

NATO LEADERS CALL FOR SOLIDARITY AT NATO BRUSSELS SUMMIT AND LAUNCH OF STRATEGY REVIEW AIMED AT MORE BALANCED TRANSATLANTIC ALLIANCE

Monday 9 July, 2018

A group of leading practitioners and thinkers from both sides of the Atlantic, including a minister of defence, a NATO Deputy Secretary-General and two of NATO's former Supreme Allied Commanders, have called on NATO Heads of State and Government to show solidarity and commission a major strategic rethink to re-forge the transatlantic relationship at this week's NATO Brussels Summit.

Led by General (Ret.) John R Allen and Admiral (Ret.) Giampaolo di Paola in December 2017 the GLOBSEC NATO Adaptation Team delivered a major report to NATO's Brussels headquarters. The report which is entitled *The Future Tasks of the Adapted Alliance*, offered a way forward for the adaptation of NATO as it grapples with twenty-first threats and challenges.

The message of the letter is clear. "It is political solidarity, now and in the future, that is the true defence against any and all adversaries. Only then will the Alliance be armed with the necessary strategic ambition needed to succeed in what is clearly going to be a challenging century for all of the Allies. Such ambition will only be realized if it is embedded in a new, more balanced transatlantic relationship in which the United States continues to afford its European Allies with the defense guarantee and security support vital to Europe's stability, in return for European Allies plus Canada, conscious of the pressing and changing needs of American and global security, becoming more able and willing to help meet those needs, as they did in the wake of 9/11"

The group calls for an urgent strategy review to be commissioned at the Summit, "...that could be completed by the seventieth anniversary summit in 2019, and which might be embodied in a new Strategic Concept. NATO needs a forward-looking strategy that sets out how NATO will meet the challenges of an unpredictable and fast-changing world".

For more information contact Alena Kudzko at alena.kudzko@globsec.org, +421 948 293 587

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GLOBSEC

T. +421 904 869 171

E. adam.dempsey@globsec.org

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