

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 278

Expressing the sense of the Senate regarding Turkey’s purchase of the S–400 air and missile defense system from the Russian Federation and its membership in NATO, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 18, 2019

Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself and Mr. YOUNG) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate regarding Turkey’s purchase of the S–400 air and missile defense system from the Russian Federation and its membership in NATO, and for other purposes.

Whereas the United States and the Republic of Turkey have been North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) allies since 1952;

Whereas NATO exists for democratic nation states to band together to “safeguard the freedom, common heritage and civilization of their peoples, founded on the principles of democracy, individual liberty, and the rule of law”;

Whereas NATO Member States “seek to promote stability and well-being in the North Atlantic area”;

Whereas the primary threat posed by the Soviet Union that precipitated the formation of NATO continues today, and recent actions by the Government of the Russian Federation have reaffirmed the importance of this alliance to the security of the Member States;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation has threatened the peace and security of the North Atlantic area, invading and occupying the territory of its non-NATO neighbors and menacing NATO Member States since 2008;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation has interfered and attempted to wreak havoc in the election processes of NATO Member States and continues to do so;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation has maintained and strengthened its ties with the repressive and corrupt regime of Nicolás Maduro in Venezuela in an effort to prop him up in his illegitimate hold over the state;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation is strengthening its ties with the Government of Cuba, including a recent port call in Havana with its most powerful warship;

Whereas the government of President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan has taken the Republic of Turkey down a path of authoritarianism and human rights abuses, aligns itself with radical Islamic terror groups, and agitates against regional allies of the United States, such as Israel;

Whereas the Government of the Republic of Turkey has cooperated with the Governments of the Russian Federation and Iran against the strategic interests of the NATO

Member States, continues to occupy northern Cyprus,
and continues to unjustly detain United States citizens;

Whereas the Government of the Republic of Turkey has sup-
ported the Maduro regime with illegal financial trans-
actions;

Whereas the Government of the Republic of Turkey has ac-
quired the S-400 air and missile defense system from the
Russian Federation, which constitutes a direct and dire
threat to the security interests of the United States and
NATO; and

Whereas the foregoing demonstrates that the Republic of
Turkey is consistently contradicting the standards and
purposes of the NATO treaty: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) declares that the Republic of Turkey’s re-
3 ceipt of the Russian S-400 air and missile defense
4 system is a significant transaction within the mean-
5 ing of section 231 of the Countering America’s Ad-
6 versaries Through Sanctions Act (CAATSA) of 2017
7 (22 U.S.C. 9525);

8 (2) calls for full implementation of sanctions
9 under CAATSA;

10 (3) calls upon the President to consult with
11 NATO Member States, pursuant to Article 4 of the
12 North Atlantic Treaty, signed at Washington April
13 4, 1949, based upon threats to the political inde-
14 pendence and security of the Parties by the Russian
15 actions described in the preamble; and

1 (4) calls upon the President, during such con-
2 sultation with NATO Member States, to review the
3 Treaty with regard to the factors “affecting peace
4 and security in the North Atlantic area” described
5 in the preamble, and to consider the continued inclu-
6 sion of the Republic of Turkey in NATO.

○