



# TWT Gazette

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Irrweg der NATO

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### TWT

Trans World Technologies (TWT) is a commercial network with contacts and project experience in many countries around the globe

Besides consulting, project development and foreign marketing support TWT is working on analysis, studies and articles concerning current economic, technological and political topics

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## NATO's Wrong Direction. Let's Rethink

**Robust Territorial Defense - Yes!  
International Intervention?  
Offensive Aggression - No!**

NATO increasingly is risking its past success story and its credibility as military defense organization. Since the 1990's its defensive character erodes and continues to be changed towards an offensive tool for intervention if not even aggressive foreign politics. In the year of its first establishment 1948 the character of the North Atlantic Treaty was clearly defense oriented. Political conservative-liberal values i.e. freedom, stability and peace were its basis. Its strength derived from cooperation across the Atlantic between mainly Western Europe and the USA superpower. Militarily defensive it successfully checked Warsaw Military Pact capabilities. NATO in a peaceful and passive way was essential that people in many countries could eventually overthrow oppressing Soviet communist political rule and pursue their life more freely. With the fall of the Berlin Wall and the collapse of world communism NATO itself quickly went into crisis with not few people questioning its need in the future. The armed conflicts in Croatia in August 1990 deriving from the break up of Yugoslavia inflaming the following years a whole region in Europe quickly settled such utopia. After some short orientation phase NATO politics reinvented itself with fresh understanding for new tasks and responsibilities as Peacekeeper. 1993 it then came up with the Partnership for Peace (PfP) program and geographical expansion as new meaning for its further existence. For many Eastern European

countries NATO membership was and still is a required pre-stage on the way to EU membership. The Kosovo War became a game changer as NATO Peace-Keeping 1999 became a first NATO Air War Intervention without higher UNSC mandate but self-labeled "humanitarian war". There can be endless discussions if a humanitarian war is just, defensive or aggressive. In the end it remains what it is: War! Clearly something the majority of the world population for good reasons does not support. The real rebirth for NATO came with 9/11 when Art.5 was invoked in support of the USA. Though the US does most of the fighting in its own right the US since 2001 like never before rules NATO and NATO member states to participate and contribute to US foreign policy and military goals. NATO members since 2001 therefore increasingly are drawn either directly ("Coalition of the Willing") or NATO missions into armed conflicts, combat and wars which against voter's will have little and less to do with any original stability and peace keeping missions. Especially with "America First" - advocates NATO must show original true grit and should rethink in how far it's strategies are what the majority in NATO countries want: *NATO Territorial Defense - Yes! International Intervention - Only Subject to Transparent and Convincing Political Long-term Outlook! Instead of Diplomacy Offensive Aggression - NO!* NATO focus must be again NATO territories and constructive. No self-fulfilling prophecy politics. Out-of-Area missions must be by host nation or UNSC invitation only. Otherwise it loses its credibility and European nations need to replace it rather sooner than later with a better solution. *Dirk P. Schneider*