

However, there is another reason. If the EU is going to share the burden of European crisis management with NATO, then the two organizations must be capable of deciding which is to intervene in a given situation. This is a very complex question, but there are two simple principles which Canada feels should guide any such decision.

The first is that NATO, as the premier military security organization in the Euro-Atlantic area, should normally be the organization of choice for its members in dealing with a crisis situation on the continent. The EU would have the option of engaging in crisis management, with the aid of NATO assets and capabilities, in those situations where NATO is not involved.