

The Hague, 19 September, 2016

Motivation Letter for the consideration of the position of President

Dear Sir/Madam,

I refer to the letter that was attached to my application for the position of Secretary General, dated 1 September 2016.

I am sending you this new letter to express my interest in the possibility to be considered for the position of President of the Executive Board of the Youth Atlantic Treaty Association. This change stems from a conversation with the Chief Returning Officer Ms. Marianne Copier on 12 September 2016 and a conversation with the current President Mr. Francisco Costa on 17 September 2016.

While my intrinsic motivation has not changed from what I described in the September 1 letter, and repeat again below, developments in the board recruitment process have caused me to re-apply for the position of President. I am honoured to have been asked to make this change and will rise to the challenge to live up to the trust that has been placed in me.

As can be derived from my CV my background and hopefully my future, is building towards military and diplomacy, either academically or via the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or the Ministry of Defence. The latter which I hope to serve in fulltime again upon completing my specialization at Radboud University. My interest in YATA's Executive Board, is then also derived from the same background and future expectations.

In April 2014 I started a path of academic development at Radboud University, following service in the Royal Dutch Navy from August 2012. During these past years I have had the opportunity to visit many of NATO's member states and Partnership for Peace partners in one way or another. Military work with the naval BALTOPS operations in countries bordering the Baltic Sea; election monitoring in Lithuania; formal visits to the Balkan and Caucasus regions as well as to the United Kingdom, France and United States; YATA activities in Kosovo and most recently the visit to Spain last week for the Youth Mediterranean Dialogue.

With each visit it became clear to me that NATO, as any military organization, is suffering from political support in a time of peace, and now that peace is no longer a guarantee, it finds itself troubled in its ability to respond due to the erosion of military capacity and political will. I like to think YATA can influence both, and at least change the latter by educating our generation for the need to keep vigilant to protect our shared freedoms and values.

As such I pledge to dedicate time and energy to the promotion and strengthening of our organization for both the benefit of YATA and consequently ATA/NATO.

Based on my visits and from meetings at the YATA Netherland's national chapter I got the idea that there is a large desire for (learning more about) protocol and procedure. Based on a report drafted by Mr. Costa (to whom I am obliged for his hard work) and talks with various members in our network I seek to follow up on challenges related to exposure, recruitment, bilateral cooperation and fundraising, as well as the need for standardization and protocol as described in my earlier letter. I will expand upon these in my plan of approach.

Through military discipline and experience in various functions for both the military and civilian offices I feel I am also adequately equipped with the tasks of the President as described in the Call for Applications.

I hope that with the above and the year plan I have been able to adequately give insight in what my intentions are and what motivates me.

Sincerely yours,

Cpl. G.L.J. Jacobs (John), bc.