

The Alliance has identified five underlying guidelines which motivate its approach to "Open Skies". These are:

- the commitment of the parties to greater transparency through aerial overflights of their entire national territory, in principle without limitations other than those imposed by flight safety or rules of international law;
- the possibility for the participants to carry out such observation flights on a national basis or jointly with their allies;
- the commitment of all parties to conduct and to receive such observation flights on the basis of national quotas;
- the establishment of agreed procedures designed to ensure both transparency and flight safety; and
- the possibility for the parties to employ the results of such overflights to improve openness and transparency of military activities as well as to ensure compliance with current or future arms control measures.