



The Hague International
Model United Nations

Forum:	North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO)
Issue	Situation in the Black Sea region [sea and neighbouring countries]
Student Officer:	Dimitris Meintanas
Position:	Deputy President of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation

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The Black Sea region is a large inland sea in southeastern Europe. The sea is surrounded by Ukraine, Russia, Georgia, Türkiye, Bulgaria, and Romania.¹ The region has a vital role within the international trade, food supply, as well as regional security for countries bordering it. Ukrainian forces have been launching uncrewed maritime systems (UMSs) with the objective of striking the naval vessels of the Russian military.² Additionally, in the summer of 2023, Russia had ended the Black Sea Grain Initiative (BSGI), in response to the West not allowing Russian agricultural banks to use the SWIFT banking system to finance food and fertilizer purchases. The BSGI, was a crucial agreement that focused on helping

¹ “Black Sea.” *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, inc., 15 Nov. 2024, www.britannica.com/place/Black-Sea

² “Sea Drones at War: Tactical, Operational and Strategic Analysis of Maritime Uncrewed Systems.” *Royal United Services Institute*, 5 Sept. 2024, www.rusi.org/explore-our-research/publications/external-publications/sea-drones-war-tactical-operational-and-strategic-analysis-maritime-uncrewed-systems

keep Ukraine's agricultural economy afloat in the middle of the war.³ Extensive mine deployment from the Russian Armed Forces within the Black Sea region since February of 2022, NATO had launched a joint mine countermeasure exercise named "Sea Breeze 2024", in response to international solidarity and commitment.⁴



Figure 1; Map of the Black Sea Region¹

Definition of Key Terms

Black Sea Region

The Black Sea region is a large inland sea situated at the southeastern extremity of Europe. It is bordered by Ukraine to the North, Russia to the Northeast, Georgia to the East, Türkiye to the South, and Bulgaria and Romania to the West.¹

³ *Ifpri.Org*, www.ifpri.org/blog/russia-terminates-black-sea-grain-initiative-whats-next-ukraine-and-world/

⁴ "NATO Ships Join US 6th Fleet and Royal Navy to Support Ukraine Navy during Ex Sea Breeze 24." *Mc.Nato.Int*, mc.nato.int/media-centre/news/2024/nato-ships-join-us-6th-fleet-and-royal-navy-to-support-ukraine-navy-during-ex-sea-breeze-24

Black Sea Synergy (BSS)

Since 2007, it has been the EU's regional policy framework for the Black Sea region, aiming to ensure policy coherence and cooperation between countries that surround the Black Sea.²³

Black Sea Grain Initiative (BSGI / 22 July 2022-17 July 2023)

The Black Sea Grain Initiative's purpose was to contribute to the prevention of global hunger, to reduce and address global food insecurity, and to ensure the safety of merchant ships delivering grain and foodstuffs. The Initiative established for the safe export of grain, related foodstuffs and fertiliser, including ammonia, from designated Ukrainian ports to global markets.⁵

Uncrewed Maritime Systems (UMSs)

Maritime uncrewed systems are vehicles that are able to be piloted either remotely or semi-autonomously. The term "UMS" encompasses both the vehicle, as well as the control system that enables its remote operation.⁶

International Solidarity

International Solidarity, is the expression of consciousness about the interconnectedness of peoples and generations, in the act of recognition of the rights of others, and shared agency and responsibility to cooperate with each other to address common challenges, and protect global public goods.⁷

Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC)

The Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC), was established in 1992, as an informal initiative about the region, which later evolved into a regional economic organisation, on which covers the territories of the Black Sea region, the Balkans, and the Caucasus.²⁵

⁵ "Black Sea Grain Initiative | FAQ." *United Nations*, United Nations, www.un.org/en/black-sea-grain-initiative/faq

⁶ *Uncrewed Maritime Systems: A Primer*, unidir.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/UNIDIR_Uncrewed_Maritime_Systems_Primer.pdf

⁷ *Independent Expert on Human Rights and International Solidarity* | OHCHR, www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/ie-international-solidarity

Annexation

The addition to one's own territory by appropriation.

Separatist Forces

Forces that are seeking independence or autonomy for a region- usually due to cultural, political, or economic differences, of the nation owning the region.

North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO)

The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), is a security alliance of 32 countries from North America and Europe. NATO's fundamental goal is to safeguard the Allies' freedom and security by political and military means.

European Union (EU)

The European Union (EU), is a political and economic union of European countries that cooperate on policies, trade, and government, whilst allowing free movement of EU people, goods, and services.

Enhancing Energy Security through Power Interconnection and Renewable Energy Programme (ESPIRE)

The purpose of the ESPIRE programme is to enhance the implementation readiness of the Black Sea Submarine Cable Project (BSSC).

Black Sea Submarine Cable (BSSC)

The BSSC programme is an infrastructure project that will connect Romania as the hub for all of Europe, to Georgia. The connection of an underwater cable system that is designed to enhance internet connectivity and data transmission.

Blue Economy

A blue economy is an economic system that seeks the conservation of marine and freshwater environments, while using them to develop economic growth and produce resources such as energy and food.

Background Information

The Black Sea region has been known since the times of the ancient Phoenicians, with Greek historian Herodotus, describing and mapping the northern coasts during the 5th century B.C. As time passed, Turks were in full control of the entire shoreline in the 15th century. Russian sailors had begun hydrographic explorations within the Sea of Azov, and the Black Sea during the start of the 18th century, and ended at the end of the 19th century, the Russian investigations overall led to a Russian biological station opening up at Sevastopol in 1871, with the Russian naval commander and oceanographer Stepan Makarov investigating water through the Bosphorus.¹ The Treaty of Paris of 1856, concluded the Crimean War that was between the Russian Empire, and the alliance of the Ottoman Empire, the United Kingdom, the Second French Empire, and the Kingdom of Sardinia, had eventually led to the “neutralisation” of the Black Sea, as the Russian Empire and the Ottoman Empire were not allowed any military fleets within the region, alongside military forts and arsenals on its coasts, as well as the straits of the Black Sea were declared closed for military vessels of all countries.⁸ After the demilitarisation of the Black Sea, the region fostered the increase of commercial and economic growth, as it was followed by new infrastructure such as railways and telegraph lines being built in order to support newly-built docks and ports, for the efficiency of trading between the region. The increase of the infrastructure of the coastal lines, had efficiently helped for the increase in the agricultural exports, such as grain, creating an agricultural dominated base for the increased economic activities throughout Europe, and Asia.⁹ On January 5, 1871 in London, there was an international conference. All limitations on military vessels of Russia, Türkiye, and all other coastal countries of the Black Sea were lifted. This eventually helped the Russian Empire re-establish their positions and dominance in the region.¹⁰

At the start of the First World War, the Russian Empire used the Ottoman Empire's decline as an advantage point for them, as the weakened empire had failed to maintain their defenses, leading to the Russian military campaigns, leveraging over the Ottoman defences which extended to the Black Sea region.¹¹ During the First World War, the Black Sea was crucial for naval operations on vessel against vessel, but as well as naval invasions. The overall control and dominance of the region, had allowed for significant military but as well as logistical advantage. The Ottoman Empire's date of entry for World War I, was on October 29nd, 1914, by the Black Sea raid against the Russian ports of the region.¹² The Ottoman's war efforts of the raid didn't only disrupt the Russian logistical supply routes, but also had re-

⁸ “The Treaty of Paris Signed.” *Presidential Library*, 24 Mar. 2022, www.prlib.ru/en/history/619130

⁹ King, Charles. “Black Sea, 1860–1990.” *OUP Academic*, Oxford University Press, 18 Mar. 2004, academic.oup.com/book/3351/chapter-abstract/144432775

¹⁰ “Russia Initiated the Repeal of the Black Sea Neutralization.” *Presidential Library*, 26 Nov. 2021, www.prlib.ru/en/history/619678

¹¹ *Chatham House – International Affairs Think Tank*, www.chathamhouse.org/

¹² “Black Sea Raid.” *DBpedia*, dbpedia.org/page/Black_Sea_raid

established the importance of the region as a naval warfare theatre.



Figure 2; Routes of ships during the Black Sea raid²⁶

The First World War had ended up resulting the region being from previously an economic regional powerhouse, for Europe and Asia, to again a heavily militarised region due to the war, leading to the trade and economic disruption, as the region was heavily populated with military vessels from nations such as; USSR, Bulgaria, Romania, Türkiye, and the United States alongside the military presence of navies. There are also the naval blockades set by Türkiye on the Bosphorus strait. These blockades had an impact on exports, leading to a majority of the trade being changed to on-land routes.¹³ This led to the Soviet economy being heavily impacted, as their primary motivation was seizing control of the Turkish straits, which resulted in the retaliation and backfire from the Ottomans and the Germans, closing the straits.¹⁴

Following the Cold War, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR/Soviet Union), became the dominant power within the region, as it controlled both the northern and eastern shores of the sea, alongside socialist countries of Bulgaria and Romania. This led to NATO having only one member, serving Türkiye as the counterbalance to the Soviet Union within the Black Sea region.¹⁵ The environment, and location of the Black Sea, had forced cooperation between countries, even if there was a high geopolitical tension amongst the respective states. This meant that countries, such as Türkiye, were required to allow for the Soviet vessels to pass through the straits, alongside their allied ships. Geographically and

¹³ Martin, Jamie. "Globalizing the History of the First World War: Economic Approaches: The Historical Journal." *Cambridge Core*, Cambridge University Press, 29 Nov. 2021, www.cambridge.org/core/journals/historical-journal/article/abs/globalizing-the-history-of-the-first-world-war-economic-approaches/7A8DD62C1D21C4689B0699CB4EAA99B6

¹⁴ Toucas, Boris. "The Geostrategic Importance of the Black Sea Region: A Brief History." *CSIS*, www.csis.org/analysis/geostrategic-importance-black-sea-region-brief-history

¹⁵ Paul Stronski. "What Is Russia Doing in the Black Sea?" *Carnegie Endowment for International Peace*, carnegieendowment.org/posts/2021/05/what-is-russia-doing-in-the-black-sea?lang=en

economically, the region slowly started losing its value as it was ratherly trashed due to the usage of hundreds of thousands of vessels during the Cold War, as well as the trashing of it, which disrupted the region's nature.¹⁶ The Black Sea, had showed its importance as a trade and traveling route even more, during the Cold War, as late July, and early August of 1962, it was used as the route on which the Soviets had taken the medium-range nuclear weapons to Cuba, which had resulted as the Cuban Crisis, that had temporarily allowed the Soviet Union to directly pose a high-risk threat to the United States.¹⁷ The Black Sea, had seen a rather militaristic reinforcement on the naval fleets from the nations on which are on its coast, with one being the Soviet Union. Following the post-Cold War, the 1990s led to the creation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) in June of 1992. The cooperation impacted the region rather economically, due to the fact of Europe's desperation for a steady and reliable energy supply, and all this due to the Black Sea's oil and gas storages within. With the natural resources in mind, the BSEC promoted, and utilised, the region as an important energy producer, and a rather important transit region.¹⁸



Figure 3; Regional Black Sea Economic Cooperation members²⁶

By the Ukrainian Crimean peninsula being annexed by Russia, and the Donbass region remaining under occupied by Russian-backed separatist forces in 2014, the Russian Federation has been forced to significantly increase their military presence, as the region was used as the Black Sea naval supply route, due to its expansion of their military role in Syria.¹⁹ With Romania's membership acceptance, within the

¹⁶ "DataSpace: Black Sea, Cold War: An Environmental History of the Black Sea Region, 1930-2005." *Princeton University*, The Trustees of Princeton University, dataspace.princeton.edu/handle/88435/dsp01ff365856k

¹⁷ Nettles Christopher, Adam "The Black Sea Thread in Russian Foreign Policy and How the United States Can Respond" *Marine Corps University*, www.usmcu.edu/Outreach/Marine-Corps-University-Press/MCU-Journal/JAMS-vol-13-no-2/The-Black-Sea-Thread-in-Russian-Foreign-Policy/

¹⁸ Triantaphyllou, Dimitrios. "The Wider Black Sea Area and Its Challenges." *KETlib*, 12 May 2008, ketlib.lib.unipi.gr/xmlui/handle/ket/445

¹⁹ Miller, Chris. "Why the Black Sea?" *Foreign Policy Research Institute*, 3 Feb. 2017, www.fpri.org/article/2017/01/why-the-black-sea/

North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), Russia has created the thought process of how the Black Sea region has become even more dangerous, due to the region's proximity to the Russian land, and on how it is in range of intermediate-range missiles.¹⁵ Thus, this has led to the possibility that NATO defence systems in Romania are intended to undermine Russian security and infrastructure, alongside President Vladimir Putin's speech that the "international security system is off balance.. with a new arms race."²⁰ Prior to the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, the European Union (EU) had relied heavily on Russian natural gas, with an estimated amount of 40% of its imports. As aggression and military doctrines of the Russians came out in early 2021, the EU's reliance on Russian gas had decreased from 45% of total importance in 2021, to 15% in 2023. This was due to the EU's renewed strategy to be against the reliance of Russian gas, as it will feed them more money to further fuel the war against Ukraine.²¹ With the World Bank's \$35 million loan for Georgia, the Enhancing Energy Security through Power Interconnection and Renewable Energy (ESPIRE) increased the significance of the region. This is due to the fact that, the ESPIRE programme, is designed for the next steps of the Black Sea Submarine Cable (BSSC) project, that would establish parallel electricity, and fiber-optic submarine cable interconnections across the Black Sea, with the points being in Georgia and Romania.²² Despite the Russo-Ukrainian war, the Black Sea Synergy has implemented in their fields of cooperation a success, to help strengthen the interconnectivity among all. They have integrated maritime policy, a sustainable blue economy, environmental protection, cross-border cooperation, research and innovation, and most importantly energy and transport.²³

Major Countries and Organisations Involved

United Nations: The United Nations has been involved on the issue within the Black Sea region, starting from March of 2014 attempting to find a common ground to reaffirm its integrity, and solve the territorial disputes of the region. The United Nations has attempted to solve the situation, based on some of their former resolutions:

- Territorial Integrity of Ukraine, 27 March 2014 (A/RES/68/262)
- Reaffirmation of the Ukrainian sovereignty and territorial integrity, followed by the Russian annexation of Crimea.

²⁰ "Romania Missile Defense Site Activated." *Romania Missile Defense Site Activated* | Arms Control Association, www.armscontrol.org/act/2016-05/news/romania-missile-defense-site-activated

²¹ Aozen. "Part 4. Türkiye's Geopolitical Role in the Black Sea and European Energy Security: From Pipelines to Liquefied Natural Gas." *Atlantic Council*, 13 Sept. 2024, www.atlanticcouncil.org/in-depth-research-reports/report/part-4-turkeys-geopolitical-role-in-the-black-sea-and-european-energy-security-from-pipelines-to-liquefied-natural-gas/

²² "World Bank Approves \$35 Million Investment for Black Sea Submarine Cable Project Preparatory Activities." *World Bank*, World Bank Group, 21 May 2024, www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2024/05/21/world-bank-approves-35-million-investment-for-black-sea-submarine-cable-project-preparatory-activities

²³ "Black Sea Synergy: Success in Regional Cooperation despite Challenges." *EEAS*, www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/black-sea-synergy-success-regional-cooperation-despite-challenges_en

- Strengthening the Role of International Law, 200 December 2022 (A/RES/77/99)
- Addressed the importance of upholding international law in territorial disputes, and ensured the freedom of navigation of civilians, and military.
- Promotion of Peace and Security in the Black Sea Region, 15 February 2023 (A/RES/77/255)
- Called for the peaceful resolutions to the international maritime conflict of the region, and protection of the civilian trade routes.
- Problem of the Militarisation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and the City of Sevastopol, Ukraine, as well as Parts of the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov, 7 July 2021 (A/RES/75/29)
- Called for the peaceful resolutions to the international maritime conflict of the region, and protection of the civilian trade routes.

Russian Federation: The Russian Federation has been directly involved with the situation in the Black Sea, as it maintains a significant military presence within the region, as it is seen and used as a strategic region in order to project power, and control trade. Since Russia's start of the "special military operation", the Euro-Atlantic area has been gravely undermined in terms of the global security aspect, due to this, Russia is no longer considered a NATO partner.³⁰

Ukraine: Ukraine has been involved with the situation, following the 2014 annexation of Crimea by Russia, as well as the current ongoing military invasion. NATO condemns the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine, as it undermines the Euro-Atlantic security, as well as its blatant violation of international law. Since Russia's illegal annexation of Crimea in 2014, NATO has reinforced its own support for capability development and building in Ukraine, as well as providing Allied training for Ukrainian troops.³¹

Türkiye: Türkiye maintains involvement within the region, as it controls the access point of the Black Sea through the Bosphorus and Dardanelles Straits. Its stance is able to balance the relation of NATO and Russia.

United States of America: The United States is involved with the Black Sea, as it conducts and participates in NATO wide exercises.

Georgia: Following the NATO Summit in Bucharest in April 2008, where Allies agreed that Georgia will become a NATO member if it meets all necessary requirements- Allies have continued to express support for the Georgians due to the Russian invasion of Georgian territory in August 2008. The Alliance calls on Russia to remove its forces that have been stationed in Georgia, and return the land of Abkhazia and South Ossetia to Georgia. A NATO Liaison Office, had been established in Georgia in 2010 in order to support the country's reform efforts and its cooperation with NATO. Allies have endorsed Georgia, as one of

NATO's partners that have been most directly affected by external threats resulting from the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine.³³

Republic of Moldova: Due to Moldova's constitution, implying permanent neutrality, Moldova can not join NATO, and rather in 1992, it joined the North Atlantic Cooperation Council, which brings all Allies and partner countries within the Euro-Atlantic area together. In light of the Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2022, NATO has increased its support to help Moldova build its capabilities and strengthen its resilience. Due to Moldova's geographical location, NATO provides Moldova with the Building Integrity (BI) programme that assists with strategic-level advice to reduce the risk of corruption in its defence and security sector.³²

Timeline of Events

Date	Description of event
5th Century, BC	Greek historian Herodotus mapped the northern coasts of the Black Sea, and its findings.
15th Century, AD	Turks were the first to dominate, and have full control of the entire shoreline in the region.
18th-19th Century, AD	Russian hydrographic explorations of the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov, creation of the first establishment of a biological station in Sevastopol, marking the region as an educational and research area.
March 3, 1856	Treaty of Paris ended the Crimean War, demilitarising the Black Sea- banning military fleets and fortifications on the coast.
January 5, 1871	International conference in London lifted the demilitarisation, allowing Russia to establish naval dominance once again.
October 29, 1914	The Ottoman Empire entered World War I, with the Black Sea Raid against the Russian ports, disrupting military supply routes.
Late July-Early August, 1962	During the Cold War, the Black Sea was used by the USSR to transport medium-range nuclear weapons to Cuba.
June 1992	Creation of the most efficient and successful economic cooperation revolving around the Black Sea, the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC).

March 18, 2014	Russia annexed Crimea, and increased military presence in the Black Sea region for security and control.
February 2022	Russian invasion of Ukraine, leading to engagements to be naval battles as well.
2021-2023	The EU reduced reliance on Russian gas imports from 40% in 2021, to 15% in 2023- rather focused on energy security, and new projects to import gas from the Black sea region.

Previous Attempts to solve the Issue

The International Community's Efforts

The Treaty of Paris of 1856, that had ended the Crimean war, had chosen to demilitarise the Black Sea region, as a way to possibly solve the issue of militarism within the region. The demilitarisation, although it did not last long, as it was lifted in 1871 which led back to remilitarisation and new conflicts, it was able to foster and create the base and mortar for the economic growth and trade within the region.

The Black Sea Grain Initiative (BSGI), which was in effect between July 22, 2022- till Russia ending the initiative on July 17, 2023, was an initiative that was negotiated by the United Nations, in order to find a way to export the Ukrainian grain, during the Russo-Ukrainian war. The deal had helped keep the Ukrainian agricultural economy afloat during the war, but following the Russian withdrawal, it returned back to economic and trade disruptions, as there was no safe passage, and or zone for the export to safely be moved through the Black Sea.

The Russian Federation's attempt to solve issue(s) within the Black Sea region, was the NATO-Russia Council, which was established in 2002, as a mechanism for consultation, consensus-building, cooperation, joint decision making, as well as joint action. Ever since the February 2022's Russian invasion of Ukraine, NATO had considered Russia that they could not be a partner, but they are willing to maintain channels of communication with Russia to prevent escalation.

Georgia's previous attempt to solve the issue within the Black Sea region, was made up by the 2014 Substantial NATO-Georgia Package (SNGP) as measures to be launched in order to strengthen Georgia's ability to defend itself, even if not as a NATO-state member. This was due to the fact that the SNGP, aimed to contribute and improve the regional stability and the defence cooperation within the Black Sea region.

Organisational Efforts

BSEC

The Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC), founded in 1992, has had its primary goal to promote the Black Sea's region, creation of possible economic cooperations due to the important causes of energy and trade, in order to attempt to limit conflicts of the body of the water by seeking to enhance stability, peace and prosperity within the region.

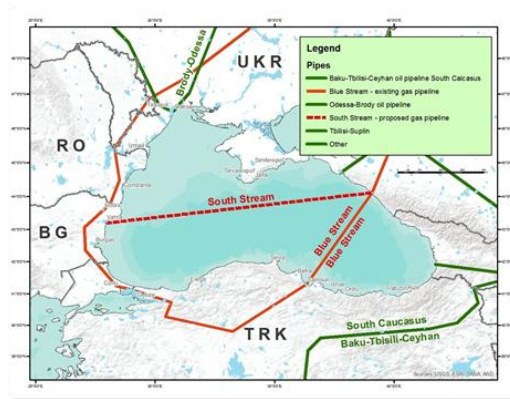


Figure 4; BSEC's gas and oil pipelines on which were used for trade²⁹

NATO

The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), founded in 1949, has with time attempted to effectively stop the conflicts from leaving the region. The keen public eye has rather been criticised for escalating tension with Russia. The last attempt of a NATO wide operation was the naval exercise "Sea Breeze" in September 2024, in response to international solidarity and commitment.

United Nations

On 5 January 2023, the United Nations approved different resolutions such as the "A/RES/77/255" which was about the "Promotion of Peace and Security in the Black Sea Region". This resolution was about the maritime conflicts within the region, and how protection of civilians should be kept in mind. Additionally, there is also the "A/RES/75/29", which was about the "Problem of the Militarisation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and the City of Sevastopol, Ukraine, as well as Parts of the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov", in July 7 2021, which discussed the militarisation of the annexation of Crimea in 2014, and the waters near Russia and Ukraine, such as the Black Sea.

Possible Solutions

Possible solutions, in the modern day are able to be such of the possible revival, or re-creation of a modern “Treaty of Paris of 1856”, that could lead to the demilitarisation of the Black Sea region, and rather focus on creating a stable, and workable environment for trade, and possible economic and environmental corporations, as the world, and organisations have been asking for the greater good of the

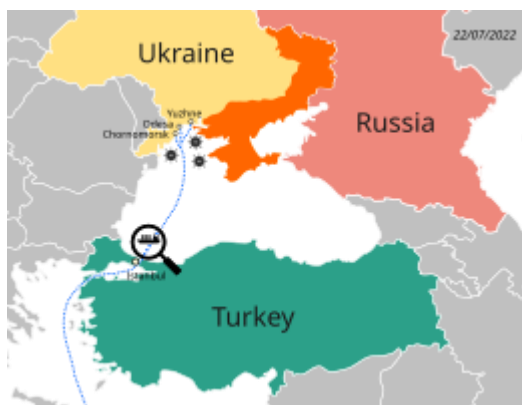


Figure 5; Routes of grain travel per the BSG initiative from JULY 2022 - JULY 2023²⁴

countries within the region and abroad. Possible breakage of the demilitarisation, could lead to the removal of the United Nations, and or possible sanctions. By also combining the, re-activation of the Black Sea Grain Initiative could be able to help the initiative to enhance its regional trade significantly, as during its time of operation from July 2022, till July of 2023, it showed effectiveness. By mid-July of 2023, there were more than 1000 successful voyages that had left Ukrainian ports with nearly 333 million tonnes of grain and other food products to 45 countries, in the attempt to address the worldwide food crisis.²⁴

The suggested continuous support for the Black Sea Electricity Cable project, on which ultimately aims to connect Romania and Georgia together, as it could be a crucial and strategic point for NATO’s

²⁴ “Black Sea Grain Initiative.” *Wikipedia*, Wikimedia Foundation, 9 Nov. 2024, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_Sea_Grain_Initiative#

²⁵ “Greece in International Organizations.” *Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic*, www.mfa.gr/en/foreign-policy/greece-in-international-organizations/bsec.html

²⁶ “Black Sea Raid.” *Wikipedia*, Wikimedia Foundation, 3 Nov. 2024, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_Sea_raid

²⁹ “The Commission on the Protection of the Black Sea against Pollution.” *BSC Loco*, www.blacksea-commission.org/socio-economy.asp

³⁰ “Relations with Russia.” *NATO*, 12 Sept. 2024, www.nato.int/cps/ra/natohq/topics_50090.htm

³¹ “Relations with Ukraine.” *NATO*, 9 Jan. 2025, www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_37750.htm

³² “Relations with the Republic of Moldova.” *NATO*, 10 Dec. 2024, www.nato.int/cps/cn/natohq/topics_49727.htm

³³ “Relations with Georgia.” *NATO*, 27 Sept. 2024, www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_38988.htm

involvement within the region's energy integration to be distributed to its member-states. Overall, the project would be able to enhance the economic ties between nations. NATO will be able to play the role of ensuring security and a stable economic area within the Black Sea region, as it is part of NATO's doctrine of promoting peace and cooperation with its member states and partners.

The acceptance of the states of Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine within the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation could potentially and ultimately force the Russian Federation to back down, and assist the states upon joining via infrastructure and economical support in order to rebuild themselves, following their events of invasion, and history. These countries would also be benefited as a potential NATO expansion could lead to an increased military presence within the region near Russia, aiming to boost overall security and stability of the nation.

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