



# MILITARY REVIEW

## NEWSLETTER

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTERESTS:

State Secretary for Defence Policy, Planning and International Relations paid a visit to the European External Action Service

Defence Minister's meeting with the US Ambassador to Bucharest

State Secretary for Defence Policy, Planning and International Relations paid a visit to the NATO Headquarters

Defence Minister's meeting with his Ukrainian counterpart

Participation of the Minister of National Defence in the Trilateral Romania – Ukraine – The Republic of Moldova on security issues

### STATE SECRETARY FOR DEFENCE POLICY, PLANNING AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS PAID A VISIT TO THE EUROPEAN EXTERNAL ACTION SERVICE

On April 20, State Secretary for Defence Policy, Planning and International Relations, Simona Cojocaru, had a meeting with Deputy Secretary General for Common Security and Defence Policy of the European External Action Service, Charles Fries.

The meeting with DSG Fries represented a good opportunity to address some current issues, such as Romania's participation in missions and operations conducted under the aegis of the Common Security and Defense Policy (CSDP), EU initiatives in the field of defense and security, as well as the implementation of the Strategic Compass. At the same time, issues regarding the security situation in the Black Sea region, the efforts to counter the effects of the Russian Federation's aggression war against Ukraine, as well as the vulnerable situation of the Republic of Moldova, a state facing multiple security challenges, including EU support for this candidate state, were also addressed during the meeting.

The Romanian State Secretary emphasized the importance of consolidating EU's role at global level, including by strengthening its security and defence dimension, in complementarity with NATO. At the same time, the official reiterated Romania's commitment regarding the multidimensional support provided to Ukraine and emphasized the need to increase the assistance given to the Republic of Moldova, by making maximum use of the instruments that EU has at its disposal. He also highlighted Romania's constant participation in all EU's training missions and military operations, by emphasizing our country's significant contribution to EUFOR Althea Operation, an operation that has a key role in maintaining a stable and secure environment in Bosnia and Herzegovina.



State Secretary's visit to the European External Action Service

## DEFENCE MINISTER'S MEETING WITH THE US AMBASSADOR TO BUCHAREST

On April 20, Minister of National Defence, Angel Tîlvăr, received the visit of the US Ambassador to Bucharest, Kathleen Kavalec, at the MoND Headquarters.

At the beginning of the discussions, Minister of National Defence congratulated the American diplomat on taking over the ambassador portfolio to Romania and expressed his appreciation for the excellent level of defence cooperation carried on based on the Strategic Partnership, by mentioning that our country's bilateral relationship with the United States remains a constant strategic priority of the national defence policy.

The meeting agenda addressed the conclusions of the Defence Minister's visit to the USA as well as the bilateral cooperation prospects, including the contribution to joint efforts of consolidating Euro-Atlantic security within NATO.

During the meeting, the Romanian dignitary highlighted the importance of collaboration at operational level, the joint training contributing to increasing interoperability between the two countries' armed forces. Minister Tîlvăr and Ambassador Kavalec welcomed the 30th anniversary since the launching of the State Partnership between Romania and the Alabama National Guard, an excellent example of cooperation in the military field.

The Romanian official emphasized the strategic importance of the Black Sea for the Euro-Atlantic security, in the context of the Russian Federation's aggression war led in Ukraine and the need to support the vulnerable partners, such as the Republic of Moldova and Georgia. In this context, the Defence Minister commended the efforts undertaken at the level of the Administration and the Congress of the United States of America on the development of an American strategy at the Black Sea. Also, Minister Tîlvăr expressed his appreciation for the US commitment to the security in the region, by increasing the military presence in Romania and supporting the Allied decisions to consolidate the defense and deterrence posture on the entire Eastern flank of the North Atlantic Alliance.

Defence Minister's meeting with the US Ambassador to Bucharest



## STATE SECRETARY FOR DEFENCE POLICY, PLANNING AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS PAID A VISIT TO THE NATO HEADQUARTERS

On April 19, State Secretary for Defence Policy, Planning and International Relations, Simona Cojocaru, paid a working visit to the NATO Headquarters from Brussels, in the context of the upcoming Vilnius NATO Summit that is to take place in July.

As part of the visit, State Secretary Simona Cojocaru had a meeting with Andriy Shevchenko, the Deputy Minister of Defence of Ukraine. On this occasion, she discussed the latest developments of the Russian Federation's aggression war in Ukraine and also reiterated Romania's firm support for the neighboring country.

The Romanian official also had a meeting with Mircea Geoană, NATO Deputy Secretary General, during which relevant subjects were discussed in the light of the upcoming NATO Summit from Vilnius: the strengthening of the defence capacity on the Eastern flank, the consolidation of NATO's posture in the Black Sea, the effects of the Russian Federation's brutal invasion in Ukraine and the support provided to vulnerable partners such as the Republic of Moldova and Georgia.

The visit to the NATO Headquarters also included substantial meetings of the State Secretary with NATO Assistant Secretary General for Operations, Tom Goffus, NATO Assistant Secretary General for Defence Investments, Wendy Gilmour, and NATO Assistant Secretary General for Defense Policy and Planning, Angus Lapsley. In his speech, the Romanian official assured the NATO officials that Romania would continue to be a responsible and committed ally in the consolidation process of the regional security at the Black Sea in order to identify the best solutions and effectively implement the Allied decisions regarding the strategic importance of the Black Sea. The official also highlighted the importance of increasing resilience in order to stabilize the European security environment, especially for the partner states from the Black Sea region and the Western Balkans. She also emphasized the importance of allocating an adequate level of financial resources for defence expenditures, emphasizing the fact that Romania currently allocates 2.5% of GDP for defence expenses.

With reference to the upcoming Allied Summit from Vilnius, the State Secretary conveyed to his interlocutors that it was absolutely necessary to continue the steps taken and efforts made to implement the decisions adopted at the Madrid NATO Summit, which provide the framework for the

long-term adaptation of the Allied deterrence and defence posture.

"It is very important to ensure a substantial agenda for the Vilnius Summit and to move along and consolidate the objectives regarding the long-term adaptation of the collective deterrence and defence posture. The security issues in the region must be very clearly highlighted, in the context of the aggression war from Ukraine and the strategic importance of the Black Sea region for the security of the entire Euro-Atlantic area", state secretary declared.

## DEFENCE MINISTER'S MEETING WITH HIS UKRAINIAN COUNTERPART

On April 13, Minister of National Defence, Angel Tîlvăr, met with his Ukrainian counterpart, Oleksii Reznikov, who paid the first official visit to Romania, in order to participate in the first Black Sea Security Conference organized as part of the International Crimea Platform.

During the meeting, the Romanian minister firmly condemned the illegal and unjustified aggression war launched by the Russian Federation against Ukraine which caused numerous civilian casualties and destruction of the critical infrastructure in several regions of the neighboring country.

"Ukraine's and the Ukrainian people's will in this second year of war is remarkable; we are and we'll always stand by this



Defence Minister's meeting with his Ukrainian counterpart



people in its fight to liberate its territory and own population”, minister Tîlvăr state during the official meeting.

The meeting agenda included topics related to the increase of bilateral cooperation, but also within EU and NATO, the Romanian side reiterating the importance of continuing the political-military dialogue and its implementation by prioritizing the implementation of the Comprehensive Assistance Package (CAP).

“Unity, common values and democracy are not just simple statements but concrete actions and results. We shall continue providing political, economic and humanitarian support whenever necessary, in order to help Ukraine protect its sovereignty and territorial integrity”, minister Tîlvăr concluded at the end of the meeting.

## **PARTICIPATION OF THE MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENCE IN THE TRILATERAL ROMANIA – UKRAINE – THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA ON SECURITY ISSUES**

Minister of National Defence, Angel Tîlvăr, participated on April 13, 2023, in the second foreign affairs meeting of the Trilateral Romania - Ukraine - Republic of Moldova on security issues, organized in a joint format with the defence ministers of the three states.

The meeting was attended by the Romanian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Bogdan Aurescu, the Minister of Defence of

Ukraine, Oleksii Reznikov, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Moldova, Nicu Popescu, the Minister of Defence of the Republic of Moldova, Anatolie Nosatîi, and the First Deputy to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, Emine Dzapharova, on behalf of Minister Dmytro Kuleba.

The discussions focused on the security situation in the region, the efforts to counteract the effects of Russia’s war of aggression against Ukraine, the pressure exerted by Russia against the Republic of Moldova and NATO’s and EU’s support provided to Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova. Also, the discussions in this format also focused on strengthening trilateral cooperation in the field of defence capacity building of the two neighboring states of Romania and their resilience in the context of the aggression war led by the Russian Federation in Ukraine.

“Through our meeting today, we continued the previous bilateral defence contacts, both with Minister Reznikov and with Minister Nosatîi, this trilateral format being a natural consequence of the need to increase cooperation among our countries, considering the latest developments of the regional security situation,” minister Tîlvăr stated at the end of the meeting.

At the end of the trilateral meeting in the foreign and defence ministers’ format, a Joint Declaration was signed by the six representatives of Romania, Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova, which emphasizes the main elements of the meeting agenda and the commitment of the three states to the development of trilateral cooperation.

**Participation of the Minister of National Defence in the Trilateral Romania – Ukraine – The Republic of Moldova on security issues**

