

NO SIGNIFICANT OUTCOME FROM THE NATO-RUSSIA COUNCIL DEAF'S DIALOGUE IN BRUSSELS

OVER THE UKRAINE-RUSSIA TENSIONS

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USPA NEWS - The NATO-Russia Council, which brings together all 30 NATO Allies and Russia, met in Brussels on Wednesday (12 January 2022) to discuss the situation in and around Ukraine, and the implications for European security.

NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg, who chaired the NATO-Russia Council meeting, said at the end of the long meeting which lasted several hours: "The conversation was very frank, direct, deep, intense, but at the same time it revealed a large number of differences on fundamental questions", confirmed the Russian vice-minister during a press briefing. He added, "It was not an easy discussion, but that is precisely why it was so important to have it. He indicated that the countries of the Atlantic Alliance were ready to meet again with Russia in order to explore various issues and submit concrete proposals. "There are opportunities for constructive dialogue, which should not be missed, because security is at stake in Europe," he added. It is therefore to be noted that NATO did not obtain from Russia a guarantee of another conflict in Ukraine.

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It is therefore to be noted that NATO did not obtain from Russia a guarantee of another conflict in Ukraine. The NATO secretary general estimated that the differences would be difficult to overcome, and regretted that Moscow did not engage at this stage on the dialogue proposals.

Indeed, "The discussion was not easy. The exchanges were direct on the situation in Ukraine and major differences were noted on the security in Europe", explained Jens Stoltenberg, after a meeting. nearly four hours at NATO headquarters, with Alexander Grouchko, Russian Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs. Mr Groucho for his part declared: "We have honestly, directly, without detour and without political correctness, said that a further deterioration of the situation could have very serious and unforeseeable consequences for European security" and that "I heard nothing new "even reproaching:" Some Russian demands are not even questionable "concluding" Moscow has made no commitment to ease tensions. This does not help a diplomatic solution", she affirmed. "We must prepare for any eventuality "... thus raising a doubt, at the end of this long meeting of several hours...

THERE MIGHT BE A « RISK OF ARMED CONFLICT » ? -----

About a possible "Risk of armed conflict" Secretary General Stoltenberg, hesitated with very cautious terms: "We have proposed to have a set of meetings to deal with a set of issues, but Russia has not been able to agree to this proposal, even if it has not rejected it", while maintaining the threat all the same: "The risk of a new armed conflict is real. The way out of the crisis lies with Russia. It must engage in de-escalation", especially because the build up at the border of Ukraine with Russia, of more than 100,000 soldiers, tanks and artillery in there who seem to be preparing for an attack against this neighboring country, according to the NATO, while Russia denies this an offensive intention towards Ukraine, reproaching the presence too threatening of NATO, in this zone which widens in the East, close to Russia. Source: Press Conf NATO' SG Stoltenberg

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