MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENCE

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Defence Minister, at the Black Sea and Balkans Security Forum



Defence Minister, Gabriel Leş, at Black Sea and Balkans Security Forum

Minister of National Defence, Gabriel Leş, participated in the Black Sea and Balkans Security Forum International Conference, which took place at Mamaia, on June 14th.

In his allocution, minister Leş presented an assessment of the security situation from the Black Sea area, pointing out that its development could be alarming because of Russia's strategic interests in this geographical space, by trying to ensure its military supremacy and limit NATO's regional posture.

The defence minister emphasized that "Romania pays attention to Russia's behavior with respect to the adaptation of its security strategy and its military doctrine with a view of limiting the initiation of a military action and the launching of preemptive attacks" and the fact that is necessary that the North-Atlantic Alliance focus on this matter. Also, Gabriel Leş appreciated that a long-term strategy for the Black Sea region needs to be developed in order to permanently monitor Russia's actions in the area, consolidate the internal resilience capability

Special points of interests:

- Defence Minister, at the Black Sea and Balkans Security Forum
- Consultative forum on energetic sustainability in the defence and security field, in Bucharest
- Romanian soldiers participating in activities marking 75 years of debarkation in Normandy

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of our partners against the pressures made by this country but also to consolidate NATO's deterrence and defence posture in the area.

"The approach of the allies for the Black Sea region, presented at Washington, this April, represents an important step in this direction", said minister of national defence.

When referring to the second important topic of this conference – the security situation in the Western Balkans, minister Leş appreciated that a new crisis in the region would have serious repercussions on the European security and stability.

"The commitment to stabilize the Western Balkans and integrate them in the Euro-Atlantic community are a central point in our strategy on the region, while the security and stability are of strategic importance for Romania /.../ Also, the current operational commitment of the European Union must be maintained because it brought substantial results and continues to be very important for the stability and security of the region", appreciated the defence minister.

Minister Leş concluded by saying that, in his opinion, it is necessary that the European Union "send a clear and overall message with respect to the support offered to the European perspective of the countries in the region, basing on its own merits, thus, offering them the motivation to continue their internal reforms and ensure the respecting of the democratic values and human rights".

Consultative forum on energetic sustainability in the defence and security field, in Bucharest

On June 12th, the minister of national defence participated in the opening of the working sessions of the forth reunion of the Consultative forum on energetic sustainability in the defence and security field, organized in Bucharest by the European Defence Agency (EDA) together with the General Directorate for Energy of the European Commission, with the support of the Research Agency for Military Equipment and Technologies, in the context of the PRESSRO.



Defence Minister Gabriel Leş, together with the Executive Director of the European Defence Agency, Jorge Domecq

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Romanian soldiers participating in activities marking 75 years of debarkation in Normandy

A Romanian Armed Forces detachment made up of 41 paratroopers participated, with a C 130 Hercules airlift aircraft, together with their comrades from Belgium, France, Germany, Netherlands, Great Britain and the United States of America in the airborne operation "D-Day Landings Commemoration" from Sainte-Mere-Eglise, Chebourg Evreux, France, conducted over 5-10 June.

The activity was part of a magnificent heroes commemoration ceremony and marks 75 years since the "Debarkation in Normandy", one of the most important military events in the history of mankind.

Thus, almost 1,000 paratroopers recreated a part of the memorable attack of June 6, 1944, on the Normandy shore of over 150,000 allies. On the other hand, the synchronized launching of a great number of paratroopers from the NATO state members, even in such context, was a good opportunity to increase interoperability among the participating national structures and the execution of the airborne operations.

The Romanian detachment headed by Brigadier General Adrian Ciolponea takes part both in the airborne exercises and in the "Wing Exchange" commemoration ceremonies, from Sainte-Mere-Eglise area, which are scheduled to take place on June 9th. War veterans and important political-military personalities will attend the large-scale commemorative activities.