

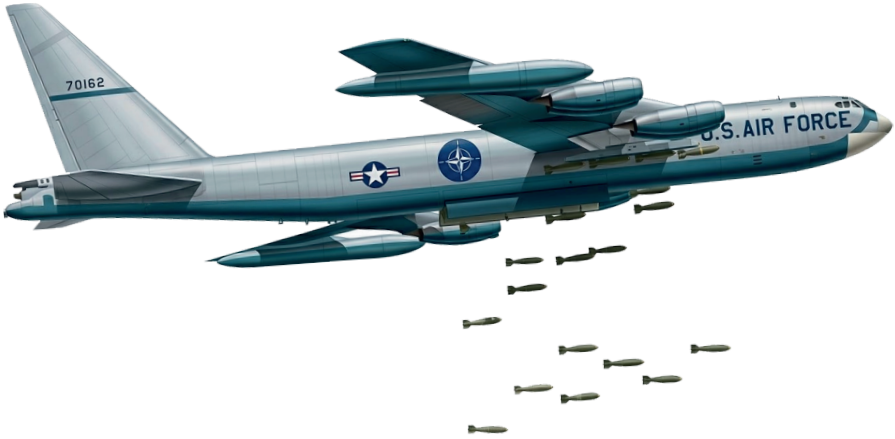


NATO'YA HAYIR!

NO TO NATO!

NATO savař, ölüm ve yıkım demektir!
NATO means war, death and destruction!





THE IMPERIALIST WAR ORGANISATION NATO

The NATO summit will be held in Ankara on 7–8 July 2026. Representatives of the imperialists, including Trump, are coming to Turkey to attend the meeting. **So, what is NATO? Why was it established, against whom has it fought, and what role does it play today in Turkey and around the world?**

THE FOUNDING OF NATO

NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organisation), was established in 1949 as a 'defence alliance' with the participation of the US, the UK, France and nine European countries. **In reality, the aim was to encircle the Soviet Union and the socialist countries, and to suppress the rising socialist and national liberation movements across the globe.** Despite emerging from the Second World War with millions of casualties, the Soviet Union had grown stronger, and socialist regimes had been established in Asia and Eastern Europe. The US organised the economic and political unity of the imperialist powers through the 1947 Truman Doctrine and the 1948 Marshall Plan; NATO became the military link in this chain.

NATO'S BLOODY HISTORY

From the moment it was founded, NATO turned its guns inwards, first against the people of its own member states.



NATO'S SECRET MILITARY APPARATUS

In 1948, Britain suppressed the communist-led popular uprising in its colony of Malaya through village clearances, psychological warfare and paramilitary units. The counter-guerrilla doctrine developed there became a cornerstone of NATO's security strategy.

Throughout the Cold War, 'stay-behind' (sleeper cell) networks were established in many NATO countries. These intelligence-linked, civilian-front organisations were organised through secret arms depots and special forces. The official justification was resistance against a potential Soviet invasion. However, counter-guerrilla organisations such as Gladio, which later came to light from Italy to Belgium and from Turkey to Germany, waged war against the people's struggle for equality and freedom through terrorist acts and paved the way for military coups. **This experience was also utilised by US imperialism to suppress socialist movements and national liberation struggles in countries that were not members of NATO.**

NATO

With the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, NATO's founding objective ceased to exist; **however, far from disbanding, the organisation expanded both geographically and functionally.** It faced its first open military test in 1999 against Yugoslavia. The intervention in Kosovo was carried out under the pretext of a 'humanitarian intervention' outside the authority of the UN; civilian infrastructure was targeted, and the bombing of Serbia marked the moment when NATO's 'defence' facade fell away. With the new Strategic Concept adopted in the same year, NATO expanded its sphere of intervention from the Balkans to the Middle East, from Asia to Africa and across the globe by developing



doctrines of “crisis management”, “risk control” and “pre-emptive war”, thereby transforming itself into a global monopoly on violence.

Under this doctrine, between 2001 and 2021, it attempted to govern Afghanistan through occupation; yet it was US imperialism that had trained and brought to power the jihadist militias fighting against the Soviet Union in Afghanistan during the 1980s. Under the guise of the ‘war on terror’, NATO reduced the country to ruins, paving the way for the resurgence of the Taliban and the entrenchment of regional instability.

Although the NATO umbrella was not used in the 2003 invasion of Iraq, the joint assault by founding members such as the US and the UK continued to plunge the Middle East into bloodshed. In 2011, the ‘no-fly zone’ intervention in Libya turned into regime change; the country was fragmented, and civil war became institutionalised. NATO’s expansion, however, showed no signs of slowing: first the Eastern European countries, then the Baltic states, followed by Finland and Sweden in 2023–24. Pro-Western ‘colour revolutions’ were supported in Georgia and Ukraine.

In recent years, NATO has begun to establish a presence in the Asia-Pacific region by declaring China’s role in foreign policy to be a ‘systemic challenge’. The underlying aim of all this was to re-establish global hegemony by upsetting the economic balance—which had been shaken to the detriment of the US—and by suppressing the accumulating crisis dynamics through force

TURKEY'S SUBMISSION TO IMPERIALISM: NATO MEMBERSHIP

Having successfully avoided entering the Second World War, Turkey chose to align itself with imperialism by complying with the Truman Doctrine and the Marshall Plan in the post-war period. In 1949-50, it was compelled to send troops to the Korean War as the price of joining NATO. In 1950, the DP government sent 15,000 troops; over 700 soldiers were killed, nearly 2,000 were wounded, and countless suffered psychological trauma, which became the first cost of NATO membership.

After Turkey joined NATO in 1952, 'stay-behind' networks were established here as well. Under the coordination of the Special Warfare Directorate, counter-guerrilla units were trained in commando camps to massacre thousands of progressive, patriotic citizens. The Anti-Communist Associations, **where Fethullah Gülen was also trained, formed the civilian infrastructure of these networks.**

One of the biggest lies surrounding Turkey's accession to NATO was the fallacy that "the Soviets wanted Kars". In reality, the Jupiter missiles deployed in Turkey during the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis were dismantled as part of the Kennedy-Khrushchev deal, in exchange for the missiles in Cuba. In other words, NATO membership did not protect Turkey; on the contrary, it turned the country into a nuclear target and was used as a bargaining chip.

The Bloody Sunday of 1969, the 1 May 1977 protests, and the 1978 Maraş massacres were all the result of these clandestine structures' war against the people. **The state's shadowy factions had become intertwined with NATO's counter-guerrilla networks.**



AKP'S LOVE FOR IMPERIALISM AND NATO

The MTTB (National Turkish Students' Union) and the Associations for the Struggle Against Communism, which nurtured the political Islamist cadres of the AKP and its predecessor parties, were not established by chance. These organisations were the Turkish branch of NATO's 'Green Belt' project. Whilst Deniz Gezmiş and his comrades were throwing American soldiers into the sea, the mentors of today's ruling party were praying against American ships at Dolmabahçe. From the moment Tayyip Erdoğan came to power until the arrest of İmamoğlu, he travelled to Washington first at every critical juncture. The AKP served as the political guarantor for global corporations to plunder our country, from state resources to mining areas. Nevertheless, despite all the resistance shown by our people in the face of Israel's barbaric attacks on the Palestinian people, trade with Israel was not halted. The bloody trade was simply dressed up in different guises.

THE FORTRESSES OF IMPERIALISM: BASES AND RADAR STATIONS

Whilst chants against USA ring out, the most vital organs of imperialism are running smoothly on Turkish soil:

- **Kürecik Radar Station:** Stationed in Malatya, this radar is tasked with gathering detection and tracking data from the region and transmitting information to the military alliance NATO. The tracking data obtained is sent to protect Israel.
- **Incirlik Airbase:** It continues to house NATO's nuclear weapons and serve as a base for operations targeting neighbouring peoples.
- The Turkish Grand National Assembly's approval of **Finland and Sweden's NATO membership** is the latest service rendered to the expansion of the imperialist encirclement.



HOW SHOULD WE FIGHT AGAINST NATO?

The struggle against NATO is, first and foremost, a political, social and ideological struggle. This is because NATO is a multi-faceted structure; in every country, it conducts its political activities in collaboration with a wide variety of collaborators, ranging from businesspeople to journalists, and from politicians to the foundations that provide funding.

The struggle against imperialism is waged through a wide range of actions aimed at restricting imperialism's sphere of influence and strengthening the idea of independence in the minds of the people. **The struggle against imperialism is not confined to beyond our borders; it is present wherever we are.**

OUR TRADITION OF ANTI-IMPERIALIST STRUGGLE

The anti-imperialist character of Turkey was shaped by the War of Independence. The Soviet Union provided military, economic and diplomatic support during that period. However, the young republic chose the capitalist path for its development; the process that began with the İzmir Economic Congress led to NATO membership under the Democratic Party government. The legacy of the struggle for independence became one of the key sources of the socialist movement in the 1960s and 70s.

The youth who drove the 6th Fleet into the sea, campaigns against US bases, calls for full independence... this is the foundation upon which the struggle against NATO rests.





YOUTH AGAINST NATO

The generation that united the anti-imperialist and socialist struggles in Turkey was undoubtedly the '68 generation. The first protests against the 6th Fleet began with paint being thrown at US soldiers and their caps being snatched off their heads. By July 1968, when the 6th Fleet anchored in Istanbul, students across many provinces, led by Istanbul, took action against the 6th Fleet.

University students, led by Deniz Gezmiş, marched towards Dolmabahçe—where the 6th Fleet was anchored—chanting slogans and singing songs. The protest, which culminated in US soldiers being thrown into the sea, stands as one of the historic moments when NATO confronted the anti-imperialist and socialist struggle in Turkey.

THE INTERNATIONAL STRUGGLE AGAINST NATO

Opposition to NATO is not merely a matter of foreign policy. **It is a class issue directly linked to militarism, imperialist bloc formation, the arms economy and global inequality. NATO's bombs also destroy the gains of the working class.**

When port workers in Greece halted NATO shipments, and in Turkey the youth sank the 6th Fleet into the sea, the Spanish people cut off trade with Israel, the Italian people tried to close the Aviano Air Base, and the Yemeni people targeted American and Israeli ships carrying war to their neighbours, a line of resistance against NATO begins to take shape, and we all become part of the same struggle.

THE FIGHT AGAINST NATO SUMMITS

NATO leaders meet in a different country every year to make decisions on new military doctrines and defence spending. **Each summit is a ritual for approving a shopping list designed to channel more money to the arms industry.**

The 1999 Washington Summit took place whilst Yugoslavia was being bombed. Thousands of people poured into the streets of Washington to protest against the war. At the 2009 Strasbourg-Kehl Summit, whilst the occupation of Afghanistan was being intensified, the European left staged historic protests.

The slogan **“NATO cannot bring peace in graveyards!”** was etched into people’s memories.

THE 2004 NATO SUMMIT IN ISTANBUL

The summit held in Istanbul on 28-29 June 2004 was intended to draw NATO allies into the quagmire of the invasion of Iraq alongside the US. Erdoğan and his team, with the loyalty inherited from the MTTB tradition, proved themselves to be a **‘safe haven’** for imperialism by hosting NATO.

But the streets of Istanbul did not accept this gift. Tens of thousands gathered in Kadıköy Square in response to the call from trade unions and revolutionary forces. Chants of “Murderer NATO, collaborator AKP” rang out. With anti-imperialist activists arriving from Italy to Greece, and from Britain to Palestine, Istanbul became a centre of international resistance.

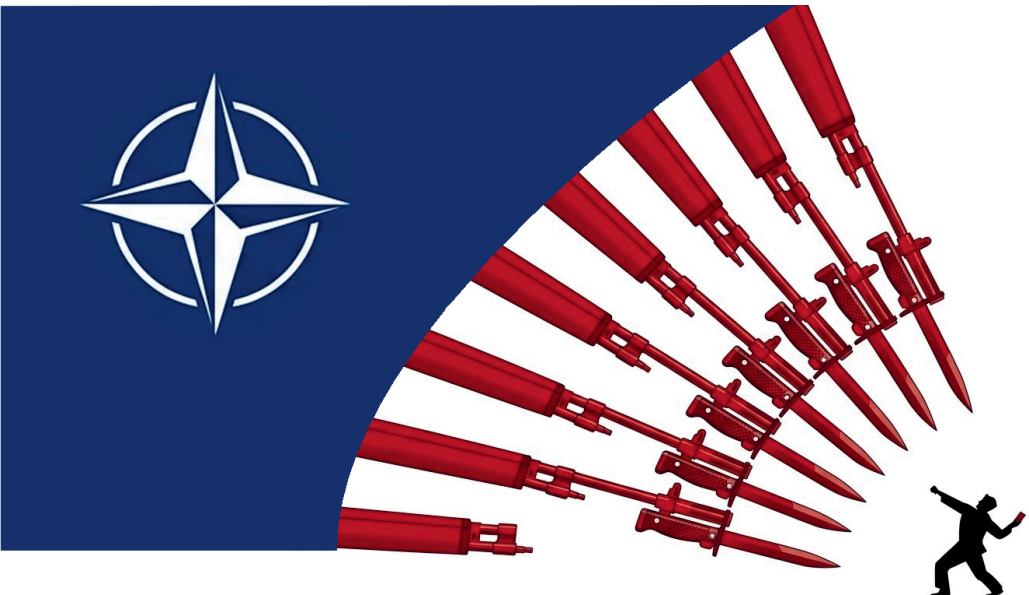


Due to the summit, the Harbiye-Taksim area was declared the 'NATO Valley' and cordoned off with barriers, with snipers deployed. But in Mecidiyeköy, Okmeydanı and Beşiktaş, barricades were erected and resistance was mounted against police attacks. Whilst NATO leaders were drawing up war plans at Lütfi Kırdar, socialists organised an 'Anti-NATO Summit'. **The 2004 resistance proclaimed that the spirit of 1968 had not died out, and that these lands would not be surrendered to NATO.**

AGENDA FOR THE 2026 NATO SUMMIT

The most debated topic at the summit to be held in Ankara in July 2026 is the full integration of Israel's security into NATO strategies. Expanding the capacity of the Kürecik Radar Base and the protection of energy resources in the Eastern Mediterranean by the NATO fleet are also on the agenda.

The decision taken at the 2025 Netherlands Summit aims to raise member states' defence spending to 5% of GDP. **This means that every penny cut from healthcare, education and housing will be channelled into the arms industry.** Turkey's military spending already runs into billions of dollars; an increase in this ratio means that our taxes will be spent on even more war.





NATO SHOULD BE DISSOLVED

The 2026 Ankara Summit marks the threshold of a period in which the working people of NATO member states are left more vulnerable to exploitation and war, despite the forced increase in defence spending. It represents the channelling of workers' wealth into the wars instigated by the US and Israel across the globe, and into the arms industry monopolies that arm them.

The slogan that echoed in 2004, **"NATO Out, This Country Is Ours!"**, must resound even louder in every street of the country.

Ankara is not the capital of NATO, but of the working people who demand a "fully independent Turkey".