

NATO S.G JEN STOLTENBERG DELIVERED REMARKS DURING G7 SUMMIT OF 24 MARCH

OVER UKRAINE- RUSSIA' S CONFLICT

Paris, Washington DC, 24.03.2022, 23:04 Time

USPA NEWS - Secretary General Stoltenberg held a press conference, following the extraordinary NATO's Summit, before attending the G7 meeting, on the row, at NATO's headquarters in Brussels, 24 march afternoon, He announced the Allies agreement for facing the new security reality, threatened by the Ukraine-Russian Conflict that a started last 24 February 2022 « Today, NATO leaders agreed to reset our deterrence and defence for the longer-term. To face a new security reality. On land, we will have substantially more forces in the eastern part of the Alliance, at higher readiness. With more prepositioned equipment and supplies. We are determined to do all we can to support Ukraine. And I welcome the concrete offers of assistance made by Allies today. » He said.

REMARKS BY SG OF NATO STOLTENBERG AT PRESS CONFERENCE FOLLOWING THE EXTRAORDINARY SUMMIT OF 24 MARCH22

SG OF NATO STOLTENBERG : "Good afternoon. We have just finished an extraordinary summit of NATO leaders to address the biggest threat to our security in a generation: President Putin's war against Ukraine. The people of Ukraine are resisting with courage and determination. Fighting for their freedom and for their future. We stand with them. President Zelensky addressed us with an impassioned message. Thanking NATO Allies for the significant support we are providing. And stressing the vital importance of even more military assistance. Today, NATO leaders agreed that we must and will provide further support to Ukraine. We will continue to impose unprecedented costs on Russia. And we will reinforce Allied deterrence and defence. Leaders approved our four new NATO battlegroups. In Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania, and Slovakia.

These are in addition to the four already in the Baltic countries and Poland. So we have eight multinational NATO battlegroups now. From the Baltic Sea to the Black Sea. Across Europe, there are one hundred thousand US troops supporting NATO efforts. And European Allies and Canada have also stepped up. We have 40,000 forces under direct NATO command, mostly in the eastern part of the Alliance. Backed by major air and naval power. Including an unprecedented five carrier strike groups from the High North to the Mediterranean.

LEADERS AGREED TO RESET OUR DETERRENCE & DEFENCE FOR THE LONG TERM -----

Secretary General Stoltenberg announced the Allies agreement for facing the new security reality, threatened by the Ukraine-Russian Conflict that a starter last 24 February 2022 « Today, NATO leaders agreed to reset our deterrence and defence for the longer-term. To face a new security reality. On land, we will have substantially more forces in the eastern part of the Alliance, at higher readiness. With more prepositioned equipment and supplies. He also specified the deployment of jets in the sky and in the sea : « In the air, we will deploy more jets, and strengthen our integrated air and missile defence. At sea, we will have carrier strike groups, submarines and significant numbers of combat ships on a persistent basis. » Secretary General Stoltenberg also added the cybersecurity to be enhanced : « We will also strengthen our cyber defences, and enhance our exercises, focusing on collective defence and interoperability. I expect we will decide on the details at our next Summit in Madrid in June. »

ALLIED AGREED TO PROVIDE FURTHER MILITARY SUPPORT TO UKRAINE AMID SELF DEFENCE

Secretary General Stoltenberg recalled the NATO's support ti Ukraine, in terms of military self defence supplies « Today, Allied leaders also agreed to provide further support to Ukraine. Helping to uphold their fundamental right to self-defence. Allies are also equipping Ukraine with significant military supplies, including anti-tank and air defence systems, and drones, which are proving highly effective. Secretary General Stoltenberg emphasised on the humanitarian aid « As well as substantial financial and humanitarian aid. Today, we agreed to do more, including cybersecurity assistance, and equipment to help Ukraine protect against biological, chemical, radiological, and nuclear threats. This could include detection, protection, and medical supplies, as well as training for decontamination and crisis management. We are determined to do all we can to support Ukraine. And I welcome the concrete offers of assistance made by Allies today. At the same time, we have a responsibility to ensure the conflict does not escalate further. Because this would be even more dangerous and more devastating. Allies agreed that we must also increase our support for other partners at risk from Russian threats and interference. Including Georgia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina. Working together, and with the European Union,

we must help them uphold their sovereignty and strengthen their resilience. We also addressed Beijing's role in the crisis. Today, Allied leaders called on China to refrain from supporting Russia's war effort. China must not provide economic or military support for the Russian invasion. Instead, Beijing should use its significant influence on Russia. And promote an immediate, peaceful resolution. Allies also agreed that Belarus must stop acting as an accomplice to Putin's invasion. At today's meeting, leaders reaffirmed our strong commitment to NATO's Open Door policy, under Article 10 of the Washington Treaty. NATO enlargement has been an historic success. Spreading democracy, freedom, and prosperity across Europe. One month since the start of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, NATO's security environment has fundamentally changed. For the long haul. And we are responding. But security does not come for free. And doing more will cost more. So NATO leaders agreed to redouble efforts to meet the Defence Investment Pledge we made in 2014. Allies will submit additional plans on how to meet the pledge in time for the Madrid Summit in June. And I welcome that a number of Allies today announced plans for significant increases in defence spending. At this dangerous time, transatlantic unity and solidarity are vital. Europe and North America are standing, and will continue to stand, strong together in NATO." Secretary General, of NATO, said as it was delivered, as he addressed the media, during the press conference, held on 24 March, at Extraordinary Summit of NATO, over Ukraine- Russia's conflict.

Article online:

<https://www.uspa24.com/bericht-20287/nato-sg-jen-stoltenberg-delivered-remarks-during-g7-summit-of-24-march.html>

Editorial office and responsibility:

V.i.S.d.P. & Sect. 6 MDSiV (German Interstate Media Services Agreement): Jedi Foster, Rahma Sophia RACHDI

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