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# ROMANIAN MILITARY NEWSLETTER

**Official Talks between Mihnea Motoc and  
Victoria Nuland at the Defence Ministry**

## Special points of interests:

- Official Talks between Mihnea Motoc and Victoria Nuland at the Defence Ministry
- Vice President of the Atlantic Council Welcomed at the Ministry of National Defence
- Romania Takes Over the Annual Chairmanship of the Steering Group of the Multinational Engineer Battalion „Tisa”
- Ceremony at the Promotion in Rank of Several Retired Generals and Officers
- Official Meeting at the Ministry of National Defence



The Minister of National Defence and the U.S. Assistant Secretary  
of State for European and Eurasian Affairs

The Minister of National Defence, Mihnea Motoc, met with Ms. Victoria Nuland, the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs, on Monday, January 18.

The meeting agenda included talks on bilateral military cooperation considered to be both substantial and pragmatic within the strategic projects developed at home or in theaters of operations. Minister Ministrul Motoc emphasized the importance of the Strategic Partnership between Romania and the USA in the 21st century in terms of defence cooperation in the framework of the security architecture approached by our country.

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They also discussed the regional security developments, including those in the Black Sea region.

The Romanian official considers that the rhythmic implementation of NATO's Readiness Action Plan/ RAP is a priority in the allied effort to adapt to the new realities of the global security environment.

Emphasized were the efforts made by our country to meet the commitments assumed at national level for RAP before the Warsaw Summit. Minister Motoc pointed out the national consensus on the need to modernize the Romanian armed forces and improving their operational readiness. This is proved by the national agreement to allot a minimum 2 percent of the GDP for defence for a decade from 2017 on.

The defence minister brought up the subject of the two important milestones in the relation of Romania and NATO, namely the establishment of two allied structures in Bucharest, the NATO Force Integration Unit (NFIU) and the Multinational Division Southeast headquarters, in Bucharest.

The political and concept preparation of the Warsaw Summit, where long-term adaptation measures of the Alliance are expected, has Romania play an important role, such hosting a meeting of the allied defence policy directors in April 2016.

### **Vice President of the Atlantic Council Welcomed at the Ministry of National Defence**

The State Secretary for Defence Policy and Planning, Valeriu Nicuț, received Damon Wilson, Vice President at the Atlantic Council, at the defence ministry, on Wednesday, January 18. The two officials exchanged view on the geopolitical realities of the Black Sea region, the security developments and their impact on the transatlantic space.

As to the preparation of the Warsaw Summit, the Romanian official emphasized the essential role of the USA in consolidating the eastern flank of the Alliance and the security of our country, highlighting the framework offered by the Joint Declaration on Strategic Partnership for the 21st century between the United States of America and Romania for the development of defence cooperation.



The State Secretary for Defence Policy and Planning, Valeriu Nicuț, received Damon Wilson, Vice President at the Atlantic Council



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## **Romania Takes Over the Annual Chairmanship of the Steering Group of the Multinational Engineer Battalion „Tisa”**

Romania will take over from Hungary the annual chairmansip of the Steering Group of the Multinational Engineer Battalion „Tisa”, a regional initiative that includes Slovakia and Ukraine, during a ceremony that will take place in Budapest, on Thursday, January 14.

Romania holds the chairmanship in year 2016. Several expert level reunions and meetings of the Steering Group will be organized, as well as the multinational exercise „BLONDE AVALANCHE 2016”, that will bring together engineer structures of the four member states. Some of Romania’s priorities during the chairmanship of the Steering Group are making the initiative more visible and promoting an “open doors” policy in order to attract more members and continue taking steps to extend the area of responsibility of the Multinational Engineer Battalion „Tisa”. Operating procedures are also going to be improved for a better coordination and organization of exercise „BLONDE AVALANCHE 2016”.

The ceremony in Hungary will be attended by a delegation of the General Staff, headed by the deputy chief of the General Staff for Operations and Training, Major General Cristinel CERNEA.

## **Ceremony at the Promotion in Rank of Several Retired Generals and Officers**

A ceremony was organized on the occasion of the promotion in rank of several retired generals and officers at the Marble Hall of the Palace of the National Military Club, on Thursday, January 14.

Seven war veterans, colonels and commandors, and nine retired colonels were promoted to the rank of general by Presidential decree, at the proposal of the minister of defence.

Other five war veterans, generals and admirals, and three retired generals were promoted to the next rank.

The ceremony ended with a show of „Ion Dacian” Operetta and Music Hall Theater.



Ceremony at the promotion in rank of several retired generals and officers

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## Official Meeting at the Ministry of National Defence

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State Secretary for Defence Policy and Planning, Valeriu Nicuț, received the Latvian Foreign Ministry State Secretary, Andrejs Pildegovičs, at the defence ministry, on Thursday, January 7.

The talks agenda included bilateral defence cooperation, regional security and aspects related to the future NATO Summit in Warsaw.

The two officials pointed out the similarities of our countries' position in the discussed matters. They also expressed their conviction that by continuing to mutually support each other within Euro-Atlantic organizations, the two countries could contribute more to meeting the latter's goals.