



MILITARY REVIEW

NEWSLETTER

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTERESTS:

Defence Minister's meeting with the Ambassador of France to Bucharest

The first five aircraft of the European F-16 Training Center landed at Fetești

Symposium dedicated to the Romanian-Turkish political-military relations at the centenary of the Republic of Turkey

The Chief of Defence Staff, at the EU Military Committee Meeting

Minister Angel Tîlvăr had a meeting with his Ukrainian counterpart at Kiev

Defence Minister's meeting with the new Ambassador of the Kingdom of Netherlands

Meeting of NATO Ministers of Defense

DEFENCE MINISTER'S MEETING WITH THE AMBASSADOR OF FRANCE TO BUCHAREST

On November 7, Minister of National Defence, Angel Tîlvăr, received the presentation visit of the new Ambassador of the French Republic to Romania, Nicolas Warnery.

During the meeting, Minister Angel Tîlvăr said that "France is one of Romania's most important strategic partners and a key contributor to the security of our country and region. The cooperative relationship of our countries in the field of defence has developed substantially also due to the commitment and involvement of France in the process of consolidating the security of NATO's eastern flank, as coordinating nation of the Collective Defense Battle Group on Romanian territory".

During the talks, the two officials emphasized the strategic importance of the Black Sea for European security and the essential role of the Collective Defense Battle Group from Romania in strengthening



the credibility and effectiveness of the collective posture in the Black Sea region. At the same time, both parties expressed their firm support to Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova.

The very good level of cooperation and coordination was highlighted at EU level, including within the European capability development initiatives. The commitments with respect to the missions and operations carried out under the aegis of the Common Defense and Security Policy were also addressed, the Minister of Defence emphasizing the significant contribution of Romania to the EUFOR Althea Operation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as the consistent participation in the operational efforts on the African continent, considering the importance of ensuring a stable environment in the South as well.

The meeting was also an occasion to review the status of bilateral relations, respectively, the increase of political-military contacts and practical cooperation within the training and exercises program, as well as the cooperation within NATO and EU.

Minister Tîlvăr also recalled the applied and fruitful discussions held in June, in Paris, with his French counterpart, Sébastien Lecornu.

THE FIRST FIVE AIRCRAFT OF THE EUROPEAN F-16 TRAINING CENTER LANDED AT FETEȘTI

Five F-16 aircraft belonging to the Royal Netherlands Air Force landed on Tuesday, November 7, on “Locotenent Aviator Gheorghe Mociorniță” 86th Air Base, in Fetești. The aircraft are meant to be used by the European F-16 Training Centre which was established following the cooperation between the Ministry of National Defence, through the Romanian Air Force, and the Ministry of Defence of the Kingdom of Netherlands, through the Royal Air Force, in partnership with Lockheed Martin and with the support of the Kingdom of Denmark.

The centre will serve as an international hub for the F-16 pilots’ training and will facilitate the interoperability among allies. It will also contribute to creating common operational standards and to enhancing the North Atlantic Alliance’s ability to face the complex challenges posed in the Black Sea area and in Eastern Europe. According to the cooperation agreement, the Romanian Ministry of National Defence provides the 86th Air Base, the training facilities and the host nation support, while the Royal Netherlands Air Force makes



available the F-16 aircraft and the Lockheed Martin Company provides the instructors and the maintenance.

EFTC will contribute to the acceleration of the Romanian pilots’ training process, given the fact that the Romanian Armed Forces are preparing to take over 32 F-16 aircraft, which have been recently procured from Norway.

Considering the current geopolitical context and Romania’s strategic position in the Black Sea area, this centre becomes essential for the cross-border cooperation and the strengthening of security and solidarity within NATO.

By setting up the European F-16 Training Center, Romania commits to providing a high-quality training environment, access to the latest generation know-how and technical resources, available to both Romanian pilots and those from the allied and partner states, Ukraine included.

* * *

The European F-16 Training Center from “Locotenent Aviator Gheorghe Mociorniță” 86th Air Base from Fetești will be inaugurated through an official ceremony, at a date that will be made available later.

SYMPOSIUM DEDICATED TO THE ROMANIAN-TURKISH POLITICAL-MILITARY RELATIONS AT THE CENTENARY OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY

On October 31, the Institute for Defence Political Studies and Military History, together with the “Fatih” Institute of Military History from Istanbul, organized, at the National Military Palace, the scientific symposium entitled “Romanian-Turkish

political-military relations at the centenary of the Republic of Turkey.”

Part of a series of bilateral scientific events in the field of military history, the symposium aimed at offering the historians and specialists a framework for dialogue and debates on the anniversary of a double historical event: the establishment of the Republic of Turkey and the centenary of military relations between Romania and the new modern Turkish state. On this occasion, a series of editorial projects was launched and an exhibition dedicated to the anniversary was varnished.

The opening speeches of the meeting were delivered by Simona Cojocaru, State Secretary and Chief of the Department for Defence Policy, Planning and International Relations within the Ministry of National Defence, and Özgür Kivanç Altan, the Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to Romania. In her speech, State Secretary Simona Cojocaru emphasized the common history that connects the two people, the importance of the tight relations between the two countries, as well as their role in increasing security in the Black Sea region as well as the defence and deterrence on the entire eastern flank of NATO.

The symposium brought together renowned historians and specialists from archival and research institutes, museums and prestigious universities both from the country and from the Republic of Turkey.

During the event, the editorial projects published to mark the anniversary of the Romanian-Turkish relations in the context of the centenary of the modern Turkish state were presented: the volume of documents “Romanian-Ottoman-Turkish political and military relations 1878-1989 (volume I), the album “Romania and the Republic of Turkey: a century of cooperation”, the studies’ volume “Türkiye-Romania Joint Military History Symposium”, the Military History Magazine “Romanian-Ottoman Relations at the Centenary of the Republic of Türkiye” - a special Romanian-Turkish issue.

In the second part of the symposium, a round table was held on the topic “Romanian-Turkish political-military relations at the centenary of the Republic of Turkey”.

The debates addressed and analyzed various political, military, diplomatic and social aspects that have substantiated and influenced bilateral relations throughout history.

The event is the result of the scientific cooperation between the Institute for Defence Political Studies and Military History (ISPAIM) and the “Fatih” Institute of Military History which has contributed, over the years, to the building of a consolidated knowledge platform and to the development of important research directions in the field of military history.

THE CHIEF OF DEFENCE STAFF, AT THE EU MILITARY COMMITTEE MEETING

The Chief of the Defence Staff, General Daniel Petrescu, participated in the European Union Military Committee Meeting (EUMC), in the Chiefs of Defence format, which took place on October 17 and 18 at Seville, Spain.

The agenda of the current working session of the EUMC covered the perspectives of EU missions and operations, with focus on those conducted in the Sahel region, Africa, the implementation status of the Strategic Compass and ways of providing short and medium-term support to Ukraine.

Following the axes of the Strategic Compass, the EU is developing a Rapid Deployment Capability (EU RDC), its own force structure, whose Full Operational Capability will be achieved in 2025. The Chief of Defence Staff specified that this force structure would not duplicate that of the Alliance, the development of the EU’s defensive capabilities taking place in agreement with NATO. “The Romanian Armed Forces contribute to the EU’s rapid response mechanism by participating in the HELBROC Battle Group, as well as in EU-mandated missions and operations. We are determined to continue supporting the process of rendering operational the EU DRC as well”, General Daniel Petrescu stated.

As part of the meeting, the Chiefs of Defence Staff attended, on October 19, in Cádiz, Spain, one of the sequences of the EU DRC MILEX23 verification exercise, the first such major training event of the European Union. MILEX23 takes place between October 16-22 and brings together 3,000 troops from 19 member states. Ground, air and naval components, special operations, cyber and space capabilities participate in



the joint training session. The Romanian Armed Forces participate with staff personnel, a detachment operating two IAR-330 helicopters and an EOD team. The exercise conducted in Spain contributes to the increase of interoperability in the EU format and promotes military cooperation among the member states' structures.

* * *

The EUMC, EU's Common Defence and Security Policy forum is made up of the CHODs of the member states who, after harmonizing their national positions, propose courses of action for the European security. In the context of exerting the EUMC Spanish Chairmanship, the meeting took place at the Spanish Land Forces General Headquarters, being the first event of such kind to take place outside the EU capital, Brussels.

MINISTER ANGEL TÎLVĂR HAD A MEETING WITH HIS UKRAINIAN COUNTERPART AT KIEV

On October 18, Minister of National Defence, Angel Tîlvăr, participated, as part of the delegation led by the Prime Minister of Romania, Ion-Marcel Ciolacu, in the Joint Meeting of the Governments of Romania and Ukraine held in Kiev.

The activity took place shortly after the official visit paid to Romania by President Volodymyr Zelenski, when the bilateral relationship between the two states was elevated to the level of strategic partnership, through the signing of a Joint Statement.

On this occasion, Minister Tîlvăr had a bilateral meeting with his Ukrainian counterpart, Rustem Umerov.

The security situation generated by the Russian Federation's war of aggression against Ukraine, the bilateral cooperation in various fields, as well as the multidimensional support provided by Romania to the Ukrainian partner were the topics listed on the meeting agenda of the officials.

The very good results of the Ukraine Contact Group, initiated and chaired by the United States of America, were also mentioned.

The Romanian Minister of Defence reiterated Romania's solidarity with the Ukrainian people, emphasizing the support provided to more than 6 million refugees who entered the territory of the Romanian state since the start of the war of aggression waged by the Russian Federation against Ukraine. Also, the facilitation of grain transport by Romania, the usefulness of the humanitarian hub in Suceava, as well as our country's efforts of



in terms of the training of the Ukrainian soldiers under the aegis of the EUMAM Mission was highlighted. In this context, the prospect of training the Ukrainian pilots, in the future, within the F-16 Pilot Training Center that will be rendered operational in Romania, with the aim of training Romanian pilots, allies and partners, was also pointed out.

At the same time, the need for unity and a sustained commitment of the international community in support of Ukraine, including throughout the post-conflict reconstruction process, was emphasized during the meeting.

Minister Tîlvăr informed Minister Umerov about the joint efforts made by Romania, Turkey and Bulgaria in countering the danger represented by the sea mines floating in the Black Sea, mentioning that this cooperation is beneficial to the entire region, from the perspective of ensuring the safety of civil navigation.

Regarding bilateral defence cooperation as a whole, the two officials assessed the status of joint projects and agreed to increase dialogue at the level of the two defence ministries.

DEFENCE MINISTER'S MEETING WITH THE NEW AMBASSADOR OF THE KINGDOM OF NETHERLANDS

Minister of National Defence, Angel Tîlvăr, received the visit of the new Ambassador of the Kingdom of Netherlands to Bucharest, Willemijn Van Haaften, on Wednesday, October 11, at the MoND headquarters.

The meeting agenda included topics related to the security situation in the Black Sea region, in the context of Russia's



war of aggression in Ukraine, as well as issues related to bilateral cooperation.

The two officials appreciated the very good level of collaboration between the two states in the military field, by emphasizing concrete examples of practical cooperation. In this respect, the officials mentioned the contribution made by the Kingdom of the Netherlands to NATO's efforts of strengthening the defence and deterrence posture on the eastern flank, materialized in the presence of Dutch troops, between May 2022 and July 2023, within the Cincu Battle Group, led by France.

At the same time, the importance of the F-16 Pilot Training Center in Romania and the steps being taken to render it operational were also mentioned. Also, the two officials reiterated the need to continue providing support to Ukraine, in the context of the war of aggression and the complex security situation in the Black Sea region.

MEETING OF NATO MINISTERS OF DEFENSE

On 11 and 12 of October, State Secretary for Defence Policy, Planning and International Relations, Simona Cojocaru, participated in the Meeting of NATO Ministers of Defense, which takes place in Brussels.

On October 11, State Secretary Simona Cojocaru and Lieutenant General Gheorghiță Vlad, Deputy Chief of Defence Staff, participated in the Ukraine Contact Group Meeting held at the NATO Headquarters in Brussels, which was attended, for the first time, by the President of Ukraine, Volodymyr Zelensky. The Romanian State Secretary highlighted the continuation of the multidimensional support offered by Romania and appreciated the constant unity of the participating states in supporting Ukraine, as long as necessary.

The program continued with the Meeting of the NATO-Ukraine Council in the format of Defense Ministers, the first one organized since the Vilnius Allied Summit. Ukraine was represented by its Minister of Defence, Rustem Umerov. The Romanian official reiterated the benefits of this new format of dialogue in order to advance Ukraine's Euro-Atlantic aspirations, as well as to continue offering support, with focus on the modernization and reform of the armed forces, interoperability and defence procurement.

As part of the Ministerial program, the Romanian state secretary and the defence ministers from Bulgaria and Greece signed the letter of intent regarding cooperation on development and expansion of the NATO fuel supply chain on the eastern flank.

Also, as part of the NATO Meeting, State Secretary Simona Cojocaru participated in a short meeting with Yaşar Güler, the Minister of Defence of the Republic of Turkey, and with Todor Tagarev, the Minister of Defence of Bulgaria. On this occasion, the officials reiterated their concerns regarding the security situation in the region, generated by the Russian Federation's war of aggression in Ukraine. The three officials agreed on the continuation of joint efforts with regard to countering the dangers represented by the sea mines drifting in the Black Sea.

The State Secretary also attended a short coordination meeting of the F-16 Coalition headed by the Netherlands and Denmark.

