

## Syria War on Hold? Turkey and Syria "Collaborating" in the Downed Fighter Jet Search Operation

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Syria has been accused of downing a Turkish fighter jet in international waters, leading to a new round of threats from Washington and Brussels.

According to a NATO Spokesperson, 'envoys from NATO member states will meet on Tuesday after Turkey requested consultations over the downing of its military jet by Syria".

According to NATO sources, "Turkey has requested consultations under article 4 of NATO's founding Washington Treaty. Under article 4, any ally can request consultations whenever, in the opinion of any of them, their territorial integrity, political independence or security is threatened." The North Atlantic Council (NAC) is slated to meet on Tuesday.

While these reports tend to dramatize the situation, pointing to a possible NATO "humanitarian" intervention against Syria, what is not mentioned is that consultations have also been launched between Ankara and Damascus.

Beneath the media hype pertaining to possible action against Syria by Turkey and NATO, Turkey's network TV suggests a different picture.

According to a statement by Turkey's foreign minister, Syria and Turkey are collaborating in the search operations in the Eastern Mediterranean off the Syrian coastline.

On Sunday, Turkish TV confirmed that the Turkish and Syrian search teams had located the wreckage of the fighter jet at a depth of 1,300 meters, in Syrian territorial waters, thereby refuting the allegations that the plane had been shot down in international waters.

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