

ALLIANCE TREATY OBLIGATIONS AND PROVISIONS (ATOP)  
CODING SHEET

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Version 8.0; August, 2000

SECTION I: FORMATION, MEMBERS, AND DURATION

1. ATOP ID: 7025

2. COW Alliance # (if applicable): N/A

3. Signature date(s) (may vary for members in multilateral alliances):  
August 1, 2017

4. Members of alliance (use COW country codes):  
Bulgaria (355)  
Macedonia (343)

5. Was the alliance signed during war? If so, which war, and which member(s) was at war? (check COW data)  
No

6. Means by which alliance was established (e.g., treaty, executive agreement, diplomatic notes, etc.): (Only select "treaty" if the agreement requires ratification.)  
Treaty

7. Was the treaty public, public but with secret articles, or secret? If secret articles, describe the content of secret articles.  
Public

8. Are there provisions for adding additional members mentioned in the treaty? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe these provisions.  
No

9. Are specific state(s) mentioned as possible future members of the alliance? (Yes, No) If Yes, which state(s)?  
No

10. Are there specific provisions in the treaty concerning the length of time the treaty is to last? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.  
Yes – Article 13 (1) – "The Treaty...shall remain in force for an indefinite period"

11. Are there conditions under which members may renounce the treaty? If Yes, describe these conditions.

Yes – Article 13 (3) – "Each Contracting Party may terminate this Treaty by sending a written notification to the other Contracting Party. The Treaty shall cease to apply within one year following the date of receipt of the said notification."

12. Are there specific provisions in the treaty concerning renewal of the treaty? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe these provisions.  
No.

13. Number of times alliance renewed, dates of renewal, and means by which alliance was renewed (Do not include automatic renewals):  
N/A

14. Termination date(s) (may vary for members in multilateral alliances) and source(s) for termination dates(s):

Still in effect as of 6/3/2020 per multiple news sources:

<https://europeanwesternbalkans.com/2020/05/14/worrying-developments-on-bulgarian-north-macedonian-relations/>  
<https://balkaninsight.com/2019/08/01/north-macedonia-bulgaria-celebrate-friendship-treaty-anniversary/>

15. Describe what caused the alliance to terminate.  
N/A

SECTION II: OBLIGATIONS

16. Type of alliance (defense pact, neutrality pact, nonaggression pact, consultation pact, offense pact): (List all that apply to any member of the alliance.)

Nonaggression pact

17. Type of alliance as coded in COW data (if applicable):

N/A

18. Describe the obligations of the alliance partners.

Article 11 – “Neither of the two Contracting Parties shall undertake, encourage or support activities aimed against the other Contracting Party, which are of hostile nature” [non-aggression]

19. Are any of the obligations contingent upon any of the following: specific adversary, specific location, specific ongoing conflict, number of adversaries, noncompliance with a specific demand, attack, nonprovocation of enemy, or prior agreement among partners? (List all that apply)

No

20. Describe the nature of the limits to obligations listed in #19.

N/A

21. Are there any additional provisions for assistance in the event of war? (e.g., promise not to participate in economic sanctions against partner, promise not to aid internal or external enemies, etc.) (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

Yes – Article 11 (2) – “Neither of the two Contracting Parties shall allow that its territory be used against the other Contracting Party by organizations and groups, the goal of which is to commit subversive, separatist activities and activities which threaten the peace and security of the other Contracting Party.”

22. Are there any additional limits to the alliance obligations or conditions under which treaty obligations do not apply that were not listed in #19? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

No

23. Is a specific target/threat mentioned as the object of the treaty? (Yes, No) (Answering Yes to this question does not necessarily mean that obligations are limited only to this adversary.) If Yes, list the target nation(s) (using COW country codes if possible) and describe the general nature of the reference to the target of the treaty.

No

24. Are the treaty obligations symmetric? (That is, do all members commit to the same obligations?) (Yes, No) If No, describe.

Yes

25. Does the treaty prohibit members from settling conflicts independently (no separate peace)? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

No

26. Does the treaty have provisions requiring that the contracting parties consult before making commitments to third parties (excluding no separate peace provisions discussed above)? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe these provisions.

No

27. Does the treaty specify that the contracting parties must not enter into any other alliances that are directed against the alliance in question? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

No

28. Additional coder comments regarding treaty obligations:

Article 11 (3) – “The two Contracting Parties do not harbour and shall not make territorial claims against each other.”

Article 11 (5) – “The Republic of Macedonia hereby confirms that nothing in its Constitution may be and should be interpreted in a way that it constitutes or shall ever constitute the basis for interference in the internal affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria, with the purpose of protecting the status and rights of persons, who are not nationals of the Republic of Macedonia.”

Article 11 (6) – The two Contracting Parties shall undertake efficient measures to prevent ill-intentioned propaganda by institutions and agencies and shall discourage activities of private entities aimed at inciting violence, hatred, and other similar activities that may be detrimental to their relations.”

### SECTION III: INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF THE ALLIANCE

29. Does the treaty make reference to the potential for conflict among members of the alliance? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.  
Yes – Article 12 (2) – “The Joint Inter-Governmental Commission shall have regular meetings once a year...in order to resolve issues that might arise in the course of implementation of this Treaty. As deemed necessary, each Contracting Party may propose the convening of additional meetings”
30. Does the treaty discuss mediation/arbitration or other means of settling disputes among the signatories? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.  
No.
31. Does the treaty require official contact among the military forces of the participating states? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe. (Note whether official contact is required only in the event of hostilities or also during peacetime.)  
No
32. Does the treaty include provisions for military aid? (e.g., grants, loans, transfer of technology, training) (Yes, No) If Yes, describe these provisions.  
No
33. Does the treaty provide for integrated command of military forces while the alliance is in effect (peacetime as well as wartime)? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.  
No
34. Does the treaty require subordination of the forces of one or more member states to another in the event of hostilities? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.  
No
35. Does the treaty establish any organizations? (include provisions for regularly scheduled meetings) (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.  
  
Yes. Article 12 creates The Joint Inter-Governmental Commission that meets once per year and additionally upon request to review the implementation of the treaty. Article 8 creates a Joint Multidisciplinary Expert Commission for Historical and Education Issues with the aim of harmonizing interpretation of historical events. This commission is obligated to submit yearly reports to both governments.
36. Does the treaty provide for joint military bases, or for one or more states to place troops in the territory of one or more other states? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.  
No
37. Does the treaty specify contribution levels (funds, troops, etc.)? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.  
No
38. Does the treaty contain any provisions regarding coordinated increase of armaments, reduction of armaments, prohibition of weapons, or rules of warfare? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe such provisions.  
No
39. Does the treaty explicitly permit or prohibit the acquisition of territory not currently held by either ally? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe reference.  
No
40. Does the treaty include discussion of the division of gains from any future conflict? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.  
No
41. Does the treaty include discussion of demobilization/withdrawal following conflict? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.  
No
42. Are there any other provisions in the treaty that describe the means through which the states will coordinate their military efforts and policies? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.  
No
43. Additional coder comments regarding references to alliance institutionalization:  
N/A

#### SECTION IV: TREATY CONTEXT

44. Does the treaty state that it nullifies any existing treaties signed by one or more of the contracting parties? (Yes, No) If Yes, list the treaties/agreements that are nullified and describe the treaty reference.

No

45. Does the treaty state that it modifies any existing treaties signed by one or more of the contracting parties? (Yes, No) If Yes, list the treaties/agreements that are modified and describe the treaty reference.

No

46. Does the treaty state that it includes any existing treaties signed by one or more of the contracting parties? (Yes, No) If Yes, list the treaties/agreements that are included and describe the treaty reference.

No

47. Does the treaty make any references to international organizations? (Yes, No) If Yes, list the international organization and describe the nature of the reference.

Yes.

The United Nations – Preamble references joint involvement in the UN. Article 2 commits parties too cooperate within UN.  
Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe – Article 2 commits to cooperate in that body  
European Union – Bulgaria commits to assist Macedonia in fulfilling criteria for membership in EU (Article 2)  
NATO – Bulgaria commits to assist Macedonia in obtaining membership in NATO.

48. Does the treaty make any references to other existing alliances? (Yes, No) If Yes, list the alliance and describe the nature of the reference.

Yes. See above for Bulgaria's commitment to assist Macedonia in obtaining membership into NATO (#3180) and European Union (#4175). They agree to cooperate more closely in OSCE (#3740)

49. Are there any companion agreements referenced in the treaty? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe the agreements.

No.

50. Does the treaty include statements regarding non-military cooperation (e.g., economic, cultural, scientific exchange)? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

Yes.

Article 6 – tourism cooperation  
Article 7 – border, customs, transportation cooperation  
Article 8 – broad cooperation in culture, education, health care, social policy, and sports  
Article 9 – protection of copyrights and intellectual property

51. Does the treaty resolve other conflicts among the parties to the alliance? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

No

52. Does the treaty propose/enforce settlement of a conflict not involving parties to the alliance? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

No

53. Does the treaty propose other agreements among the contracting parties? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

No.

54. Does the treaty mention unresolved conflicts among the contracting parties? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

No

55. Does the treaty include provisions for economic aid or other enticements (include trade concessions, post war recovery, etc.)? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe these provisions.

No

56. Does the treaty describe circumstances under which one party may intervene in the internal politics of another party or specifically commit the states to non-intervention? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

No.

## SECTION V: DOCUMENTATION

57. Additional coder comments on this alliance treaty: Coding based on unofficial translation made available from N. Macedonia MFA

58. Source of coding information (e.g., treaty, treaty and secondary sources, secondary sources only, etc.): Treaty

59. Treaty citation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of North Macedonia: <https://mfa.gov.mk/en/document/1712>

60. Date of last revision of this coding sheet: 6/3/2020

61. Coder: Nicholas Coulombe and Ashley Leeds