

DEFENCE MINISTERS' MEETING BUCHAREST, 12-14 MARCH 2018



The meeting of defence ministers from the countries participating in "Bucharest 9 (B9) Initiative" takes place over 12th and 14th March, in the "Human Rights" Hall of the Parliament Palace.

The activity represents an opportunity to harmonize the national positions of the B9 framework member states on the topics on the NATO Summit agenda of July 2018, especially on the strengthening the NATO posture of deterrence and defence, with a priority on the eastern flank, to reach a political decision on this aspect at the Summit.

During the meeting, the topics related to the process of adapting NATO's command structure will be also approached, as well as the risks and the threats from the Alliance's Eastern Neighborhood, and the ways to strengthen the resilience on the Baltic Sea - Black Sea - Adriatic Sea axis, including by the ensuring of the complementation with the other regional formats (European Defense Initiative / EDI Initiative, or the Three Seas Initiative).

At the same time, there will be debated the aspects on strengthening the interoperability of the Allied forces in the B9 format of cooperation with the USA's, the increasing of the mobility of troops on the eastern flank, and on a common approach to strengthening the NATO-EU cooperation.

"Bucharest 9 Initiative" will be attended by the defence ministers from Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania and Slovakia), as well as by the NATO officials and the representatives of the U.S. Department of State and Department of Defense.