This lesson plan imagines the student as part of a delegation to a special meeting of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)-sponsored Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council being held in Brussels, Belgium, where the topic of discussion is a proposal by several NATO members to invite independent republics of the former Soviet Union to become permanent members of NATO. According to the lesson, the Russian delegation will make a strong objection to the proposal, seeing it as a way for NATO countries to expand their political, economic, and military influence at the expense of Russia's weakened position. Students must represent their nation's best interests and at the same time create a positive climate that will insures peace and security for all nations involved. Students are provided with background information, detailed instructions, online resources, and reflection questions. The teacher's notes describe the unit's purpose, explain the unit's correlation to history/social science and language arts standards, and suggest teaching strategies. (BT)
NATO and Russia

10th Grade Lesson by Terry Fix

SCORE
San Berardino County Superintendent of Schools
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http://score.rims.k12.ca.us/activity/natio_russia/
NATO and Russia: Will the Expansion of NATO Cause a New Cold War?

Introduction

You are part of a delegation to a special meeting of the NATO sponsored Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council being held in Brussels, Belgium. The topic of discussion at the meeting is a proposal by several NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) members to invite a number of the independent republics of the former Soviet Union to become permanent members of NATO.

The Russian delegation intends to make a strong objection to the proposal--fearing that the NATO countries are taking advantage of the collapse of the Soviet Union--to expand their political, economic, and military influence at the expense of Russia's weakened position.

Read the following editorial from the April 30, 1998 issue of the Christian Science Monitor about an upcoming debate in the US Senate over giving NATO membership to former Warsaw Pact nations of the Czech Republic, Poland and Hungary:
Current NATO countries and New Members
Source: CNN
Like Lincoln's legs, drolly described as needing to be long enough to reach the ground, Europe's defense needs to be large enough to defend Europe.

Sounds simple enough. But wait. How large is Europe going to be? And, what about America, for half a century den mother, provider of commanders, and chief arms supplier for NATO?

NATO isn't just Europe. The US (and Canada) confirmed the transatlantic nature of the alliance stitched together to defend Western democracies against Stalin's captive empire.

But that was then, and this is now. The empire isn't about to strike back. It's dismantled and partly defanged. So, outnumbered Senate opponents of enlargement argue, why plant seeds of future belligerence in Moscow - revenge for being left out of the club while lesser neighbors are invited in?

That's an argument worth careful thought, not smug dismissal. So is the related plea that a generous America did better after World War II by helping defeated enemies Germany and Japan recover and democratize - rather than walling them off.

Our position for the past two years takes account of both (1) the reasons for welcoming back the artificially walled off eastern half of Europe, and (2) generously bolstering democracy and prosperity in Russia.

We would have preferred that the organic growth of economic and cultural Europe precede the military defense of that enlargement. Let European Union grow under its strict rules of responsible economic and democratic behavior; then let NATO follow the EU map. In short: today EU, tomorrow NATO.

But, having said that, we feel that cheering on Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic - courageous topplers of the Iron Curtain - and then slamming the NATO door in their faces would be wrong, historically fickle and dangerous.

So let the Senate ratify membership for these three. But thereafter, make clear that passing the EU membership tests of economic and democratic readiness is the path to entering the defense alliance.

Meanwhile, neither the US nor EU should neglect promises to Russia. Those include: (1) Helping reformers trying to democratize both the political and economic systems. (2) Making sure the Partnership for Peace deal linking Moscow's leadership to NATO planning works in a practical way. (3) Working with the Kremlin to lower barriers to trade with, and investment in, Russia's at last recovering economy. (4) Jointly working to halt leakage of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons and know-how.

We cannot coin an acronym and assume its immortality. Who today remembers METO (the Middle East clone of NATO) or SEATO (the Asian clone)? NATO will survive as a useful entity only if it defends an organically growing body of economic and political democracies.

That's the Lincoln's legs test the Senate should use.
The Task

You will serve in the delegation to the NATO sponsored 43 nation Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council (EAPC) from at least the following 14 of those countries: (1) the United Kingdom; (2) France; (3) the United States; (4) Russia; (5) Estonia; (6) Latvia; (7) Lithuania; (8) Italy; (9) Ukraine; (10) Czech Republic; (11) Poland; (12) Hungary; (13) Germany; and (14) Kazakhstan.

Your job will be to represent your nation's interests to the best of your ability and at the same time create a positive climate that will insure peace as well as security for all nations involved.

All the countries within the Gold Box are members of the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council

Source: NATO Basic Fact Sheet #19

The Process
Brainstorming

Before you get started, the whole class must brainstorm the following questions to get a clearer understanding of the problem. They should know how to prepare for a conference and how to conduct a political meeting or conference to a successful conclusion, and what information will be needed to aid each group in its tasks.

What do we know?
What do we need to know?
Where can we find out what we need to know?

Background Information
Study the Background of Your Nation or Country

Find information about the country you represent. What is its history—especially recent history? What is its size and strength? Who are its friends? What are its national interests? You may find this information in your textbook, in an encyclopedia (CD ROM), or at the following websites:

Country Studies/Area Handbook Program
(http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/cshome.html)


US State Department Background Notes
(http://www.state.gov/www/background_notes/index.html)

The US State Department provides quick references and information on nations throughout the world.

ABC News Country Profile
(http://www.abcnews.com/reference/countries/)

This website uses much of what is in the CIA World Fact and gives a brief thumbnail sketch of all the world's nations or countries.

REESWeb: National Homepages
(http://info.pitt.edu/~cj/reesnatl.html)

REESweb is a website for the National Resource Center for Russian and East European Studies at the University of Pittsburgh. There are homepages that give much information on the nations of Eastern Europe that were under soviet domination and nations that were soviet republics of
the former USSR.

**MCCIS World Atlas**
(http://cliffie.nosc.mil/~NATLAS/index.html)

This is one of the best online world atlases available. It has maps of each country or nation

**Study the Background of NATO and NATO Expansion**

Background on the origins of NATO, its purposes, and its history can be found at the following websites:

**The NATO Handbook--Online Version , 1995**
(http://www.nato.int/docu/handbook/home.htm)

The NATO Handbook gives all the information you need to know about NATO--including its purposes, structure, organization, membership, documents, etc.

**Origins of NATO**
(http://www.nato.int/docu/handbook/hb00300e.html)

This page of the NATO Handbook gives a brief, but watered down, sketch of how and why NATO was established after World War II.

**NATO Today**
(http://www.nato.int/docu/handbook/hb00400e.html)

This page describes the situation that NATO finds itself in the world of in the 1990s after the fall of the Soviet Union.

**Transformation of NATO**
(http://www.nato.int/docu/handbook/hb10000e.htm)

This section of the NATO Handbook gives us very complete and detailed explanation of the changes that have taken place and are taking place within NATO. It details the security arrangements that have taken place with Russia (Partnership for Peace), the former Communist Bloc countries, and former Soviet republics. Security problems dealing with the arms control, disposition and disposal of nuclear weapons, and nuclear weapons proliferation are also covered.

**NATO Milestones Since 1949**
(http://www.centraleurope.com/ceo/special/nato/natomil.html)

This is a list of some key dates in NATO history that give you a quick chronological overview of NATO's development to the present.
Study the Pros and Cons on the Immediate Question of NATO Expansion

Read the following two articles to give yourself an up-to-date understanding of the controversy between the US and Russia on NATO expansion:

**Madeleine Albright, "Expanding NATO Natural, Logical" (March 3, 1998)**
(http://www.nyu.edu/globalbeat/nato/albright030398.html)

Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State under President Bill Clinton, defends the idea of NATO expansion and minimizes the reaction of Russia.

**Alexei Arbatov, "Bad for Russia, Bad for the World" (March 3, 1998)**
(http://www.nyu.edu/globalbeat/nato/arbatov030398.html)

Alexei Arbatov, deputy chair of the Defense Committee of the Russian Parliament, feels that NATO expansion will plant a permanent seed of mistrust between the United States and Russia, and will worsen existing differences on everything from nuclear arms control to policies in Iraq and Iran.

Meeting of the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council of NATO (EAPC)

Once the background to the controversy is researched by all groups, a "mock" meeting of the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council (EAPC) will take place at the Head of State level using the following guidelines:
(1) **Seating Arrangement**--Each of the 14 nations in attendance will be seated in a circle with the NATO Secretary General as the presiding officer. The rest of the delegates to the meeting will sit behind their head of state to render assistance.

(2) **Topic of Debate**--The first order of business will be an "advisory" resolution by the United States to allow the former Soviet Republics of Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia and the Ukraine to become full fledged members of NATO. This "advisory" resolution, if passed, will be referred on to the NATO Council for further debate.

(3) **Speeches**--Each nation's head of state (or designated speaker) will speak on behalf of his/her country on this issue of NATO expansion. Use proper diplomatic language in addressing the members of the EAPC.

(4) **Time for Questions**--The presiding officer may give time for other members of Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council to ask questions of each of the speakers.

(5) **Amendments**--Once each nation has given their speeches and answered questions, the presiding officer can entertain motions to amend the original US motion from various nations. Debate can continue until a final vote is taken on the motion--amended or not.

(6) **Final Vote**--A final vote will be taken on the "advisory" resolution to be sent on to the NATO Council.

**Resources**

In addition to the internet resources listed in the "background study," the following are excellent resources that will give you more information than you really need to carry out the project:

**MSNBC NATO Package** (http://msnbc.com/news/nato_front.asp)

Check out the MSNBC webpages on NATO Expansion in conjunction with NYU's Center for War, Peace and the News Media to get the most up-to-date information on the NATO Expansion issue.

**Global Beat: NATO Expansion** (http://www.nyu.edu/globalbeat/nato.html)

This site is updated weekly by the Global Reporting Network, a program of the Center for War, Peace, and the News Media at New York University's Department of Journalism and Mass Communication. It contains an enormous amount of documents, analyses, and commentary on the NATO debate. In addition it has links to the "experts" from various "think tanks" dealing with the NATO issue.

**Online Newshour Forum: NATO Expansion**
PBS conducted a complete "forum" on the subject of NATO expansion and its effects on Russia in October 1997. This website has questions, answers, links, documents, articles--more information than you can digest to help you with the project.

Learning Advice

After you have checked out the resources made available to you in this project and you are still not satisfied with the information you found, compile a list of "keywords" that you can plug into your favorite search tools. You will be surprised at the information you get.

The meeting of the EAPC is "role playing" activity. It is not the real thing! However, the more that you can make it like the "real thing" -- the better.

Research your part thoroughly. Study your part as if you were rehearsing a role in a movie. Be the character you are playing! Live the part! If you do this, it will make the activity fun as well as meaningful.

Evaluation

Prior to beginning the activity, the students and the teacher need to determine the criteria to be used in evaluating what makes a "good" and meaningful EAPC meeting? The following can be criteria from which to choose:

- Did you as an individual play your role to the point that many considered you a "real" person?
- What research skills were acquired or improved upon by you or the group?
- Did your group work together as a team to have a dominant effect on the other groups?
- Did you bring out significant facts that had an impact on the council meeting?
- Were some meaningful historic lessons learned as a result of the activity?
- Did you learn something about international organizations and how they function?
- What key concepts were learned by you or by the class as a whole?

Reflection

Ask yourself the following questions:

- What is the difference between allowing Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic into NATO and allowing former Soviet republics like Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania and the Ukraine to become
members?

- Is Russia still a threat to the Western European nations? Is she a threat to those that were former Soviet republics? Is Russia a threat to the former members of the Warsaw Pact?
- Does the expansion of NATO to the east add more fuel to the fire for the communist hard-liners who want to bring back a tough anti-western Stalinist style dictatorship for the Russians?
- Does a stronger NATO presence in Eurasia bring more stability to an area that is becoming more and more torn apart by ethnic rivalries?
- What effect does the expansion of NATO have on the control of nuclear weapons in the former Soviet republics?
- Will resentment to NATO expansion in Russia lead to another Cold War?

See--Teacher Notes
The Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council

July 1997

The development and enhancement of dialogue and partnership with Cooperation Partners forms an integral part of NATO's Strategic Concept. The creation of the North Atlantic Cooperation Council (NACC) at the end of 1991 established a framework for dialogue and cooperation with the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the newly independent states emerging from the former Soviet Union. Membership of the NACC increased from 25 countries in 1991 to 40 countries by 1997. Austria, Finland, Sweden and Switzerland, as participants in Partnership for Peace (PfP), had observer status in the NACC.

Building upon the success of NACC and PfP, allied and Cooperation Partner Foreign Ministers inaugurated the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council (EAPC) at their meeting in Sintra, Portugal, on 30 May 1997, with a view to raising political and military cooperation among their countries to a qualitatively new level. The Ministers approved an EAPC Basic Document developed in close cooperation between the Alliance and Partners. In so doing, Ministers reaffirmed their joint commitment to strengthening and extending peace and stability in the Euro-Atlantic area and to cooperating to this end on the basis of shared values and principles, notably those set out in the Framework Document of the Partnership for Peace. The EAPC, as the successor to NACC, provides the overarching framework for political and security-related consultations and for enhanced cooperation under PfP.

The expanded political dimension of consultation and cooperation which the EAPC offers, allows Partners, if they wish, to develop a direct political relationship with the Alliance. In addition, the EAPC provides the framework for giving Partner countries increased decision-making opportunities relating to activities in which they participate.

The EAPC meets twice a year at both Foreign Ministers and Defence Ministers level and, as a general rule, at Ambassadorial level in Brussels on a monthly basis. It may also meet at the level of Heads of State or Government, when appropriate.
Membership

There are 44 EAPC members, including all 16 NATO member countries plus:

Activities

At the time of its establishment, the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council adopted the existing NACC Work Plan for Dialogue, Partnership and Cooperation, which includes regular consultations on political and security-related matters as well as other activities mentioned below. By the time of the 1997 Autumn EAPC Meeting, a new Work Plan will be drawn up to implement the EAPC Basic Document. Initially, the EAPC Work Plan can be expected to follow a similar pattern to the work of the NACC and is likely to include the following topics: political consultations on specific political and security related matters such as crisis management; regional matters; arms control issues; nuclear, biological and chemical (NBC) proliferation and defence issues; international terrorism; defence planning and budgets and defence policy and strategy; security impacts of economic developments. There will also be scope for consultations and cooperation on issues such as civil emergency and disaster preparedness; armaments cooperation under the aegis of the NATO Conference of National Armaments Directors.
(CNAD); nuclear safety; defence related environmental issues; civil-military coordination of air traffic management and control; scientific cooperation; and issues related to peace support operations. Additional areas for cooperation within the framework of the EAPC may be added subsequently.

Cooperation on defence-related issues, in the military field and in the sphere of peacekeeping (including exercises) will continue as Partnership for Peace activities.

Further examples of continuing activities in the framework of the EAPC, focusing on consultation and cooperation, are as follows:

- **Economic issues**

  The Economic Committee's work with Cooperation Partners focuses on defence budgets and their relationship with the economy; security aspects of economic developments; and economic aspects of defence restructuring issues. Expert meetings, seminars and workshops are held to address these subjects. The annual NATO Colloquium on economic developments in EAPC countries also brings together experts for exchanges of views on relevant economic topics.

- **Information matters**

  In the field of information, the NATO Committee on Information and Cultural Relations meets with representatives of Cooperation Partners annually to discuss the implementation of cooperative information activities. Cooperative programmes organised by the NATO Office of Information and Press include visits, co-sponsored seminars and conferences, publications and Democratic Institutions Fellowships. Assistance is provided by Missions of Cooperation Partner countries in Brussels and by Contact Point Embassies of NATO countries in Partner capitals.

- **Scientific and environmental issues**

  NATO's Committee on the Challenges of Modern Society (CCMS) meets with Cooperation Partners at least once a year. An extensive programme of cooperative activities in scientific and environmental affairs focuses on such priority areas as disarmament technologies, environmental security, high technology, science and technology policy, and computer networking. In addition, NATO Science Fellowships are awarded to both NATO and Cooperation Partner scientists for study or research. Several hundred scientists from
Cooperation Partner countries now participate in NATO's scientific and environmental programmes.

This text is not a formally agreed NATO document and does not therefore necessarily represent the official opinion or position of individual member governments on all policy issues discussed.
Backgrounder

About the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council

29 May 1997

1. The Basic Document of the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council (EAPC) was drawn up by representatives of the members of the Alliance and Partners as a joint effort, based on a set of agreed principles. Its purpose is to lay out the main characteristics of the EAPC and to form the basis for launching the new Council.

2. The introductory paragraphs lay out the principles which will guide the activities of the EAPC.

- The EAPC, building upon the success of NACC and PfP, will be a framework for an expanded political dimension of Partnership and for practical cooperation under PfP. The basic elements of PfP will remain valid; an enhanced PfP will be a distinct element within the overall flexible framework of EAPC.

- The EAPC will replace the NACC and provide the framework for consultations on a broad range of political and security-related issues, while taking full account of the work of the OSCE and other European security institutions.

- The EAPC will promote cooperation in a transparent way; it will allow Partners who so wish to establish a direct political relationship with the Alliance individually or in smaller groups.

- The EAPC will provide the framework for giving Partners increased decision-making opportunities relating to activities in which they participate.
• The EAPC retains the principle of self-differentiation and the principle that opportunities for consultation and cooperation are open to all Allies and Partners equally.

• Subsequent paragraphs of the Basic Document describe the formats, structure, substance, and eligibility for membership of the EAPC.

• The EAPC will have the flexibility to meet in a variety of formats, according to need.

• It will meet monthly in Brussels, in plenary session at Ambassadorial level; and twice a year at the level of Foreign and Defence Ministers. Additional meetings could be scheduled, if needed, and the Council could also meet at the level of Heads of State and Government.

• NATO committees will support the work of the EAPC. Provision for consideration of adjusting this support in the light of experience is also mentioned. There will be new opportunities for Partner consultations with the Military Committee within this framework.

• The EAPC will consult on an expanded range of political and security related issues. An extensive but non-limiting list of such issues is included in the Basic Document. They are as follows: political and security related matters; crisis management; regional matters; arms control issues; nuclear, biological and chemical (NBC) proliferation and defence issues; international terrorism; defence planning and budgets and defence policy and strategy; and security impacts of economic developments. There will also be scope for consultations and cooperation on issues such as: civil emergency and disaster preparedness; armaments cooperation under the aegis of the CNAD; nuclear safety; defence related environmental issues; civil-military coordination of air traffic management and control; scientific cooperation; and issues related to peace support operations.

• All current NACC members and PfP participating countries may automatically become members of the EAPC if they so wish. Other OSCE participating states able and willing to accept the principles and goals of the EAPC may become members by joining the Partnership for Peace, through signing the PfP Framework Document and by stating their acceptance of the concept of the EAPC as stated in the Basic Document.
Teacher Notes

Goal

The overall goal of the activity is to provide learning situation that will be all encompassing. The work that is involved in preparing for and participating in the simulated Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council will give the students in-depth knowledge of the role of NATO today and the situation that exists in Russia, the former soviet republics, and Eastern Europe.

Grade Level/Unit

This lesson is designed for 10th Grade World History and Geography: The Modern World

Unit 9

Lesson Purposes

- Students will learn to gather materials from on-line internet resources about current events that are rich in historical information.
- Students will learn of the potential dangers that exist and can be unleashed in Eurasia and the world as a result of the collapse of the Soviet Union.
- Students will learn about the bitter ethnic rivalries that have existed in Eurasia for centuries that could upset harmony in the area and also be a threat to the NATO countries.
- Students will learn about the original purpose of NATO and whether it has a role in the new order of things in Europe, Eurasia and the world.

Students will learn that the new Russia and the former Soviet republics are still experiencing major political, economic and social changes that the NATO countries must deal with in the future.

Curriculum Standards
International Developments in the Postwar World

H/SS Content Standard 10.9--Students analyze the international developments in the postwar world, in terms of... Soviet control over nations of Eastern Europe... uprisings in Poland (1952), Hungary (1956), and Czechoslovakia (1968) and their resurgence in the 1970's and 1980's as people in Soviet satellites sought freedom from Soviet control... the reasons for the collapse of the Soviet Union, including the weakness of the command economy, burdens of military commitments, and growing resistance to Soviet rule by dissidents in satellite states and the autonomous republics... the establishment and works of the United Nations, SEATO, and NATO, Organization of American States and their purposes and functions. (World History and Geography: The Modern World Standard 10.9.1; 10.9.4; 10.9.6; and 10.9.7)

Analysis Skills -- Students distinguish valid arguments from fallacious arguments in historical interpretations. Students construct and test hypotheses; collect, evaluate and employ information from multiple primary and secondary sources; and apply it in oral and written presentations. Students show the connections, causal and otherwise, between particular historical events and larger social, economic and political trends and developments.

E/LA Standards Grades 9/10: Reading Comprehension -- Students read and understand grade-level appropriate material. Generate relevant questions that can be researched. Synthesize the content and ideas from several sources dealing with a single issue... and paraphrase the ideas and connect them to other sources and related topics to demonstrate comprehension. Extend ideas presented in primary or secondary sources through original analysis, evaluation, and elaboration. Listening and Speaking: Students formulate adroit judgments about oral communication. They deliver focused and coherent presentations of their own that convey clear and distinct perspectives and solid reasoning.

Information Literacy Skill

Each assigned group will have tasks to perform that require the use of Information Literacy Skills, such as: (1) getting information about their respective countries in preparation for the EAPC meeting; (2) "accessing, evaluating and using information needed" to participate successfully in the meeting; (3) negotiating with other countries to produce a final agreement at the EAPC meeting.

If these skills have not already been covered in the class's or school curriculum, it would be wise to cover the skills and techniques of Information Literacy before the activity starts.

Implementation

Student preparation and participation in the simulated meeting of the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council under the auspices of NATO will allow students to thoroughly study (1) how the Soviet Union under Stalin was able to get control over the nations of Eastern Europe; (2) show that there was bitter resentment on the part of these Soviet satellites; (3) how as a result of the weaknesses of the Soviet system and the resistance by dissidents caused the collapse of the Soviet Union; (4) why NATO was established, how it functioned in containing the threat of the Soviet Union, and (5) how NATO is trying to determine a new role in the world now that the Soviet Union no longer exists.

Length of Lesson

This activity can last anywhere from one to two weeks (45-50 minute periods of a traditional...
Resources or Material Needed

Internet Connection--The more "robust" your classroom or school's internet connection, the better, for the success of the activity!

Imagination--The more imaginative you and your students are in making the simulated EAPC meeting look real--the better! For instance, have student display their nation's flag, "dress up" as diplomats, use formal diplomatic language as much as possible, wear earphones as if they were tuned in to translators, etc.

Model UN Example--An excellent resource for information on setting up a simulated international meeting such as EAPC would be to consult the American Model United Nations website at http://www.amun.org/amun/.

Background Information that Might Be Helpful

If you have covered the dictatorial regimes of Hitler and Stalin, and some of the Postwar Era including with the Berlin Airlift, the Truman Doctrine, and the Marshall Plan; this should be sufficient background to launch into this activity on Russia and NATO.

Lesson Sequence
To summarize, the sequence of the activity will be as follows:

- Introduction
- Brainstorming
- Research Phase
- EAPC Meeting
- De-Briefing
- Evaluation
Lesson author: SCORE H/SS Teacher on Assignment Author

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Lesson reviewed for accuracy by Steve Merritt, University of California, Riverside

Back to NATO and Russia Project Lesson Plan
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