
NATO FOREIGN MINISTERS SIGN ACCESSION PROTOCOL WITH MONTENEGRO

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NATO HQ Press Release

Today, NATO Foreign Ministers signed the Accession Protocol for Montenegro, marking a historic step in Montenegros path to the Alliance. Speaking at a joint press conference with Montenegrin Prime Minister Djukanovic, Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg underlined that todays decision is a clear sign that NATOs door remains open for partners that share and promote our values.

The Secretary General noted that, as of today, Montenegro will participate in all NATO meetings as an observer. Once all Allies have ratified the Protocol, Montenegro will be invited to accede to the Washington Treaty and become the 29th member of the Alliance. Mr. Stoltenberg highlighted that Montenegro already contributes to NATO operations, promoting regional cooperation in the Balkans and implementing major reforms. Membership will give Montenegro the ability to help shape NATO policy. It will bring more stability and security to the region, and therefore promoting prosperity, said the Secretary General.

Mr. Stoltenberg added that the road to NATO membership is not easy, but Montenegro is showing that it is possible. I expect we will soon see twenty-nine Allied flags flying outside of NATO headquarters. NATO membership will bring Montenegro into our unique family of nations - the most successful alliance in history, said the Secretary General.

http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/news_131132.htm

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