

WITH THE SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF NATO

Summary

The sixtieth anniversary of existence and successful functioning of North Atlantic Treaty Organization, more famous as NATO is celebrated in this year (2009). NATO is international military-political organization established on April 4, 1949 by signing North Atlantic Treaty (Washington Treaty) between twelve countries of the Western block (Belgium, Denmark, France, Italy, Iceland, Canada, Luxemburg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, USA and Great Britain). Following factors influenced on establishment of NATO: separation of anti-Hitler coalition because of opposing goals, development of "national democracy" countries under Soviet domination, Marshall's plan of the USA help to demolished Europe, which was rejected by the Soviet Union, Truman's doctrine from 1947 which marked greater engagement of USA, politics of U.S.S.R. under Stalin's presiding and bigger "threats of communism and socialist countries". North Atlantic Treaty is based on fourteen articles, and according to the fifth article "the parties agreed that an armed attack against one or more of the organization members shall be considered as an attack against them all". The NATO headquarters are in Brussels, official languages are English and French and Anders Fogh Rasmussen is the current Secretary General. The alliance functions in accordance with the principles of intergovernmental cooperation and decisions are made by common consent of all members (28 countries). NATO mission in B&H from 1992 to 1995 was the most extensive in the history of Alliance. The first military action of this organization took place during this mission. Today NATO is not only military, but also political organization.

Key words: NATO, collective security, military-political organization, mission, militant activity, Bosnia and Herzegovina.