



NEWS FEBRUARY-APRIL 2013

[In Skopje, NATO Parliamentarians discuss external and domestic challenges affecting the country's Euro-Atlantic ambitions](#)

24 April 2013, Delays in the EU and NATO integration process for the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, caused by the unresolved 'name issue', have a negative effect on the country's progress and may lead to destabilization of the country and the entire region. To prevent the dangers to democratic standards and the proliferation of nationalist tendencies, the Euro-Atlantic community ought to offer more tangible incentives to keep the integration process viable, but both Skopje and Athens must redouble their efforts to seek a compromise to the 'name issue'. Skopje must also continue its work to implement reforms, shore up democratic institutions, promote multi-ethnicity, bolster civil society and ensure fundamental human rights and media freedom.

[MEDIA ADVISORY, NATO-PA Spring Session, 17-20 May 2013, Luxembourg](#)

The Chamber of Deputies of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg will host the NATO Parliamentary Assembly's Spring Session in Luxembourg from Friday 17 to Monday 20 May. The Session will bring together some 300 parliamentarians from the 28 NATO member countries from North America and Europe as well as delegates from partner countries and observers to discuss current transatlantic security matters and the draft reports prepared by the Assembly's committees.

[Despite fiscal pressure, practical and strategic modernisation is key priority for the Dutch military](#)



17 April 2013, a delegation of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly's (NATO PA) Defence and Security Committee and the Science and Technology Committee recently visited the Netherlands, where they focused on defence research and development, public-private partnerships, energy security, the infrastructure of knowledge, innovation policy, and Dutch military capabilities.

[President Hugh Bayley \(United Kingdom\) expresses condolences and](#)

[sympathy to the American people after Boston explosions](#)



16 April 2013, "I was deeply shocked and saddened to learn of the explosions at the Boston marathon and their dreadful consequences. The thoughts and prayers of the Assembly's members are with the American people. We extend our sincere condolences to the families of the victims and our sympathy to those who were injured."

[“We meet at a critical time”, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon tells Chemical Weapons Convention Review Conference attended by the NATO Parliamentary Assembly](#)



On Monday 8 April 2013, a delegation from the NATO Parliamentary Assembly (PA) participated in the opening session of the Third Review Conference of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) in The Hague. The delegation was led by Raymond Knops, Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Future Security and Defence Capabilities, and Philippe Vitel, Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Energy and Environmental Security.

[Security challenges and domestic reforms in the broader MENA region at the centre of the NATO PA seminar in Morocco](#)



9 April 2013- The Euro-Atlantic community's assistance to the post-revolutionary transition and stabilization of the broader MENA region is critical during this period of uncertainty and insecurity. However, it must be managed carefully, avoiding meddling and taking into account local sensitivities and recognising the region's heterogeneity. In order for stability to be enduring, a comprehensive approach is needed. This requires engaging all relevant countries of the region as well as international and regional bodies and broadening the scope of co-operation in order to encompass issues ranging from hard security to political and socio-economic development.

[Parliamentarians conclude annual review of NATO priorities](#)

26 February 2013 - Some 100 national parliamentarians from Allied countries today



concluded three days of meetings in Brussels with NATO's civilian and military leaders, during which they discussed NATO's policies and key priorities for 2013, and the main decisions taken by NATO Defence Ministers at their meeting last week.

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NATO Parliamentary Assembly · 3 place du Petit Sablon · B-1000 Brussels
Tel.: +32(0)2/513.28.65 · Fax.: +32(0)2/514.18.47 · web site: <http://www.nato-pa.int>