



MILITARY REVIEW

NEWSLETTER

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTERESTS:

Defence Minister at the Signing Ceremony of the Memorandum of Understanding on the NATO Climate Change and Security Center of Excellence

Minister of National Defence and his Bulgarian counterpart signed the Letter of Intent for the establishment of the Regional Special Operations Component Command

The Joint Declaration on the formalization of the Training Coalition for the Ukrainian Air Force with a view of operating the F-16 aircraft was signed

Informal Meeting of NATO Defence Ministers

DEFENCE MINISTER AT THE SIGNING CEREMONY OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON THE NATO CLIMATE CHANGE AND SECURITY CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

Defence Minister, Angel Tîlvăr, participated, as part of the Vilnius Summit, in the Signing Ceremony of the Memorandum of Understanding regarding Romania's joining, as sponsor nation, of the NATO Climate Change and Security Center of Excellence that will be established in Canada.

Over the last years, the issue of climate change and its impact on security has been a major topic on the Allied agenda. NATO's Strategic Concept reflects the major challenge the climate change poses to the security environment, acting as a multiplier of security threats and risks and also affecting the way Allied armed forces operate. Moreover, NATO leaders aimed at assigning the Alliance a model role, at international level, regarding the understanding and adaptation to climate changes.



The ambitious actions carried out at NATO level in this field have boosted similar efforts at national level and also, in this context, Romania's alignment to the processes carried out within European and Euro-Atlantic contexts.

"I welcome Canada's initiative of hosting the NATO Climate Change and Security Center of Excellence and the valuable input brought in this field. Romania supported these initiatives at Allied level and the interest given to this field is also reflected in the national programmatic documents. Moreover, I can state that we are in an advanced phase of developing a National Strategy on approaching the climate change in the field of defence, which is intended to be endorsed by the end of this year", Minister Tîlvăr said.

On this occasion, the Romanian official also emphasized the importance of Romania's joining this Center of Excellence, which will contribute to improving the situational awareness, respectively the development of actions and initiatives meant to mitigate and adapt to climate changes. At the same time, the participating states were engaged in a constant dialogue and exchange of examples of good practice implemented at national level in the management of this issue and making recommendations regarding the future activities carried out by the international organizations.

MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENCE AND HIS BULGARIAN COUNTERPART SIGNED THE LETTER OF INTENT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE REGIONAL SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMPONENT COMMAND

As part of the NATO Summit in Vilnius, the Minister of National Defence, Angel Tîlvăr, had a meeting with the Bulgarian Minister of Defence, Todor Tagarev, at the end of which they signed the Letter of Intent for the joint establishment of the Regional Special Operations Component Command (R-SOCC) in Vilnius.

Recognizing the strategic importance of the Black Sea region and the fact that this region has become a critical frontier for the new European and Euro-Atlantic security architecture, Romania and Bulgaria decided to promote cooperation within Allied context by establishing this regional special operations command. The Regional Special Operations Component Command will be one of the measures taken to consolidate the deterrence and defence posture on the eastern flank.

On this occasion, Minister of National Defence, Angel Tîlvăr highlighted the excellent cooperation between the two countries in the field of defence, both bilaterally, as well as



at Allied and European levels. He also thanked his Bulgarian counterpart for Bulgaria's steady commitment to regional security and for its troops' participation in the projects carried out under the aegis of NATO in Romania, within the multinational commands.

THE JOINT DECLARATION ON THE FORMALIZATION OF THE TRAINING COALITION FOR THE UKRAINIAN AIR FORCE WITH A VIEW OF OPERATING THE F-16 AIRCRAFT WAS SIGNED

Minister of National Defence, Angel Tîlvăr, signed on July 11, as part of the NATO Summit from Vilnius, the Joint Declaration on the formalization of the Training Coalition for the Ukrainian Air Force, in order to operate the F-16 aircraft.

By signing the Joint Declaration, Romania joins an important group of Allied states consisting of Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Luxembourg, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Sweden and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

The project will also bring important benefits to Romania and will play an essential role in the Romanian Air Force's F-16 program.

"Our major interest is to have, as soon as possible, well-trained Romanian pilots to operate F-16 aircraft that entered the property of the Romanian Air Force. We all know how complex is ensuring the security of the airspace in the Black Sea region, at the NATO border. We are in the process of transferring another 32 aircraft from Norway and, thus, will hopefully have three squadrons equipped with F-16 Fighting

Falcon multi-role aircraft as soon as possible. Achieving this goal is essential for the Romanian Armed Forces and an extremely important step for the transition to the fifth-generation aircraft, the F-35 ones. I must also emphasize the impact of this program on the national defence industry, in the context in which Aerostar Bacău was designated as the Maintenance Center for F-16, thus ensuring the transfer of state-of-the-art technology to Romania,” Minister Tîlvăr said.

The signing of the Joint Declaration came in the context in which, in the meeting of July 6, 2023, the Homeland Defence Supreme Council approved the establishment in Romania of a training facility for Romanian Air Force personnel who operate the F-16 aircraft, facilities which, in a phase subsequent to its establishment, will be open to the participation of the navigating personnel from the NATO allied and partner states (including Ukraine).

INFORMAL MEETING OF NATO DEFENCE MINISTERS

On July 11, Minister of National Defence, Angel Tîlvăr, participated in the Informal Meeting of NATO Defence Ministers, conducted as part of the NATO Summit from Vilnius.

The talks agenda focused on the major decisions regarding the consolidation of the deterrence and defence posture as well as elements of interest regarding the development of the defence industry.

“The Allied unity and determination for the consolidation of the collective deterrence and defence posture is, undoubtedly, the central message of this summit. The Allied commitment to allocating 2% of the GDP for Defence expenditures is a clear expression of this determination, Romania having already allocated 2.5%. The endorsement of the new regional defence plans represent a change of paradigm with regard to the method of approaching collective defence at Allied level”, the Romanian Defence Minister stated.

The Romanian official conveyed the Allies that the security situation from the Black Sea must remain a ceaseless concern at NATO level.

“The relevance of the Black Sea region has grown exponentially over the last years, with Russia being the main threat,



involved both militarily and politically in every security file in the region. Romania has assumed a responsible ally role in consolidating regional security and will continue to do so in order to identify the best political, diplomatic and military solutions to support Allied decisions with regard to the strategic importance of the Black Sea. It is clear that this region requires a greater commitment from the NATO countries”, the Minister of National Defence pointed out.

Also, in his intervention, the Romanian official appreciated the unity of the Allies in terms of advancing the topics of major interest listed on the Allied agenda, thus succeeding in jointly managing the unprecedented situations occurred in the recent history of NATO.

In line with the developments of the defence industry, Minister of National Defence emphasized the preservation of the comprehensive commitments assumed by Romania within the three pillars of the fair burden sharing concept - providing financial resources, implementing the undertaken capabilities and contributing to the NATO-led operations, missions and commitments. At the same time, the official welcomed the undertaking of a new commitment on defence spending.