



## COAJE IN "A NEW WORLD"

Communication Department

The situation on the border between Ukraine and Russia does not cool down. More than 100,000 soldiers have been sent from Moscow, meanwhile the alarms in Kiev are still on. Meanwhile, Moldova and Georgia are looking at the situation out of the corner of their eyes because of what might happen, since Abkhazia and South Ossetia (in Georgia) and Transnistria (in Moldova) have a Russian presence in territories that are not seriously recognized on the political scene but, thanks to Russian military support, they have proclaimed themselves independent. An idea that roams the provinces of the Ukrainian Donbass.

The Atlantic Alliance, in its mission to protect the security of its allies, has supported Ukraine without distinction. NATO affirms that it does not close the door to any sovereign state and refuses to eliminate the defenses of member countries or expel states that were in times of the Cold War under the mandate of the USSR.

In these times of meetings at the highest level, where appointments between Washington, NATO, the EU, Moscow, OSCE and Kiev take place day after day, our chairwoman Patricia Moreno has sat at the microphones of A New World, a program directed by Iago Soler and produced at Inforadio, the radio

station of the Complutense University of Madrid. In the 42 minutes that the episode lasts, the first of the program, the positions of NATO on the Russian threat that hangs over Ukraine are narrated.

Moreno explained that Ukraine, geographically speaking, is halfway between Russia and Europe, therefore "it is a point of friction that dates back to the last century." Regarding the plans for the Ukrainian state to join NATO, the chairwoman of COAJE stated that: "Russia would be bothered by any type of movement carried out by NATO in the former Soviet republics, therefore, it is an important source of conflict. As we already saw with the annexation of Crimea a few years ago we see that blisters rise with any movement".

Regarding the members of the Alliance that have more ambiguous positions with Russia, Moreno recalls that many of their relations are related to energy issues. "It is an issue of relative importance, 40% of Russian gas reaches us, it is evident. NATO is made up of 30 countries and the opinion is one of all, despite the fact that the United States has the leading voice because of her contribution and being one of the creators of the organization", she said.

Consensus is something that is latent in these decisions. "There are members who opt for economic sanctions and others think that it is better to deploy more military force," says Moreno. Iago Soler told her that the vision of Turkey or Italy on the Russian issue could be different from that of Latvia or Poland.

The war drums sound, while the separatist regions of Donetsk and Luhansk continue to support the pro-Russian battalions encouraged by Moscow. "I personally believe that we are returning to a world that is reconfiguring itself after World War II. Countries like Russia and China are emerging, so they want to exert force. We are seeing a show of force being displayed through armies and troop movements. The United States recently stated that they will do more things than in 2014 (when Russia annexed Crimea)", Moreno stressed.

The chairwoman of COAJE recalled that Spain will host the Madrid 2022 Summit, where our country will put the value it can bring to NATO, setting aside criticism of lack of contribution to the organization. "Spain has very good armed forces and hosts many NATO projects", she said.