of the podcast '*De Atlantische Blik*'.

MEETING

Date: **January 10**
 Subject: Opening the Diplomatic Door: In conversation with diplomats
 Speaker: Charlotte **Jago** (political advisor, British Embassy The Hague), Emma **Beelaerts** (senior policy staff member, Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
 Moderator: Boukje **van den Eijnden** (chair Young Atlantic Association)
 Venue: Dudok, The Hague
 Participants: 40 students and young professionals

MEETING

Date: **January 16**
 Subject: Strengthening US – NL Military, Security Partnerships through Krijger & Partners
 Speakers: Alex **Krijger** (geopolitical analyst, Krijger & Partners), Ruben **Brekemans** (Tweede Kamer member, VVD), Stefan **Kolenbrander** (researcher, Avans University of Applied Sciences) Anders **Lörtzer** (Board member Young Atlantic Association)
 Venue: Avans St. Joost, Breda
 Participants: 40 students and young professionals and other interested members of the public

Jonge Atlantici / Young Atlantic Association



TECH TOUR

In February the Young Atlantic Association organized, in cooperation with the Marine Engineering student association in Delft, a meeting over the interconnection between geopolitics and marine engineering. Roy de Ruiter (Netherlands Defense Academy), Marnix Krikke (NMT) and Evelien Scheffers (TU Delft) spoke on this subject while Board member Niels Mulder served as moderator.

VISIT TO NATO HEADQUARTERS IN BRUSSELS

On April 14 the Young Atlantic Association, together with a number of students and young professionals, visited NATO Headquarters and the Permanent Representation of the Netherlands to the EU in Brussels.



ATLANTIC ASSEMBLY 2023: UNITY & RESOLVE

On April 1 the Young Atlantic Association organized their annual Atlantic Assembly (formerly *NATO Night*) for more than 100 participants. One of the keynote speakers was the Chief of Defence, General Onno Eichelsheim.

Jonge Atlantici / Young Atlantic Association



PUBLIC VOTING DURING THE GEOPOLITICAL ELECTION DEBATE

Prior to the parliamentary elections in November the Young Atlantic Association organized a debate in which spokespersons from the various parties participated. Attendees could vote for or against a given position by means of a red or green card.



THE GEOPOLITICAL ELECTION DEBATE

Members of the different political parties took part in the election debate. In the photo from left to right: Derk Boswijk, Gijs Tuinman, Martijn Hagoort, Ruben Brekelmans and Alexander Hammelburg.



THE YOUNG ATLANTIC ASSOCIATION BOARD IN SPRING 2023

In the photo from left to right, top row: Ilse Spoelman, Gijs Weijenberg, Iris Meines, Carlijn Kroesen, Anders Lörtzer, Boukje van den Eijnden; bottom row: Lara Hendriks (coordinator), Laura Oostdam, Lucas Moers, Niels Mulder and Tjadina Herbert.

NEW YEAR'S MEETING

Date: **January 20**
Subject: Transatlantic relations in 2023
Speaker: Anna **van Zoest** (director, Netherlands Atlantic Association)
Venue: Dudok, The Hague
Participants: 40 students and young professionals

MEETING

Date: **February 15**
Subject: REAIM Summit 2023 over responsible application of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the military domain
Young Atlantic Association in attendance with vlogger and podcast

MEETING

Date: **February 16**
Subject: Tech Tour: The Importance of Maritime Technology in a Geopolitical Setting
Co-sponsor: the student association of Marine Engineering, TU Delft
Speakers: Roy **de Ruiter** (lecturer International Security Studies, HDV, Netherlands Defense Academy), Marnix **Krikke** (Innovation & Human Capital Director, Netherlands Maritime Technology), Evelien **Scheffers** (PhD-candidate Marine Engineering, TU Delft)
Moderator: Niels **Mulder** (Board member Young Atlantic Association)
Venue: 't Lagerhuysch, Delft
Participants: 35 students and young professionals

MEETING

Date: **March 23**
Subject: From feminist policy to reality: youth in conversation with Pascalie Grotenhuis
Speakers: Pascalie **Grotenhuis** (director Social Development and ambassador Gender Equality and Women's Rights, Ministry of Foreign Affairs), Fenna **Timsi** (UN Youth representative, Human rights and Security, National Youth Council), Laura **Bas** (speaker and consultant specialized in youth participation and gender equality), Marene **Elgershuizen** (policy advisor and project leader feminist foreign policy, WO=MEN), Jim **Monkel** (Youth ambassador Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, Gender Equality and Bodily Autonomy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
Moderator: Boukje **van den Eijnden** (chair Young Atlantic Association), Lotte **van den Boom** (Board member Young Atlantic Association)
Venue: Blauwe Kamer, The Hague
Participants: 30 students and young professionals

MEETING

Date: **April 1**
Subject: Atlantic Assembly 2023: Unity & Resolve
Speakers: Thijs **van der Plas** (Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to NATO), Onno **Eichelsheim** (Chief of Defense), Marie **Brethous** (Associate Analyst for Transatlantic Relations and EU/NATO Affairs, EU Institute for Security Studies), Marnix **Provoost** (researcher,

Netherlands Defense Academy), Sander **van Hoorn** (correspondent, NOS), Ben **Bekkering** (former Head, Netherlands Permanent Military Representative to NATO and the EU), Derk **Boswijk** (Tweede Kamer member, CDA), Teun **van Dongen** (Senior Research Fellow and Programme Lead, Current and Emerging Threats, International Centre for Counter-Terrorism), Hind Dekker **Abdulaziz** (Tweede Kamer member, D66), David **van der Wilde** (investigative journalist, ZEMBLA), Bob **de Graaff** (Professor Emeritus Intelligence and Security Studies, Utrecht University) and Stefan **Mastenbroek** (Commandant Marine Training Center, Ministry of Defense)

Moderators: Christiaan **Harinck** (Utrecht University), Ernst **Dijxhoorn** (Leiden University), Anna **van Zoest** (Netherlands Atlantic Association)

Venue: Netherlands Institute for Sound and Vision, The Hague
Participants: 100 students and young professionals

MEETING

Date: **May 24**
Subject: Russia's comeback in Africa: a house of cards or built to last?
Speaker: Guido **Lanfranchi** (junior research fellow, CRU, Clingendael Institute)
Moderator: Gijs **Weijenberg** (Board member Young Atlantic Association)
Venue: Het Koorenhuis, The Hague
Participants: 45 students and young professionals

NATO YOUTH SUMMIT

Date: **June 5**
Subjects: NATO Youth Summit in Brussels: NextGen Freedom & Security
Speakers: Jens **Stoltenberg** (Secretary General NATO), Kira **Allmann** (Director Partnership & Communication, William & Mary Global Research Institute), Baiba **Braže** (Assistant Secretary General, NATO), David **Quarrey** (UK Permanent Representative, North Atlantic Council), Petr **Pavel** (President, Czech Republic)
Venue: Brussels
Participant: Carlijn **Kroesen** (secretary Young Atlantic Association)

MEETING

Date: **September 19**
Subject: Tensions in the strait: the future of China-Taiwan relations
Speakers: Ed **Kronenburg** (former ambassador to China), Vera **Kranenburg** (China researcher, Clingendael Institute), Eva **Rammeloo** (former China correspondent)
Moderator: Lars **Gerrits** (Board member Young Atlantic Association)
Venue: Grand Café Utopie, The Hague
Participants: 50 students and young professionals

MEETING

Date: **October 23**
Subject: The geopolitical election debate
Co-sponsor: Leiden University
Speakers: Derk **Boswijk** (Tweede Kamer member, CDA), Gijs **Tuinman** (candidate for parliament, BBB), Ruben **Brekelmans** (Tweede Kamer member, VVD), Martijn **Hagoort** (candidate for parliament, Volt) and Alexander **Hammelburg** (Tweede Kamer member, D66)
Moderator: Rik **Rutten** (political reporter, NRC) and Sham **Ahmed** (policy advisor to the municipal secretariate, municipality of The Hague)
Venue: Leiden University, The Hague campus
Participants: 160 students and young professionals

MEETING

Date: **December 13**
Subject: Artificial Intelligence and the future
Speakers: Roy **Lindelauf** (extraordinary professor Data Science, Safety and Security, Tilburg University), Bert **Hubert** (Entrepreneur & Software Developer)
Moderator: Lucas **Moers** (Board member Young Atlantic Association)
Venue: Ubica, Utrecht
Participants: 35 students and young professionals

Podcasts produced by Young Atlantic Association

SANCTIONS SANCTIONS SANCTIONS!

Date: **January 17**
Subject: Historical look at sanctions
Speaker: John **Smith**
Interviewer: Niels **Mulder**
Listeners: 212

REAIM TO AI

Date: **April 28**
Subject: Artificial intelligence, warfare and geopolitics
Speaker: Paul **Verhagen**
Interviewer: Lucas **Moers**
Listeners: 196

THE ROLE AND FUTURE OF WOMEN IN THE MILITARY

Date: **December 18**
Subject: Gender in the military
Speaker: Ella **van den Heuvel**
Interviewers: Michelle **Hogendoorn** & Mats **Liesker**
Listeners: 93

Atlantische Onderwijscommissie / Atlantic Education Committee



ATLANTIC EDUCATION CONFERENCE

The Atlantic Education Conference was held on March 22 in Paushuize in Utrecht, where more than 60 teachers exchanged views over the theme: Europe as a geopolitical player in a new security landscape.

AWARD CEREMONY PROFILE PAPER PROJECT

As part of the award ceremony for the Profile Paper Project, 12 final-year havo/vwo pupils and members of Netherlands Atlantic Association staff were welcomed at the Ministry of Defense by House of Representatives (Tweede Kamer) member Derk Boswijk (CDA) and ProDemos.



NORTHERN EDUCATION CONFERENCE (NEC)

Moderator Hans Luyendijk (chair AEC) addresses the teachers during the annual Northern Education Conference, held November 16 in Zwolle.

Education

The Atlantic Education Committee (AEC) focuses on providing information on transatlantic security issues for teachers and pupils in secondary schools and institutes for teacher training (hbo) by organizing conferences, regional seminars and study trips for teachers from secondary schools and teacher training institutes. Cooperation with teachers' organizations makes it possible to award postgraduate certificates for participation in these educational activities.

The Atlantic Education Committee includes representatives of three teachers' organizations: the Netherlands Association for Teachers of History (VGN), the Netherlands Association for Teachers of Social Studies (NVLM), and the Royal Netherlands Geographical Association (KNAG).

In addition, every year the Atlantic Education Committee organizes a profile paper project for secondary school pupils. Secondary school pupils from throughout the Netherlands can take part in this project and get an opportunity to write a profile paper (PWS) in the field of international peace and security.

Finally, the Committee produces (digital) educational publications. On the website there are lesson modules with extensive information on current developments in transatlantic relations and international security. Pupils can make use of individual and group assignments from the modules.

Education Committee

There were two changes in Atlantic Education Committee in 2023. J.E. (Jan Evert) **Volders** and T. (Thomas) **Klijstra** resigned.

The members of the Education Committee on December 31, 2023 were:

- Drs. H. (Hans) **Luyendijk**, chair
Rector-administrator (interim), Christelijk Gymnasium Sorghvliet, The Hague
- A. (Anna) **van Zoest** MPhil, secretary
Director, Netherlands Atlantic Association
- Drs. M. (Martin) **Bakker**
Geography teacher, Segbroek College, The Hague
- A-M. (Anne-Marit) **Dannijs**
Social studies teacher, Teacher Training Institute, Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences
- T. (Tanja) **Groenendijk-de Vos** MA
Americanist, Radboud University Nijmegen
- Drs. R. (Robert) **de Oude**
History and social studies teacher, Walburgcollege, Zwijndrecht; member of the committee for upper-level HAVO-VWO, VGN
- J. (Jos) **Roozenbeek**
Red Cross—Humanitarian law of war educator
- D. (Daan) **Verhoeven** MEd/MSc
Social studies teacher, Dalton The Hague
- B. (Bart) **Vermeulen**
Representative of the KNAG; geography teacher, Vlietland College, Leiden
- N. (Nelleke) **van der Vlist – van Zanten** MEd
History teacher, CSG Willem de Zwijger, Schoonhoven

Programs

The 2023 activities of the Atlantic Education Committee got underway with the annual Atlantic Education Conference, which in keeping with tradition took place on Wednesday, March 22, 2023 in Paushuize Utrecht. The war in Ukraine and associated threats made 2023 a turbulent year. That is why the theme of the Atlantic Education Conference was: 'Europe as a geopolitical player in a new security landscape'.

The award ceremony for the winner of the profile paper project took place at the Ministry of Defense in The Hague, where the participants were received by Derk Boswijk, Member of Parliament from the CDA. Two pupils from the Andreas College Foundation from Katwijk won the 2023 Profile Paper Project prize. Both pupils investigated how abuses within the United Nations relate to the MINUSTAH peace mission in Haiti.

On Thursday November 16, 2023 the Atlantic Education Committee, working together with the Christian University of Applied Sciences Windesheim and the NHL Stenden University of Applied Sciences, organized the Northern Education Conference in Zwolle. This year's theme was 'The Battle for Resources', with the aim of gaining a deeper insight into the relationship between resources, influence and conflict.

EDUCATION ACTIVITY ATLANTIC EDUCATION CONFERENCE (AEC)

Date: **March 22**
Subject: Europe as a geopolitical player in a new security landscape
Speakers: Sabine **Mengelberg** (assistant professor on the Faculty of Military Science, Netherlands Defense Academy), Jaap **Verheul** (extraordinary professor dept Modern languages and culture, Radboud University Nijmegen), Michel **Rademaker** (co-founder & deputy Director, HCSS), Lauren **Gould** (project leader The intimacies of remote warfare, Utrecht University)
Moderator: Hans **Luyendijk** (chair AEC)
Venue: Paushuize, Utrecht
Participants: 60 teachers and teachers-in-training

AWARD CEREMONY PROFILE PAPER PROJECT

Date: **April 7**
Speakers: Derk **Boswijk** (Tweede Kamer member, CDA), **ProDemos**
Venue: House of Representatives (Tweede Kamer), The Hague
Participants: 12 final-year pupils havo/vwo and staff from the Netherlands Atlantic Association involved in the Profile Paper Project

TEACHING MATERIALS

Published: **May**
Subject: 'The Coldest War' - The North Pole Game. Simulation game surrounding the geostrategic importance of the Arctic Ocean.
Contents: Teacher's manual, Assignment cards, Game board, Tokens
Target group: Upper-level vmbo-tl

NORTHERN EDUCATION CONFERENCE (NEC)

Date: **November 16**
Subject: The Battle over Resources
Co-sponsors: NHL Stenden University of Applied Sciences, Christian University of Applied Sciences Windesheim
Speakers: Jesse **Jonkman** (Vrije University Amsterdam), Steven van **Bockstael** (University of Groningen), Irina **Patrahau** (HCSS) and Ester **van der Voet** (Leiden University)
Moderator: Hans **Luyendijk** (chair AEC)
Venue: Nieuwe Buitensociëteit, Zwolle
Participants: 110 teachers, teachers-in-training in the fields of geography, history and social studies and civics

Public Meetings

The public meetings are designed to inform various important target groups (patrons, students, politicians, journalists, scholars, policy officials from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Defense, members of the diplomatic corps) about current themes in national and international political relations. To this end one or more speakers are invited to make presentations on the subject. This is followed by a discussion involving the speakers, the moderator and members of the audience.

Programs

PUBLIC MEETING

Date: **February 23**
Subject: The war in Ukraine after one year: where do we stand now?
Speakers: Kajsa **Ollongren** (Minister of Defense), Hubert **Smeets** (journalist, historian, Raam op Rusland), Han **Bouwmeester** (Brigade general Ministry of Defense, professor FMW, NLDA), Willemijn **Aerds** (lecturer-researcher, Institute for Security and Global Affairs, Leiden University), Bob **Deen** (senior research fellow/coordinator of the Russia and Eastern Europe Centre, Clingendael Institute)
Moderator: Sophie **Derkzen** (journalist & moderator, presenter VPRO)
Venue: Leiden University, The Hague campus
Participants: 350 patrons, academics, politicians, journalists, members of the *diplomatic corps*, representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Defense, students, and other interested members of the public

PUBLIC MEETING

Date: **June 14**
Subject: The NATO Innovation Fund – Shaping the Future of Warfare
Co-sponsor: The American Chamber of Commerce in the Netherlands
Speakers: David **van Weel** (Ass. Secretary General Emerging Security Challenges, NATO), Mariëtte **Doornekamp** (Deeptech EquityNL), Agnes **Venema** (security policy expert and researcher at DCAF)
Moderator: Alex **Krijger** (Krijger & Partners)
Venue: Press center Nieuwspoor, The Hague

Participants: 85 invited attendees, emphasis on business (esp. the deep-tech sector), government (innovation-related) and the *diplomatic corps*

PUBLIC MEETING

Date: **June 29**
Subject: NATO in the eye of the storm – Choices for a secure Europe
Speakers: Thijs **van der Plas** (Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to NATO), George **Dimitriu** (officer Royal Netherlands Army, senior research fellow, Clingendael Institute), Paul **van Hooft** (senior strategic analyst, The Hague Centre for Strategic Studies), Sabine **Mengelberg** (assistant professor at the Faculty of Military Science, Netherlands Defense Academy)
Moderator: Diana **Matroos** (journalist for BNR News radio and the VPRO)
Venue: Press center Nieuwspoor, The Hague
Participants: 100 patrons, academics, politicians, journalists, members of the *diplomatic corps*, representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Defense, students, and other interested members of the public

PUBLIC MEETING

Date: **July 6**
Subject: On the way to the NATO summit; a conversation with Minister Hoekstra
Co-sponsor: Leiden University
Speaker: Wopke **Hoekstra** (Minister of Foreign Affairs)
Moderator: Anna **van Zoest** (director Netherlands Atlantic Association)
Venue: Leiden University, The Hague campus
Participants: 200 patrons, academics, politicians, journalists, members of the *diplomatic corps*, representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Defense, students, and other interested members of the public

PUBLIC MEETING

Date: **September 4**
Subject: A conversation with Maia Sandu, President of Moldova
Co-sponsor: Clingendael Institute
Speaker: Maia **Sandu** (President of Moldova)
Moderator: Arnout **Brouwers** (diplomatic correspondent of the Volkskrant)
Venue: Press center Nieuwspoor, The Hague
Participants: 150 patrons, academics, politicians, journalists, members of the *diplomatic corps*, representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Defense, students, and other interested members of the public

PUBLIC MEETING

Date: **October 30**
Subject: The Great Security and Defense Election Debate
Co-sponsor: KVBK
Speakers: Derk **Boswijk** (CDA), Ruben **Brekemans** (VVD), Laurens **Dassen** (Volt), Jan **Paternotte** (D66), Kati **Piri** (GroenLinks-PvdA), Gijs **Tuinman** (BBB) and Caspar **Veldkamp** (NSC)
Moderator: Robert **van de Roer** (diplomacy expert)

Venue: De Balie, Amsterdam
Participants: 200 patrons, academics, politicians, journalists, members of the *diplomatic corps*, representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Defense, students, and other interested members of the public

PUBLIC MEETING - ONLINE

Date: **December 13**
Subject: A New Marshall Plan? Heather Conley on Rebuilding Ukraine
Co-sponsor: American Embassy
Speakers: Heather **Conley** (president, German Marshall Fund) and Bob **Deen** (Senior Research Fellow and Head of the Security Unit, Clingendael Institute)
Moderator: Anna **van Zoest** (director Atlantische Commissie)
Participants: Ca. 40 patrons, academics, politicians, journalists, members of the *diplomatic corps*, representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Defense, students, and other interested members of the public

Podcasts produced by the Netherlands Atlantic Association

THE NATO INNOVATION FUND

Date: **June 27**
Subject: recording of the Netherlands Atlantic Association public meeting on the NATO Innovation Fund on June 14, 2023
Speakers: David **van Weel** (ass. Secretary General Emerging Security Challenges, NATO), Mariëtte **Doornekamp** (Deeptech EquityNL), Agnes **Venema** (security policy expert and researcher at DCAF) and Alex **Krijger** (Krijger & Partners)
Editor: Jonathan **Groubert**
Listeners: 159

NATO IN THE EYE OF THE STORM

Date: **July 7**
Subject: Recording of the Netherlands Atlantic Association public meeting on the NATO summit in Vilnius on June 29, 2023.
Speakers: Thijs **van der Plas** (Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to NATO), George **Dimitriu** (officer Royal Netherlands Army, senior research fellow, Clingendael Institute), Paul **van Hooft** (senior strategic analyst, The Hague Centre for Strategic Studies), Sabine **Mengelberg** (assistant professor at the Faculty of Military Science, Netherlands Defense Academy) and Diana **Matroos** (journalist for BNR News radio and VPRO)
Editor: Jonathan **Groubert**
Listeners: 202

A CONVERSATION WITH PRESIDENT MAIA SANDU OF MOLDOVA

Date: **September 7**
Subject: Recording of the Netherlands Atlantic Association public meeting with President Maia Sandu on September 4, 2023
Speakers: Maia **Sandu** (President of Moldova) and Arnout **Brouwers** (diplomatic correspondent of Volkskrant)
Editor: Jonathan **Groubert**
Listeners: 233

THE GREAT SECURITY AND DEFENSE ELECTION DEBATE

Date: **November 9**
Subject: Recording of the Netherlands Atlantic Association Great Security and Defense Election Debate on October 30, 2023.
Speakers: Derk **Boswijk** (CDA), Ruben **Brekelmans** (VVD), Laurens **Dassen** (Volt), Jan **Paternotte** (D66), Kati Piri (GroenLinks-PvdA), Gijs **Tuinman** (BBB), Caspar **Veldkamp** (NSC) and Robert **van de Roer**
Editor: Jonathan **Groubert**
Listeners: 158

A NEW MARSHALL PLAN? HEATHER CONLEY ON REBUILDING UKRAINE

Date: **December 20**
Subject: Recording of the Netherlands Atlantic Association program: 'A New Marshall Plan? Heather Conley on Rebuilding Ukraine' on December 13, 2023
Speakers: Heather **Conley** (president, German Marshall Fund), Bob **Deen** (Senior Research Fellow and Head of the Security Unit, Clingendael Institute) and Anna **van Zoest** (director Netherlands Atlantic Association)
Editor: Jonathan **Groubert**
Listeners: 86

Study visits to NATO

Every year the Netherlands Atlantic Association organizes study visits to NATO headquarters for specific target groups. During a working dinner and a full-day program they are informed about the latest NATO developments by members of the international staff and staffs of the offices of various permanent representatives. In 2023, two visits were organized in cooperation with NATO's Public Diplomacy Division: one for Dutch journalists and one for the Young Atlantic Association.

STUDY VISIT - YOUNG ATLANTIC ASSOCIATION

Date: **April 14**
Subject: Study visit to NATO-headquarters and EU
Speakers: Tom **Morin-Robinson** (NATO PDD), Beaudine **Verhoek** (NATO PDD), Wiebe **Baron** (NATO PR NL), Liselot **Egmond** (NATO PR NL), Eline **de Jong** (PR NL EU) and Thijs Reijling (PR NL EU)
Venue: NATO-headquarters and PREU, EDEO, Brussels
Participants: 30 students and young professionals

STUDY VISIT - JOURNALISTS

Date: **June 21**
Subject: Study visit NATO-headquarters for journalists
Co-sponsor: NATO's Public Diplomacy Division
Speakers: Representatives of the Dutch and American delegations to NATO and the NATO staff
Venue: NATO-headquarters, Brussels
Participants: 16 journalists

Publieksbijeenkomsten | *Public Events*



On February 23, Minister of Defense Kajsa Ollongren as keynote speaker addressed an audience of 350 during the meeting on 'The war in Ukraine after one year; where do we stand now?'



President Maia Sandu of Moldova is welcomed by Anna van Zoest and Bob Deen, organizers of the meeting at Press center Nieuwspoor.



The day before the fall of the Rutte IV cabinet, Minister of Foreign Affairs Wopke Hoekstra was guest speaker at the meeting of 250 students on the theme: 'On the road to the NATO summit'.

Publieksbijeenkomsten / Public Events



On Wednesday March 22, former director of the Netherlands Atlantic Association Foundation, Bram Boxhoorn, received the Gouden Ereteken van Verdienste, an award from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for individuals who have made a special and personal contribution to the international relations of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. The award was presented by Yvette van Eechoud, director of Western Hemisphere Affairs at the Ministry.

Prior to the parliamentary elections the Netherlands Atlantic Association organized the Great Security and Defense Election Debate in De Balie in Amsterdam. Under moderator Robert van de Roer, spokespersons from the various parties engaged in debate.



Staff of the Netherlands Atlantic Association prepare to welcome participants to a meeting at Press Center Nieuwspoort, The Hague.

Other Programs

Study trip for journalists

In US election years the Netherlands Atlantic Association organizes week-long study trips to the US for Dutch journalists. Since 2023 was not an election year, no study trip took place.

Professorship

In 2019, Radboud University Nijmegen appointed prof. dr. Jaap Verheul extraordinary professor of transatlantic relations. This chair was established by the Netherlands Atlantic Association. Verheul will focus in particular on the cultural dimension of modern transatlantic relations between the United States and Europe, with special attention to national imagery and to the shared values that underpin international cooperation.

Dwight D. Eisenhower Thesis Award

The Netherlands Atlantic Association has established a biennial thesis prize in the field of transatlantic relations: the Dwight D. Eisenhower thesis award. The award aims to increase scholarly interest and attention for this theme among students. The award is intended for master's students of history, political science, or a related field, who have written an excellent thesis (in Dutch or English) on a topic in the field of modern transatlantic relations, in particular, the political, economic and/or cultural ties between the United States and Europe or the Netherlands. The award ceremony took place on January 31, 2023.

Atlantic Treaty Association

The Netherlands Atlantic Association is a member of the Atlantic Treaty Association (ATA), the worldwide network organization for all the Atlantic Associations. The ATA organizes two meetings for its members each year. The Young Atlantic Association also belongs to an international network organization: the Youth Atlantic Treaty Organization (YATA). In 2023 the ATA adopted new statutes and elected a new governing board. Anna van Zoest, director of the Netherlands Atlantic Association, was elected to the Board.

Media

Atlantisch Perspectief

Atlantisch Perspectief is the magazine of the Netherlands Atlantic Association. The magazine published four issues in 2023 and contains opinion articles, analyses and columns on current developments in transatlantic relations and security policy.

All articles and abstracts of articles of *Atlantisch Perspectief* from 2011 to 2023 are now available on the website of the Netherlands Atlantic Association. All available articles from *Atlantisch Perspectief* and its predecessors can now also be found in the JSTOR database. That includes Atlantic Tidings and Atlantic News that together go back to 1964.

The editorial board of *Atlantisch Perspectief* consists of the editor, the Editorial Advisory Council and the International Advisory Council.

In 2023 Albertine **Bloemendal** and Teun **van Dongen** joined the Editorial Advisory Council.

On December 31 the editorial board of *Atlantisch Perspectief* consisted of:

Editor

- M.A. (Maarten) **Muns MA**

On December 31, 2023 the members of the Editorial Advisory Council were:

- A. (Anna) **van Zoest** MPhil, chair
Director, Netherlands Atlantic Association
- Dr. N.A. (Albertine) **Bloemendal**
Assistant Professor North American & Transatlantic Studies, Radboud University Nijmegen and Leiden University
- Dr. L. (Laurien) **Crump**
Assistant Professor and researcher in History and International Relations, Utrecht University
- Dr. T. (Teun) **van Dongen**
Policy advisor, author and analyst in the fields of (inter-)national security and terrorism
- Dr. M. (Margriet) **Drent**
Policy advisor Counter Hybrid at the Ministry of Defense
- Dr. P.A. (Paul) **van Hooft**
Senior Strategic Analyst at HCSS and Co-Chair of The Initiative on the Future of Transatlantic Relations
- Prof. dr. R.V.A. (Ruud) **Janssens**
Professor of American Studies, University of Amsterdam
- Dr. S.N. (Sabine) **Mengelberg**
Assistant Professor of International Security Studies, Netherlands Defense Academy, Breda
- Dr. A.J. (Anselm) **van der Peet**
Researcher, Netherlands Institute of Military History, The Hague
- Dr. N. (Niels) **van Willigen**
Associate Professor of International Relations, Leiden University.

On December 31, 2023 the members of the International Advisory Council were:

- dr. Hans **Binnendijk**
Senior Fellow, Center for Transatlantic Relations, Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University, Washington D.C.
- Dr. Ann-**Sofie Dahl**
Associate Professor and Nonresident Senior Fellow, Atlantic Council (US)
- Prof. dr. Jan Willem **Honig**
Senior Lecturer, Department of War Studies, King's College, London
- Prof. dr. Margarita **Mathiopoulos**
Chief Executive Officer, EAG European Advisory Group, Berlin
- Prof. dr. Alexander **Moens**
Professor of International Relations, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby (BC), Canada
- Dr. Henning **Riecke**
Head, Transatlantic Relations Program, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Auswärtige Politik, Berlin
- Stanley **Sloan**
Visiting scholar, Rohatyn Center for International Affairs, Middlebury College (VT), US

Articles

At the end of 2023, the editorial team started an 'online first' strategy, whereby articles are first released online and only later appear in print. This way we can respond even better to current events. Articles, interviews and columns are also developed especially for the online channels of the Netherlands Atlantic Association. In 2023, the frequency of *Atlantisch Perspectief* was reduced from six to four issues, to free up more time and resources for online publications.

The first issue of 2023 looked back on, among other things, the first year of the war in Ukraine. From turning points to the Russian 'world of ideas', to America's role and the risk of 'Ukraine fatigue'. The second issue partly built on this and dealt with arms control in a complex and uncertain world. The third issue was entirely dedicated to the NATO summit in Vilnius. Several NATO authors reflected on the changing alliance and the strategic challenges that lie ahead. The fourth issue was a theme issue on sea power. Admiral Rob Bauer, Chairman of the NATO Military Committee, introduced this issue for us.

Published: 4x a year
Print run: 1,000 copies

Other publications

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Published: May 2023
Print run: Exclusively online

Opinion Poll

The annual opinion poll on the level of support for NATO in the Netherlands was conducted in February 2023. The research was carried out by Kantar Public (now: *Verian Group*). In addition to questions about NATO and the transatlantic relationship, public opinion about artificial intelligence and warfare was measured.

The research showed that Dutch concerns about the Russian invasion of Ukraine have led to increased support for NATO. The poll showed a significant increase in the number of Dutch citizens who consider NATO membership (very) important for the security of our country (from approximately 75 percent in the period 2019-2022 to 88 percent in 2023). A large group of Dutch citizens also (very) positively support NATO's crucial Article 5, which stipulates that an attack on any ally means an attack on all allies.

Website

The Netherlands Atlantic Association website (www.atlantischecommissie.nl) contains information about the organization and its objectives as well as about the many activities of the Netherlands Atlantic Association, the Atlantic Education Committee and Young Atlantic Association. The homepage features articles, opinion pieces, background

information, and reading-, watching- and listening tips ('must-reads') on current transatlantic events and issues. The visitor is made aware of articles, podcasts and documentaries from renowned (international) magazines, think tanks, websites and blogs. In addition, the Netherlands Atlantic Association in cooperation with the Young Atlantic Association regularly produces the podcast '*De Atlantische Blik*'.

Many educational publications can be viewed online, and teachers and pupils can use the various lesson modules and worksheets. In addition, in 2021 the Netherlands Atlantic Association started digitally archiving all articles from *Atlantisch Perspectief* between 1991 and the present.

In 2023 the site was visited 35,230 times by 23,444 users. An increase of 32.8% and 29.96% respectively compared to 2022. A total of 64,157 pages were viewed, an increase of 19.92% compared to the previous year. This increase can be attributed in part to the greater frequency of the publication of reading-, listening, and watching tips on social media, which generates traffic on the website.

Social media

The Netherlands Atlantic Association and Young Atlantic Association are active on LinkedIn, Instagram, Twitter and Facebook. LinkedIn in particular is showing strong growth, while Facebook is showing less and less interaction. Since 2023 the Netherlands Atlantic Association is also active on Instagram. The social media channels are used to increase the brand awareness of both the Netherlands Atlantic Association and Young Atlantic Association. In addition, through these platforms, our followers are kept informed about the activities that are being organized, useful must-reads, and the articles from *Atlantisch Perspectief* and other publications.

The LinkedIn-page of the Netherlands Atlantic Association had 1667 followers on December 31, 2023. In 2023, 191 messages were posted to this page. The LinkedIn-page of the Young Atlantic Association had 1506 followers on December 31, 2023. In 2023 65 messages were posted to this page.

On December 31, 2023 the Netherlands Atlantic Association had 646 followers on X (formerly Twitter) while the Young Atlantic Association had 1307. In 2023 66 tweets were sent by the Netherlands Atlantic Association account and 40 tweets sent by the Young Atlantic Association.

On December 31, 2023 the Instagram-page of the Young Atlantic Association had 1086 followers. In 2023 56 messages were posted to this page. Also in 2023 the Netherlands Atlantic Association created an Instagram page, which had 76 followers on December 31, 2023. In 2023 8 messages were posted to this page.

On December 31, 2023 the Facebook page of the Netherlands Atlantic Association had 1300 'likes', while that of the Young Atlantic Association-group had 870 and the Young Atlantic Association page had 1400. In 2023 messages were posted 6 times on the pages of the Netherlands Atlantic Association, 1 time on the page of the Young Atlantic Association and two times on the page of the Young Atlantic Association-group.

Work with infographics continued in 2023. In the week leading up to the Great Security and Defense Election Debate, graphics were posted online highlighting several transatlantic themes in election manifestos.

Netherlands Atlantic Association in the media

The following daily, weekly and monthly periodicals, radio programs and websites covered the Netherlands Atlantic Association and its activities in 2023:

- *Algemeen Dagblad*
- *ANP*
- *Amigoe Curacao*
- *Betrouwbare Bronnen (podcast)*
- *BN de Stem*
- *BNR (Business Nieuws Radio, incl. De Strateeg|Daily Move)*
- *Clingendael*
- *Dag & Nacht Media (podcast)*
- *Defensie NL*
- *De Correspondent*
- *De Gooi- en Eemlander*
- *De Limburger*
- *De Stad Amersfoort*
- *De Telegraaf*
- *De Volkskrant (& podcast Elke Dag)*
- *KVBK*
- *Leids Dagblad*
- *Militaire Spectator*
- *Nederlands Dagblad*
- *Nederlands Juristenblad (NJIB)*
- *NIDV*
- *Noord-Hollands Dagblad*
- *NOS*
- *Reformatorsch Dagblad*
- *Stichting Marechaussee Contact*
- *Transport Online*
- *Trouw*
- *Welingerichte Kringen*

Media appearances, lectures and publications by the director

MEETING

Date: February 22
Subject: "Ticket to ride. A train ride through the new Europe".
 Public meeting on the first year of the Russian invasion of Ukraine
Organization: VU, Amsterdam
Participants: 80 students from VU, Philosophy faculty, Ethos center

MEETING

Date: May 17
Subject: NATO-expansion; Keynote during an online program
 HCSS: Evaluating NATO Enlargement: from Cold War victory to Russia-Ukraine War
Organization: HCSS
Participants: Ca. 100 participants

MEETING

Date: June 22
Subject: Trans-Atlantic relations on the eve of the NATO summit; Keynote opening address American Studies Day conference
Organization: Radboud University Nijmegen
Venue: Radboud University Nijmegen
Participants: 100-200 students and academics/experts

MEETING

Date: July 11-12
Subject: NATO Public Forum
Venue: NATO summit Vilnius
Participants: Think tanks and international organizations

RADIO

Date: September 20
Subject: Future of NATO
Program: BNR Nieuwsradio; De Strateeg

MEETING

Date: October 3
Subject: New technologies and warfare
 Hyperwar Symposium, KVBK and Leiden University, The Hague Campus. Netherlands Atlantic Association director served as chair of the day
Organization: KVBK, Leiden University
Venue: Leiden University, The Hague campus
Participants: 150 participants at the venue and online

MEETING

Date: October 4
Subject: Dutch-German Defense cooperation Netherlands Atlantic Association director took part in panel discussion
Organization: Clingendael Institute
Venue: Clingendael Institute
Participants: 100 participants at the venue; livestream provided

MEETING

Date: **October 11**
 Subject: Reception for Bernie Sanders. Introduction provided by Netherlands Atlantic Commission director and others
 Organization: LSV Minerva, Leids Cultuurfonds and Bot publishers
 Venue: Stadsgehoorzaal, Leiden
 Participants: 800 students

RADIO

Date: **October 11**
 Subject: Zelenski at NATO to keep the focus on Ukraine
 Program: BNR Nieuwsradio; Daily Move

RADIO

Date: **November 14**
 Subject: Former NATO boss suggests bold Ukraine strategy: 'Partial NATO membership'
 Program: BNR Nieuwsradio; Daily Move

MEETING

Date: **November 16**
 Subject: NATO and transatlantic security; annual meeting of the Marine Corps association. Netherlands Atlantic Association director delivered keynote address
 Organization: Association of Marine Corps Officers
 Venue: Marine Corps officers, Marine base Doorn
 Participants: 150 (ret.-) marine corps officers

LECTURE

Date: **November 17**
 Subject: NATO and transatlantic security
 Organization: Radboud University Nijmegen
 Venue: Radboud University Nijmegen
 Participants: 20 students in the American Studies master's program

RADIO

Date: **November 28**
 Subject: The chances of Mark Rutte becoming NATO Secretary General
 Program: BNR Nieuwsradio; Daily Move

MEETING

Date: **December 7**
 Subject: British-Dutch security cooperation; North Sea Neighbours Conference (formerly Apeldoorn Conference). Netherlands Atlantic Association director took part in panel discussion
 Organization: Clingendael Institute
 Venue: Stadsplein, The Hague
 Participants: 100-150 policy staff, diplomats, think tank scholars and experts

STRATEGIC STUDIES FOUNDATION

The Strategic Studies Foundation is an independent organization that takes care of the scholarly activities of the Netherlands Atlantic Association. The Foundation focuses on initiating and promoting scholarly research on security issues.

The position of extraordinary professor in strategic studies has been vacant since 2017.

On December 31, 2023 the members of the board of the Strategic Studies Foundation were:

- Prof.dr.mr. E.M.L. (Lokke) **Moerel**, chair
- M.W. (Michiel) **van Campen MA**, treasurer
- mr. M. (Marije) **Meines**, secretary
- A. (Anna) **van Zoest MPhil**, director

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES

(Amounts x 1,000, rounded to thousands)

INCOME

Income from government	€ 593
Income from Netherlands Atlantic Association*	€ 72
Total income	€ 665

EXPENSES

Platform- and network activities	€ 129
Education	€ 105
Public programs	€ 164
Media	€ 217
Total expenses	€ 615

BALANCE 2023 € 50

** Netherlands Atlantic Association income consists of contributions from (student) patrons (17K) and other subsidies, contributions and interest (55K). The income from other subsidies, contributions and interest consists of subsidies received from NATO, the American Embassy and the US Department of State (16K), the Studium Generale program (12K), further training funds (12K) and other income (15K) (including contributions from the KVBK and the Municipality of The Hague).*

Media



Covers of some of the 'Atlantisch Perspectief' issues published in 2023.

Bureau



Visit of US Ambassador Ms. Shefali Razdan Duggal to the office of the Netherlands Atlantic Association in January 2023.

Staff, interns and the chair of the Young Atlantic Association. From left to right: Yoran Nijenbanning, Jeroen Cuijpers, Laurens Keizer, Lara Hendriks, Ambassador Shefali Razdan Duggal, Anna van Zoest, Veerle de Kock and Boukje van den Eijnden.

ADMINISTRATION

On December 31, 2023 the administration of the Netherlands Atlantic Association consisted of:

- A. (Anna) **van Zoest** MPhil.

OFFICE

The office is responsible for the preparation and implementation of the various programs of the Netherlands Atlantic Association. It also maintains the website and social media accounts and supports the management board and the subcommittees of the Netherlands Atlantic Association. Finally, the office provides information to others. There were five changes in office personnel in 2023.

M.A. (Maarten) **Muns** MA became editor of *Atlantisch Perspectief* on October 15, 2023. He replaced G.H.E.J. (Gerben) **Stormbroek** MA who resigned on August 1, 2023.

- L.J. (Laurens) **Keizer** MA resigned from the Education staff on July 1, 2023.
- V.A.A. (Victor) **Niekraake** BA became coordinator of Education and the Young Atlantic Association on November 1, 2023.
- V.M. (Veerle) **de Kock** MA resigned as Education Project Manager on December 31, 2023.

On December 31, 2023, the office and staff personnel were:

- V.A.A. (**Victor**) Niekraake BA
Coordinator Education and Young Atlantic Association
- V.M. (Veerle) **de Kock** MA
Project manager Education
- L.F.M. (Lara) **Hendriks** MA
Program coordinator
- Drs. B.C. (Linda) **Schneider**
Office staff member
- M.A. (Maarten) **Muns** MA
Editor *Atlantisch Perspectief*

In addition to the staff interns from various universities contributed significantly to the Association's work. In 2023, the following interns worked at the Netherlands Atlantic Association:

- Jeroen **Cuijpers** (Radboud University Nijmegen)
- Daan **Lensink** (University of Groningen)
- Victor **Niekraake** (The Hague University of Applied Sciences)
- Yoran **Nijenbanning** (University of Groningen)
- Julian **Westdijk** (Leiden University)

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Since its foundation in 1952, the Netherlands Atlantic Association has been a forum for public debate over transatlantic security issues. It provides information and promotes research on relations between the United States and Europe, developments concerning NATO and European security issues. Through its activities the association aims to further public discussion on these issues.

The Netherlands Atlantic Association organizes diverse programs for specific target groups, such as politicians, journalists, academics, business leaders and young professionals. The Young Atlantic Association organizes programs for students and recent graduates. The Atlantic Education Committee develops programs for teachers and upper-level secondary school pupils.

The Netherlands Atlantic Association also publishes a magazine *Atlantisch Perspectief* as well as digital educational materials.

The independence of the Netherlands Atlantic Association is safeguarded by the Board of the Foundation, whose members include representatives of major political parties as well as academic experts in the fields of transatlantic relations and security policy.

The Netherlands Atlantic Association is part of the Atlantic Treaty Association – a network organization of more than 40 Atlantic Associations in most NATO member states and in most countries in the Partnership for Peace.

The Netherlands Atlantic Association cooperates actively with government institutions, political organizations, educational institutions, and non-governmental organizations in the Netherlands and abroad, and on an ad-hoc basis with the business community.

Finally, the Netherlands Atlantic Association initiates and supports the development of activities in the field of international and national security issues by others and advises them on the design and implementation of such projects.

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COLOPHON

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