

U.S. COMMITTEE TO EXPAND NATO

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NATO ENLARGEMENT The Road From Madrid

July 1997

Invitations extended:

At Madrid Summit, heads of Government of NATO nations invite at least three Central European nations (Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic) to join NATO.

July 1997 - December 1997

Agreements negotiated:

NATO officials will negotiate with each of the nations invited the terms of their admission to NATO in so-called accession negotiations.

December 1997

NATO Ministerial:

NATO Ministers are expected to sign an amendment to the NATO Treaty

1998

Legislatures ratify:

The amendment to the NATO Treaty adding new member nations is sent to the legislatures of existing NATO members for ratification. (Other NATO members are expected to postpone meaningful action until the U.S. Senate takes action. U.S. Senate action is hoped for by mid- 1998.)

April 1999

NATO 50th Anniversary
New nations admitted for membership