

### **3-way Agreement of Canada, USA and Turkey about Sweden, NATO**

January 31, 2024

January 31, 2024: **Toronto**, Canada: Canada has decided to end its arms embargo against Turkey, resuming weapons deliveries to the Erdogan administration.

The embargo was imposed in October 2019 following Turkey's military incursion into Kurdish-controlled areas of northeastern Syria and after the drones were used by Azerbaijan in its conflict with Armenian forces in Nagorno-Karabakh. The ban was extended indefinitely in April 2020.

Turkey has succeeded in selling its drones to many African countries, **Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Ukraine, Libya, Pakistan, Poland, Morocco** and others. The Turkish drones have been used in **civil wars in Syria and Iraq**, and in the **civil war in the Tigray region of Ethiopia**. Serbia and Kazakhstan are considering purchase of the drones.

Under the new agreement, Turkey must explicitly state whether drones or other equipment will be re-exported or transferred to a non-NATO country and in what manner. An exception is made for Ukraine.

"Canada will review each export on a case-by-case basis and states that they can revoke the permission at any time if there is any misuse," the Canadian government emphasized in a statement. However, the **Armenian National Committee in Canada** condemned the lifting of the weapons embargo.

January 31, 2024: **Washington D.C.**: In a parallel move, USA approved the sale of 40 new F-16 fighter jets to Turkey. US Democratic **Senator Ben Cardin** linked his approval of the F-16 sale to Turkey's endorsement of Sweden's NATO membership.

December 23, 2023: **Ankara, Turkey**: Turkish President Erdoğan indicated that Sweden's application for membership of NATO was interconnected with the F-16 deal and Canada's weapons embargo. He said that the Turkish Parliament would be able to affirm Sweden's NATO membership, if these hurdles can be removed.

[www.DiGiNews360.com](http://www.DiGiNews360.com) notes the unfortunate compromises, which are being made in what the leaders of USA and Canada may call 'pragmatism'. If Sweden's membership were delayed, [www.DiGiNews360.com](http://www.DiGiNews360.com) feels it may not have caused any irreparable loss.