



NATO Studies Center newsletter

SPECIAL ISSUE

NATO STUDIES CENTER was officially opened on January 14, 2003 when, in the presence of the Romanian Prime Minister, **H.E. ADRIAN NASTASE**, the first series of students for the Senior Executive Master was convened.

On March 3rd, **NATO STUDIES CENTER** had the privilege to host the Right Honorable **Lord ROBERTSON** of **PORT ELLEN**. On this occasion, according to the decision of the National School of Political Studies and Public Administration's Senate, Lord Robertson was conferred on the title of **Doctor Honoris Causa**.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

You may wonder why I am dressed like this (inaudible) but singing Gaudeamus Igitur you may wonder why I knew the words. I am going to be honest with you. I went to the university for my first degree at St. Andrews University in Scotland, one of the oldest universities in the world where was an obligation for the 1st year students to learn Gaudeamus Igitur. Never did I think it would become useful.

I feel very honored indeed with receiving this degree from such a prestigious institution. I'm also delighted to receive it. Pleased to receive this honorary degree from someone who is both a distinguished scholar and a great friend of the Alliance.

The initiative to set up a NATO Studies Center to further the cause of the NATO Alliance here in Romania is a very welcome one. And I salute Professor Secares for his pioneering work in getting the initiative off the ground, with the support of NATO.

Romania has been invited to join NATO. I do think anyone can appreciate how much that means to me to sit here. I'd have a long interest and affection for Romania through my parliamentary career. So the simple sentence "Romania has been invited to NATO" is a historic one. It will do so next year together with six other countries, raising our membership from nineteen to twenty-six. But the Alliance that Romania will join will not just be considerably bigger in size. It will also differ in many other respects from the NATO of the past - even the fairly recent past.

But that is not all. Because the new NATO will also be at the heart of a vibrant Euro-Atlantic community, in which it will work together with partners throughout Europe, into Central Asia, and across the Mediterranean. It will have a particularly constructive relationship with Russia, a key player in Euro-Atlantic and global security, and a major partner in meeting the challenges that we face today.

The new NATO will have a strategic partnership with the European Union. And as a result, it will contribute to a better, more equitable balance between Europe and North America. Finally, but importantly, it will have streamlined its working methods, to ensure its effectiveness even with a drastically enlarged membership.

That is the kind of NATO that is taking shape at the moment. An Alliance whose essential purpose remains what it has been for over 50 years: to safeguard the freedom and security of all its members. But also an Alliance that is transforming in order to be able to fulfil this purpose in a significantly different security environment.

Romania's entry into NATO will vindicate those who have, for years, seen Romania's future in the Alliance. It will be a testament to the hard work by many to make that vision a reality. And it will reflect very clearly the huge progress this country has made, in a relatively short period of time, to meet NATO's political and military standards.

NATO membership will bring Romania enormous privileges. A seat at the table where key decisions are taken to shape and strengthen Euro-Atlantic security. A role in the planning and conduct of major military oper-

Lord Robertson's Oration March 3rd, 2003



ations. And the ultimate security guarantee of Article 5 of the Washington Treaty. Any attack on Romania will be seen as an attack on the 25 other members.

But with privileges come responsibilities. New members must play a constructive role within the NATO Council, helping the Alliance to arrive at consensus. They must be able to make a real and significant military contribution, in partnership with their Allies. They must fully meet the political standards that make NATO a true symbol of cooperation, democracy and peaceful relations. And they must be able to do so as quickly as possible.

That is why Romania's formal entry into NATO will not be the end of the road. The Alliance faces a daunting agenda, one that will test the solidarity and resolve of all its members. And as it continues to transform we want Romania to be part of this evolution, and fully able to contribute to it.

This means, first of all, that Romania must see through the reform course that it has embarked upon. And the Alliance, through its Membership Action Plan, will continue to help Romania with these reforms.

Military reform, tackling corruption, ensuring social peace, and opening up your economy - these are just some of the outstanding challenges. Meeting these challenges will require political courage and determination. But it will be crucial to making Romania as effective and influential a NATO Ally as it can possibly be.

There is another investment Romania must make in its future as a NATO Ally. One that also requires perseverance. One that is equally critical. And one that NATO will also help you with.

What I am referring to is a long-term investment. An investment of time, effort and money in the young peo-

ple of Romania.

To make sure that they are well informed about NATO. And that, if they so desire, they are able to further the cause of our Alliance, serving either their country or the NATO organization directly.

I am convinced that the NATO Studies Center will play an important role in this crucial educational effort by bringing together information, spreading knowledge, and building up expertise.

In a very short period since its launch, the Center has already raised considerable interest. It receives significant support from various Allies and parts of the NATO organization. And it has my personal best wishes for the future - a future in which, I am sure, not just Romania, but the North Atlantic Alliance as a whole, will benefit from the work that is going here.

I spoke this afternoon to the Romanian Parliament. It's an amazing building that has been designed for something completely different, and I reflected at the time that the architect of that building could not possibly, even in his wildest dreams, imagined that the Parliament in that building will be addressed by the Secretary General of NATO Alliance, somebody who grew up during the Cold War, who went to University during the Cold War and always committed himself to freeing the people who were oppressed by the Cold War.

Today has been in many ways an ironic moment, but also a moment of revenge as well. The ironies of history will not stop to finish in Romania, nor indeed in the Parliament of Romania itself. But I think the vibrancy of this country, the enthusiasm with which it has approached it, its desire, and the drive to be a member of the Alliance it's going to be something that will carry through beyond the ceremony of today. We have the present Foreign Minister here today, the previous Foreign Minister, both of whom have played their part, both of them I am proud to call them friends of mine.

But out there, in the area outside Bucharest (inaudible), there are people who don't know what NATO means, but who experienced what NATO has done. They are free because NATO made them free. They have the chance to watch this on television, to watch the speech to Parliament because NATO has stood for them for all these years. So, those people, who don't know what NATO is about, and the young people who need to know about NATO, will benefit from this academic institution and of what it stands for as well.

I hope that the work goes on, the young generation who are now living in peace and freedom will know the value of NATO and will invest in it and in the way it should (be) in the future.

I wish your institute well and thank you for the honor given to me.

*This hat a signal honour
which I deeply
appreciate
J Robertson*

Vasile Secares' Address



Ladies and Gentlemen,

We have today the great pleasure and honor to welcome to our university and to the NATO Studies Center the Right Honorable Lord Robertson of Port Ellen. We are celebrating today a real "Grand Opening" of the NATO Studies Center of the NSPSPA. Last year, with a strong support of the International Secretariat of NATO, we have initiated an ambitious project with the strong desire of implementing here the high NATO standards, aiming at educating and training civilians and military for achieving a high level of human and professional interoperability for NATO related jobs. The visit of the Secretary General is encouraging us in our efforts and increases our confidence in the future of the NATO Studies Center in South-Eastern Europe.

I have now the privilege to announce the conferring on Lord Robertson, by the Senate of the National School of Political Studies and Public Administration, of the title of Doctor Honoris Causa.

Lord Robertson is one of the major political personalities of the Euro-Atlantic space, a personality that succeeded, especially through his position of NATO Secretary General, in bringing a significant contribution both to NATO Reform and to maintaining peace and stability in Europe as well as in regions of strategic importance for NATO.

Lord Robertson has had a long and honorable political career. He was first elected to the House of Commons in 1978 and reelected five times. After the 1979 General Election he was appointed an Opposition Spokesman, first on Scottish Affairs, then on Defense, and on Foreign

Affairs from 1982 to 1993. After the 1997 General Election, Prime Minister Blair appointed him Defense Secretary of the United Kingdom where he guided and presided over the UK's Strategic Defence Review that took a fresh look at the role and scope of the British Armed Forces. He was also Minister of Defence during the Kosovo Campaign. In August 1999 he was selected to be the tenth Secretary General of NATO. On August 24 that year he received a life peerage and took the title Lord Robertson of Port Ellen.

As the British Prime Minister said, "under his leadership NATO has maintained its traditional role as the foundation of trans-Atlantic security and the main forum for security consultations". At the same time he made an essential contribution to the development of a new vision on the role of NATO in the XXIst century.

Lord Robertson's political skills have helped him to lead NATO through a series of radical reforms, the most significant of which are:

- Better and more relevant military capabilities
- Maintaining strong transatlantic relationships
- An effective crises management capacity built on the lessons learned in Kosovo
- A resumed and deepened relationship with Russia
- Completing the ESDI/ESDP defense link between NATO and EU
- Internal reforms in NATO

Lord Robertson made a particular personal contribution to NATO's successful efforts to keep the peace in Macedonia. Three times NATO prevented new bloodshed in the Balkans drawing a very clear way forward to democracy and stability.

His most challenging time as Secretary General was in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks of 11 September, when he chaired the Alliance as it invoked its core mutual defense clause for the first time. As a result of those events NATO began the task of adapting itself to a new role, fending off the threat from global terrorism.

Last but not least, Lord Robertson won praise for driving forward and overseeing

NATO's decision in November to invite seven new members to join the Alliance, a decision that would have a direct impact upon the consolidation of the democratic reforms of those invited countries. The enlargement of the Alliance with seven more countries would make the former division of Europe disappear, and in its place, the space from the Baltic Sea to the Black Sea would become an area where the principles of democracy, of market economy and of trans-Atlantic cohesion would thrive.

We would like to underline Lord Robertson's personal contribution, both as a British Minister of Defense and as NATO Secretary General, in helping Romania prepare itself for fulfilling the NATO integration criteria. Without the programs of bilateral assistance the MAP process achieved with Western support it would not have been possible for Romania to have made the progress that was essential and that paved the road to success at Prague.

In December 2003 Lord Robertson will step down as Secretary General of NATO and will end a momentous term in office. All these achievements mentioned above make of him one of the main political personalities of the end of XXth century and the beginning of XXIst century. The future course of the international relations, both in the Euro-Atlantic space and in the international environment in general also bear the mark of Lord Robertson. That is why today our university has a particular honor in welcoming the Secretary General Lord Robertson of Port Ellen, and as a high appreciation of his Excellency, on behalf of National School's senate, we are delighted to confer on him the title of DOCTOR HONORIS CAUSA of the National School of Political Studies and Public Administration.

Vasile Secares,
Ph.D.

• Rector of National School of Political Studies and Public Administration
• President and Chairman of the International Advisory Board – NATO Studies Center



Questions & Answers

**Simona Enache – course attendant,
NATO Senior Executive Master**

How do you comment Mr. Rumsfeld's affirmation that the center of Europe is shifting eastwards? Do you envisage a possible relocation of NATO basis in Eastern Europe?

Lord Robertson

Is the center of reality moving eastwards? I suppose it does in a way. But if you do mathematic calculations, given that Los Angeles and San Francisco are on one side of the Alliance and it has now moved to Romania, and up as far as Estonia and north, I'm not sure how much really is significant.

What I would say is that we have expanded and enlarged the scope of the Alliance and therefore the area of stability inside the Euro-Atlantic area. And that is good news for everybody, including the neighbors of the New Alliance. The door is not closed. We have said that there is an open door, and other countries are already in the queue and there will probably be more in the near future as well. The location of basis is increasingly irrelevant, frankly, given the nature and the reach of military technology.

During the Kosovo conflict most of the weapons of accurate precision and the bombing that was done was done by the two B2 American bombers who came from Missouri. From the Southern State of the US they flew across the world, landed their weapons on military targets, and then went home the same day.

The main think is that we built an Alliance that is politically forward living and it is military safe. That way we will guarantee the security of NATO members but also of the people in all the Europe.

**Sabin Popescu – course attendant,
NATO Senior Executive Master**

We know that the democratic system is a guarantee for peace and prosperity in the world, but building democracy is a difficult task and we, the Romanians, know better than others this thing. According to the international leaders, Middle East needs democracy. In this respect, do you think that the pattern of western democracy could be successfully implemented in Middle East area?

Lord Robertson

The first thing to say is yes. Democracy is a wonderful thing to have.

I was 21 years in the British House of Commons, 18 of them in opposition. So I know the upsides and downsides of democracy, when the elected simply don't agree that you are the best of those that are available. And that is the price we pay in democracy with the change of Government. The famous East German saying about "the people have decided, so let us change the people" is now build into democratic systems where governments change all the times.

But in each of the countries, even in the Alliance democratic systems, there is no prescription about how road toward a democratic system should be, other than the fact that is: government for the people, government by the people.

So that is way it's not easy for me to make a comparison with other parts of the world that have different traditions. But I think the opportunity for people to participate in the democratic process will be increasingly demanding.

In a world where there are no close borders, no countries where the information can be stopped from moving around, and the days of countries concentrating the power within one hand is now over, it is just a matter of time for global democracy to come.

The democracy can't be taken for granted, wherever it is my country or your country. It has to be wanted, it has to be believed in and the people themselves have to get into the process.

I came into politics at the age of 15 demonstrating in the street against the American nuclear submarines coming to Scotland. That was quite a long time ago and I have changed my mind since then, as you see, and I still think that it is better for young people to be part in the political process, in whatever political parties, in order to feel part of it. Because whatever they might think of voting, their lives will be determined by the political process. So, making sure that people are involved and kept involved is a primarily function for those of us who genuinely believe in democracy.

[end of transcript]



Romania will be admitted to NATO in 2004

March 4, 2003

Romania will be admitted to NATO in 2004, but reforms have to be continued, NATO Secretary-General George Robertson told a news conference at the Otopeni Airport at the end of his one-day visit to Bucharest on Monday. The NATO official said that the fields where reforms have to be continued are the same for all the countries that were invited to join, namely modernising the armed forces to increase their operability, getting a grip on corruption as well as consolidating the judiciary system and social reforms. The NATO Secretary-General also said that, in its capacity as a future NATO member, Romania will have to be more actively involved in the NATO structures and committees with a view to making its contribution to the North-

Atlantic Alliance's relations taking shape both with the EU and with Russia, Ukraine or the Mediterranean countries.

Lord Robertson also voiced conviction that the ratification process, in any of the parliaments of the NATO member countries, will not be affected by what the candidate states do or do not do as regards Iraq. On Monday, the Bucharest National School of Political Studies and Public Administration (NSPSPA) bestowed an honorary doctorate on NATO Secretary-General George Robertson, at a meeting with students and professors of the NATO Study Centre of NSPSPA.

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From left to right – **Vasile Secares** – Rector of NSPSPA • **Mircea Geoana** – Minister of Foreign Affairs • **Lord Robertson** – Secretary General of NATO • **Ioan Talpes** – Chief of Presidential Administration • **Ioan Mircea Pascu** – Minister of National Defense



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The NATO Studies Center publishes:

- Occasional Papers;
- Newsletter;
- Volumes focused on NATO new challenges and issues

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