

The Transatlantic Relationship and a New Europe; Where are We Coming From, Where are We Now and Where are We Heading?

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Abstract

This paper seeks to understand the position of the European Union (EU) within the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), via an examination of the changing nature of the transatlantic relationship between the United States (US) and the EU, as well as between the EU and Non-EU members of NATO. This paper analyses the impact of selected key developments over the past decade. These developments include the Balkans crisis, the evolution of EU foreign policy, military capacity differentials and NATO's institutional change from an exclusive military alliance to an inclusive security management institution. Further, the NATO- EU enlargement, Non-EU members and the question of discrimination, contenders to the primacy of NATO as the forum for transatlantic relations, and the Iraq War 2003 are considered. The paper concludes with a reflection on the future of the EU position and role within NATO, as well as its future relations with Non-EU member nations, particularly the US and Turkey.

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