Joint Statement from the North Atlantic Council Summit Simulation

The following joint statement has been created and agreed upon during the North Atlantic Council summit simulation at the Visegrad Youth Forum 2018 organized by the Euro-Atlantic Center.

We the Alliance reaffirm our commitment undertaken at the NATO Summit 2018 to raise our defense expenditures to 2% by 2024.

We commit ourselves to strengthen trans-Atlantic cooperation as a cornerstone of European security. For this reason, we commit ourselves to cooperate within the framework of the Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO), working towards common military research and development projects and procurement to successfully and effectively reach the aforementioned goal. We consider PESCO to be a tool capable of achieving this goal while maintaining high efficiency and increasing our interoperability and capacity to cooperate effectively, and without discrimination of other NATO members.

Hereby we propose to structure PESCO as following:

PESCO aims to complement the standing NATO standardization agreement while also reaffirming that safeguarding peace and security in Europe is the responsibility of NATO. The outcomes of the PESCO projects will be mainly used by the participating states and will maintain the opportunity of full inclusivity for all non-EU NATO allies.

(DISCLAIMER: This joint statement is addressed to policy makers to inform them of the opinions of young V4 leaders and should serve as recommendation material.)