**Beat: Politics** 

# Spain is committed to multilateralism to protect the interests of NATO

### Meeting with Jens Stoltenberg

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**USPA NEWS** - The President of the Spanish Government, Pedro Sánchez, met this Wednesday with the Secretary General of NATO, Jens Stoltenberg, before whom Sánchez highlighted the commitment of the Government of Spain to multilateralism "as the best way to protect the interests and values they share all members of NATO."

S¡nchez stressed the importance for Spain of the "preservation of allied unity" and assured that "my government will continue working to make this unity a reality." The Government of Spain has a firm commitment to the Alliance, supporting for 30 years the maintenance of peace and security with the regular deployment of troops abroad.

In a joint press appearance, Sánchez and Stoltenberg agreed on the need to reach an agreement in the "complex scenario" of the Eastern Mediterranean. The President of the Spanish Government thanked the Secretary General of NATO for his work on this issue "by keeping communication channels open between the allies, proposing mechanisms to prevent an escalation and preserving the principles of unity and solidarity." "Both NATO and the EU can and should contribute to this process. Spain is determined to fulfill its commitment and to hold talks with all the actors so that the Mediterranean is a sea of peace, cooperation and integration," underlined Pedro Sánchez.

The Spanish Prime Minister insisted that "security risks are no longer a threat to individual countries," and assured that now they are a "collective threat to all of us", so we must "commit ourselves and find consensus" through strengthened and effective multilateralism.

S¡nchez reiterated to Stoltenberg the firm position of the Government of Spain with "cohesion and solidarity," and recalled that Spain "is a responsible partner" and a firm believer in multilateralism as the best way to protect the interests and values of all members of NATO. In fact, the Spanish presence in missions abroad constitutes "the best example of our commitment to the Alliance," SĀ¡nchez concluded.

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