

# Russian Military Involvement in Afghanistan: U.N. Recognises Russia-Led Bloc

By [Vladimir Radyuhin](#)

Global Research, March 20, 2010

[The Hindu](#) 19 March 2010

Region: [Russia and FSU](#)

Theme: [United Nations](#)

In-depth Report: [AFGHANISTAN](#)

A Russia-led defence bloc of ex-Soviet states signed a cooperation pact with the United Nations that is likely to pave the way for the alliance's greater involvement in Afghanistan.

U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-moon signed the document in Moscow on Thursday along with General Nikolai Bordyuzha, head of the Collective Security Treaty Organisation (CSTO). The CSTO includes Russia, Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

The agreement amounts to a recognition of the CSTO as a full-fledged international security organisation. Two years ago the U.N. signed a similar pact with NATO. The Atlantic Alliance has consistently refused to sign a cooperation agreement with CSTO, which is often described as a counterbalance to NATO in Central Asia.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said he hoped the agreement would lead to practical cooperation between the U.N. and CSTO in Afghanistan.

"We are interested in closer cooperation between the U.N. and CSTO on the burning problem of Afghanistan in view of the threats emanating from its territory," said Mr. Lavrov at the signing ceremony. "Drug trafficking from Afghanistan has emerged as a threat to peace and security, not only in the region, but throughout the world."

General Bordyuzha said CSTO could make available its rapid-reaction forces for U.N. peacekeeping operations outside the former Soviet Union.

The original source of this article is [The Hindu](#)

Copyright © [Vladimir Radyuhin](#), [The Hindu](#), 2010

---

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Vladimir Radyuhin](#)

not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: [publications@globalresearch.ca](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)

[www.globalresearch.ca](http://www.globalresearch.ca) contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: [publications@globalresearch.ca](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)