

PROTOCOL TO THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY OF
1949 ON THE ACCESSION OF MONTENEGRO

MESSAGE

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

PROTOCOL TO THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY OF 1949 ON THE
ACCESSION OF MONTENEGRO



JUNE 28, 2016.—Treaty was read the first time, and together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations and ordered to be printed for the use of the Senate

U.S. GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

THE WHITE HOUSE, *June 28, 2016.*

To the Senate of the United States:

I transmit herewith, for Senate advice and consent to ratification, the Protocol to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of Montenegro. This Protocol was signed in Brussels on May 19, 2016, on behalf of the United States and the other Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty. Also transmitted for the information of the Senate is an overview of the Protocol by the Department of State. Full ratification of the Protocol by the United States and our allies will allow Montenegro to become a Party to the North Atlantic Treaty and a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

Article 10 of the North Atlantic Treaty, which outlines NATO's Open Door policy, is part of the doctrinal foundation of the Alliance. Montenegro's accession to NATO will demonstrate to other countries in the Balkans and beyond that NATO's door remains open to nations that undertake the reforms necessary to meet NATO's requirements and contribute to the security of the Alliance, and is yet another milestone in advancing the EuroAtlantic integration of the Balkans. I am pleased that, with the advice and consent of the Senate, and the ratifications of this Protocol by our NATO allies, Montenegro can soon join us as a member of this great Alliance.

I ask the Senate to continue working with me in advancing a Europe whole, free, and at peace by providing its prompt advice and consent to ratification for this Protocol of Accession. My Administration stands ready to brief and assist you in your deliberations.

BARACK OBAMA.

LETTER OF SUBMITTAL

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, June 20, 2016.

The PRESIDENT,
The White House.

THE PRESIDENT: I have the honor to submit to you, with a view to its transmission to the Senate for advice and consent to ratification, the Protocol to the North Atlantic Treaty on the Accession of Montenegro ("Protocol"). A brief overview of the Protocol is enclosed. The Protocol was opened for signature at Brussels May 19, 2016, and was signed that day on behalf of the United States of America and the other parties to the North Atlantic Treaty.

The Protocol proposes allowing Montenegro to become a party to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949, which would make Montenegro a member of NATO, with all the privileges and responsibilities that apply to current NATO Allies. The core commitment to Montenegro will be embodied in the existing text of the North Atlantic Treaty, including the central collective defense provision in Article 5. I believe Montenegro merits this commitment on our part, that it shares our common commitment to democratic values, and is prepared to act as a responsible Ally.

The U.S. decision to pursue the enlargement of NATO has had bipartisan support across several administrations. I am, therefore, confident the Senate will grant its advice and consent to ratification of this Protocol, after due deliberation, without hesitation.

Montenegro has made the difficult decisions needed to advance reforms and become a vibrant democracy. Its accession to the North Atlantic Treaty and membership in the NATO Alliance will be a major step towards realizing your vision of a Europe whole, free, and at peace.

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN F. KERRY.

Enclosures: As stated.

OVERVIEW

The Protocol is composed of three Articles, and is identical in structure to prior Protocols of accession providing for other states to join NATO. Article I provides that, once the Protocol has entered into force, the Secretary General of NATO shall extend an invitation to Montenegro to accede to the North Atlantic Treaty, and that, in accordance with Article 10 of the Treaty, Montenegro shall become a Party to the Treaty on the date it deposits its instrument of accession with the Government of the United States of America. Article II provides that the Protocol shall enter into force when each of the parties to the North Atlantic Treaty has notified the Government of the United States of America of its acceptance of the Protocol. Article III provides that the English and French texts shall be equally authentic, and that the Protocol shall be deposited in the Archives of the Government of the United States of America, the depositary state for the North Atlantic Treaty.

PROTOCOL
TO THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY
ON THE ACCESSION OF
MONTENEGRO

PROTOCOLE
AU TRAITÉ DE L'ATLANTIQUE NORD
SUR L'ACCESSION
DU MONTÉNÉGRO

The Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty, signed at Washington on April 4, 1949,

Being satisfied that the security of the North Atlantic area will be enhanced by the accession of Montenegro to that Treaty,

Agree as follows:

Article I

Upon the entry into force of this Protocol, the Secretary General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation shall, on behalf of all the Parties, communicate to the Government of Montenegro an invitation to accede to the North Atlantic Treaty. In accordance with Article 10 of the Treaty, Montenegro shall become a Party on the date when it deposits its instrument of accession with the Government of the United States of America.

Article II

The present Protocol shall enter into force when each of the Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty has notified the Government of the United States of America of its acceptance thereof. The Government of the United States of America shall inform all the Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty of the date of receipt of each such notification and of the date of the entry into force of the present Protocol.

Article III

The present Protocol, of which the English and French texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited in the Archives of the Government of the United States of America. Duly certified copies thereof shall be transmitted by that Government to the Governments of all the Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty.

In witness whereof,
the undersigned plenipotentiaries have
signed the present Protocol.

Signed at Brussels
on the 19th day of May 2016.

En foi de quoi,
les plénipotentiaires désignés ci-dessous ont
signé le présent Protocole.

Signé à Bruxelles
le 19 mai 2016.

For the Republic of Albania : Ditmir Bushati
Pour la République d'Albanie :

For the Kingdom of Belgium : [Signature]
Pour le Royaume de Belgique :

For the Republic of Bulgaria : [Signature]
Pour la République de Bulgarie :

For Canada : [Signature]
Pour le Canada :

For the Republic of Croatia : [Signature]
Pour la République de Croatie :

For the Czech Republic : [Signature]
Pour la République tchèque :

For the Kingdom of Denmark : Kristian Jensen
Pour le Royaume de Danemark :

For the Republic of Estonia : [Signature]
Pour la République d'Estonie :

For the French Republic : [Signature]
Pour la République française :

For the Federal Republic of Germany : [Signature]
Pour la République fédérale d'Allemagne :

For the Hellenic Republic : [Signature]
Pour la République hellénique :

For Hungary : [Signature]
Pour la Hongrie :

For the Republic of Iceland : [Signature]
Pour la République d'Islande :

For the Italian Republic : [Signature]
Pour la République italienne :

For the Republic of Latvia : [Signature]
Pour la République de Lettonie :

For the Republic of Lithuania : [Signature]
Pour la République de Lituanie :

For the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg : [Signature]
Pour le Grand-Duché de Luxembourg :

For the Kingdom of the Netherlands : [Signature]
Pour le Royaume des Pays-Bas :

For the Kingdom of Norway : *Ege Børde*
Pour le Royaume de Norvège :

For the Republic of Poland : *Witold Waszczykowski*
Pour la République de Pologne :

For the Portuguese Republic : *August Santos Silva*
Pour la République portugaise :

For Romania : *Bucur*
Pour la Roumanie :

For the Slovak Republic : *J. Laca*
Pour la République slovaque :

For the Republic of Slovenia : *Oliver*
Pour la République de Slovénie :

For the Kingdom of Spain : *[Signature]*
Pour le Royaume d'Espagne :

For the Republic of Turkey : *[Signature]*
Pour la République de la Turquie :

For the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland : *Adam Tomlinson*
Pour le Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord :

For the United States of America : *[Signature]*
Pour les États-Unis d'Amérique :