



Director of
Central
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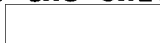
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BRIEFS AND COMMENTS

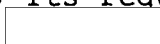
NATO: Reactions to Turkey

Belgian, Danish, and Norwegian opposition to current NATO activities in Turkey is not shared by the other allies and reflects domestic political concerns in these three countries rather than substantial change in policy. 

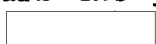
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In military terms, Belgian withdrawal from the NATO exercises in Turkey and Belgian, Danish, and Norwegian refusal to participate in an allied chiefs of staff visit to Turkey are low-cost actions. The NATO exercise will not be seriously impaired by the absence of 600 Belgian troops, and the chiefs of staff meeting has simply been postponed. 

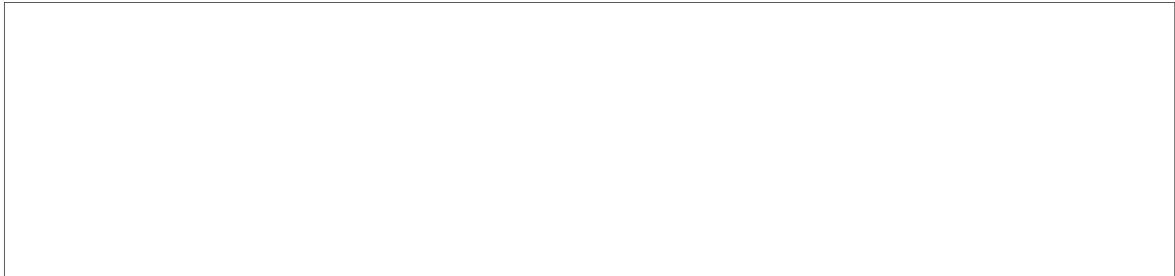
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The Belgian, Danish, and Norwegian Governments apparently hope that they will soon be able to resume more normal relations with Turkey. Norway and Belgium have indicated that they will not insist on another round of NATO meetings before the next set of exercises in Turkey later this fall, provided Turkey does not offend human rights sensitivities too much. Denmark may be convinced to withdraw its request for a NATO review of the next exercises. 


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While the Danish Government has publicly expressed dismay over the Turkish military takeover, a Danish official privately has expressed understanding of the circumstances that led the Turkish General Staff to intervene. He said that the Danish Government now would assume a low profile on Turkey. There has been little Danish public reaction that would curb the government's flexibility in dealing with Turkey. 

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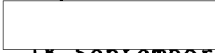


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Belgium and Denmark apparently do not oppose continuing EC economic relations with Turkey. The EC Foreign Ministers on Monday decided to maintain existing EC cooperation with Turkey. 

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