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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Canadian delegation attends NATO Parliamentary Assembly Joint Committee Meetings in **Brussels**

The Canadian NATO Parliamentary delegation attended the 2025 Joint Committee Meetings of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly's Defence and Security, Economics and Security, and Political Committees in Brussels, Belgium from February 16-19, 2025. The Joint Committee Meetings provided a forum for NATO Parliamentarians to receive updates and to discuss key defence and security issues facing the Alliance.

The Canadian NATO Parliamentary delegation delivered four key messages to the Assembly:

- 1. Canada is and always will be a sovereign and independent nation.
- 2. Canada rejects any foreign interference in elections by hostile or allied powers.
- 3. Canada stands with Ukraine and insists that any peace plans include the full participation of Ukraine and Europe – and we reaffirmed our support for the territorial integrity of Ukraine.
- 4. Now is not to be silent on any attempts to undermine the international rules-based order.

The Canadian delegates in attendance were Chair of the Canadian NATO Parliamentary Association, Member of Parliament Julie Dzerowicz; Members of Parliament Annie Koutrakis, Sukh Dhaliwal, Stéphane Bergeron, and Charlie Angus; and Senators Claude Carignan, Donna Dasko, Margo Greenwood, Krista Ross, and Judy White.

In addition to Joint Committee Meetings programming, NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte also addressed the delegates. He emphasized the importance, for NATO members, of raising defence spending, increasing defence production, and continuing to support Ukraine in order to "ensure that Ukraine is in a position of strength to secure a lasting peace."

The Joint Committee meetings occurred in a context of heightened attention to the importance of the transatlantic bond. Marcos Perestrello, President of the NATO PA, highlighted that the

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Washington Treaty – NATO's founding document – "has kept our people safe for 75 years. It has kept Europe safe. And it has kept North America safe too." Mr. Perestrello added that "Europe and North America have overcome their differences in the past. We can do so again today."

While in Brussels, the Canadian delegation met with Heidi Hulan, Canada's Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the North Atlantic Council. The meeting allowed the Canadian delegation to gain a better understanding of Canada's priorities for NATO.

For all media inquiries, please contact any of the members of the Canadian NATO Parliamentary delegation who attended the Joint Committee Meetings, listed above.

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For more information or any questions, please contact:

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