

**April 30th, 2018****Issue no. 3**

110 Izvor St., Bucharest, Romania

tel/fax +4021-3195698

e-mail: drp@mapn.ro

www.mapn.gov.ro

ROMANIAN MILITARY NEWSLETTER

Romanian Defence Minister's Visit to Jordan

Special points of interests:

- Romanian Defence Minister's Visit to Jordan
- Certification Ceremony of the British Royal Air Force Detachment at Mihail Kogălniceanu Air Base
- Plan of Bilateral Cooperation with the Republic of Moldova Was Signed



The Romanian delegation participating in the reunion in Jordan

Over April 28th to May 2nd, as part of his official visit to Jordan, the Minister of National Defence Mihai Fifor participated in the “Aqaba Process” reunion, co-chaired by King Abdullah II bin al-Hussein of Jordan and the Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs, Taro Kono.

The discussions included an assessment of the security situation in South-East Asia, also from the perspective of last year's progress. The delegations exchanged opinions on the efficiency of the analysis and evaluation process of the current challenges (violent extremism, cyber threats and financing terrorist activities), as well as specific ways of cooperation on countering them.

On Sunday, April 29th, Minister Fifor was received by King Abdullah II bin al-Hussein, at the Royal Palace in Aqaba. On this occasion, the two

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officials discussed the international security environment and military bilateral relations. They expressed their intention to develop projects of cooperation in fields of common interest, the defence industry included, also cooperation on military education and training of Romanian and Jordan military.

During his official visit, the Minister of National Defence Mihai Fifor also met with the Jordanian Armed Forces Chief of Joint Staff, Lieutenant-General Mahmoud Freihat, on Monday, April 30th. The two officials discussed topics of mutual interest, such as military bilateral relations, especially common training sessions of the Romanian and Jordan troops and the possibility to cooperate in the field of the defence industry.

Minister Fifor visited the Jordan Centre for Countering Extremism, established in Zarka, last year, where he was briefed on the training opportunities the Romanian soldiers would have by training in the fight against terrorism.

Certification Ceremony of the British Royal Air Force Detachment at Mihail Kogălniceanu Air Base

State Secretary Mircea Duşa and the chief of Defence Staff General Nicolae Ciucă participated in the certification ceremony of the British Royal Air Force Detachment that will carry out Enhanced Air Police missions on the eastern flank of NATO. The ceremony took place at Mihail Kogălniceanu Air Base on April 27th.

The state secretary stated that the first reassurance measures on the eastern flank were taken after the Wales NATO Summit, when they established the rotation principle of the permanent NATO troops' presence.

The ceremony took place in the presence of the British ambassador to Romania and the representatives of NATO and the British Royal Air Force.

The British detachment consisting of about 160 troops (pilots and technical staff) will carry out Enhanced Air Police missions with four Eurofighter Typhoon aircraft over May 1st to August 31st 2018, along with MiG-21 LanceR aircraft and troops of the Romanian Air Force. The four British aircraft landed at Mihail Kogălniceanu Air Base on Friday, April 23rd.



State Secretary Mircea Duşa and the
British Ambassador Paul Brummell

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The enhanced air police mission under NATO command is a collective defence mission at peace, meant to ensure the integrity of the Alliance air space.

The air police missions carried out jointly will contribute to the development of the reaction and deterrence capability, as well as to the strengthening of the inter-operability between the Romanian and British air forces.

The deployment of the aircraft of the British Royal Air Forces in Romania is part of the implementation of the Action Plan for ensuring the NATO's operational capability on the eastern flank of the Alliance, in the northern area, and also in the Southern area, and proves NATO's unity and determination as reaction to the security environment challenges. This is the second time a British detachment is deployed at Mihail Kogalniceanu Air Base for air police missions, together with FAR, with the first such detachment having been deployed over May 1st to August 31st 2017.

Plan of Bilateral Cooperation with the Republic of Moldova Was Signed

The State Secretary for Defence Policy, Planning and International Relations, Mircea Duşa, and his Moldovan counterpart, Dumitru Mînzărari signed the Plan of Bilateral Cooperation, at the defence ministry, on April 25th.

The document consolidates the bilateral relations in the field of defence and includes the activities and the circumstances of cooperation. Among them, the training in common of the troops, assistance given for the continuation of the reform and modernization process of the defence system of the Republic of Moldova and the training of specialized personnel.

The priorities of 2018 are practical cooperation by intensifying exercises and common training session, increasing the number of places allotted for Moldovan students for the military education system and offering



Mircea Duşa and his Moldovan counterpart, Dumitru Mînzărari signed the Plan of Bilateral Cooperation for this year

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experts through the programs of development from NATO. They also established new fields of training such as military medicine.

In terms of bilateral cooperation on defence, the officials approached aspects of the strategic partnership on defence, projects developed jointly by Romania and Moldova, the regional security situation and the cooperation perspectives of the Republic of Moldova with the EU and NATO. They also analyzed new lines of development of the bilateral cooperation so that the Romanian Armed Forces should continue the support offered so far to the process of reform and modernization of the National Armed Forces of the Republic of Moldova.

It was the 4th meeting of the Romanian-Moldovan Joint Commission on defence since the cooperation was resumed in this format in 2015.

„I wish to assure you of our support in continuing the process of reform and modernization of the National Armed Forces at all levels, including the bilateral one and the international cooperation formats”, Mircea Duşa concluded.

During the meeting of the Joint Commission, the contract was signed stipulating the donation of educational materials for the military personnel of the Republic of Moldova.