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Will ships finally be safe in the Black Sea? Changes in the security and defense policies of the NATO riparian states of the Black Sea since the start of the war in Ukraine

With the formalization of Sweden's accession to the alliance, the Baltic Sea will officially become a NATO lake - a success story that proves transatlantic unity and political determination to generate a credible defense and deterrence posture on the eastern flank. The same cannot be said for the other half of the flank, which is exposed to a range of security challenges.

This preliminary research poster aims to highlight the main trends and changes in the security and defense policies of the NATO riparian states of the Black Sea since 24th of February 2022, in a comparative manner. Notably, we will look into the patterns of change regarding defense investment policies, military spending and innovation, as well as the development of the maritime capabilities and the endeavors of the regional cooperation initiatives.

Starting from the premise that the war in Ukraine was a trigger for the governments of Romania, Bulgaria and Turkey to develop their Black Sea deterrence and defense components, using methods such as public policy content analysis and literature review, we will look at the direction these governments have taken since that turning point in defense policy and whether the prerequisites for shaping a regional identity for security cooperation exist.

> Blockquote

What discipline or branch of humanities or social sciences do you identify yourself with?

International Security - Master Student

If you are submitting an Open Panel proposal, have you included all four abstracts in attachment?

Yes, I have included all required information (see below).

Are you a PhD student or early-career researcher?

No

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