

Nordic Nations Navigate Shifting Alliances: NATO, EU, and Arctic Security Focus

Nordic Politics · Answer Key · 10 Questions

1. Following Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Finland and Sweden formally applied for NATO membership. In what order did these countries become full members of the alliance?

A) Finland in April 2023, Sweden in March 2024

- B) Sweden in April 2023, Finland in March 2024
- C) Both in April 2023
- D) Both in March 2024

2. In 2024, the Nordic Council adopted recommendations to update the Helsinki Treaty. Which key policy areas were prioritized for inclusion in this update?

A) Defense and security policy, and climate policy

- B) Economic cooperation and trade agreements
- C) Cultural exchange and educational programs
- D) Environmental protection and sustainable tourism

3. Iceland's presidency program for the Nordic Council in 2024 placed a significant emphasis on a specific geopolitical region. What was this region?

A) The Arctic

- B) The Baltic Sea
- C) North Atlantic Fisheries
- D) Greenlandic Waters

4. What major international agreement did the Nordic countries commit to, aiming to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% by 2030 compared to 1990 levels, as part of the EU's 'Fit for 55' package?

- A) The Paris Agreement
- B) The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

C) The EU Climate Law

- D) The Nordic Vision 2030

5. Which of the following arrangements signifies enhanced cross-border cooperation among Nordic and Baltic countries concerning energy infrastructure and security, especially in light of recent geopolitical events?

A) The Vilnius Declaration for offshore energy infrastructure

- B) The Nordic Passport Union
- C) The Nordic Council of Ministers' energy programme 2022-2024
- D) The Nordic-Baltic Eight (NB8) foreign ministers' meetings

6. Iceland has a unique relationship with the European Union. Following the November 2024 parliamentary elections, what specific commitment did the new coalition government make regarding EU accession talks?

- A) To hold a national referendum on opening EU accession talks by 2027**
- B) To formally withdraw its long-dormant EU membership application
- C) To immediately begin negotiations for full EU membership
- D) To focus solely on strengthening ties within the European Economic Area

7. In response to changing security landscapes, particularly due to Russia's invasion of Ukraine, how has Nordic defense cooperation (NORDEF) evolved, especially concerning the accession of Finland and Sweden to NATO?

- A) It has been significantly strengthened, with a new Vision 2030 emphasizing areas like strategic dialogue, multinational operations, and enhanced capabilities within the NATO framework.**
- B) It has been largely superseded by individual bilateral agreements with NATO members, reducing the need for NORDEF.
- C) It has focused exclusively on cyber warfare capabilities and de-escalation with Russia.
- D) It has seen a reduction in joint exercises due to the increased focus on national defense readiness.

8. Which specific maritime boundary dispute, settled by the International Court of Justice in 1993, involved claims between Denmark (via Greenland) and Norway concerning fishing zones and continental shelf areas?

- A) The area between Greenland and Jan Mayen**
- B) The waters north of Svalbard
- C) The straits between Iceland and the Faroe Islands
- D) The Barents Sea continental shelf

9. As part of efforts to achieve climate neutrality, four Nordic countries (Norway, Denmark, Finland, and Sweden) have agreed to collaborate on a specific climate mitigation technology. What is this technology?

- A) Cross-border transportation and storage of CO2**
- B) Development of large-scale wave energy converters
- C) Deployment of advanced geothermal energy systems in urban areas
- D) Establishment of a Nordic-wide carbon tax on industrial emissions

10. The Nordic-Baltic Eight (NB8) format is a key regional cooperation mechanism. In 2024, which country coordinated the NB8 foreign and security cooperation, focusing on strengthening regional security dialogue and support for Ukraine?

- A) Sweden**
- B) Denmark
- C) Estonia
- D) Finland