

**Paul White**

# **NATO EXTENSION TURKISH PROTEST!**



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**Nato Extension Turkish Protest!**

**Dear Readers,**

Finland and Sweden, both of which until now were declared neutral countries have openly requested becoming members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (Nato).

Turkey, as one of Nato's oldest and largest members has stated it will not allow the two countries to join because they are accused of harbouring PKK terrorists who are enemies of Turkey.

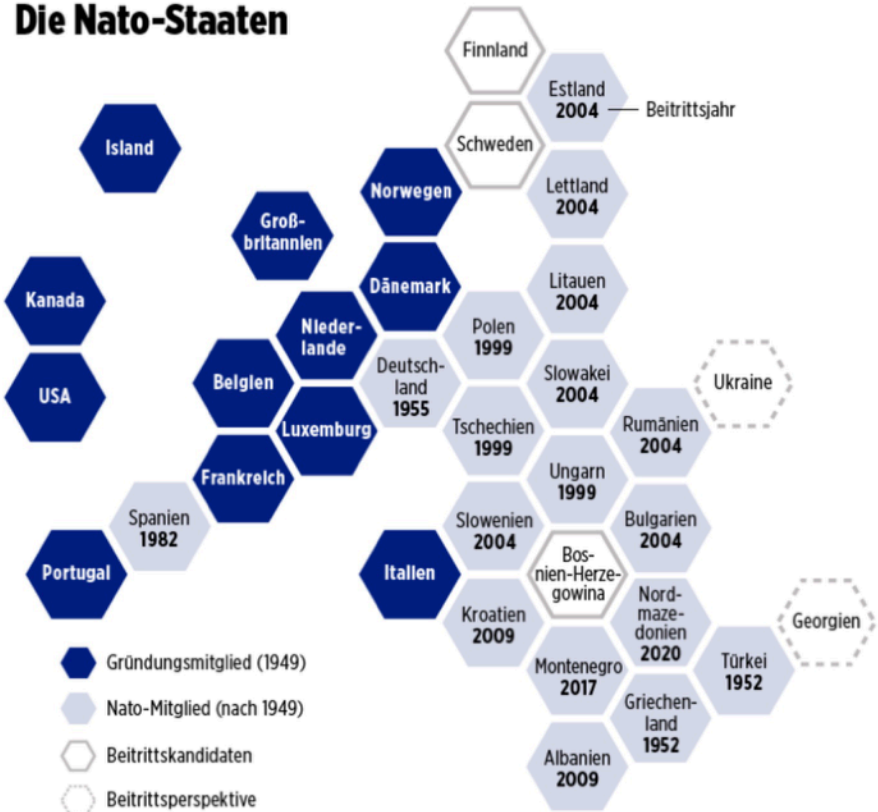
The Nato treaty states that new members can only be accepted by unanimous decision of all member states. Something that in 1952 would probably have made sense to everybody.

Today with the Ukrainian war hype, nothing is as it was, so many believe Turkey should not be allowed to veto the new memberships.

**A situation appraisal.....**

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# Die Nato-Staaten



info.BILD.de | Quelle: dpa, Nato | Stand: Mai 2022

The diagram is just to refresh peoples memories as to the changes, dates and status of Nato members.

## Turkey and the UK perspective

Turkey's membership of NATO is not probably something that the UK's Joe Public have really ever thought much about.

Some, if old enough, might still remember the connection between the "West" and Soviet Unions stand-off over the threat by the Soviet-Union to station missiles on **Cuba** whereby **John F. Kennedy** (United States President) threatened to retaliate because the United States felt that having enemy weapons so close to its shores posed an existential threat to the security of the United States. Monroe Doctrine?

Some will also remember that a possible reason for the Soviet actions was that the US supposedly had already started or at least planned to station medium range, nuclear capable, missiles in Turkey.

Turkey became a member of Nato on the 18th of February 1952. With a population of just over 82 million, Turkey is one of Nato's largest states and holds a key position in its proximity to the Middle East and in particular Syria.

The Cuban Missile Crisis was a 35-day (16 October – 20 November 1962) confrontation between the United States and the Soviet Union, which escalated into an international crisis when American deployments of missiles in Italy and Turkey were matched by Soviet deployments of similar ballistic missiles in Cuba.

Despite the short time frame, the Cuban Missile Crisis remains a defining moment in US national security and nuclear war preparation. The confrontation is often considered the closest the Cold War came to escalating into a full-scale nuclear war.

Turkey now disagrees with both Sweden and Finland joining Nato because it argues both states have harboured members of the PKK, an

organisation which Turkey has been fighting with for many years, and which over the course of the conflict has cost over 40 thousand mainly civilian lives.

Nato has always had a unanimous ruling concerning allowing new states to become members. A rule which has been in effect for 70 years and presumably suited all parties.

Some are now arguing that it is wrong to prevent the two Scandinavian countries joining Nato due to what they feel is a petty grievance in a far away state. Many too are unhappy that Turkey with its poor human rights record is even a member of Nato. We should realise also that Turkey's bid to become a member of the European Union (EU) has been blocked by its members states for just this reason.

But getting back to the Cuban missile crisis it looks as though **some are in truth wanting to move the goal posts.**

My feeling is that particularly in the United Kingdom, Turkey and its PKK problem is not taken seriously, that the support Turkey gave the western alliance in Afghanistan, in policing the Syrian border and also the troubles the PKK supposedly caused Turkey by the well documented activities in the Federal Republic of Germany and other European areas, are being swept under the carpet because it doesn't suit the current agenda.

I cannot recall the UK media ever commenting on the problems caused by the PKK in Germany. Again if not in our country it doesn't count?

It also brings me back to a recent discussion where it was argued that sovereign states have the right to decide if they want to join Nato or for that matter the European Union. However the sovereign Nato or any other organisation for that matter also have rights. Meaning the right to refuse entry based on their own regulations.

These rules go back to the end of the second world war and should not be thrown away to suit what may be a one-off situation.

### **Consider the alternative.**

- A simple majority vote? What if the majority agree that a particular state should not be accepted by maybe just one state? Maybe, for example by Lithuania, which many might call insignificant. Or what if all the Eastern States gang up like the European Song contest. Base it on Population? The same problem.
- Give the three nuclear powers a veto? Just allow the nuclear powers to decide. Given that France has joined and left and joined again could raise problems.
- Let the United States alone decide? I would bet that wouldn't go down well in a lot of capitals.

To believe anything other than United States having a Veto is to be naive beyond comprehension



But let us get one thing clear:

Turkey is not a tiny insignificant country just because it is a long way from London and because little is reported about it daily in the tabloids.

The further east one goes, the more significant it becomes but the insular UK media will probably have missed that fact. It is easier to sell tits on page three.

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# ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Paul White is a nutcase turned author with little to no talent. The **New York Times** wrote about him: **Nothing**. They had never heard of the man.