

ROMANIAN DEFENCE 2017



MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENCE

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MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENCE

Publisher: Information and Public Relations Directorate

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Photos by: MoND photographer & PR officers

Printed at Military Technical Publishing Center

C2467; B0610



Romania – a trustworthy partner and responsible ally within NATO and EU

Romania proved to be both a security provider and beneficiary as a credible ally within NATO and EU, while the strengthening of our country's profile as a pillar of regional stability in the region, is our top-priority goal.

The continuous commitment of Romania and its allies for consolidating common security and defence is paramount for the Alliance's credibility and relevance. We are driven by the same democratic values and the Romanian servicemen have continuously demonstrated that they live up to the highest training and integrity standards in support of Romania's and NATO's interests.

As the security situation in the Black Sea Region has evolved and become more complex, the NATO allies' contributions to the implementation of the tailored forward presence (tFP) in the Southern segment of the Eastern flank with ground, air and maritime forces represents an eloquent proof of solidarity. The enhanced forward presence (eFP) in the Baltic States and Poland, in which the Romanian Armed Forces participate with a company-level unit, but also the NATO structures established on our national territory (MND-SE HQ, MN-BDE and NFIU), which conduct operations meant to strengthen the defence and deterrence posture in this region, stand for the proof that the Alliance remains united and powerful against all kinds of threats.

Against this background, reconfiguration and increase of the defence budgets are crucial elements. NATO's credibility will eventually depend on the allocation by the member states of the resources required to provide for the essential military capabilities needed in nowadays' complex security environment.

Romania is firmly committed to this respect; that is why, by the end of the year, our country will become one of the six NATO members which will have met its commitment, allocating 2% of the GDP for defence expenditures. This political pledge is to be continued on a ten-year period until 2026, the equipping program of our military being developed on such financial allocation.

The initiation of the procurement programs for the Services is part of the efforts made by Romania to meet the operational and defence requirements as well as its commitments undertaken within NATO.

In this respect, the Ministry of National Defence (MoND) has assumed an ambitious procurement program, for the 2017-2026 timeframe, consisting of eight major elements, some of which have already been initiated. Romania is very interested into developing the defense side of its strategic partnership signed with the USA, Germany, France, Spain, Italy and with other EU member states, and is currently considering developing relations with important foreign partners in the field of major procurement programs. It is our intention to maximize the participation of the Romanian defence companies to this process, in full compliance with the European norms of public acquisition and transparency. The active involvement of national defence industry into the Romanian Armed Forces' equipping program will stimulate the creation of new jobs, thus directly contributing to the fulfilment of our strategic security objectives.

The year 2017 is a very important one, not only from the perspective of equipping our forces, but also from proving our country's capacity of mobilizing and deploying its combat forces to the Black Sea region



alongside our partners and allies, with a high degree of interoperability and precision. And here, we must mention our servicemen participation with land, air and naval forces in over 100 multinational exercises and training activities, planned and conducted in cooperation with the allied states and partners. The most important exercise was by far Saber Guardian 2017, which was hosted by Romania, Bulgaria and Hungary, with the participation of over 25,000 troops from 22 NATO member states and partners, who jointly trained in more than 20 firing ranges, training centres and deployment areas.

The Romanian servicemen, whether they trained in joint domestic exercises or participate in missions abroad, bring a major contribution to the enhancement of our country's prestige.

Making the most of some of our most valuable asset – the human resources – is of great importance, and I can assure you that we concentrate our efforts in this direction. Together, we'll continue to act so that the Romanian Armed Forces remain a trustworthy partner and responsible ally within NATO and EU.

Mihai-Viorel FIFOR
Minister of National Defence

Romanian Armed Forces: experience, enhanced capability, modernization

Talking about Romania after 13 years since its NATO accession, we can state that the Romanian Armed Forces' transformation process has evolved in full compliance with the commitments undertaken within the Alliance. Thus, after having implemented the first two stages of this process, *the main downsizing stage* (2005-2007) and *the NATO and EU operational integration* (2008-2015), the Romanian military is going through the last phase of this complex process, which is to be finalized in 2025 and translates into a *full integration into NATO and EU*.

Considerable progress has been made in the field of the doctrines, training, operational command, human resources and infrastructure as well as in the international cooperation with the other national defence and security structures. Civilian control has been developed and consolidated, the place and role of the state powers with regard to the military institution were clearly established and the inter-institutional dialogue has greatly increased, leading to a necessary and expected focus on boosting military equipment acquisition, supported by the allocation of 2% of the GDP for defence expenditures, starting this very year.

From this reason and due to the experience gained in the international missions and operations or in exercises conducted on national territory with NATO allied or partner states, we can affirm that the Romanian Armed Forces can successfully accomplish their assigned missions, having the capability to act in order to deter a potential aggression against the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Romania. Also, the Romanian military is capable to plan and conduct defensive operations on the national territory to counter conventional, nonconventional and/or hybrid aggressive actions by using the national power instrument in an integrated manner until the intervention of NATO's main forces. At the same time, it is able to participate, according to its undertaken commitments, in NATO-led Art. 5 major collective defence operations or in great intensity operations conducted by EU, based on the mutual assistance clause.

Romania and its armed forces have fully understood the role they hold in the new regional security context, steadfastly supporting NATO's overall effort in consolidating the Euro-Atlantic space security, through a balanced approach of the threats coming up from the East and South of the Alliance and paying a special attention to the deterrence and defence posture of the Eastern Flank of the Alliance. Also, Romania contributes with a company-level structure in the multinational battalion-size battlegroup established in Poland, assigned a national brigade to serve as a framework

for the establishment of the multinational brigade in Romania and provided the necessary support to the establishment of NATO NFIU and HQ Multinational Division South-East also on its national territory, the process of rendering these structures operational taking place in accordance with the previously set out calendar.



And to all these achievements there should be added Romania's successful participation, alongside multinational structures built on its territory, in complex and wide-ranging multinational exercises. „Noble Jump 17” and „Saber Guardian 17”, the most important two international exercises which were conducted this year, marked the transition to an enhanced interoperability stage, at the same time, leading to the increase of the level of reciprocal knowledge and trust among allies and partners.

Another priority of the Romanian Armed Forces is the continuation of the human resource management process, concomitantly with a balanced redefinition of the rights and obligations of the military personnel, looking from the perspective of the risks and restraints they must undertake.

Following the practices used in most of NATO member states, the Romanian Armed Forces are focused on rethinking the role and place of the reserve force with respect to the increase of its combat readiness level. Starting this year, the *Law on the status of the volunteer reservists* was enacted, thus, creating the necessary legislative framework which allows citizens possessing the physical and psychical abilities required to perform military activities to become part of the volunteer reserve force, no matter if they are or not involved in other professional activities.

Consistently with our perseverance proved throughout the military reform and NATO integration process, we are determined to fulfill the undertaken commitments, both at national level and within international organizations, and confirm once again that Romania is a pillar of stability in the region and loyal to the values, principles and priorities of the Alliance.

General Nicolae-Ionel CIUCĂ
Chief of General Staff

Romania's Defence Policy in the Current Developments of the International Security Environment

We are facing nowadays a very versatile security environment marked by unprecedented challenges with negative impact on our regional stability and security. The current risks and threats have become even more complex and diverse, at a time of serious expansion of international terrorism and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. In order to effectively counter all these threats, we need a new approach to our defence policy. Therefore, it is imperative that, on the medium term, the Romanian Armed Forces become a modern force structure, able to properly respond to all threats, including the unpredictable ones, bringing an important contribution both to the credibility of the Alliance, as part of NATO's collective defence system, and to the regional and international security as well.

Romania's defence policy plays a fundamental role in the increase of our country's strategic power and in promoting our security interests and objectives, both by means of the armed forces' participation in military operations, and by using defence diplomacy, too. The complexity of the current security developments and the evolution of security crisis

affecting global stability require a comprehensive approach in the field of national security management.

Taking into consideration all these developments, the 2015 White Book on Defence defines five defence policy objectives: the development of robust defence capabilities; the increased strategic credibility at NATO and EU levels; the consolidation of strategic partnerships, especially with the USA; the development of international cooperation relationships at bilateral and regional level and within international organizations; the support to the public authorities in the management of emergency situations.

At the same time, the 2017-2020 Government Program identifies the following fundamental defence vectors: the participation in the collective defence of Allies in NATO and EU framework, the participation in missions and operations under the aegis of international organizations, the consolidation of national defence capacity and the consolidation of strategic partnerships, especially with the USA.

The new security and defence challenges posed to the European Union (the Ukrainian crisis, the migration

➤ European Defence Agency Meeting
(Source: www.eda.europa.eu)



crisis, and the increased terrorist phenomenon), Brexit and the US future approach in the field of security and defence have increased the debates on the further development of the Common Security and Defence Policy/CSDP.

At present, the EU is undertaking a CSDP consolidation process by means of implementing the conclusions of the External Affairs Council of November 2016 and of the European Council from December 2016. In this context, the contribution of each member state to the development of the EU security and defence dimension becomes essential.

Within the CSDP framework, Romania plays an active part as a contributor and has joined other states' efforts in promoting the EU external affair policy, inclusively by means of several concrete actions (civil and military missions and operations). At present, Romania participates in a wide spectrum of EU missions, with militaries deployed in different theatres of operations in the Western Balkans, Africa and in the Southern and Eastern Europe.

Romania is also participating in the European Defence Agency's initiatives, projects and programs, contributing to the European efforts in developing key military capabilities. The limited financial resources require a more efficient spending. This is why Romania participates in the *Pooling & Sharing Initiative* which promotes multinational cooperation with a view of reducing defence spending.

Romania's national efforts in consolidating its NATO member status aim at fulfilling its commitments with regard to the allied defence planning process, by supporting and participating in the initiatives meant to develop the allied forces and capabilities, participating in the full spectrum of allied operations and increasing the interoperability level in multinational framework.

The multifaceted challenges of the international security environment with specific threats posed to NATO's Eastern and Southern flanks have led to an increased NATO involvement in order to identify the best means for collective defence consolidation, as well as to the adaptation of the Allied deterrence and defence posture which generated two initiatives of utmost importance: the *enhanced Forward Presence / eFP* and the *tailored Forward Presence / tFP*.

The implementation of RAP measures, mainly those aimed at the consolidation of the security of Eastern flank Allies, represented a priority for Romania. From this perspective, Romania provided special attention to the political-military process of establishing the two NATO command and control structures on our national territory:

➤ European Defence Agency Meeting
(Source: www.eda.europa.eu)



the NATO Force Integration Unit/NFIU and Multinational South-East Division Headquarters/HQs MND-SE.

Last but not least, one should mention Romania's participation in the theatres of operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as its current contribution to the fight against terrorism and its efforts in building the Deveselu Base hosting the US Aegis Ashore system as part of NATO BMD system.

The Strategic Partnership cooperation platform has provided Romania with the opportunity to further develop the existing relations with the nations that share the same security interests. This cooperation format has been used in Romania's efforts in joining NATO and EU.

The development of bilateral cooperation, both with strategic partners, allies and European partners, as well as neighboring countries supports our national security interests. Thus, an adequate international defence cooperation framework remains essential in order to further develop Romania's bilateral and regional relations with its neighbors and the countries located within the extended Black Sea region, including the Southern Caucasus and Central Asia. In this regard, it is important to emphasize the constant and robust approach in consolidating the Romanian Armed Force's credibility as a predictable partner in fulfilling all its assumed commitments.

The development and implementation of a viable and credible defence policy represent a key component of a state's position on the international arena. The irreversible process of the complex transformation process undergone by Romania at all its institutional levels, including the security and defence one, proves its ability to modernize the military system and adapt it to an increasingly complex security environment.

In this respect, the political decision to allot 2% of the GDP to defence will allow the continuation of Romanian military modernization, as well as for the fulfillment of our national commitments to NATO and EU.

Walking on the Warsaw Path

The size of NATO Response Force was tripled to 40,000 troops, with Spearhead Force ready to move within days. The greatest reinforcement of the Alliance's collective defence since the end of the Cold War was implemented.

Many pages have been written on the significance of the Wales Summit in 2014, when the Alliance launched its Readiness Action Plan (RAP) and, thus, decided initiating NATO's adaptation to the abrupt security changes produced in the strategic context. The Wales Summit focused on the assurance and improvement of allied forces' readiness. It was just the beginning of a time of international turmoil which was to be later determined by an assertive Russia in the East and the terrorist threat in the South. Thus, as NATO allies and partners have assimilated the summit resolutions established in Wales, they had a two-year time span to work on the deliverables and implement them, both nationally and at NATO level.

Then, at the Warsaw Summit – a pivotal NATO Summit, the 27th one since the signing of the Washington Treaty in 1949, the RAP was declared fully implemented, including by tripling in size the NATO Response

Force with a brigade-sized high-readiness spearhead force at its core, with the ability to move within a matter of days. As a natural following step, other measures were also agreed so as to complement the progress so far accomplished. Thus, this high-level Allied reunion in July 2016 served as the framework for establishing the two main lines of action for NATO for the years to come: strengthening *deterrence and defence posture* on the one hand, and *projecting stability* beyond NATO's borders, on the other hand, thus ensuring NATO's adaptation to the current security challenges: from the East – Russia's aggression against Ukraine, and from the South – the terrorist threat, as well as the refugee and migrant crisis.

Taken as a whole, the measures adopted at Warsaw represent the largest reinforcement of NATO's collective defence and deterrence since the end of the Cold War. It is important, though, to understand that NATO's response should be seen as non-confrontational,

but as a defensive, proportionate one, seeking only to defend the allies.

Of particular interest for our country, strengthening the Allied *deterrence and defence posture* translates, among other measures, into enhancing NATO's presence on the Eastern flank, on both its segments (Northern and Southern). NATO's Eastern flank includes Romania, Bulgaria, Turkey and the states located in the Northern part of the flank, which include Poland and the Baltic states that continue to remain vulnerable to Russia's pressures.

As a credible and robust ally in this region, Romania has been constantly making efforts to include the Black Sea Region among the top strategic priorities of the NATO agenda and to keep it there, so as to grant it the strategic importance it deserves. Moreover, Romania has also initiated the Bucharest Format (the first such meeting was held last November) with the four Visegrád states (Poland, Hungary, Slovakia, Czech Republic) and Bulgaria to discuss common concerns at ministerial level, as well as trilateral consultations with Poland and Turkey.

Thus, following the Warsaw Summit, for the Northern part of the Eastern flank – the Baltic states and Poland, we can speak about the *enhanced Forward Presence / eFP*, while for the Southern part – the Black Sea Region, we have the *tailored Forward Presence / tFP*, which is based in fact on a Romanian initiative. Specifically, allied decisions have been taken in the direction of the deployment of one rotational battalion in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, and Poland, as well as the development of a *tFP* in Romania and Bulgaria.

➤ NATO Summit Warsaw 2016
(Source: www.nato.int)



As far as the *tFP* is concerned, it has been conceptually designed with three components: land, air and sea, augmented by a training feature. The land element will consist of a multinational framework brigade / MN BDE, under the Multinational Division Southeast / MND SE in our country, and will benefit from multinational training coordinated by the Combined Joint Enhanced Training Initiative (CJET). An elite infantry brigade in Romania, the 2nd “Rovine” Infantry Brigade from Craiova, has already been assigned to serve as framework for the future multinational brigade and steps are being taken so that it can become operational in compliance with the Allied calendar.

Following the Summit, a number of specific measures for the strengthened NATO maritime and air presence in the Black Sea region were approved by defence ministers at their meeting in October 2016. Eight allies have committed to man the brigade staff, while five allies have committed land and air forces for training and air policing missions.

Moreover, in February 2017, after complex negotiations, defence ministers agreed on two additional maritime measures: an increased NATO naval presence in the Black Sea for training, exercises and enhanced

situational awareness, and a maritime coordination function for NATO Standing Naval Forces when operating with other Allied forces in the Black Sea region.

Acknowledging, at the same time, the importance of the *eFP*, our country has expressed the commitment to contribute to its implementation and will participate within the US-led Battle Group established in Poland this spring.

With regard to *projecting stability*, allies decided in Warsaw to expand the efforts to project stability beyond NATO’s borders, both at East and South. Thus, NATO will continue offering its assistance to partners in the East, such as Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, helping them to strengthen resilience and boost self-defence capabilities. For Georgia, this was translated into a set of support measures which enhance the Substantial NATO-Georgia Package, while for Ukraine meant that an agreement was reached with respect to the Comprehensive Assistance Package. Romania has been an active promoter and supporter of the Allied efforts dedicated to these partners, being also a direct contributor.

On the Southern flank, NATO decided to intensify its defence capacity building with its regional partners such

as Iraq, Jordan, Tunisia, Morocco, and Mauritania, so as to address more effectively the root causes of instability. The allies also agreed to continue the Resolute Support training, advice, and assistance mission in a flexible regional format beyond 2016.

Keeping a 360 degree approach with regard the threats coming from the East and the South, our country is also a long-term contributor to Afghanistan’s stability, by participating in Resolute Support Mission, as well as in the US-led Global Coalition to Counter ISIL, through enhanced training of the Iraqi Security Forces.

Apart from the initiatives on the enhanced presence and projecting stability, the Warsaw Summit has also decided on steps to build resilience against non-traditional challenges such as hybrid tactics, cyber vulnerabilities, and terrorist threats.

Alongside these, a very important decision regarded the Joint Declaration between the European Union and NATO by which the two organizations have committed to closer cooperation in concrete areas, such as hybrid war and cyber threats, supporting partners in defence capacity building, and increasing maritime security, with the aim of better dealing with the security challenges faced by both organizations. In December 2016, NATO and the EU agreed on a concrete set of measures to implement the Joint Declaration and staff-level coordinated efforts of both organizations have already been initiated.

This year high-level NATO Summit in Brussels was one of the most significant Summits in the history of the organization. It wasn’t a Summit of decisions, but rather of status check, as an evaluation of the Warsaw Summit resolutions. It is important to note that it was hosted in the new NATO Headquarters and attended by the new US president, Donald Trump. As the latest defence ministerial meeting in mid-February showed us, special attention was paid to the need that all allies comply with the pledge on defence investment.



➤ NATO Summit Warsaw 2016
(Source: www.nato.int)

Romanian Contribution to Preventing and Countering Terrorism

The main elements of terrorism are acts of violence or threats, most of the times occurring without discrimination, benefiting from media exposure and aiming at obtaining a state of anxiety, insecurity, fear, panic or terror among the population, with the goal of achieving specific objectives, especially political ones.

Through effects of terrorist actions, the terrorist groups intimidate the population or certain parts of it and constrain public authorities or

by the Sunni jihadist terrorist groups. Encouraging factors for their actions are radicalization and mobilization for terrorism of vulnerable young people from the Western society, in short periods of time, up to several months.

In recent years, immigrants and refugees came to Europe from areas where jihadist terrorist groups are active. Therefore, the risk of terrorist attacks in the European Union remains high, with a rising trend. Actions are carried out by radicalized supporters or foreign

and threats, which helped maintaining its national territory outside the sphere of direct confrontation with the terrorist phenomenon.

Recent attacks of terrorist jihadist groups Daesh and Al Qaeda in Europe have represented a turning point in the perception of European public opinion on major geopolitical issues. It goes from the efficiency of the national and common security systems to terrorist threats, from granting asylum in the European area to the implementation



international organizations to make decisions in their favour. Most of the time their purpose is to seriously destabilize or destroy the political, economic, public and military structures of a state, in order to occupy and exploit a specific territory.

Main terrorist threats to international security are currently generated

terrorist fighters that had returned from Syria and Iraq to their European states. The actions have already resulted in attacks in Paris, Brussels, Nice and Berlin (claimed by DAESH / Islamic State in Iraq and Syria and Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula and Yemen).

Romania has a security policy focused on anticipating any kind of risks

of policies meant to fit in the migrants into Western society.

So far, Romania has been protected from terrorist attacks, one reason being the existence and activity of the National System for Prevention and Combating Terrorism (NSPCT), whose purpose consists in coordinating and organizing the efforts of public

institutions with responsibilities in preventing and fighting terrorism in Romania, spanning from security to rule of law and education.

The main pillar of NSPCT's legal activity is Law no. 535/2004 on preventing and combating terrorism. This legislation gives powers also to the Ministry of National Defence (MoND). MoND activity in NSPCT is based on the provisions of Law no. 346/2006 on the organization and operation of MoND, terrorism being one of the threats to national and military security.

Developments within the domestic and international security environment with regard to terrorism and the need to establish a valid relation between the operational components of prevention and antiterrorist intervention or counterterrorism have led to major developments at national level; this translates into the updating of the concepts and regulations required to put into practice the best deterrence activities.

In order to prevent and counter terrorist acts and their related actions, MoND carries out specific activities, individually or jointly, in accordance with its tasks and legal competences and also with the provisions of the General Protocol on the organization and functioning of NSPCT approved by the Homeland Defence Supreme Council.

In preventing terrorism, MoND carries out intelligence-operative activities through the Defence Intelligence General Directorate (DIGD) in accordance with its assigned objectives and activities.

Activities against acts of supplying terrorist entities with human resources, specific means of action, as well as funds, logistics or information, performed on the national territory or abroad, are carried out by the central structures of the MoND, under the coordination of DIGD.

Activities related to security, protection and anti-terrorist control which provide for the safety of MoND's staff and facilities that are potential



targets of terrorist entities fall under the responsibility of all Romanian Armed Forces structures.

Designed structures with specific capabilities within the MoND are tasked with preparing for intervention in civil emergencies generated by terrorist actions.

Romania is represented by the MoND in meetings/working groups at European, Euro-Atlantic and / or international level, for political-military cooperation in preventing and combating terrorism, at technical level.

In order to raise the security culture awareness among personnel with responsibilities in preventing and combating terrorism, MoND conducts periodical professional training.

The continuous improvement of the legislative framework related to categories of missions assigned to NSPCT, including in terms of criminal procedures, is accomplished by MoND through DIGD with support from the Directorate for Parliament Liaison and Legal Assistance.

In support of the work of the Directorate for Investigating Organized

Crime and Terrorism (DIOCT) on countering terrorism, MoND through the DIGD and in coordination with the Romanian Intelligence Service (RIS) contributes to charging the persons who initiate, organize, commit or favour terrorist acts.

In the event of imminent terrorist attack, the Special Detachment for Protection and Intervention (a DIGD structure) in cooperation with RIS's Antiterrorist Brigade conduct antiterrorist or counterterrorist interventions.

MoND's missions and forces mandate for combating terrorism abroad, in the theatres of operations, is given in accordance with Law no. 121/2011.

The law refers to the participation of the armed forces in missions and operations outside the national territory and stipulates that the participation has to be approved by the President of Romania at Prime Minister's proposal (after consulting the Homeland Defence Supreme Council), and ultimately by the Romanian Parliament.

Romanian military medical personnel, at Vigorous Warrior 2017

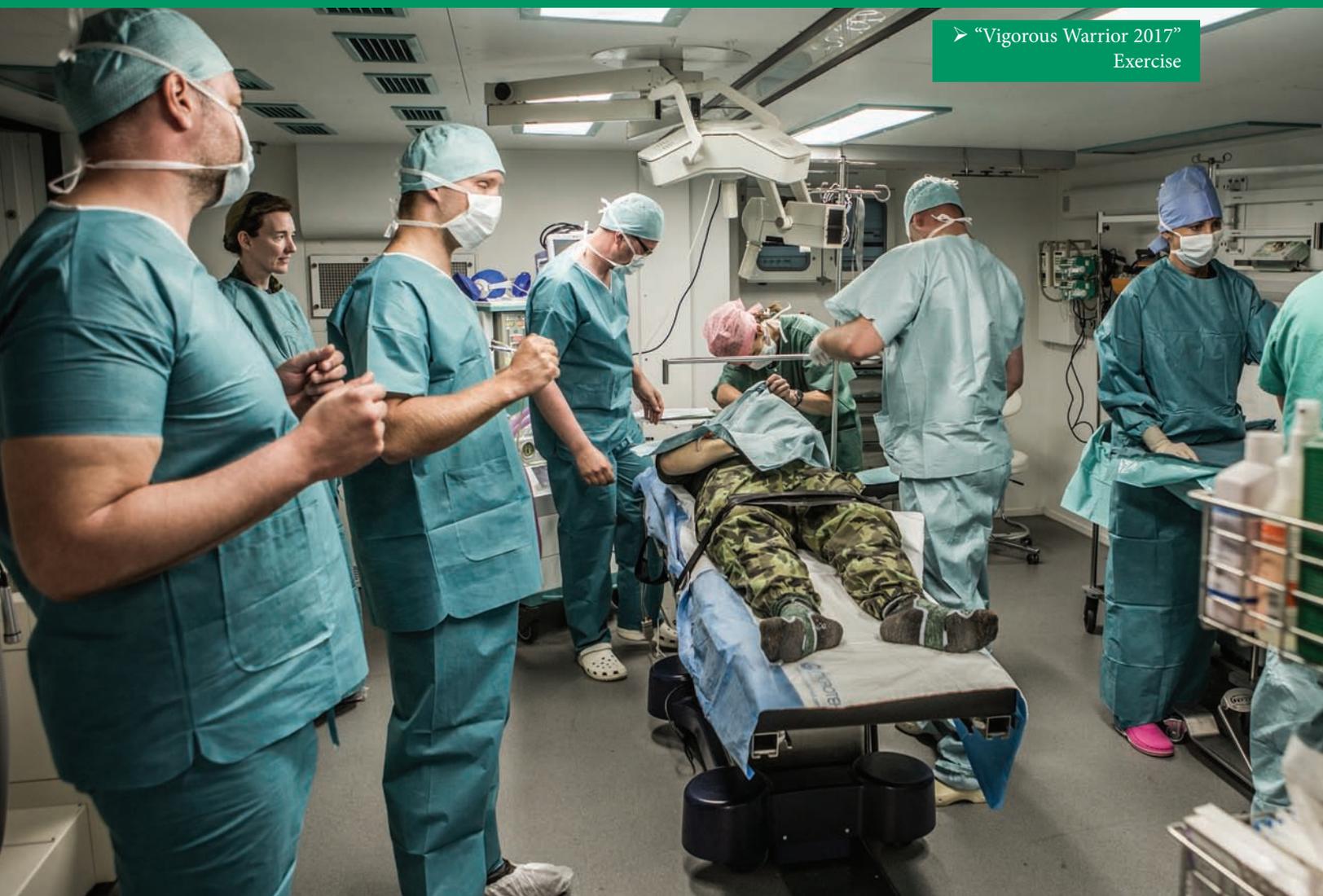
Medical Directorate participated through September 4th-22nd in the fourth edition of Vigorous Warrior 2017, conducted in Lehnin, Germany, and organized under the aegis of the NATO Center of Excellence for Military Medicine.

Twenty-one NATO member states and seven invited states contributed to the exercise with almost 900 personnel members who were integrated into multinational ROL 2 and ROL 1-type structures, within Redeployable Outbreak Investigation Teams (RDOIT), bio laboratories, mobile hospital infectious disease control units, mobile decontamination units, a ground MEDEVAC company, a MEDEVAC coordination cell, a command structure, an organizational structure, and teams of evaluators and observers.

The following training objectives were accomplished throughout the exercise: the training and modular approach certification for multinational support units according to

NATO standards, checking on interoperability; testing the tactical maneuver capacity, including redeployment of medical units within the tactical fields; testing and evaluating the ROL 2 Framework Nation Concept medical formations, the response capability to a great number of victims following an Article V – type military operation; the interaction among military, civilian, national, multinational and private medical entities with focus on civil-to-military cooperation; evaluation of the continuous medical assistance offered throughout the entire evacuation chain and the evaluation of the training and response capability in case of biological incidents.

The joint training and the evaluation of the interoperability and maneuver capacity within NATO medication support formations, as part of an Article V – type operation, including the response capability in case of a potential biological incident, were the main goals of this exercise.



➤ “Vigorous Warrior 2017”
Exercise

➤ Orthopedic equipment

Medical Achievements of Central Military Emergency Hospital

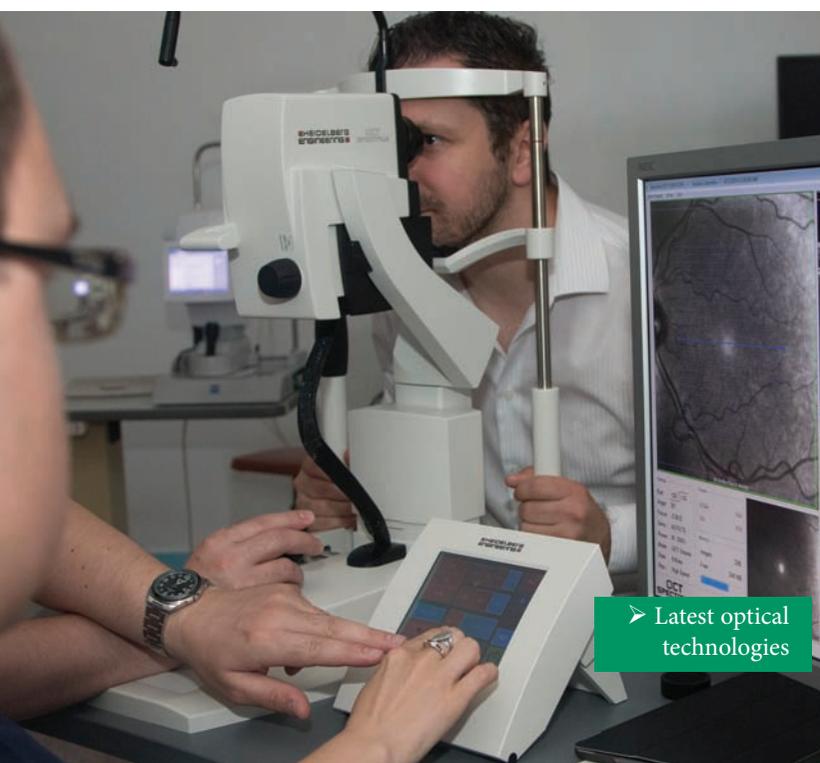
Dr. Carol Davila Emergency Central Military Hospital is the biggest military hospital in Romania and a symbol of the Romanian history. Its main mission is to provide specialty medical assistance at peace, war or during contingency situations to the military and civilian personnel and their families as well as to the soldiers injured and mutilated in the theaters of operations, to the military pensioners and war veterans.

The hospital leadership showed a constant concern for the development of the wide range of services offered at peacetime, taking all necessary steps in order to get all funds required for the provision of specialty treatments (as part of the national health programs). Thus, at this

moment, our patients benefit from the highest standards of high-quality and professional medical care provided in the following pathologies: AP TRAUMA (new 2015); AP ENDO (new 2015); breast reconstruction (new 2015); AP ATI; oncology; orthopedics; neurological diseases; rare acute diseases; chronic rare diseases; diabetes; transplantation of organs, tissues and cells and, the component of prevention, surveillance and control of tuberculosis.

Another constant preoccupation is the development of the operational medicine, by virtue of the participation of the Romanian Armed Forces' servicemen in the theaters of operations. In anticipation of the requests made by the soldiers injured in the theaters of operations, "Dr. Carol Davila" Emergency Central Military Hospital's leadership established and rendered operational *the Multidisciplinary Medical Assistance Center for the Servicemen Injured in the Theaters of Operations*, which comprises the *Compartment for Post-traumatic Recovery for the Servicemen Injured in the Theaters of Operations*. This is the proof of respect and commitment of the military medicine in providing rapid access to health services, as part of the process for social-professional reinsertion and increase of life quality.

Setting up the *Expertise and specific activities service* and of the *Service of primary health care* are other steps taken during the extensive institutional process, involving the development of operational medicine and correlation to the quality and safety standards of medical care applied in the European-Atlantic area, by optimizing the use of resources in health services, in terms of cost, increased efficiency, improvement of capabilities for early detection of pathologies related diagnosis, treatment and monitoring of chronic



➤ Latest optical technologies

diseases, by ensuring fast access to healthcare in health programs and, increased quality of life.

One of the hospital's projects is to develop the Stroke Center for neuro-vascular emergencies. For this purpose, we intend to purchase a complex neurosurgery system with navigation, specific microscope, surgery for skull base, etc. So we will be able to practice neurosurgery at another level. Stroke is now a serious issue, with high costs for society. If the patient is treated in the first hours of a stroke, his chances to survive and to recover are clearly higher. We will develop the acute neurological therapy and the neurosurgical therapy and we will also have angiography, CT and MRI, with modules especially procured for this purpose.

Recent years have brought, due to consistency, a number of firsts in the military medicine field, some of which are: general surgery – first minimally invasive surgeries – LESS type (laparoscopic endoscopic single site surgery)/ SILS (single incision laparoscopic surgery) performed in a state medical facility in Romania and laparoscopic hepatic segment resection of a tumor using a bipolar radiofrequency device; thoracic surgery – tumor resection of a large segment using a medical device that releases autologous fibrin solution; orthopedics – First International Course of Arthroscopy of the hip and bionic prosthesis in Romania – the result of interdisciplinary research projects; ICU – First multi-organ and tissue sampling from a patient in cerebral death and neurosurgery – cranio-plasty surgery by using bioengineering systems (3D design of a prosthetic head after imagistic measurements made through computerized tomography, carrying out the mold that was converted into a biocompatible medical device).

At “PRO INVENT 2016” International Salon of Inventica, the largest military medical unit in the country was awarded five distinctions. The golden medal was awarded for the „Short cervical-femoral endoprosthesis” invention, European Knight distinctions were given for special merits in innovations while other three distinctions were offered at “INNOVA 2016”, Brusells, for the “Semiconstrained Total Elbow Prosthesis Made of Shape-Memory Alloys” invention.



➤ “Pathology of the pancreas” Workshop



➤ Latest medical technologies



➤ Radiotherapy equipment



➤ Robotics



➤ Civilian Society Award

Noble Jump 17



NOJP17 was a short-term notification exercise, planned and led by the Naples Allied Joint Force with the participation of approximately 5000 service members from 10 Allied countries, through June 1st-16th. NOJP17 tested NATO's ability to deploy its Very High Readiness Joint Task Force (VJTF) and confirmed its ability to implement the NATO Readiness Action Plan (RAP) in Bulgaria and Romania.

NOJP 17 was planned to be conducted in two stages: the alert of the VJTF elements, generically called NOJP1 – ALERTEX/*Alertation Exercise* and the deployment stage, generically called NOJP 2–DEPLOYEX/*Deployment Exercise*.

The second stage, NOJP 2–DEPLOYEX, took place in Romania and Bulgaria in training sites offered through host nation support/HNS.

Most of the foreign troops arrived at “Getica” National Training Center in Cincu, Romania from Albania, Bulgaria, Germany, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Spain and the United Kingdom, the heavy equipment

coming by sea or rail from Greece to Bulgaria and then to Romania.

NOJP 2–DEPLOYEX consisted of theoretical preparation activities for the interaction of VJTF elements with the MND SE, NFIU and Romanian Armed Forces structures, through April 3-7, 2017. Also, there were also VJTF deployment activities from bases emplaced in Romania (during a previously scheduled period of time) and a *Live Exercise/LIVEX* with VJTF and national elements chosen from the country's defence package organized and conducted by MND-SE (during a planned period of time, after having deployed the forces to the training ranges).

The LIVEX consisted in firing activities in the training area and/or tactical drills but also in a Distinguished Visitors' Day (DVDAY) which created great opportunities for the mass-media to achieve the desired coverage.

At the end of the Live Exercise/LIVEX, the VJTF and national participant structures in the exercise redeployed back to their permanent bases, thus marking the completion of the NOJP 17.



“Noble Jump 2017 is an important NATO exercise that allowed us to demonstrate interoperability within the Alliance; I appreciate the Support of Greece, Bulgaria and Romania as host nations and their close cooperation so that NOJP17 demonstrated that our skills, knowledge and experience are at the highest level”, stated Admiral Michelle Janine Howard, Commander of Allied Joint Force Command Naples.

Saber Guardian 2017

Saber Guardian 2017 (SG17), the greatest exercise conducted in the region, has come to an end. It was an impressive force show in Romania, Bulgaria and Hungary, conducted according to a fictitious scenario, when over 25,000 service members from 22 allied and partner countries with over 3,000 vehicles, of which 90 combat and airlift aircraft, conducted military operations in order to free a part of the territory under the occupation of a hostile force.

SG17 showed the reaction and deterrence capacity of the allied and partner nations according to the collective defence scenario, by exercising force projection.

On the Romanian soil alone, about 70 train sets, over 400 vehicle convoys, about 50 sorties and a cargo ship brought together this impressive force that acted in over 20 firing ranges, training centers and deployment points.

During SG17, the servicemen carried out a wide range of operations in a multinational, combined and joint context: air assault, tactical marches, forcing river crossing, shooting, live maneuvers and fire with equipment from all services, medevac and treating the wounded.

Structures of the General Staff coordinated these personnel, equipment and ammunition maneuvers of the countries involved, of the live fire exercises and other sequences of the exercise.

The Joint Force Command coordinated the activities of all national, allied and partner structures involved in the exercise in our country, from the Forward Point of Command located at Mihail Kogălniceanu. The main task was to synchronize the national integrated exercises associated to exercise SG17 led by USAREUR, which required the permanent coordination with the Point of Command of the

Multinational Division in Novo Selo, Bulgaria.

The Communications and IT Command together with the Joint Logistics Command supported the military operations according to their expertise.

The Romanian Armed Forces were represented mainly by the Services, through their servicemen: 8,000 from the Land Forces with 1,000 pieces of equipment, over 1,000 from the Air Forces with over 40 aircraft and almost 800 from the Navy, with 10 destroyers and logistic support ships, 12 boats and 18 land vehicles.

One of the most complex operations was forcing the Danube river crossing, where about 1,600 troops and over 400 vehicles crossed the river with the support of aircraft and river boats, while under attack.

For the first time during an exercise conducted in our country, they exercised a scenario close to reality in which the wounded were transported and treated in the three NATO ROL 2 military field hospitals (the 212th US Field Hospital, ROL 2 Romanian Medical Formation and the Balkan Medical Formation), an operation coordinated nationally by the Medical Directorate.

The exercise was widely covered, as in the operations conducted in Romania alone participated over 200 Romanian and foreign journalists. The military journalists that joined them took photos and live feed, especially on the social media network, at all times. Almost 100 foto and video posts were published on the official Facebook page of the defence ministry, while the live feed reached almost 3 Millions users.

During "SABER GUARDIAN 17" exercise, Communications and Information Technology Command ensured the CIS support which consisted in the installation and exploitation of IT modules in the main locations of the exercise with a view



of ensuring data communications within the classified mission networks, organized on the Federated Mission Networking (FMN) principle. At the same time, in order to exercise the C2 act within the exercise training events, Communications and Information Technology Command ensured voice and VTC communications services, also. In order to ensure communications and information services in the exercise locations and CIS interconnection of the national structures participating in the exercise, the transport support was provided through the Permanent Transmission Network/ROU National Military Communications Network (PTN/NMCN) which was extended in the exercise areas of operations by



means of the Communications and Information Technology Command transportable shelters, as well as through the satellite channels and flux leased from specialized civil operators.

The Ministry of National Defence constantly promotes a transparent and predictable policy concerning military operations, thus contributing to Romania's pledge as OSCE member related to military transparency.

In order to ensure transparency, 25 delegates from 13 OSCE nations participated in SG17 multinational exercise in Romania, as observers. The delegates had the opportunity to watch the different stages of the exercise and the deployment of the troops in the field, on the ground and from the helicopter.

The observers' activity was organized in agreement with the provisions of the Vienna Document of 2011 on the measures to increase confidence and security in the OSCE space, Chapter VI – Observation of Certain Military Activities.



Major Procurement Programs – Top Priority of the Romanian Ministry of National Defence

Placed in a complex geo-political position, Romania acknowledges the importance of an enhanced forward presence in the Baltic States and Poland, thus, focusing on the consolidation of the Eastern flank of the Alliance and on the overall approach of the North and Southern flank in order to increase security in the Black Sea Region.

Consequently, consolidation of our country's profile as regional provider of security and stability within NATO and EU stands for the main objective of the Ministry of National Defence.

The Romanian Armed Forces participate in joint exercises and training programs with the allied states and partners, increasing resources and troops allocated in support of NATO and EU operations and missions.

At the same time, Romania continues and intensifies its efforts and measures to consolidate defence and security alongside the allies and partners by honoring its undertaken commitments. One of these commitments refers to the allocation of 2% of the GDP for defence expenditures on a 10-year period, until 2026.

The Romanian Armed Forces' Procurement Program for 2017-2026 timeframe consists of eight major elements and was developed in accordance with the allocated funds, the document being approved by Decision of Homeland Defence Supreme Council (HDSC). Each major procurement program exceeds 100 million euros and was approved by the Romanian Parliament.

Eight major procurement programs are to be initiated:

- The multi-purpose corvettes that translates into the acquisition



- of four corvettes and adjacent equipment;
- Mobile anti-ship missile launchers;
- The modernization of the MLI-84M infantry fighting vehicles that includes 48 fighting vehicles;
- 8x8 and 4x4 armoured personnel carrier; during the first stage, 94 vehicles out of the 657 would be acquired;
- C4I system (command, control, communications, computers and information technology) with ISTAR integration capabilities;
- Advanced surface-to-air missile (ASAM) systems – four for the Land Forces and three for the Air Force;
- SHORAD-VSHORAD integrated weapon systems;

- Long range Multiple launcher rocket systems.

The total costs of the procurement programs will be established after a final decision made on the technical and operational requirements of the Romanian military and the course of action to be followed while running the acquisition strategy.

Romania consolidates its naval defence capabilities

“Multi-purpose corvette” Program is intended to protect the Romanian security interest

In order to accomplish their specific missions in this difficult political-

military international context, the Romanian Naval Forces must have a modern, credible and balanced force structure, similar to the other states bordering the Black Sea Region.

The most efficient surface warfare ships in the littoral region are the “corvette-type” ones, with medium speed engines and able to accomplish the entire range of missions in and outside the Black Sea Region, at the same time being autonomous and having nautical qualities that can enable them to conduct actions in difficult hydro-weather conditions.

The procurement of new corvettes, due to their estimated life-cycle which go up to 30 years and that can be further extended by successive modernization works, offers the Romanian Naval Forces the necessary operational confidence in order to accomplish their specific medium and long-term assigned missions.

At present, the modernization of T-22 R frigates is taken into account, as part of the acquisition process of the multi-purpose corvettes by making the most of the offset of this major procurement program.

Corvettes will operate as a warfare multitask unit within a maritime taskforce or alone. The corvettes and the two T 22 frigates will make up, on rotational basis, a group of vessels that will be at NATO’s disposal with a view of meeting the commitments undertaken by Romania.

According to HDSC’s Decisions, the “Multi-purpose corvettes” Program is an essential procurement program meant to provide for Romania’s security interests. HDSC recommended the Government that the specific contract assignment procedures encourage the involvement of the domestic producers, thus, attracting several prestigious companies in the field into the modernization and privatization process of the national defence industry.

programs established in the 2017 – 2026 Romanian Defence Procurement Plan for which the Parliament agreed, in May this year, to initiate the procedures to assign the relevant contracts.

Related to the HIMARS procurement program, the US Congress approved, in agreement with the American standard procedures, Romania’s request to purchase 54 HIMARS launchers and auxiliary equipment for three combat battalions.

The choice to equip the Romanian Armed Forces with the HIMARS system derives from the need to have modern artillery equipment, able to contribute to strengthening the national defence capability and to increase interoperability with the allied forces, by having in place a reliable deterrence capability.

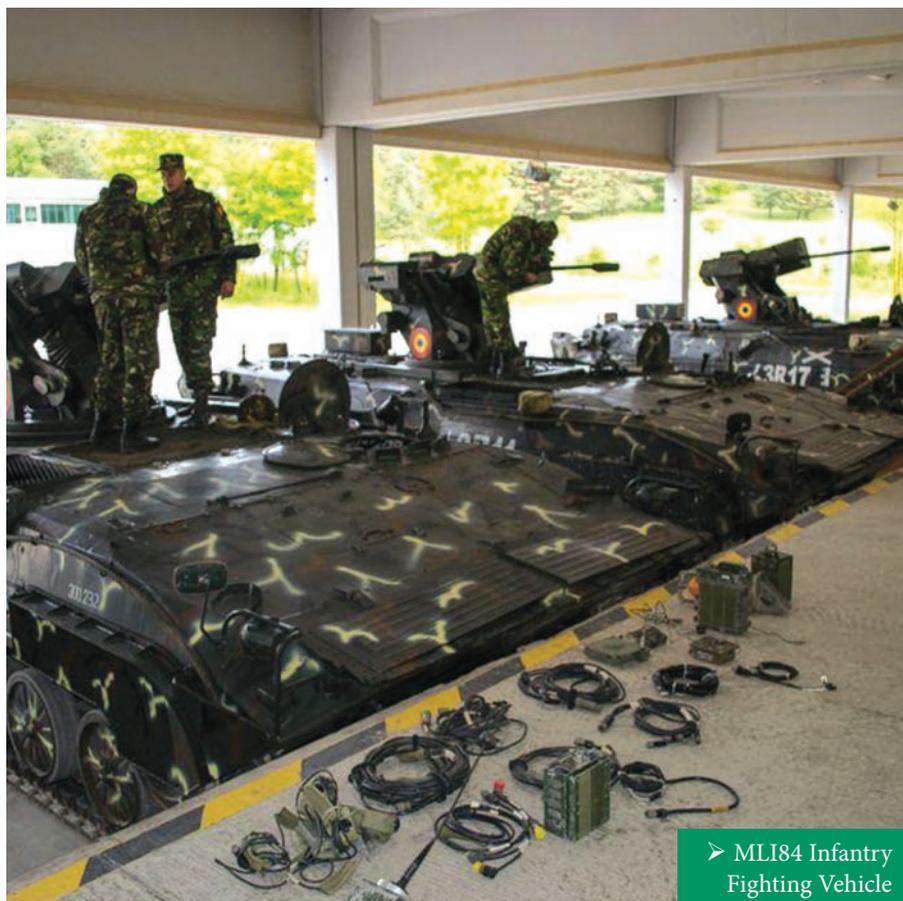
HIMARS is one of the most precise combat support systems tested and used in real missions by the US Army and Marine Corps. It conveys technical superiority, giving substantial advantage to the military structures and successful options in combat to commanders during operations.

US Congress Approved the Acquisition of HIMARS System to Equip the Romanian Armed Forces

The acquisition of High Mobility Artillery Rocket Systems (HIMARS) is one of the main eight procurement

“Multi-purpose corvettes”, operational confidence

- Conduct military operations, independently or as part of international task forces in order to ensure the integrity of the maritime space;
- Participate in national and international law enforcement operations in the territorial waters, contiguous area and economic exclusive zone;
- Conduct maritime security operations and search & rescue activities at sea;
- Ensure permanent reconnaissance of the littoral and of the Black Sea Region;
- Support the other Romanian Armed Forces’ Services;
- Participate in international operations and missions according to the approved plans.



➤ MLI84 Infantry Fighting Vehicle

The HIMARS reliability rate and interoperability degree between the US and Allied forces reduce the final operational and maintenance costs.

The program is now in an intermediate stage, following the approval of the US Congress; there will be technical talks and negotiations to determine the final configuration of the acquisition, as well as the technology transfer options and the involvement of the national defence industry in providing the necessary equipment for production and maintenance.

Acquisition of HIMARS – modern combat system, validated in real combat conditions

HIMARS contributes to strengthening the national defence capability and to increasing successfulness of military operations interoperability with the allied forces, by providing a long-range launching capability which translates into a reliable deterrence capability.

The acquisition of HIMARS augments the essential ground defence capabilities meant to significantly contribute to NATO collective defence:

- increase reaction time;
- increase the depth of the hit;
- successfully tested in combat in Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria;
- high-mobility and C130 transportable;
- top of the line in NATO reactive/self-propelled artillery, the MLRS' successor;

Beside the advantage of their superior precision, HIMARS are also equipped with an integrated rechargeable system which is time saving, enabling the increase of the firing speed.

Acquisition of Patriot missile system to equip the Romanian Armed Forces, approved by the US Congress

For the Patriot surface-to-air missile procurement program, the Ministry of National Defence will submit to the Romanian Parliament's approval a

➤ PATRIOT Missile System



special draft law on the procurement of this system, while the acquisition process will take place following negotiations and the signing of an agreement between the Romanian and USA governments.

Minister of Defence Mihai Fifor stated that the first Patriot missile system will have been procured by the end of 2017. The Romanian part is waiting for the US letter of acceptance, so that it can initiate the contracting procedures and procure the first such system. The Romanian delegation has officially requested the Dependable Undertaking clause arrangements for the procurement programs, during the talks with Secretary of Defence Mattis.

The MoND intends to pay in November the first installment for the acquisition of seven Patriot missile

systems in its most updated configuration namely PAC-3 Plus, which incorporate the latest technologies developed for this type of defensive armament.

Thus, delivery of the first missile system to Romania will take place next year, our country joining five other NATO member states which hold Patriot batteries (Germany, Greece, Spain, Netherlands and United States of America). Also, Poland is another country which made a request for the procurement of these systems.

Following negotiations and procurement of this system, the MoND intends that its producer collaborates with the Romanian defence industry in order to identify the most adequate local suppliers and support national companies in developing their own manufacturing technology of the Patriot components.



tested in combat. PAC 3 + system is the most up-to-date model which was used and entered the service of the US Armed Forces.

Shorad-Vshorad Integrated Weapon Systems Procurement Program

The latest evolutions of the regional security environment and the changes of the geo-political context Romania is part of asked for the implementation of certain measures at the MoND level with a view of increasing the Romanian Armed Forces' readiness and the procurement of modern equipment. The wide range of threats caused that the importance of the surface-to-air missile systems significantly increase over the last period, taking into consideration their main missions: protecting the troops, facilities and population against offensive air attacks and countering terrorist elements which target military technologies.

The procurement program's goal is to equip the air defence structures with SHORAD-VSHORAD integrated weapon systems that can provide for:

- Mission accomplishment at peace, war and during contingency and participation in air operations against the enemy's air forces for immediate air defence;
- Countering of the current threats and enabling participation in countering potential threats with the available weapon systems.

Projects Intended to Involve the National Defence Industry

The Romanian Government defined the first economic and military large scale cooperation with the German company Rheinmetall as a strategic project. It is a complex project, of interest for both countries. The project is conducted by Uzina Mecanică Moreni and Rheinmetall Company. The Ministry of National Defence plans to acquire armored personnel carriers, but a final decision in this respect will be taken in the near future.

The MoND representatives had official talks with another APC manufacturer,

General Dynamics European Land Systems company, subsidiary of General Dynamics Corporation. The talks agenda included topics such as identifying ways to achieve partnerships at the national defence industry level, developing a joint venture to secure the transfer of the state-of-art technology. The MoND intends to procure the first 10 Pirahna armored personnel carriers, as part of this program by the end of the year.

Talks have taken place on the renewal of the helicopter fleet, a letter being already signed by the defence minister, in the presence of the Romanian Prime-Minister and representatives of Bell Helicopters, and sent in order to ask for details on the availability and price of the attack helicopters.

Also, the representatives of the defence industry from Braşov signed cooperation projects with Airbus Helicopters company.

Steps Made Towards the Procurement of the Second F-16 Squadron...

The building of the air defence capability as part of the "Romanian Air Force multirole aircraft" Program, adopted by HDSC Decision no S – 70/2012, refers to the phased equipping of the Romanian Air Force with 48 aircraft. After analysis made by specialists in the field, the acquisition of a first lot of F-16 aircraft from Portugal was decided upon, this type of aircraft making the transition to fifth generation fighters easier.

So far, twelve F-16 aircraft have entered the service of the Romanian Air Force, the last three being delivered at the end of September 2017.

In order to procure the aircraft that will be part of the second squadron, a letter was sent to the US Government on the price and availability of 36 F-16 aircraft.

As the acquisition value exceeds 100 million euros, the initiation of the procedures require a prior approval from the Romanian Parliament, the procurement program being one of the eight major programs that have already been approved.

Patriot – Tested and Modern Combat System

- The Patriot system was tested in combat and updated over the last 20 years:
 - Five countries have successfully employed this system in combat missions;
 - Starting 2015 up to present, over 100 tactical ballistic missiles have been successfully intercepted;
 - There are more than 220 Patriot systems held by 13 countries all over the world.
- The acquisition of the Patriot system brings an essential anti-air defence capability meant to significantly contribute to NATO collective defence.
- Romania procures the latest Patriot version designed up to 2017 and

The Romanian Armed Forces Participation in the International Military Operations

Romania's participation in NATO's commitment in Afghanistan

Romania has been contributing to the international effort to stabilize the security situation from Afghanistan, starting with 2002, by participating in the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF – NATO-led operation), Enduring Freedom (US-led operations) and in Resolute Support Mission. Throughout the last 15 years, 26,000 Romanian servicemen have been deployed to this theater of operations; 152 of them were injured while 25 of them lost their lives. The Romanian Armed Forces' top priority with respect to its contribution in operations outside the national territory was the participation in the missions in Afghanistan.

NATO initiated Resolute Support Mission in Afghanistan Theater of Operations, at the end of 2015, as a follow-up of the closure of ISAF mission on December 31st, 2014.

Romania continues to be a significant contributor to RSM, having over 600 soldiers deployed in Afghanistan (Romania is the fourth NATO contributing state after the USA, Italy and Germany). The Joint Forces Command is the General Staff's Structure which exerts the operational command (OPCOM) over the structures and personnel participating in Afghanistan, starting January 1st, 2015.

The Romanian military structures and the staff personnel are involved in the training and assistance activities of the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces (ANDSF) as well as in force protection, military intelligence and military police actions, informational/psychological and logistic support operations, thus, contributing to the increase of ANDSF's credibility, capability and sustainability and supporting the Afghan government in countering the terrorist actions.

The training, counseling and assistance of the Afghan National Security Forces take place by means of **the land force advisory teams**.

The Romanian Army Institutional Advisory Team (ROU AIAT), which is currently at the 6th rotation, provides training, advising and assisting activities in support of the Afghan National Army's military educational institutions.

The Train, Advise and Assist Team – North (TAAC-N), which is currently at the 5th rotation, contributes to the

training, advising and assisting effort in support of 209th Afghan National Army Corps (C. 209 ANA), Afghan National Police Provincial HQ (PZHQ) and Afghan National Army's military educational institutions (ANA).

The Train, Advise and Assist team – South (TAAC-S), which is currently at its 4th rotation, contributes to the training, advising and assisting effort in support of 205th Afghan National Army Corps, Afghan National Police Provincial HQ (PZHQ) and ANA's military educational institutions.

The Romanian Military Police Detachment, which is currently at the 5th rotation, has been acting in support of Resolute Support Mission Afghanistan in order to ensure, in cooperation with the American ally, the rule of law and military discipline within the military base Bagram Air Field (BAF), Parwan Province.

Romanian Armed Forces' main effort stays focused on ensuring force protection in Kandahar military base. For the 2017-2018 timeframe, Romania planned to maintain the same contribution as of 2016, deploying up to 700 servicemen. Starting with 2015, in addition to the training, advising and assisting support offered to the Afghan security forces, Romania will also provide an annual financial contribution amounting to 500,000 USD for a 3 year-period.

Resolute Support Mission from Afghanistan is key priority in meeting the commitments undertaken within NATO by the Romanian Armed Forces in the context of ensuring international security and stability. Participation in Resolute Support Mission enhances Romania's image and credibility within the Coalition.

Romania's participation in Kosovo – NATO KFOR

Following Kosovo's declaration of independence (February 17th, 2008), the Romanian soldiers continue to accomplish their missions assigned in the mandate given by KFOR as deriving from Resolution no.1244 of the UN Security Council, – which stipulates that a safe and stable security environment must be enforced in the region.

Romania currently participates in KFOR with staff personnel, HUMINT elements, SIGINT group, a special ISR group and intelligence personnel, contributing with 58 soldiers and a number of servicemen deployable at order, as part of SACEUR's Strategic Reserve for KFOR.

Romania's participation in Bosnia and Herzegovina – EU Althea

Romania is currently participating in EU ALTHEA with staff and intelligence personnel, liaison teams, advisory teams, air force structures and a national support element, with a total of 39 servicemen plus a number of deployable soldiers at order, as part of SACEUR's Strategic Reserve for ALTHEA.

Individual Operations under the aegis of UN, OSCE and EU

Romania participates with 36 soldiers in NATO and EU-led operations while 27 servicemen were assigned in the UN-led individual missions, representing a total of 63 troops, deployed in 14 countries.

In 2017 and 2018, Romania will participate with staff officers in international monitoring and observation missions, under the aegis of EU, UN and OSCE.



Latest Breakthroughs of Military Equipment and Technologies Research Agency

The Military Equipment and Technologies Research Agency (METRA), was founded by “Minister of Defence Order no. M1 / January 7th 1998, as part of the Department for Armaments.

METRA is part of the National Research – Development System, having five accredited or certified structures for scientific research and technological development or for test and evaluation in its subordination. The scientific research centers are organized on departments and laboratories with distinct profile, according to specific research areas, being recognized both at national and international levels: Center for Testing, Evaluation and Scientific Research of the Weapon Systems, CBRN Defence and Ecology Scientific Research Center, Scientific Research Center for Navy, Testing & Evaluation Scientific Research Center for Information Systems And Communications and Flight Research and Trial Center.

METRA’s mission is to perform basic oriented and applied research, technological development activities, develop concept studies, design new military technology with higher performance and modernize the existing equipment.

Here are several outstanding results following the reasearch activity conducted in METRA’s centers:

The increase of the standard parachute piloting performances (Center for Testing, Evaluation And Scientific Research of the Weapon Systems)

The main goal of the reasearch project was to increase the piloting performance of the standard parachute used by the personnel in order to facilitate the accomplishment of the combat missions during day and night-time, in adverse weather conditions and on various types of landing fields. All research&development stages were followed: execution of the prototype, development, testing and evaluation, audit of functional configuration and the assessment of the official homologation. The main results scored were: prototypes of modernized standard parachute for personnel, the development specification, the development testing & evaluation plan, development testing & evaluation report, paratrooper-parachute interface prototypes of the simulator for ground training of parachutists.

AAW operational capability evaluation software (Scientific Research Center for Navy)

Software enables the assessment and estimation of the combat capabilities equipping various ships, the combat system performance, and the testing of different procedures used by the ships in combat.

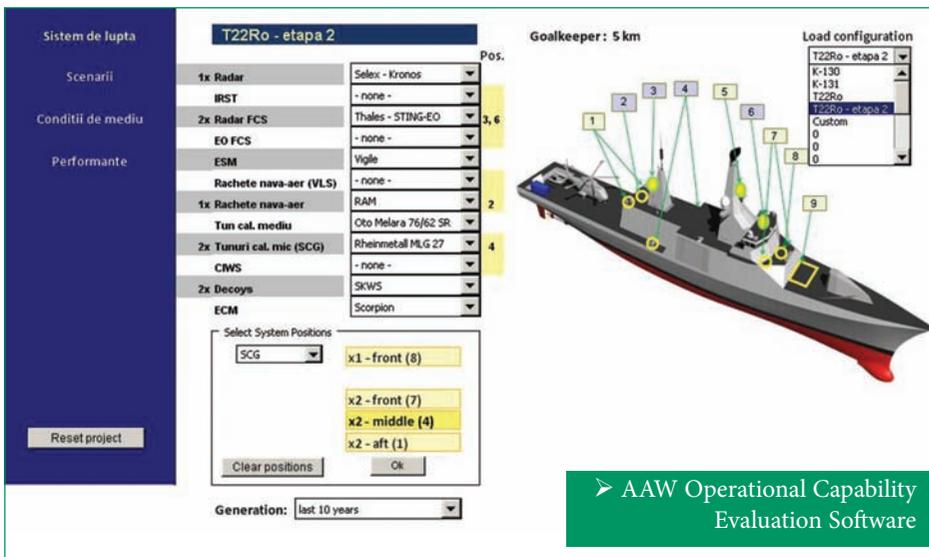
The software also facilitates the evaluation of the following operational capabilities: configuration facilities, Rules of Engagement in case of threats, evaluation of the level of sensor and weaponry system coverage, evaluation of threats maximum capability engagement, dynamic testing and simulation based on tactical scenarios, hard-kill and soft-kill capability testing, statistic analysis (Monte Carlo) of the simulation results.

X 7004 (Testing & Evaluation Scientific Research Center for Information Systems And Communications)

The main objective of this project was to develop an encryption device, designed to

➤ Standard parachute





live firing activities conducted in Capu-Midia Training Area. In 2014, the instrumentation solution was implemented on the complex by building the first instrumentation system belonging to the prototype lot, which was experimentally validated. In 2015, the prototype lot was finalized by building other two instrumentation systems. In 2016, two debriefing stations for the surface-to-air missile complex S-75M3 Volhov were designed and four instrumentation electrical cabling systems. The entire instrumentation system was homologated.

ensure real-time protection of classified information (ISO, Level 3) between interconnected Local Area Networks (LANs). X 7004 product met security requirements imposed by FIPS PUB 140-2 standard for level 3 security and had to have TEMPEST features imposed by the standard SDIP 27, Level A.

The first 21 pieces of equipment were delivered to the MoND beneficiaries through March-April, 2017. The product received its security certificate in order to be introduced into the National Registry of INFOSEC Packages, Products and Profiles.

Instrumentation system of the surface-to-air missile complex SA-2, S-75M3 Volhov for live firing activities in Capu-Midia Training Area (Flight Research and Trial Center)

According to the Air Force Staff requirements, the center identified a technical solution to design an instrumentation configuration for the surface-to-air missile complex S-75M3, in order to obtain the necessary information to evaluate the

Individual kit for immediate decontamination (CBRN Defence And Ecology Scientific Research Center)

The main goal of this project was to design, build and test an individual kit for immediate decontamination, in accordance with NATO standards that can ensure chemical, biological and radiologic decontamination of the uncovered parts of the body, equipment, aramament and materiel equipping the personnel.

During the research & development works performed in 2015, an individual kit for immediat decontamination was designed, built and tested and contains: a zipped packing bag made up of aluminium foil sheet – 1 piece, aluminium foil envelopes containg a rag impregnated with decontamination solution – 2 pieces, packages of sterile lint for skin disinfection before and after performing the decontamination operation with the aid of the humid rags – 2pieces, a bottle of active charcoal powder – 1 piece, nitrile gloves – 1 pair, zipped bag for contaminated waste – 2 pieces, adhesive labels.



Invictus Team Romania returns successful from Toronto Games

“Invictus Games” is an international sports event dedicated to soldiers who were injured during military operations at home or abroad. It covers several disciplines, adapted for people with disabilities: archery, indoor rowing, paralympic athletics and swimming, powerlifting, road cycling/road para-cycling, sitting volleyball, wheelchair basketball and rugby, golf and hockey.

In the autumn of 2016, the Romanian Armed Forces were invited to join the rest of the 16 allied member and partner states participating in “Invictus Games” competition.

The invitation to participate in “Invictus Games” was both seen as a challenge and as an expression of the allies’ respect and appreciation of professionalism and spirit of sacrifice proved in the theatres of operations by the military servicemen of the Romanian Armed Forces.

The positive spirit of “Invictus Games” project was rapidly assimilated by our comrades injured in the theaters of operations who felt that they can reactivate and make the most of their fighter instinct, this time, with the “weapons” offered by the sports.

Thus, at the end of 2016, more than thirty wounded and disabled military servicemen went through rigorous certification procedures both concerning the overall health condition and the compatibility of the respective disability with the intended sport in the paralympic section of the



➤ Laurențiu Șerban won the bronze medal in the 1,500-metre run



➤ The Romanian archery team – Ionuț Butoi, Dorin Petruț and Nicușor-Augustin Pegulescu – won the gold medal in the compound team finals

Sports Club Steaua. Once the selection process took place, 15 sportsmen were chosen to participate in the competition and enlisted in the following disciplines: paralympic athletics, archery, road-cycling, powerlifting and swimming and indoor rowing: Nicușor-Augustin Pegulescu, Dorin Petruț, Nicolae Grigore, Laurențiu Șerban, Ciprian Iriciuc, Eugen Mănăilă, Costel Stanciu, Costinel Slăniceanu, Ionel Bida, Irinel Matei, Dumitru Paraschiva, Ionuț Butoi, Doru Hamza, Bogdan Dragomir, Eugen Pătru.

Staying together during training cantonments, competing to qualify in the team, our brave servicemen felt from the beginning the benefits of this beautiful and inspired project: they became stronger, more confident and tolerant and got a positive attitude. The project broadened their horizons and enriched their life experience, bringing about cohesion within the entire group.

They felt the rigor of the sports competition and got a better understanding of their limits and potential, became friends with their trainers and comrades in arms, participated in national and international sports and socio-cultural events, thus, benefitting from a special contact with public.



➤ Ionuț Butoi brought us the silver in the archery finals, compound



➤ Ciprian Iriciuc won the bronze medal at indoor rowing

The servicemen have been welcomed with warmth and respect all over the places. This made them realize that they have the moral duty to play an active role in the community because such social role models – as they are perceived – must generate positive energies which should spread within the society.

The fact that the Ministry of National Defence, the Sports Club Steaua and the civilian society, though its non-governmental organizations, succeeded in finding the funds necessary to the training process and participation of Romania's team in "Invictus Games Toronto 2017" stands for a proof of the capacity of the public institutions and civilian society in concentrating their efforts on a single cause with deep moral and national significance.

Also, the members of Invictus team benefited from an exhaustive mass-media support from Antena 3 and TVR 1 television channels and Radio Europa FM, which raised awareness on the project and facilitated the collection of funds.

Therefore, we had reasons to be optimistic at Toronto Games 2017. It is not the number of awards brought back by our sportsmen from the competition that counts! What DOES really matter is that the spirit of the legendary INVICTUS has deeply materialized into the conscience of the injured military servicemen and it will certainly and irreversibly bring hope, trust and the optimism of a new beginning into the souls of our brave disabled fighters who regained the attitude and force of the winners.

➤ Invictus Team Romania was congratulated by Defence Minister at the MoND Headquarters



War Veterans' National Legislation, Updated

The commitments undertaken by our country within NATO, EU and other coalitions Romania is part of imposed the participation of the Romanian Armed Forces' military and civilian personnel in high-risk military operations.

Recognition of merits of the military personnel participating in military operations and granting of specific rights to them and their dependants are stipulated by *Government Ordinance no. 82/2006 on the recognition of the merits of the military personnel following their participation in military actions*, approved by *Law no. 111/2007*.

The allocation of rights stands for an act of appreciation of the efforts made, the courage of facing major risks, and of the spirit of sacrifice proved by the soldiers deployed by Romania, in order to accomplish its undertaken commitments.

Numerous military servicemen have been victims of tragic incidents lately and the legal framework could no longer fully compensate and award their merits and sacrifice made on the battlefield. Therefore, in order to complete the national legislation in the field, the Romanian Government issued *Emergency Ordinance no. 71/2008 with further changes to Emergency Ordinance no. 82/2006*.

Law 150/2014 stipulates that the Romanian Armed Forces' personnel who participated in military operations and/or acquired injuries or disabilities will be awarded the "VETERAN" honorary title, as an appreciation of their efforts, courage of facing major risks and their spirit of sacrifice proved during their military service.

The latest changes in legislation consisted in the

endorsement of *Law no. 81/2016* whose main goal was to assign or reassign into the MoND structures the personnel who got injured or disabled following their participation in missions as well as to develop and enforce a professional integration system intended to hire the dependants of the personnel with different degrees of invalidity within the military institution either as military or civilian personnel.

We can now state that the current legislation in force provides for the full recognition of the merits and rights of the personnel participating in military operations.



➤ Nine wounded veterans returned to Afghanistan Theatre of Operations



Tobruq Legacy 17

TOBRUQ LEGACY 17 (July 12th-22th 2017) was part of the SABER GUARDIAN 17 series of exercises and is an annual multinational surface based air defence exercise (SBAD) designed to improve the interoperability and tactical and technical integration among allied European countries. Initially a trilateral SBAD exercise in the Czech Republic, Slovakia and the United States, TOBRUQ LEGACY (TOLY) developed, throughout the last four years, into the largest SBAD exercise within NATO. The number of participating nations, troops and equipment and rapidly increased to over 2,000 soldiers and over 800 vehicles from 13 countries – which, for the second time, involved the NATO Combined Air Operation Center (CAOC) from Uedem, Germany. This year, more than 1,800 air force servicemen from 10 countries participated in TOLY 17, with 12 additional nations providing observers. Also, the TOBRUK LEGACY planners aim to increase the complexity of the exercise each year. This year, TOLY 17 integrated a common recognized air picture, thus, enabling three nations to conduct NATO air defence operations by integrating tactical to operational command and control nodes.

Also, TOLY 17 engaged three Surface Based Air Defence Operations Centers (SBADOC), which were geographically located in the Czech Republic, Lithuania and Romania.

The exercise was conducted in Mihail Kogălniceanu Air Base and Capu Midia Training Camp and Surface-to-Air Firing Range, alongside other NATO member states, under US Army Europe (USAREUR) command. Also, the Joint Force Air Component-JFAC, the command and control center of the three SBADOC, was hosted by Mihail Kogălniceanu base. This is a new level of complexity achieved by the integration of the weapons systems in parallel, in three different countries, in both regions of NATO: North and South.

The Romanian Air Forces participated with HAWK medium-range surface-to-air missiles and MiG-21 LanceR and IAR-99 Șoim aircraft and helicopters, while the British Royal Air Force participated with its Typhoon aircraft,

deployed at Mihail Kogălniceanu base. The United States of America participated with PATRIOT and AVENGER missile systems, Slovenia deployed its SA-24 missile systems and the Romanian Land Forces participated with SA-6 air defence systems and GEPARD.

Target engagement missions, planning and execution missions for deployment of HAWK medium-range surface-to-air missile battery from its emplacement location to Capu Midia Training Camp and live firing drills with air defence systems were executed during TOLY 17.

As a first, the forces deployed to Romania, executed a secondary LIVEX, through July 17th-18th, when the Romanian part conducted the operations from the SBADOC, the deputy commander being Captain Marin DUMITRU, whose activity was appreciated by the US partners.

The closing ceremony took place on July 22nd, at Mihail Kogălniceanu Air Base, and was attended by servicemen from all participating countries, at the same time offering the participants the opportunity to talk about the “Lessons learned”. Also, several servicemen were awarded medals as a sign of appreciation for their outstanding activity. One of these servicemen was Lieutenant Ionuț CRIVĂȚU, who was deputy HAWK battery commander and liaison officer in the SBADOC.

Colonel Virgil TOȘA, involved in the organization of the exercise, as a representative of the Romanian part, stated that “Romania had the opportunity to be host nation in an exercise whose goal was the testing and validation of the joint operational capability over a large geographical area”.

The success of the exercise was mainly due to the conjugated effort of Capu Midia Training Camp and Surface-to-Air Firing Range and Mihail Kogălniceanu Air Base. Likewise, we must acknowledge the active involvement of our colleagues from the Reporting and Control Center from Balotești who were responsible for aircraft identification and conducting engagement operations by facilitating a realistic training environment.

First F-16 Fighting Falcon Air Refueling Mission

Romanian Air Force F-16 Fighting Falcon air refueled, for the first time over Romania, on 28th of February 2017.

This day, history was made. “Every event (we have) accomplished with the F-16’s is somehow historical,” said Captain Mihăiță Marin, F-16 Fighting Falcon pilot. “The air-to-air refueling is a milestone for a developing Air Force, and I am definitely proud to be part of it. Not proud of myself – maybe just a bit – but proud that the hard work of so many people gave the results that we all looked for.”

The refueling operation was performed by a tanker aircraft KC-135 Stratotanker belonging to the U.S. Air Force 100th Air Refueling Wing, especially designed to achieve air refueling for jet aircraft.

Refueling was carried out at an altitude of about 7,000-10,000 meters, also during the day and at night. Flying autonomy of an F-16 Fighting Falcon combat aircraft is about three hours and after air refueling, which takes a few minutes, flying time increases up to two hours.

Also, another important aspect is that the pilots were already qualified for carrying out such procedures. This qualification was achieved in Portugal during the F-16 Fighting Falcon flight training course.

Air refueling is the transfer of aviation fuel from a military aircraft specially designed (known by the generic name of “tanker”) and another aircraft (e.g. fighter, transport aircraft, Airborne Warning and Control System – AWACS) which has the capability to be in-flight refueled.

For managing such operations, a perfect synchronization is required between the refueled aircraft, generically called “receiver”, and the tanker. To achieve this synchronization, the *receiver* must fly a few meters behind and below the tanker, maintaining the same speed and height during the entire process of fuel transferring. Both aircraft, the *receiver* and the *tanker*, are on a flight formation and permanently under the control of the structures in charge with the control and flight safety area or route.



➤ F16 Fighting Falcon



The aim of aerial refueling is to increase the tactical radius of action, the flight time (because the aircraft is no longer needed to return to base), which leads to an increased air force capability, maximizing the efficiency of combat missions.

The contact between the aircrafts is provided by a dedicated boom operator station through a flying boom which offers the fuel transfer. The flying boom system is made up of pumps, rigid or flexible telescopic pipes on tanker board and “sockets” (couplers) disposed on the receiving aircraft.

The boom operator initiates the fuel transfer only after all safety conditions are met; after that, the entire operation

can start with the approval of the receiving aircraft pilot. During this procedure, the boom operator must maintain a constant radio contact, through a dedicated radio frequency, with the receiver aircraft pilot and also with the tanker crew. This is necessary in order to quickly react to any situation that might endanger the entire operation and to have time to stop the fuel transfer and disconnect the two aircrafts in a safely mood.

The aerial refueling capability makes the Romanian Air Force able to keep jets in the air for an increased period of time, being one of the most important features of the air defence system.



“Throughout the numerous challenges that we had to face, air-to-air refueling was clearly a special one, being completely new. This was the first time that we did it without the supervision of our Portuguese friends – from preparing the jets, to flying and parking them back safely. Somehow we were a bit anxious to discover if we were truly ready for it, but from the moment of the very first briefing, it was clear that we are on the same sheet of paper. I left the briefing confident in the success of the training, and the end of the week gave me that great feeling of a well done job.”



➤ Air refueling

Security Context in the Black Sea Region

Acting as a NATO and EU member country, Romania has constantly stated the active support regarding the increase of naval forces of these organizations in the Black Sea region. In this regard, the main objective of the Naval Forces became conducting joint exercises in the Black Sea with the allies.

Along with this aim, during 2017, multiple actions will be continued, such as: maritime and river area management, monitoring of the naval and river area situation under the responsibility of the Naval Forces, at

the Eastern border of the European Union and North Atlantic Treaty Organization, development of the operational capability of the NATO-assigned forces, continue running upgrading and procuring new pieces of equipment as well as running the procurement programs.

The navy personnel efforts will mainly be concentrated on accomplishing specific missions, by adapting to the present security context.

In order to consolidate the interoperability between the Romanian Naval Forces and the Allied Naval

Forces, the leadership of the Naval Forces Staff decided to increase the number of training-on-sea days in 2017, as a result of the Black Sea security situation and the current blockage of the regional military initiatives.

The Romanian Naval Forces leadership and execution structures aim at implementing NATO Operating Procedures in surface, underwater and air warfare operations.

The continuous official visits of the foreign ships in Constanța Harbor, the multinational exercises, the military personnel's involvement in NATO work-groups, headquarters or EU structures aim at increasing the image of Romania and of its Naval Forces at regional level.

The financial resources are directed towards the modernization and reorganization processes, according to the *Romanian Armed Forces transformation, development and procurement program until 2026*. The incoming procurement programs have been prioritized in two stages. The first stage will unfold during 2017-2020 and will consist in the procurement of the first multi-task corvette, the reestablishment of the 508th Coastal Missiles Squadron and

➤ Poseidon 2017
Naval Exercise



➤ Exercise Spring Storm 2017



➤ Exercise Sea Breeze 2017



its upgrading with mobile missile launch installations and a mobile command and control platform, the modernization of T22R frigates with air, surface and underwater warfare equipment, the upgrading of two missile fast patrol boats and the river military ships. The second stage will be conducted through 2020-2026 and will consist in the procurement of three new multi-tasking corvettes, the upgrading of the third missile fast patrol boat and, pending on the Navys financial budget at that moment, the initiation of a multiannual submarine procurement program.

A positive balance between the Immediate Assurance Measures and the Romanian Naval Forces' capabilities is provided by the continuous upgrading of the current warfare platforms and the successful running of the procurement programs. Considering the current and future funds allocated, this balance is likely to achieve; the accomplishment of the objective will lead to the strengthening of the Romanian Naval Forces' warfare capabilities, alongside the accomplishment of the missions assigned.

The Romanian Naval Forces' objectives for year 2017 consist in implementing the Romanian security policy and the accomplishment of the commitments undertaken as a member of the international security system.



➤ Exercise Sea Breeze 2017



Sail Training Ship “Mircea”

Training of the young people who chose a career aboard school ships has been a key component of the Romanian Navy education ever since the foundation of the Flotilla School, in 1872. Once “Mircea” brig entered the service, of the Romanian Naval Forces in 1882, a new spirit, the “Mircea” spirit, started to enthral the Romanian sailors. The brig, the first Romanian sailing school vessel, of the brig type, with sails, was able to sail in all conditions on the seas and oceans of the world.

Romanian Navy school’s long-lasting desire of having a school ship with sails, was finally fulfilled in 1939, May 17th, when the class “A”, bark-type “Mircea” school ship entered the service of the Romanian Royal Navy service. The brig was built at the “Blohm und Voss” shipyard in Hamburg. The ship was named “Mircea” after her forerunner, in honor of the celebrated ruler Mircea cel Bătrân (Mircea the Elder) who unified Wallachia with Dobruja, extending their borders up to the “Great Sea”, i.e. the Black Sea. The national flag was hoisted on March 27th, 1939.

In 1966, the ship underwent major modernization works in the German shipyard where she was built. The second stage of overhauling and fitting out with navigation, communication and up-to-date steering systems took place in Brăila, between 1994 and 2002. After all these, “Mircea” became the most modern vessel among her other “sisters” – Eagle (USA), Gorch Fock I (Germany), Gorch Fock II (Germany) and Sagres (Portugal).

In the 78 years of activity within the Romanian Navy education system, “Mircea” scored an enviable result: training voyages on the Black Sea, visiting the main coastal ports, voyages on the Mediterranean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean. The three voyages, in 1976, 2004 and 2009 represented the longest and most complex ones of the brig. Between April 29th to May 27th 2014, “Mircea” school ship executed a mission of great responsibility, culminating with the participation in

the Nautical Competition named “SCF Black Sea Tall Ships Regatta 2014”. She was the most beautiful ship and had the best crew in the Black Sea Regatta.

The crew and their experienced master, Captain Gabriel Moise, represent the core around which the future navy officers and petty officers gathered in order to acquire the secrets of sailing, thus also learning teamwork, in other words “*Mircea brig’s bridge was and still is the most useful school*”.

“Mircea” school ship dedicated her over 7 decades of existence to working in the service of the naval education. The practice aboard this sailing ship offer young trainees, whether they are deck or engine room students, the opportunity to acquire knowledge about rigging, deck installations, navigation equipment, sails handling, rope work and marlinspike seamanship, steering rowing boats, along with signaling equipment, providing them with skills in operating and maintaining the main and auxiliary engines and electrical installations. As a result of the partnerships for cooperation in the field of the education and training of the students signed between the Naval Academy “Mircea cel Bătrân” and similar educational institutions of the world every year, foreign cadets were embarked aboard “Mircea” so as to improve their nautical and professional skills.

The leading thought of the crew and of the cadets who are taught seamanship onboard “Mircea” is: “By serving the Navy, I serve the country”. It is admitted that life at sea tests one’s character and polishes one’s personality; “Mircea” has always been a place where character, trust and solidarity are built. Away from their country, home and the beloved ones, everyone found a great family on board “Mircea”, for better or for worse, acting with deep attachment and affection. During all ports visited, “Mircea” honorably represented the Romanian colors and Romanian Naval Forces overseas, being at the same time a true ambassador of the Romanian people.

“Mihail Kogălniceanu” River Flotilla

Modern Romanian Military Navy was established in 1860, immediately after Romania appeared on the map of Europe. The political situation in 1859 led to the election of Colonel Alexandru Ioan Cuza at the head of the new state formed by the Union of the Romanian Principalities, Moldavia and Wallachia. The reorganization of the armed force was one of the many structural changes that the Romanian society underwent at the ruler's initiative. Modern Romanian Military Navy was formed following the unification of the two principalities' Flotilla.

After more than a century and a half, today the Romanian Naval Forces are flexible and adapted to the requirements of the security system to which Romania is part of. The Romanian Military Navy consists of four pillars: the Maritime Flotilla and River Flotilla; logistic units; the educational system and distinct specialized structures, such as the Diving Center, the Maritime Hydrographic Directorate, the Naval Medicine Center, the Cybernetic Defence Center and others. The River Flotilla can be considered the starting point for the evolution and development of the Romanian Navy.

Over time, this structure has gone through several reorganizations, the last taking place at the end of 2015, when the range of missions they could accomplish by integrating the 307th Marine Infantry Battalion into the River Flotilla organizational chart, was enlarged.

“Mihail Kogălniceanu” River Flotilla Headquarters is situated in Brăila, and the ship units are located in the military harbors of Brăila and Tulcea. The main missions of the monitors, armored boats, artillery carriers, patrol river boats and minesweeping boats are to supervise the fluvial navigation routes on the Danube and from the Low Danube up to Călărași, at the border with Bulgaria, as well as the fire support of the land forces' actions located in the proximity of the river.

The role of the River Flotilla is to promote and defend the national interests of Romania. Thus, the River Flotilla monitors the Danube River and its adjacent space, ensuring freedom of navigation on the river and land communications. River forces have the capacity to implement NATO operating procedures to counter threats of any nature on the Danube.

According to the Romanian Armed Forces' *Transformation, Development* and Procurement Strategy until 2026, the River Flotilla will continue modernizing the existing combat platforms. The change of the propulsion engines of the river military vessels, for the 2017-2020 timeframe, is a priority in the field of Resources.



Technical and Specialty Exercise “Cetatea 2017”

In the first half of October 2017, the deployment, physical set up, exploitation and redeployment phases for Exercise “CETATEA 2017” took place on Romania’s territory. “CETATEA 2017” is a Command, Control, Communications, Computer, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (C4ISR)/ Communications and Information Systems Interoperability Exercise (CISEX), planned by Chief of ROU General Staff (OSE-Officer Scheduling the Exercise) and conducted by Chief of Communications and Information Technology Directorate (and deputy chief of General Staff for IT, OCE-Officer Conducting the Exercise).

The 13th edition of the Exercise “CETATEA 2017” took place this year in October (the first one taking place in 2005), being preceded by similar exercises, such as: “ZEFIR 1988”, “MIRAJ 1999”, “SARMIS 2000”.

Until 2016, exercise “CETATEA 2017” took place at national level, but starting 2017, this exercise became a multinational one, being included into NATO Military Training and Exercise Programme (MTEP).

The Romanian Armed Forces level of ambition in organizing this

exercise is due to the Romanian personnel experience gained while providing host nation support as well as while participating in the C4ISR/ CIS Interoperability Testing NATO Exercise “STEADFAST COBALT 2016” (SFCT16), organized on Romania’s territory.

The new equipment employed by communications and information units/subunits (IT modules, Points-of-Presence, satellite equipment, wide band radio equipment) also added to the success of the exercise.

The exercise was a 3-level one-Strategic, Operational and Tactical-conducted within static and deployable environment and at inter-institutional level, with the participation of Romanian Armed Forces communications and information structures down to communications and information company level.

Considering the multinational character of the exercise, Romania invited 7 NATO nations (Albania, Bulgaria, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Poland and Turkey) to participate in the event, chosen on regional criteria; the exercise was an opportunity to test, develop, evaluate and certify the C4ISR interoperability of the

Training Audience (TA) operating in a federated environment of the mission network.

Within the exercise, TA employed communications and information capabilities to ensure and test the CIS interoperability by providing voice, data and videoteleconference services within classified networks organized on *Federated Mission Network (FMN)* principle and in unclassified networks, as well. Beside the mission networks and unclassified networks, the CIS exercise included radio networks, high capacity radio-relay links and satellite communications networks.

At inter-institutional level, Exercise “CETATEA 2017” ensured the framework for the testing and validation of the new communications and information capabilities ensured by the Romanian Armed Forces’ Communications and IT System (SCIFA).

The aim of the exercises such “CETATEA” was to develop, test, evaluate and validate the communications and information capabilities required for the accomplishment of the future national, inter-institutional and NATO missions and operations.



➤ Planning Conference of Exercise “Cetatea 2017”

Third Line Logistic Support in Theatres of Operations

ROU Armed Forces must be able to act in all types of conflicts, and sustain themselves in a hostile environment. This requires that the fighting units have a permanent, timely and efficient logistic support.

Romanian Armed Forces' main effort to missions and operations outside the national territory is represented by the contribution to Resolute Support Mission in the theater of operations from Afghanistan. In order to provide third line logistic support to the Romanian contingent participating in this mission, the Joint Logistics Command generates the National Support Element, with the following main missions:

- materiel supply for the national contingent through the national chain of supply, from the coalition partners or through acquisition process performed within the theatre of operations;
- provide support for the Reception, Staging, Onward Movement and Integration (RSOM&I) of the in-transit Romanian contingents as well for the official visits made into the theater of operations (transportation, accomodation, feeding, bathroom, linen washing, and provision of protection equipment, weapons, ammunition, moral, welfare & recreation);
- planning, organising and executing together with the coalition partners the intra-theatre movement of personnel, equipment, weapons and other materiel;
- cooperating with the coalition partners structures regarding the provision of spare parts;
- centralizing data from all the other Romanian forces, developing and submitting the weekly logistic reports;
- providing support during the evacuation and extraction of the wounded or deceased Romanian soldiers, or of those who committed misdemeanors or violated the law;
- ensuring security check for the soldiers' personal effects before being paletized;
- centralizing the leassons learned;
- preparing the equipment and the materiel for embarkation and redeployment, as well for disposal and repatriation;
- monitoring the status of the requests sent to the country;
- provide medical assistance to the Romanian personnel through the ROL 3 hospitals within the assigned area of responsibility.

Following the commitments undertaken by our country as a NATO member, Romania participates with forces to the Enhanced NATO Response Force (ENRF), the Alliance's permanent instrument to respond to crisis situations. For this mission also, the Joint Logistics Command generates a national support element in order to provide third line

logistic support to the Romanian contingent throughout its missions, so that it benefits from all the necessary resources needed to accomplish the assigned missions.

In accordance with the Romanian troops' level of participation in the mission, the contribution with a national support element to the ALTHEA mission in Bosnia-Herzegovina is also worth mentioning. The NSE activity supports the staff and the training teams participating in the mission, taking into consideration the fact that, starting with 2012, Operation ALTHEA is in its non-executive and training stage, due to the fact that the required security conditions were met. This led to the decrease of the military presence into the theatre of operations.

The manning of the national support element detachments is made according to a rigorous selection process, after an intense individual and collective training program, which requires the participation in the national evaluation and certification exercises, together with the other forces from the pool of forces designated by our country for participation in missions outside the national territory.

In order to accomplish all this variety of assigned missions, during the mission training process, beside assimilating the necessary knowledge and basic military and speciality skills, the National Support Element personnel must be aware of the content and the way the Memoranda, Technical Agreements and Memoranda of Understanding Romania is part of are implemented.

Due to the professionalism of its personnel, the Romanian National Support Elements' activity manages to optimize the logistic footprint by reducing the sustainment costs for the execution of its assigned missions, through a high-level planning and execution of specific activities, as well as by using the multinational logistics support solutions.



The First Ground-Based Aegis System in the World

The 99th Deveselu Military Base operates under the *Agreement Between the United States of America and Romania on the Deployment of the United States Ballistic Missile Defence System in Romania (BMDA)*.

Romania's participation in the development of the US missile defence system in Europe (European Phased Adaptive Approach / EPAA), through the 99th Military Base Deveselu, represents a success, both in the bilateral relationship with the United States, and in strengthening Romania's position as a reliable ally within NATO. Our country is part of this extensive project (which also includes Turkey, Spain and Poland) under a RO-US bilateral agreement, which states that Romania hosts elements of the BMD system at Deveselu, Olt County, consisting of 24 land-based interceptors (*Standard Missile 3 Block IB*). The implementation of this project also represents the US contribution (through the whole EPAA system) and the Romanian one (through the Deveselu Base) to the NATO ballistic missile defence system.

The capabilities located in Romania represent an adaptation of those emplaced on the US Navy destroyers for launching interceptor missiles, the difference being the system's functionality on land. It is worth specifying that the first ground-based Aegis system in the world has been installed on the 99th Military Base and already reached full operational capability on May 12th, 2016.

The provisions of Article IV, paragraph 21 of BMDA, sets out the mission of 99th Military Base "*Romania shall be responsible for providing security and protection for the Base outside the perimeter of the Facility*". Therefore, this is an assumed obligation of Romania, in its relation with its strategic partner, the United States, and implemented by the Ministry of National Defence as the main lead, with the support of public authorities at central and local level. Moreover, the 99th Military Base is the result of an outstanding cooperation at all levels of Romanian institutions. The transparency, flexibility, consistency and mutual respect were the milestones of a long-life project.

The implementation of BMDA provisions represents a systematic team effort on behalf of both Parties, which required a large amount of work, thus, resulting into a



considerable number of Implementing Arrangements referring to security, communications, the use of land areas surrounding the base, real estate operations, legal matters, etc. All these Implementing Arrangements were developed, discussed and signed at the level of the RO-US Joint Committee with the participation of specialists from competent structures and representatives from the Base.

99th Military Base went through a serious transformation and development program that was successfully coordinated at higher echelons. Thus, the project was supervised step by step by highest level decision making-factors both on behalf of the Romanian side (the Minister of National Defence, the Chief of General Staff and the Commander of Joint Logistics Command) and the US side (Commander of Navy Region Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia, the Director of Missile Defence Agency, US Embassy). Moreover, a special working group was designated at the Joint Logistics Command level to oversee the implementation of the project. This working group was constantly focused on providing the necessary financial funds and coordinating the implementation of the project.

The 99th Military Base has its own specifics given by the coexistence in space and time of Romanian and US Forces. The Base and the Romanian military and civilian personnel deployed at the Base are under Romanian command exercised by a representative of the Romanian Armed Forces while the US appointed a Senior Representative (the Commanding Officer), who has authority over the United States' facility and forces, dependents, contractors, contractors' employees



the BMDA, there are no institutional boundaries at tactical level between the 99th Military Base and NSF, reasons for which the Base should be seen as one military unit operated by both RO and US Forces. A huge value was given to the establishment and strengthening of interpersonal relations between Romanian and US soldiers in order to achieve this goal. The Romanian Base staff is encouraged to permanently communicate with its American counterparts, to prove creativity in constantly identifying legal solutions to solve any emerging problems.

According to BMDA, the Romanian Commander is responsible for advising the Commanding Officer regarding the relations with Romanian governmental and local institutions, and also for facilitating the contacts with such institutions. At the same time, he participates in coordinating mutual logistics support for the military and civilian personnel deployed to the Base and also assists in coordinating the security within the Base. Last but not least, the Romanian Commander participates in coordinating joint training within the Base and advises the Commanding Officer on relevant Romanian legislation with respect to the exploitation of the base.

As a conclusion, the existence of BMD system leads to strengthening national security both directly, through the protection provided to the entire national territory, and indirectly, as the system has an important deterrent role, being able to reduce the risks of possible ballistic missile attacks. As it can be easily noticed, BMD capability located in Deveselu has a strictly defensive role, further proof being that the 99th Military Base is under the subordination of Joint Logistics Command – the main support structure of the Romanian Armed Forces.

and other individuals employed by the United States' forces within the Base.

The US military unit, named Naval Support Facility (NSF), was commissioned on October 10th, 2014 and operates in a strictly defined area located within the Base. However, when talking about fulfilling the missions as stipulated in



➤ Deveselu Military Base

Challenges and Priorities of the Military Educational System

The military educational system represents a key field of the Romanian Armed Forces, being embedded into the national education one; together with the entire Romanian society, it participates in the deep reform of its structure and principles with a view of building a European and democratic future for Romania.

The Romanian military educational system is open to the European and Euro-Atlantic novelty.

The military education mission is to develop commissioned officers, warrant officers and non-commissioned officers with professional and leadership abilities, in accordance with the armed forces' requirements and needs, and military occupational specialties, so that they become creative and innovative personalities, determined to increase proficiency, generate value and assume the military career in a responsible manner.



➤ Students from Alba Iulia
"Mihai Viteazul" National Military College

Upper secondary education (high school level)

The national military college offers young people the possibility of building their capability to exploit social reality in order to develop a harmonious personality and teamwork abilities and the qualities and skills necessary to plan their military career and quickly integrate into an open and dynamic society, thus, ensuring a climate of personal security.

Due to the high proficiency of the national military colleges and in accordance with the National Defence Ministry Order, the former "Tudor Vladimirescu" military high school from Craiova was reestablished in April 2016 and placed in the subordination of the Communications and Information Technology Command.

The national military colleges are ranked among the first 10 national colleges in the country based on the results scored at the 12th grade state exam over the last several years.

The national and international distinctions and awards gained at different Olympiads also confirm the value of the military high school education: in 2016, Calisevici Sabina from "Ștefan cel Mare" National Military College, Câmpulung Moldovenesc, was awarded the golden medal at the International Geography Olympiad, which took place in Beijing, China.

Post high-school education

The warrant officer and non-commissioned officer schools of the Services ensure the initial, continuous training, and further development of the WOs, NCOs and soldiers as specialists in the exploitation, repairing and maintenance of the current

military equipment. These institutions also prepare the non-commissioned officers as fighters, leaders of the military hierarchical core structures, educators and citizens with a post high school education, thus, making them able to accede, successively, to higher levels of the military career.

The post high-school education system in the warrant officers and non-commissioned officers schools, is organized in authorized programs of post high school studies, with a length of 1-2 years, low frequency professional training programs for the non-commissioned officers and foreign language courses.

Military higher educational system

The military higher educational system ensures the initial and continuous professional training of the officers, through study programs organized by the higher military education institutions independently or within the university consortium, structured in Bachelor, Master, Doctoral and post academic studies. The mission of the Services' academies focuses on generating and transferring knowledge through the initial and continuous development of the officers and the specialists of other beneficiary structures as well as scientific research, improvement, innovation and technological transfer.

The academic management is centered on increasing the quality level of the educational process and scientific research, focusing, also, on the efficient organization and planning of all didactic activities, as well as on ensuring the quality standards throughout the educational programs.



Non-academic continuous education

The learning process organized in the further educational institutions is focused on a set of final objectives derived from the practice of exerting responsibilities in all military units of the Ministry of National Defence.

At the General Staff level, steps have been taken towards the starting two new pilot training programs: *Depth (Re)search* and *Ranger*, starting with school year 2016-2017. The courses were held as follows: the *Depth (Re)search* course (pilot training program) in April 2017 for two weeks, and the *Ranger* course (pilot training program) for nine weeks (three phases with seven modules) through May – July 2017.

Priorities, challenges and courses of action

Revitalization and modernization of the military educational system are conditioned by the continuous adaptation of the system to the national, EU and NATO educational evolution trends and by the necessity of improving the education quality and scientific research.

The educational institutions are actively involved in research & development & innovation programs funded with European money, by

participating in project competitions. Also, a special importance is paid to the international mobility programs as part Erasmus+ and military Erasmus programs.

For the next period, MoND focuses on a series of initiatives meant to bring an added value to the military educational system:

- Organizing the Summer Training Camp for the 11th grade pupils from all four national military colleges, within several facilities belonging to the armed forces' Services and commands, in order to achieve correlation between the high school education and practice, also with the purpose of orienting the pupils from educational and professional perspectives;
- Organizing the Summer School for the students with the best educational results from the military educational institutions;
- Continuing participating in the educational mobility programs for the teachers/professors, pupils and students, within the Erasmus+ program;
- Initiating the pilot courses *Depth (Re)search* and *Ranger* in the first semester of 2017. Also, based on the results obtained, this course will be organized in the 2018-2019 school year;

- The cybernation of the learning process and digitization of the manuals and course supports;
- Modernizing the educational logistics and material base in order to increase the value of the didactic act;
- Modernizing the structure and architecture of all military educational units and institutions, so that they promptly face the future asymmetric challenges.

“Carol I” National Defence University –connected to the values of the academic environment of NATO and EU state members

“Carol I” National Defence University carries on the legacy of the Superior War School, founded in 1889, at that time being the sixth military higher education institution in Europe, together with those from Berlin, Vienna, Paris, Torino and Brussels.

The educational programs organized here are included in A category (the highest one), being granted the *High Degree of Confidence* rating for 2015-2020 period by the Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ARACIS). Moreover, the institution has been evaluated by a team of experts of the European

Universities Association (EUA), within the Program of institutional evaluation: *“Performance in Research, Performance in Teaching- Quality, Diversity and Innovation in Romanian Universities”*.

The Romanian military academic education provides the human resources prepared to act both against conventional and asymmetric threats, independently or within NATO, according to the provisions of the Romanian Armed Forces’ Transformation Strategy. In this context, “Carol I” National Defence University periodically revises the curriculum in accordance with the requirements and standards set at NATO and European Union levels and constantly adjusts the management strategies and plans following the European Commission’s requests.

Novelty brought by 2017-2018 academic year – Leadership Master’s Degree Course in the field of communications, information technology and cyber defence

According to the current demands, the programs conducted within the Command and Staff Faculty will be the following: Master’s Degree low attendance study programs: Command Master – Land Forces, Command Master – Air Force, Command Master – Navy, Logistic Management and Economic-Financial Management.

Following the external evaluation of these new Master’s Degree programs, ARACIS Council granted the *Confidence* rating and accredited the five programs mentioned above that are going to be conducted starting with academic year 2017-2018, as low attendance studies, within “Military Sciences”.

Also, the Command and Staff Faculty has accredited the Master’s Degree study program in the domain of Critical Infrastructure Protection, as a reaction to EU’s major concern on using and applying science and innovative research in order to diminish the risks and threats specific to complex socio-ecological systems.

Starting with academic year 2017-2018, “Carol I” National Defence University introduced in its educational offer, a new command Master’s Degree study program, *Command in communications, information technology and cyber-defence*, organized by the Security and Defence Faculty, in the “Intelligence and national security” study area.

“Carol I” National Defence University actively participated in project competitions under the FP-7 Programme (the seventh Framework Programme for technological research & development, EU’s main instrument used to fund research in Europe) and ORIZONT 2020 Framework Programme (the most complex research

Also, “Carol I” National Defence University experts were invited to participate in top conferences, courses, NATO workshops (ADL Experts Group at NATO Training Group for Individual Training and Education Development; NATO ADL Mobile Expert Team) and committees (Scientific Advisory Committee of US Office of Naval Research Global). “Carol I” National Defence University scientific expertise is recommended by the participation in more than 25 scientific research projects at national and international level, FP7 and NATO competitions.

and innovation programme run by EU, with a 80 billion euro funding through 2014-2020).

Internationally, “Carol I” National Defence University continues to be part of education and research cooperation programs together with similar universities abroad, by organizing common university study programs mutually acknowledged, also by creating and applying actions such as student and teacher mobility of individuals within ERASMUS+ programs. Also, the university will continue to conduct study programs in foreign languages and in the Romanian language attended by an increasing number of foreign students.

Given the permanent preoccupation of modern armed forces with the development of military technologies, “Carol I” National Defence University hosted an inter-institutional capability of training through computer-assisted distributed exercises by using developed and shared capabilities, in order to create epistemic skills to decision-makers. Thus, participation in regional or NATO exercises and collaborative and parallel work, as well as interactive and shared access to information, simulating real life situations in a complex, consistent and credible virtual environment are all possible, due to the connection of national command, control, and simulation systems to the NATO education and training network.



➤ Graduation Ceremony at „Carol I” National Defence University

Military Technical Academy

The Military Technical Academy (MTA) is an integral part of the national higher education system, rallying itself to the rich Romanian military and politechnical tradition through its proficiency, competitiveness and efficiency. Throughout its existence, MTA has trained over 7,500 engineering officers, who have honoured their positions with competence, pursuing their carriers, both within the structures of the national security system, in governmental bodies, as well as in the private industrial environment, in renowned foreign companies and even in politics.

Starting with October 1st, 2013, the MTA is structured into two faculties: the Faculty of Mechatronics and Integrated Armaments Systems and the Faculty of Military Electronic and Information Systems, as well as an independent department "Foreign Languages, Military Science and Management".

Bachelor programs are concluded with a project which grants the students an engineering Bachelor Degree Diploma in the specific specialty within the fundamental domain "engineering science". Graduates are commissioned officers and are employed according to their academic results and the needs of the Ministry of National Defence (MoND) and of the other beneficiary structures. Master programs can be research oriented, concentrating on further interdisciplinary or complementary study of a scientific domain or professional acquisition of competencies in a specialized field.

The MTA is recognized by the Ministry of National Education as an Institution Organizing Doctoral Studies – IOSUD, with 33 confirmed Ph.D. advisors, in 8 fields of the fundamental domain "engineering science".

The MTA is certified with EN ISO 9001:2008 and AQAP 2110 so that it can carry out scientific research activities, offer consultancy for technological development and technical expertise in the field of security systems technology.

Also, in 2017, an Excellence Center for Advanced Communications Systems will be set up.

Outcomes of research activities

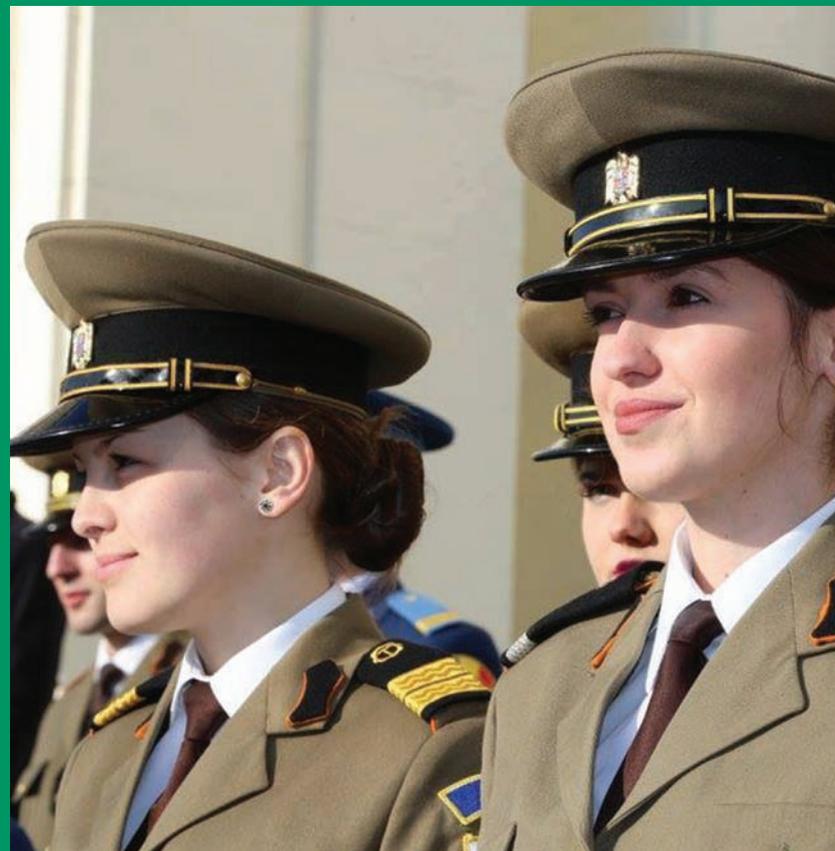
Through 2000-2016, MTA won 150 projects, over 300 research topics were approached within the Sectorial Research and Development Plan for Military Equipment and Technologies, over 90 de projects based on contracts concluded with economic agents, 325 doctoral theses were developed, over 700 scientific papers were presented at international conferences and over 130 ISI articles were written. Also, the MTA students participated in GRD 1 / 2000 / 25278 *Measuremental Technology for Aerolasticity – Technology Development for Aerolastic*

Simulations on Unstructured Grids – TAURUS program, in COST – Cooperation in the Field of Science and Technology program and in COST Action IC0603 ASSIST program. The students brought their contribution to the project "Development of guidelines for the design and implementation of ADL architectures" as part of the Memorandum of understanding between the Romanian and Dutch Ministries of Defence".

The MTA participated in many international exhibitions such as: Research Salon organized by ANCS, Military Equipment Exhibition EXPOMIL, National Conference of Scientific Research within the Higher Education System, Naval Equipment Exhibition NDE and Military Equipment Exhibition BSDA.

The MTA cooperates with more than 60 universities in the field of international relations and conducts mobility of students, by sending its own students to foreign military and civilian universities and by receiving foreign students as part of Erasmus+ program. Mobility of students takes place within the undergraduate, bachelor degree, master degree and PhD exchange programs studies.

Professors and research personnel conduct research and teaching activities in foreign military and civilian partner universities. In 2017, Erasmus+ program has celebrated 30 years of existence in UE and 20 years in Romania. The MTA has been participating in UE international programs from the beginning: Tempus (1997-2000), Socrates – Erasmus (2000-2007), Erasmus-LLP (2007-2014) and Erasmus+ (2014-2020) and has scored very good results, having more than 500 students mobilities and 100 staff mobilities in more than 40 partner universities.





Implementation of NSIP Projects – Key Objective of the Real Estate and Infrastructure Directorate

Since NATO was established in 1949, the capability development was one of its main objectives. Common funded capabilities are acquired through common use of resources. NATO common resources consist of NATO Security Investment Programme (NSIP), the Civil and Military budgets and the International Manpower. NSIP provides the capital investment funds to the NATO assets which support NATO Strategic Commands' operations and missions.

For the successful implementation of NSIP projects, extensive support of the host nation is critical. In Romania, the Real Estate and Infrastructure Directorate's (REID) main mission is to implement infrastructure projects and to assure the investment's contracting, supervision and overall management for all infrastructure projects financed either through national or multinational funding mechanisms.

The implementation of NSIP common funded projects become a key objective for REID. Therefore, the first NSIP projects were implemented at Fetesti airfield, as part of Capability Package 5A0062 – *Provide operational facilities in seven new nations*. In 2016, REID implemented in Romania investment projects funded through NSIP, to include airfields infrastructure, fuel storage facilities, communication and information systems and military headquarters.

The implementation of the NSIP projects according to NATO requirements was demanding and rewarding in the same measure, due to the fusion between the NATO minimum military requirement (MMR) and the latest

technical solutions developed for feasibility, strength and durability at reduced costs.

At Fetesti airfield, the rehabilitation works of the existing infrastructure involved 250,000 m² of cement concrete pavement – 30 cm thick (for reinforcement of the runway, taxiways and platforms), and 29,000 m² cement concrete pavement – 22 cm thick for roads, in order to comply with NATO MMR. NSIP funded project include – beside airfield pavements – several infrastructure components such as maintenance hangar, squadron operation facility, arresting gear, POL installations and tanks. NSIP projects “triggered” the national funded infrastructure projects in amount over 28 million Euros which allowed as operate the F-16s starting September 2016.

During the execution of works, multiple challenges had to be worked out, from the preparation of the technical solution which fit both NATO Criteria and Standards and the national regulations, to the search of the optimal measures for improving the foundation soil and developing the concrete formula to be used based on local conditions and materials.

Completion of infrastructure projects within the scope, costs and time required extensive coordination efforts for the development of national projects complementary to the authorized NSIP ones. The most complex NATO C4ISR exercise in Romania, STEADFAST COBALT 2016, was conducted at 48th Communication and Information Systems headquarters, using the infrastructure developed for NATO Deployable Module DCM-E and the national investments for the consolidation of the NSIP funded infrastructure.



For complex projects, a joint effort of NATO partners and Romanian infrastructure and integration teams was essential in order to achieve the expected outcome: projects BRASS (Broadcast and Ship Shore System) and SSSB (Ship Shore Ship Buffer) required that the design and implementation of infrastructure be executed by REID while the electronic portion of the project (communication and information systems) be executed by NATO NCIA. The infrastructure was designed and implemented to accommodate both communication and information technology systems in order to save NSIP funds by using a cost effective solution and achieve synergy between BRASS and SSSB by using common infrastructure.

In line with the 2015 White Paper of Defence, for the short and medium term infrastructure priorities, we seek to adapt the national legal framework in the area of infrastructure objectives implementation to NATO provisions in the field in order to run the NSIP projects in a timely manner. In order to implement the Readiness Action Plan (RAP), REID's top-priority stands in the implementation of the NSIP funded projects necessary to the NATO Response Forces participating in missions and operations on the national territory.



The WW1 Battles of Mărășești, Mărăști and Oituz

In 2016, the entrance of Romania into the World War I was marked by the National Office for Heroes' Memory through a number of projects aiming at funding, restoring and reopening the Heroes' Cemeteries in Lerești (September 27th), Poiana Sărată (October 8th) and Târgu Jiu (October 27th).

At the same time, the names of 30,000 Romanian servicemen, who died in battle or in prison, which were collected in two volumes entitled *Eroii Marelui Război* (*The Heroes of the Great War*) were identified in the archives. The identified names were solemnly read by Romanian servicemen during the ceremonies held at World War I graves and memorials in Bucharest and other 100 cities and towns, in all 41 counties of the state, on August 27th.

In 2017, at the Centenary of the battles of Mărășești, Mărăști and Oituz, the National Office for Heroes' Memory held commemorative events dedicated to the sacrifice of the Romanian servicemen.

In order to organize the Heroes' Day (on May 25th, 2017), the National Office for Heroes' Memory submitted



to the Romanian Government for approval the *Programme of the activities organized on Heroes' Day*; the programme assigned administrative and organizational duties for the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Ministry of National Education and the public local authorities with a view of holding ceremonies, thematic exhibitions, symposia, as well as commemoration activities of the heroes at war mausoleums, cemeteries, honour plots and war memorials.

The Solemn reading of the names of 5,000 heroes fallen during World War I took place at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier's on Heroes' Day, being the second ceremony of such kind.

During April – May 2017, the National Office for Heroes' Memory organized the activity *Un erou, o floare!* (*A flower for each hero!*) with the participation of pupils from secondary schools and high schools from Bacău and Vrancea counties who cared for the graves and memorials of the heroes fallen during World War I.

In September 2017, the National Office for Heroes' Memory organized a commemorative ceremony at the Heroes' Mausoleum in Soveja, in the honour of over 2,000 servicemen, interred here.



➤ Military and religious ceremony at the Romanian and Foreign Heroes' Monument in Oituz

➤ The Mausoleum of Romanian Heroes in Mărășești



In the context of World War I Centenary, the National Office for Heroes' Memory conducted restoration activities at the headstones of 2,000 Romanian servicemen who are buried in Łambinowice (Poland) and organized the opening ceremony of a monument erected in memory of 168 Romanian prisoners who died in Worms (Germany).

Also, the Office published postal envelopes and proposed to Romfilatelia to issue a full print with the cultural mausoleums from Mărășești, Mărăști and Oituz, as well as with the Romanian servicemen who fought in the above mentioned localities.

The researchers of the Office are working on publishing the third edition of *Eroii Marelui Război* (*The Heroes of the Great War*) collection which contains the names of at least 5,000 Romanian heroes who fell in battle or died as prisoners during World War I.

These very names were solemnly read on Heroes' Day, at the war tombs of the Romanian Heroes.

In August 2017, on the Office website (www.once.ro), at *Panel of War Victims* section, the institution published the nominal lists of the

identified Romanian servicemen whose human remains are centralized in Mausoleums from Mărășești (1902) and Mărăști (1011), as well as in the War Cemetery from Oituz 54).

Furthermore, the Office's historians are editing the volume *Mormintele Marelui Război* (*The Graves of the Great War*), which contains photos, sketches and descriptions of the graves of the Romanians and foreign servicemen fallen during World War I and buried on Romanian territory.

Another album, dedicated to the fallen heroes, entitled *Monumentele Marelui Război* (*The Memorials of the Great War*) was published in the spring of 2017. It contains photos and descriptions of over 400 war memorials situated on the territory of Romania and erected in the memory of both Romanian and foreign militaries.

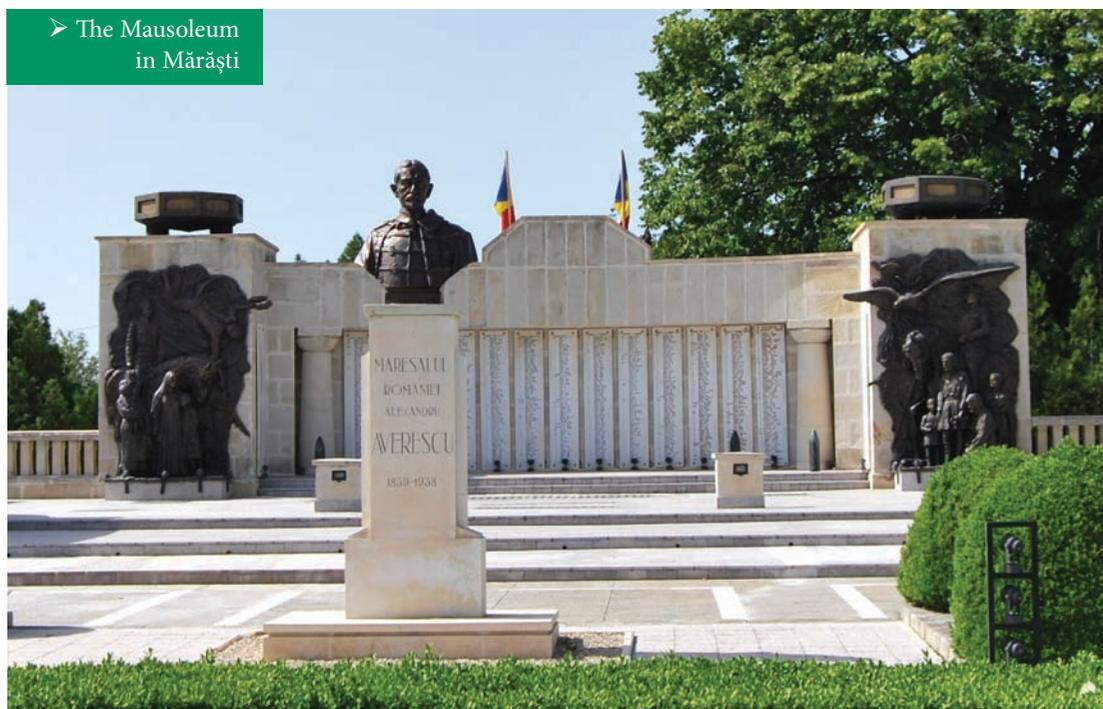
This significant year, a series of activities were organized in memory of the heroine Ecaterina Teodoroiu (the first woman combat officer). The first event was held at Ministry of National Defence and recalled the personality of 2nd Lieutenant Ecaterina Teodoroiu.

The Chorus of the Military Technical Academy and the Representative Music of the Army presented an artistic moment, at the end of the documentary film *Ecaterina Teodoroiu*.

A second project was organized in August 2017, when District 5 of the City Hall, with the support of the National Office for Heroes' Memory and the Army's Beaux-Arts Studio unveiled Ecaterina Teodoroiu's statue, located at the cross-road of Amurgului Street and Alexandriei Road. The basement of the monument was built of concrete and the statue was made of bronze.

The last activity dedicated to Ecaterina Teodoroiu, was held in September 2017, when the National Office for Heroes' Memory hosted a symposium, attended by historians specialized in World War I.

➤ The Mausoleum in Mărăști



“Thank you for not killing my father!”

One of the most representative veterans of World War II is Major General (ret) aviator Ion Dobran, an aviator who turned 98 years old this year.

General Dobran was born on February 5th, 1919, in Văleni-Podgoria, Argeş County, being one of the Romanian top fighter pilots during WW II. He initially flew the IAR 80 aircraft and then he transitioned on the Bf 109G. He participated in the Eastern Front as well as in the Mariupol Campaign. He fought against the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics' aviation, the American fighter-bombers and in the Czech Campaign against Germany. As commander of 48th Fighter Squadron, 9th Fighter Group, he took part in 340 missions, 74 air fights, with 10 air victories and a ground one confirmed. He was awarded “Steaua României” Order, “Coroana României” Order as well as “Virtutea Aeronautică” Order.

A very special story is the meeting of General Dobran with one of the adversaries he brought down during a dogfight in WW II, Colonel Barry Davis.

In 2007, Barry Davis found out from some passionates of the aviation history about a Romanian pilot who survived WW II. The way the aviator talked about in his war journal, on June 6th 1944, set the American pilot wondering. Wasn't he the one who brought his Mustang down? He hadn't even seen him coming! The details used in describing a dogfight over Galaţi matched. IT WAS HIM! He admired his courage, because he engaged in a dangerous attack.

In January 2008, Davis sent the Romanian pilot an emotional letter, in which he was writing the following: “I would like to meet you, but I don't think I'll travel to Europe at 84 years old “. Impressed with this words, Dobran answered back with another epistle: “It is not every day you get in touch with your adversary from a memorable battle, after six decades! You made me deliriously happy”. It was the

beginning of a friendship between two opponents who had never seen each other.

At the Aviation Museum from Bucharest, a cheerful white-haired man shook hands with a tall, slim man, in the presence of the Chief of Romanian Air Force Staff and of the US Ambassador. The first man is 86-years old, the other one 91. None of them shows his age and their faces betray their emotions. They gave each other a warm hug.

– Here we are friends, after so many years!, tells Davis to Dobran.

– I am glad I only hit the plane and not the pilot! We fired not to kill men but to bring aircraft down, said Dobran, in his turn. Davis and Dobran spent three days remembering history, a history they were part of...

Life was not so friendly with the destiny of one of two former opponents. After WW II, the American pilot learned to fly helicopters and became commander of North Carolina Military Academy. He worked as journalist and owned a small printing house. The Romanian aviator could not continue his career during the communist regime in which the former commissioned officers were removed and replaced with people of “healthy origin”. In 1964, he managed to get hired by the civilian aviation. He was promoted to brigadier general rank only after the fall of the communism.

On October 23rd 2008, Davis wrote to Dobran: “My children and grandchildren are very interested in finding out about the people who fought in WWII, no matter the side of the barricade they were. And I am very lucky to have met a gentlemen like you. “Davis has seven children, while Dobran has two. At the meeting the two aviators had in January 23rd 2010, Mike Davis, the eldest son of the American pilot told the Romanian general: «Thank you for not killing my father!»”



Promoting the Military Career

The recruitment of human resources in the military field impacts national security. Therefore, attracting and recruiting high-quality human resources – able to accomplish tasks and missions of the military institution within a complex, mobile and unpredictable international security environment – represent a priority for the human resources' integrated management.

Although over 10 years passed since the Romanian Military was fully professionalized and that the recruitment quantitative level has not reached yet the critical threshold, the need for well trained personnel substantially increased, in taking into account the technological and operational level the Romanian Armed Forces should reach.

The military personnel recruitment objectives and change due to a significant number of internal and external factors in the field of national defence, such as security, economic, demographical, technological, social and cultural factors.

In order to support the defence human resource recruitment, the Ministry of National Defence issued *The Strategy for Promoting the Military Career through 2016-2020*. This is based on the provisions of both *National Defence Strategy for 2015-2019* and on *The Defence White Paper*, as well as the detailed analyses of internal and external factors which influence the military profession attractiveness and the way the military profession is conducted.

The SWOT-type analysis proves that, basically, the promotion of the military profession should deal with the decreased recruitment pool and the increased competition as well as the military profession servitudes and threats. Meanwhile, it benefits from the armed forces' positive



image as well as its main advantages, namely the free professional development and the opportunities provided by the virtual environment and the new technologies, from the marketing communications perspective.

There are three strategic directions in the field of the promotion of military profession:

- the use of on-line space as the main source for sending messages;
- the increase of direct communication towards target groups;



The main channels used to disseminate/send messages are the direct contact (inter-personal communication), the Internet, printings (brochures, flyers), television and advertising (posters, banners, panels).

The implementation of *The Strategy for Promoting the Military Profession through 2016-2020* has begun with the launching of the website **recrutare.mapn.ro**, together with the opening of two profile pages on the social-media platforms (Facebook and Twitter) – **RecrutareMapN**, which led to the improvement of the communication with the target audience.

At the same time, the military recruitment brand (visual identity) has been created and implemented in the *on-line environment*, represented by a logo and the slogan **Aim high! Be the best!**

Taking into account that *The Strategy for Promoting the Military Profession through 2016-2020* is on its second year of implementation, the visible countable effects will be seen within the next years. Our expectations aim at the improvement of military profession image and increasing the attractiveness of the Ministry of National Defence educational and professional offer addressed to the civil and military youth, which translates into accurate information with respect to the opportunities of joining the military system and increasing the number of candidates prepared and motivated for the military career.

Providing an adequate human resources, both quantitative and qualitative that meets the needs of the Ministry of the National Defence represents one of the premises which enables the functionality of the military institution and the fulfillment of the security objectives of Romania.

Therefore, recruitment represents the first and most important step in the provision of the human resource for the Romanian Armed Forces, which allows the military system to approach the new security environment paradigm and the development of the society as a whole.

- the revitalization of the values that the armed forces promote within the society, such as patriotism, national pride, duty, honor, courage and so on.

The campaign for the promotion of the military profession takes place at regional and national levels, in an integrated and unitary manner (logo, slogan, messages, and graphic concept).

Due to the heterogeneity of the target audience, the message delivery is secured by a promotional mix which combines the direct promotion actions (face-to-face communication) with the

commercial-type ones along with those from the public relations' field, for a mutual complementation and support.

In order to get the expected answer from the target audience, numerous methods, actions and promotional products specific to the chosen communication means are used, depending on the objectives and the budget of each advertising campaign. Thus, the strategy to attract the youth to the military career is based on three pillars – technology, marketing and communication – so that the military structures function at optimum level.



Implementation of Volunteer Reservists' Service

The endorsement of the *Law no. 270/2015 on the Status of the volunteer reservists* came as a necessity following the suspension of conscription beginning with 2007, which determined the need of completing the existing human resources with the operational reserve so that the units can be able to fulfill their assigned missions; the law was also developed following the civil society's requirement in implementing a new type of short-time military service, which shall be addressed to citizens who do not want to join the armed forces, but who do want to undergo a military training program.

The following principles have been taken into account when developing the law:

- the law shall be correlated with current regulations on Romanian armed forces' combat readiness;
- reducing the costs and time associated to the candidates' recruitment and selection process;
- provide adequate conditions so that the volunteer reservists achieve training level close to the one attained by the active military personnel.

The volunteer reservists' service is intended to all categories of military personnel (officers, warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and privates) while being accessible to all citizens, men or women, either to those having the reservist status following the accomplishment of one of the active military service modules, or to those without any military background.

Citizens who want to serve as volunteer reservists must have Romanian citizenship and permanent residence on national territory while meeting the general and specific recruitment and selection criteria.

The general recruitment and selection criteria apply to all personnel categories, Services and military occupational

specialties (MOS), and take into consideration mainly the candidates' medical and psychological compatibility with the military service, their physical fitness and appropriate civic behavior (shown by a clean criminal record), as well as their membership to any religious or criminal organizations which are incompatible with the military service.

The specific recruitment and selection criteria are differentiated by personnel categories, Services and MOS, and are similar to those stipulated for the active-duty personnel, with the amendment that the standards used for medical, psychological and physical tests are specifically set for the volunteer reservists.

In this respect, the "level of graduated studies" is an eloquent example on how a specific criterion has been differentiated by personnel categories for the candidates without military background:

- officers – bachelor's degree or master's degree required, proved by a graduation certificate;
- warrant and non-commissioned officers – college/high-school level, proved by a graduation certificate;
- privates – secondary-school diploma.

The recruitment and selection process shall be conducted mainly at local basis, at the military centers and dedicated units' headquarters. As a general rule, the volunteer reservists shall be recruited from citizens having their permanent residence in the same county where the dedicated unit is deployed during peacetime.

The selection of candidates shall be conducted at one of the dedicated units' headquarters by a board nominated at county level and consists of psychological and physical training tests whose total duration will not exceed 1 day per candidate.

After passing the psychological and physical tests, the candidates declared “accepted” will have to go through a medical examination within the Ministry of Defence’s hospital, the related expenditures being supported from the defence budget.

The volunteer reservists’ training consists of the initial training (only for the candidates recruited from citizens without military background), which is intended to develop the competences, knowledge and skills needed for the fulfillment of the future duties, and the continuous training, which is to be conducted during the military service period.

The initial training consists in going through a training program before signing the first contract, which is structured on 3 modules, as follows: the basic individual training module, the individual MOS training module and the leadership training module. Depending on the personnel category they are training for, the applicants shall carry out the initial training within dedicated units or MOS training institutions. The training program duration shall last 16 weeks for privates, 18 weeks for non-commissioned officers, 20 weeks for warrant officers and 22 weeks for the commissioned officers.

The continuous training consists in the attendance of the 15-day annual training program within the units they are appointed to, as well as in attending exercises, career and specialty courses.

The relationship between the volunteer reservists and the military institution shall be stipulated in a contract, which shall be signed by the applicant and the unit’s commander, as MoND representative.



During major crisis and wartime situations, the volunteer reservists’ contracts shall be suspended these being obliged to report as soon as possible to the units they are assigned to as called up or mobilized reservists and serve on mandatory base until demobilization time occurs. After that, the volunteer reservists’ contracts shall be reinforced with the same clauses as before.

Volunteer reservists shall participate in missions with the units they are assigned to, either on national territory or abroad, according to MoND needs. In this respect, the volunteer reservists may be called up during peacetime, based on written order, which shall be handed over to them by the unit they are assigned to, at least 60 days before the reporting date.

During training and mission periods within the units they are assigned to, volunteer reservists are entitled to the same rights and privileges as the military active personnel, such as: wages, food, clothing, social protection, medical care and medicines. Moreover, when called up or mobilized, the volunteer reservists shall be reimbursed the trip from their permanent residence to the unit’s headquarters.

When not involved in training activities or missions within the units they are assigned to, volunteer reservists are entitled to a monthly payment, which represents 10% from the sum of their position and rank corresponding wages.

Throughout 2017, the Romanian MoND intends to recruit 2,800 volunteer reservists, as follows: 200 commissioned officers, 400 non-commissioned and warrant officers and 2,200 privates.



Multinational Brigade South East

The Multinational Brigade was born in response to the new environment of insecurity and instability along NATO's borders and beyond. The Alliance faces a range of security challenges and threats that originate both from the East and from the South, from state and non-state actors, from military forces and from terrorist, cyber, or hybrid attacks.

Based on solidarity, Alliance's cohesion and the indivisibility of security, NATO remains the Trans-Atlantic framework for strong collective defence and the essential forum for security consultations and decisions among Allies. The greatest responsibility of the Alliance is to protect and defend the territory and the populations against attack as set out in Article 5 of the Washington Treaty. This way, renewed emphasis has been placed on deterrence and collective defence.

At the 2016 Warsaw Summit, two main directions were born. The first one consists in NATO's decision to establish an enhanced forward presence in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and

Poland to demonstrate Allies' solidarity, determination and ability to act by triggering an immediate Allied response to any aggression. Established in early 2017, the enhanced forward presence (eFP) will comprise multinational forces provided by framework nations and other contributing allies on a voluntary, sustainable, and rotational basis. The eFP will consist of four battalion-sized battle groups that can operate in conjunction with national forces, permanently stationed in these countries. Canada, Germany, the United Kingdom and the United States serve as framework nations for the robust multinational presence in Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia and Poland.

The second one aims at developing a tailored forward presence (tFP) in the Southeast of the Alliance territory. Appropriate measures, tailored to the Black Sea region and the Romanian initiative in establishing a multinational framework brigade to help improve integrated training of Allied units under the Multinational Division Southeast (MNDSE), are part



of the contribution to the Alliance's strengthened deterrence and defence posture, situational awareness, and peacetime demonstration of NATO's intent to operate without constraint. These measures will also provide a strong support to regional security.

In July 2016, NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg announced, at the beginning of a two-day NATO Summit in Warsaw, that NATO would turn a Romanian brigade into a multinational one. On September 27th,



➤ Multinational Brigade personnel at Saber Guardian 2017

after the Homeland Defence Supreme Council meeting, President Klaus Iohannis announced that 2nd Infantry Brigade “Rovine” from Craiova would be the framework brigade of this multinational formation.

The decision was made based on the solid experience, training and equipment of the 2nd Infantry Brigade “Rovine”. Its equipment is very modern, NATO certified and ranked at a very high level.

The NATO multinational brigade, with its headquarters located in Craiova, declared the Initial Operational Capability (IOC) in April this year, with at least six allies being interested in joining it; in the most optimistic case, this brigade will be fully functional in 2018.

Also, one air defence battery of the MN BDE will be part of the eFP in Poland led by a US Battle Group.

Following the announcement made by the President of the state, most of the resources have been focused on implementing this essential project assumed by our country.

The inherent challenges posed by the diverse cultural background of the multinational brigade might be its best strongpoint, taking in consideration that diverse mindsets from all over NATO countries could bring the most brilliant solutions to the problems of the 21st century’s security climate we are facing today on NATO’s borders.



Building and achieving full operational capability of the MN BDE is a great goal for the near future, with a tremendous amount of work for the years 2017 and 2018. The challenges faced by the new MN BDE are multiple and consist of meeting extremely tight deadlines, building a new team at the BDE HQ level manned with personnel from different countries and integrating this HQ into NATO’s chain of command.

The training of the newly assigned personnel will be carried out gradually and their achievements will be validated throughout the exercises conducted with the support

of different training facilities for live exercises or simulated capabilities. Also, we count on the experience of the people working in the MND SE HQ, which is due to achieve full operational capability soon. The MND SE HQ might bring a breath of fresh air regarding the mitigation of certain aspects and challenges we are facing in establishing the multinational brigade headquarters. Their expertise will be greatly appreciated, taking into consideration that they already operate in a multinational environment and some of their lessons learned might be successfully applied within the multinational brigade headquarters.

Being a brigade, means that its subordinate units, the Infantry, Artillery, Air Defence battalions and the CSS elements must be well trained to reach the required readiness level in a very short time and use its firepower and nonlethal capabilities in a suitable manner, as a response to the new security threats and challenges.

The long history of 2nd Infantry Brigade, its experience accumulated in the past 20 years in an international climate and a high number of multinational missions conducted in six theaters of operations, are the guarantee for success in implementing the new MN BDE on this historical ground.

The 2nd Infantry Brigade is proud of the honor and trust given to it by the decision-makers and willing to fulfill its tasks!





Multinational Division South East

Headquarters Multinational Division South East (HQ MND-SE) is a North Atlantic Council (NAC) activated NATO military body under the operational command (OPCOM) of Supreme Allied Commander Europe (SACEUR) and currently led by Brigadier General Ovidiu Uifăleanu.

In accordance with NAC decision, the HQ MND-SE enjoys NATO International Military HQ status pursuant to the Paris Protocol and other Supplementary Agreements made between NATO nations and Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE).

HQ MND-SE mission, under Joint Force Command Naples (JFCNP) operational control (OPCON), is to be prepared to command and control an Article 5 operation as a divisional headquarters in the South-East region, based on NATO advance planning, as authorized by the NAC and directed by SACEUR, in order to contribute to the security of Alliance's territory and populations.

Once Full Capability is achieved by spring 2018, the new headquarters will provide a high readiness capability to command forces deployed within the South East region of NATO's bordering nations, with an important contribution to NATO's collective defence.

Even though the headquarters is still very young, many milestones had to be achieved during its short history. On September 1st 2015, the 1st Infantry Division "DACICA" was transformed into HQ MND-SE by Order of the former Romanian Ministry of Defence, Mircea Duşa, who noted that *"the new commander is facing a complicated, hard work; the headquarters should become operational by 2018 (...)* We

have estimated that all the works concerning to making the structure operational will be worth 60 million euro, and some of the money will be recovered from NATO joint funds."

Three months later, December 1st 2015, the activation ceremony of the headquarters was celebrated in Bucharest, which represented the official integration of HQ MND-SE into the NATO Force Structure (NFS) based on the implementation NATO Readiness Action Plan (RAP) established at the Wales Summit, 2014.

This event has huge significance for Romania. The activation clearly stated that Romania honoured its commitment undertaken during the 2014 NATO Summit. *"Romania has fulfilled its objectives within the promised timeframe and in accordance with the Alliance's level of ambition and the adopted measures taken in 2014 at the*





Great Britain's Summit”, said His Excellency Mr Klaus Werner Iohannis, President of Romania.

From the Activation Ceremony, HQ MND-SE personnel had to face many challenges in order to meet all the demanding lines of efforts set in the Implementation Plan. HQ MND-SE held the Initial Capability Declaration Ceremony, on July 1, 2016, as a result of a common effort between NATO structures. *“After the Wales Summit decision, NATO’s personnel worked hard and all crucial milestones for the headquarters were achieved”*, said Brigadier General Ovidiu Uifăleanu, former Commander of HQ MND-SE.

“It has been a tremendous effort, demonstrating the unity of the Alliance.”

So far HQ MND-SE staff is made up of commissioned officers, warrant officers (WOs) and non-commissioned officers (NCOs) from 11 contributing nations: Albania, Bulgaria, Canada, France, Germany, Greece, Poland, Romania, Spain, United Kingdom and United States; the immediate incorporation of Slovak and Turkish personnel is expected. The headquarters is designated to be manned by 280 personnel, including 75 from other NATO member states.

Over 2016, HQ MND-SE personnel developed deployable standard operating procedures (SOPs) and directives, attended different training courses in order to meet all NATO standards, and conducted and supported a series of exercises.

In 2016, HQ MND-SE conducted exercises DACIAN LYNX 2016 (DALE16) and DACIAN LANCE 2016 (DALE16), supported NATO exercise TRIDENT JUNCTURE 2016 (TRJE16) and US Army Europe (USAREUR) exercise SABER GUARDIAN 2016 (SG16).

This year more milestones are to be set for the Multinational Division South East Headquarters.

The scheduled exercises will challenge all members of the headquarters individually and collectively. Successful completion of these exercises will increase headquarters’ ability to conduct command and control of its subordinate units at the division level, preparing the personnel for the achievement of Full Capability in April 2018.



Romanian Host Nation Support to NATO Exercises

Host Nation Support (HNS) has the purpose to provide the NATO Commander and the Sending Nations (SNs) with support in the form of materiel, facilities and services, including area security and administrative support in accordance with negotiated arrangements between the SN and/or NATO and the Host Nation (HN) government. As such, HNS facilitates the introduction of forces into an Area of Operations (AOO) by providing essential Reception, Staging and Onward Movement (RSOM) support.

Romanian system of Host Nation Support

The conception of ROU Host Nation Support duties and procedures was

implemented in 2010 and approved by Homeland Defence Supreme Council Decision no. 102.

Accordingly, the Ministry of National Defence has the coordinating responsibility of HNS all over Romanian territory through ROU GS HNS Coordination Committee (CC-GS-HNS) led by the Chief of the Logistics Directorate J-4/General Staff, with the support of the Foreign Forces Inter-ministerial Liaison Committee for the civilian sector and other ministries' aid. During exercises and operations, a Romanian HNS Coordination Center (ROU HNS CC) is established.

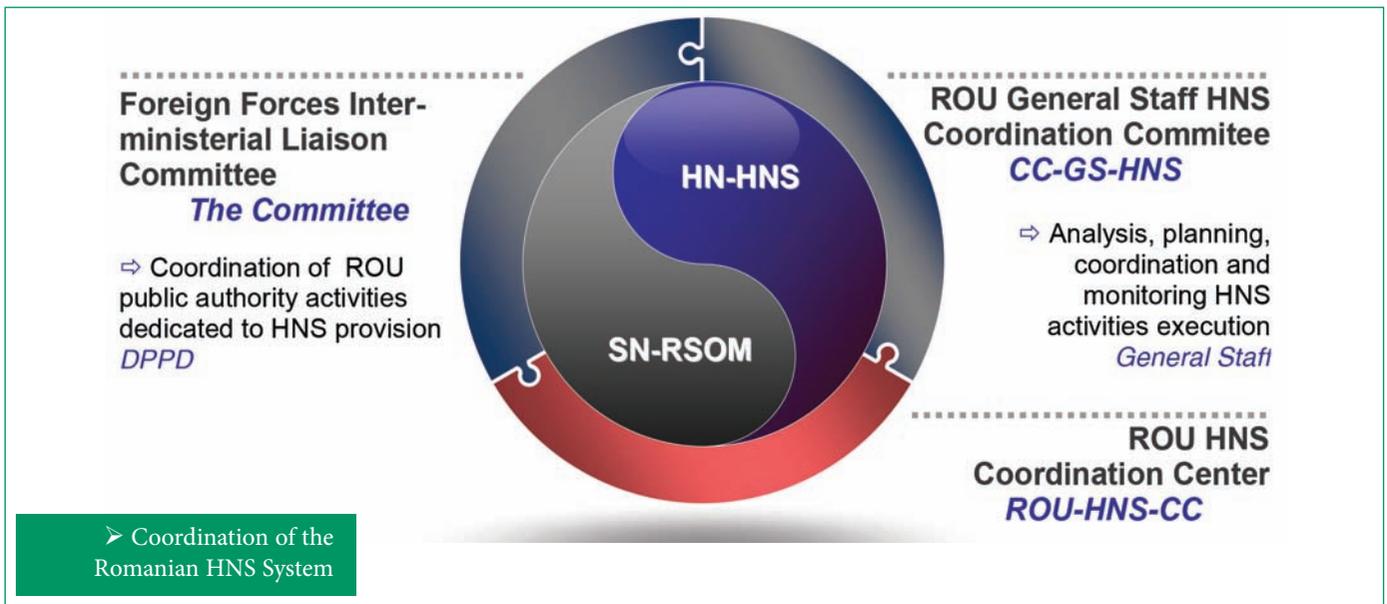
Romanian HNS system is made up of a net of military Points of Contact (POC) which include the

General Staff and its subordinated Services (Land Forces, Air Forces, Navy) and Commands (Joint Logistics Command and Communication and Information Technology Command) and of the liaison with civilian sector achieved through the support of the Foreign Forces Inter-ministerial Liaison Committee, which is subordinated to the Defence Policy and Planning Department.

Experience of the Romanian Armed Forces

Joining NATO by Romania in 2004 established scope of requirements concerning structures, tasks and procedures to be implemented by national defence system. In terms of Host Nation Support, Romania





has continuously improved its HNS capability by participating in NATO HNS forums, adapting its legislation and procedures in accordance with the partners' requests and lessons learned and also by preparing its infrastructure and capabilities in order to meet the demands resulting from common plans and arrangements regarding HNS and RSOM.

Romanian Armed Forces have been providing HNS for a long time, according to the agreements signed with its partners, in locations like Mihail Kogălniceanu Base and Airfield, Bucharest and Sibiu Airports of Disembarkation (APODs), various Rail Heads of Debarcation (RHODs) and military bases on Romanian territory and also to transiting operations across the country.

Nowadays, joint exercises become more and more significant within NATO. That is why Romanian Armed Forces take part in many different exercises organized abroad or in our country. During the exercises organized on Romanian territory, HNS was provided to the partners, consisting in accommodation, food, water, hygiene, security, communications, transportation and other types of goods and services. PLATINUM LINX, SCORPIONS FURY, PLATINUM EAGLE, BLONDE AVALANCHE, IEL/MILU, STEADFAST COBALT, BSRF and DACIAN EAGLE are some of the exercises which benefitted from HNS.

Exercises "Noble Jump 2017" and "Saber Guardian 2017" which took place on Romanian territory – were two of the largest operations Romania was involved in. These exercises imply a huge HNS effort, starting with the planning process that spread – for both exercises – across 2016 and 2017 with a lot of Conferences, Working Groups and site-surveys, continuing with the HNS Technical Arrangements signed for NOJP17 by JFC Naples and for SG17 by USAREUR and the negotiation and signature of the Statements of Requirements (SORs) and concluding with the execution of the exercises consisting in the deployment, execution of the exercises and redeployment. Two HNS Arrangements were signed, one for each exercise, and 11 SORs for NOJP17 and 9 SORs for SG17.

Both exercises had an important part of RSOM, Romania being involved in preparing and managing the infrastructure, transportation network and the operating personnel. In RSOM process, six Border crossing points, one Seaport, Five Airports, five Rail stations, two Convoy Support Centers, four Rest-Over Night locations and seven Refuel On Move locations were used. Also, during NOJP17, RSOM support was given to 97 convoys, 8 rail transports and 42 air transports while for SG17 Exercise support was offered during the deployment of and 454 convoys, 122 rail transports, 101 air transports

and 2 sea transports benefitted from RSOM support.

Personnel from the General Staff, Land Forces, Air Forces, Navy, Medical Directorate, Joint Logistic Command, Communication and Informatics Command and National Movement Coordinating Center were involved in the provision of HNS and RSOM from the Romanian part. Also, support from civilian institutions and authorities was needed during the execution of several connected exercises and, in several cases, facilities from different areas had to be rented from their owners.

It was for the first time in the last twenty years when Romania was involved in the provision of HNS at this extend, when a lot of issues were learned, at the same time, we identified a lot of lessons that are still analyzed and will help the improvement of Romanian capacity and ability to provide HNS at NATO standards.

Romania gained a lot of experience during Noble Jump 17 and Saber Guardian 17 Exercises, succeeding in fulfilling its duties as Host Nation. Undoubtedly, such good results would not have been achieved without the support given by other Government ministries. They confirmed their professionalism, responsibility and readiness to undertake such actions.

Professionalism and engagement of personnel are keys to a successful accomplishment of tasks within logistics.



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