



ATLANTIC TREATY ASSOCIATION  
ASSOCIATION DU TRAITÉ ATLANTIQUE

MODTAGET  
LEDELSESSEKRETARIATET

Dato 7/5-10 Kl.

**H.E. Thor Pedersen**  
President of the Folketing  
Folketinget, Christiansborg  
1240 København K  
Denmark

Berlin, 3 May 2010

Dear President,

The Atlantic Treaty Association, of which I am the elected President since November 2008, has decided at its 55<sup>th</sup> General Assembly in Kiev, Ukraine, last October, to create a NATO Day in all of its member countries.

Therefore I am writing to you in order to get your support for this event in your country. We are looking at possible dates, and hope to make it an annual event at a fixed date.

The Atlantic Treaty Association is a non-governmental organization which acts as a network facilitator in the Euro-Atlantic region and beyond. The ATA draws together political leaders, academics, and diplomats from 42 countries in an effort to further the values set forth in the North Atlantic Treaty and to strengthen transatlantic relations. It is our aim to educate and inform the public, through debate and dialogue, about NATO's missions and responsibilities in order to create an up-to-date and solid understanding of key Alliance issues. The ATA is fully dedicated to engaging the younger generation in this process, through close cooperation with its youth division, the Youth Atlantic Treaty Association (YATA).

We believe that it is of the utmost importance to raise awareness about NATO's operations and raison d'être in our countries, as governments need the support of their publics to be able to contribute substantially to NATO's missions. Our citizens' safety and well being depends on the strength of NATO, on the success of its missions, and on its response capacity to all potential threats. By explaining to our publics what NATO does and what it really stands for we can create a better ground for our governments to act within NATO, for our soldiers to operate within NATO's missions, and for operations to be successful.

NATO Day can have a different format in every country, depending on what every government, in cooperation with its respective Atlantic Association, identifies as the most appropriate way to engage its public. Events can range from lecture tours through schools over public

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manifestations such as concerts or marathons (for example "concert for Afghanistan"), to conferences or open embassies, and should get as much attention as possible in the media.

It would be a great honour and pleasure if you accepted to participate in this undertaking.

I would be very grateful if you could come back to me with possible dates and ideas for NATO Day in your country, either for this or for next year.

I thank you very much for your interest, and I am confident that together we can give NATO the support that it needs and deserves, and therewith our citizens the security that we owe them.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which reads "Dr. Karl A. Lamers". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. Karl A. Lamers MP  
President of the Atlantic Treaty Association