

ALLIANCE TREATY OBLIGATIONS AND PROVISIONS (ATOP)
CODING SHEET

Brett Ashley Leeds with Jeffrey M. Ritter, Sara McLaughlin Mitchell, and Andrew G. Long
Department of Political Science, Rice University, P.O. Box 1892-MS 24, Houston, TX 77251-1892
Version 8.0; August, 2000

SECTION I: FORMATION, MEMBERS, AND DURATION

1. ATOP ID: 4400

2. COW Alliance # (if applicable): N/A

3. Signature date(s) (may vary for members in multilateral alliances):
January 22, 1993.

4. Members of alliance (use COW country codes):
370 Belarus
365 Russia
373 Azerbaijan (acceded September 24, 1993)
371 Armenia
705 Kazakhstan
703 Kyrgyzstan
702 Tajikistan
704 Uzbekistan
372 Georgia (acceded December 9, 1993 – withdraws August 18, 2009)

5. Was the alliance signed during war? If so, which war, and which member(s) was at war? (check COW data)
No.

6. Means by which alliance was established (e.g., treaty, executive agreement, diplomatic notes, etc.): (Only select “treaty” if the agreement requires ratification.)
Treaty.

7. Was the treaty public, public but with secret articles, or secret? If secret articles, describe the content of secret articles.
Public.

8. Are there provisions for adding additional members mentioned in the treaty? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe these provisions.
The membership is open to any state sharing the purposes and principles of the Commonwealth and assuming the obligations under the Charter, should all members agree to it (Art.7). On the basis of the decisions taken by the Council of the Heads of States a state willing to participate in certain kinds of activities of the Commonwealth may join it as an associate member on the conditions determined by the agreement on the associate membership Art.8).

9. Are specific state(s) mentioned as possible future members of the alliance? (Yes, No) If Yes, which state(s)?
No.

10. Are there specific provisions in the treaty concerning the length of time the treaty is to last? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.
No.

11. Are there conditions under which members may renounce the treaty? If Yes, describe these conditions.
A member state shall have the right to terminate its membership in the Commonwealth. Such member state shall in writing inform the depositary of the present Charter about its intention 12 months before the termination of its membership (Art.9).

12. Are there specific provisions in the treaty concerning renewal of the treaty? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe these provisions.
No. But provisions for amendment: Amendments to the present Charter may be initiated by any member state. The proposed amendments shall be considered in accordance with the rules of the procedure of the Council of the Heads of States. The amendments shall be adopted by the council of the Heads of States (Art.42).

13. Number of times alliance renewed, dates of renewal, and means by which alliance was renewed (Do not include automatic renewals):
zero.

14. Termination date(s) (may vary for members in multilateral alliances) and source(s) for termination dates(s):

V4: Still in effect as of 5/14/2018 according to CIS website (<http://www.cis.minsk.by/>)

Georgia withdraws August 18, 2009 (<https://www.rt.com/news/georgias-departure-from-the-cis-what-happened/>)

15. Describe what caused the alliance to terminate.

Georgia withdraws as a result of the Russo-Georgian War

SECTION II: OBLIGATIONS

16. Type of alliance (defense pact, neutrality pact, nonaggression pact, consultation pact, offense pact): (List all that apply to any member of the alliance.)

Nonaggression Pact.

Consultation Pact

Defense Pact.

17. Type of alliance as coded in COW data (if applicable): N/A

18. Describe the obligations of the alliance partners.

The parties shall refrain from the use of force or the threat of force against the political independence of a member state (Art.3). Should the threat to sovereignty, security and territorial integrity of one or several member states or to international peace and security arise, the member states shall immediately employ the mechanism of mutual consultations to coordinate their positions and to undertake measures to eliminate this threat, including the peace-making actions and the use, in case of necessity, of the Armed Forces as the realization of the right for individual and collective self-protection. The decision of the joint use of Armed Forces shall be taken by the Council of Heads of States or by the interested member states taking into consideration their national legislations (Art.12)

19. Are any of the obligations contingent upon any of the following: specific adversary, specific location, specific ongoing conflict, number of adversaries, noncompliance with a specific demand, attack, nonprovocation of enemy, or prior agreement among partners? (List all that apply)

No.

20. Describe the nature of the limits to obligations listed in #19.

21. Are there any additional provisions for assistance in the event of war? (e.g., promise not to participate in economic sanctions against partner, promise not to aid internal or external enemies, etc.) (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

No.

22. Are there any additional limits to the alliance obligations or conditions under which treaty obligations do not apply that were not listed in #19? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

No.

23. Is a specific target/threat mentioned as the object of the treaty? (Yes, No) (Answering Yes to this question does not necessarily mean that obligations are limited only to this adversary.) If Yes, list the target nation(s) (using COW country codes if possible) and describe the general nature of the reference to the target of the treaty.

No.

24. Are the treaty obligations symmetric? (That is, do all members commit to the same obligations?) (Yes, No) If No, describe.

Yes.

25. Does the treaty prohibit members from settling conflicts independently (no separate peace)? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

No.

26. Does the treaty have provisions requiring that the contracting parties consult before making commitments to third parties (excluding no separate peace provisions discussed above)? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe these provisions.

No.

27. Does the treaty specify that the contracting parties must not enter into any other alliances that are directed against the alliance in question? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

No.

28. Additional coder comments regarding treaty obligations:

SECTION III: INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF THE ALLIANCE

29. Does the treaty make reference to the potential for conflict among members of the alliance? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.
The parties build their relations on the principles of (...) settlement of disputes by peaceful means, which can cause no danger to international peace, security and justice (Art.3).
30. Does the treaty discuss mediation/arbitration or other means of settling disputes among the signatories? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.
The member states shall in good faith and in the spirit of cooperation do their utmost for fair and pacific settlement of their disputes by means of negotiations or for the achievement of the agreement on the proper alternative procedure of the settlement of the dispute. Should the member states fail to settle the dispute with the help of means described above, they may submit it to the Council of the Heads of States (Art.17). The Council of the Heads of States shall have powers at any stage of the dispute, which in case of its development may cause threat to peace or security in the Commonwealth, to recommend a proper procedure or methods of its settlement to the parties (Art.19).
31. Does the treaty require official contact among the military forces of the participating states? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe. (Note whether official contact is required only in the event of hostilities or also during peacetime.)
Contact occurs within the Council of Defense Ministers and well as the Allied Armed Forces Chief Command (see below).
32. Does the treaty include provisions for military aid? (e.g., grants, loans, transfer of technology, training) (Yes, No) If Yes, describe these provisions.
No.
33. Does the treaty provide for integrated command of military forces while the alliance is in effect (peacetime as well as wartime)? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.
The Allied Armed Forces Chief Command rules the Allied Armed Forces (Art.30).
34. Does the treaty require subordination of the forces of one or more member states to another in the event of hostilities? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.
No.
35. Does the treaty establish any organizations? (include provisions for regularly scheduled meetings) (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.
The Council of the Heads of States is the highest organ:: deals with top-level decisions, meets twice a year and may have extraordinary meetings as initiated by one member (Art.21), consensus decisions (Art.23), rotating presidents (Art.24).
Council of the Heads of Government: coordinates cooperation in economic, social and other spheres, meets four times a year or in extraordinary meetings, consensus decisions (Art.23), rotating presidents (Art.24).
Both can institute working or subsidiary organs on a temporary or permanent basis (Art.25).
Council of Foreign Ministers: coordinates foreign policy of member states, including in international organizations and organizes consultations on issues of world policy (Art.27).
Coordination and Consultative Committee: permanent executive and coordinating body, two representatives from each member, with own Secretariat (Art.28, 29).
Council of Defense Ministers: Allied Armed Forces Chief Command rules the Allied Armed Forces as well as groups of military observers and the collective peace-keeping forces of the Commonwealth (Art.30).
Council of the Frontier Troops Chief Commanders: guard external frontiers and ensure stable situation.
Economic Court: ensure observation of economic obligations, settle disputes on economic issues (Art.32).
Commission on Human Rights: supervises the observation of human rights commitments (Art.33).
Branch Cooperation Organs: may be set up on basis of agreements to elaborate the coordinated principles and regulations of economic, social and other cooperation and facilitates its practical implementation (Art.34).
Interparliamentary Assembly: conduct interparliamentary consultations (Art.36).
36. Does the treaty provide for joint military bases, or for one or more states to place troops in the territory of one or more other states? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.
No.
37. Does the treaty specify contribution levels (funds, troops, etc.)? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.
No.
38. Does the treaty contain any provisions regarding coordinated increase of armaments, reduction of armaments, prohibition of weapons, or rules of warfare? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe such provisions.
No.
39. Does the treaty explicitly permit or prohibit the acquisition of territory not currently held by either ally? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe reference.

The parties build their relations on the principles of (...) territorial integrity of states and refrain from any acts aimed at the separation of foreign territory (Art.3).

40. Does the treaty include discussion of the division of gains from any future conflict? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.
No.

41. Does the treaty include discussion of demobilization/withdrawal following conflict? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.
No.

42. Are there any other provisions in the treaty that describe the means through which the states will coordinate their military efforts and policies? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.
No.

43. Additional coder comments regarding references to alliance institutionalization:

SECTION IV: TREATY CONTEXT

44. Does the treaty state that it nullifies any existing treaties signed by one or more of the contracting parties? (Yes, No) If Yes, list the treaties/agreements that are nullified and describe the treaty reference.
No.

45. Does the treaty state that it modifies any existing treaties signed by one or more of the contracting parties? (Yes, No) If Yes, list the treaties/agreements that are modified and describe the treaty reference.
No.

46. Does the treaty state that it includes any existing treaties signed by one or more of the contracting parties? (Yes, No) If Yes, list the treaties/agreements that are included and describe the treaty reference.
No.

47. Does the treaty make any references to international organizations? (Yes, No) If Yes, list the international organization and describe the nature of the reference.
Preamble: reaffirm principles of UN Charter, CSCE documents (also Art.1, 2). If a member is threatened the Commonwealth states may use their armed forces for individual and collective self-protection according to Article 51 of the UN Charter (Art.12).

48. Does the treaty make any references to other existing alliances? (Yes, No) If Yes, list the alliance and describe the nature of the reference.
Yes. CSCE see no.47.

49. Are there any companion agreements referenced in the treaty? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe the agreements.
No.

50. Does the treaty include statements regarding non-military cooperation (e.g., economic, cultural, scientific exchange)? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.
The states cooperate with respect to the ensurance of human rights and fundemantal freedoms, the development of a common economic space, a coordinated social policy, trade and fiscal policy, development of transport and communication systems, health care and the protection of the environment, social and migration policy, organized criminality, defense policy and protection of external frontiers.

51. Does the treaty resolve other conflicts among the parties to the alliance? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.
No.

52. Does the treaty propose/enforce settlement of a conflict not involving parties to the alliance? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.
No.

53. Does the treaty propose other agreements among the contracting parties? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.
The multilateral and bilateral agreements in various spheres of relations among member states shall be a fundamental legal base for the interstate relations. The agreements concluded within the framework of the Commonwealth shall correspond to the purposes and principles of the Commonwealth and its Charter (Art.5). Concrete problems of military and political cooperation among member shall be governed by specific agreements (Art.15).

54. Does the treaty mention unresolved conflicts among the contracting parties? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.
No.

55. Does the treaty include provisions for economic aid or other enticements (include trade concessions, post war recovery, etc.)? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe these provisions.
No.

56. Does the treaty describe circumstances under which one party may intervene in the internal politics of another party or specifically commit the states to non-intervention? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

The member states build their relations on the principles of (...) the respect for the sovereignty of member states, for imprescriptable right of peoples for self-determination and for the right to dispose their destiny without the interference from outside; non-interference into domestic and foreign affairs of each other (Art.3).

SECTION V: DOCUMENTATION

57. Additional coder comments on this alliance treaty:

Provisions concerning how to deal with violation: Violation of the present Charter by a member state, the systematic non-fulfillment of its obligations under agreements, concluded within the framework of the Commonwealth, or of decisions of the Commonwealth Organs, shall be considered by the Council of the Heads of States. Measures, acknowledged by international law, may then be undertaken against such a state (Art.10).

Turkmenistan and Ukraine never ratified the charter, so they are not included as members. Since Moldova declines to participate in any political aspects, Moldova is not coded as a member.

58. Source of coding information (e.g., treaty, treaty and secondary sources, secondary sources only, etc.):
Treaty.

59. Treaty citation: UNTS no.31139

60. Date of last revision of this coding sheet: June 1, 2018

61. Coder: Michaela Mattes and Ashley Leeds

V4: Q4, 14, 15 – Updated 5/14/2018 by Nicholas Coulombe & Q5 revised by Jessica Edry on June 1, 2018