

**May 24th, 2018****Issue no. 4**

110 Izvor St., Bucharest, Romania

tel/fax +4021-3195698

e-mail: drp@mapn.ro

www.mapn.gov.ro

ROMANIAN MILITARY NEWSLETTER

Defence Minister's Meeting with His Greek Counterpart

Special points of interests:

- Defence Minister's Meeting with His Greek Counterpart
- Defence Minister's Meeting with the Chairman of the Standing Committee on National Defense and Foreign Affairs
- Romanian-American Strategic Dialogue on Defence in Bucharest
- Informal Meeting of the EU Defence Ministers in Sofia



Discussions with Salamina Naval Base commanders

The Minister of National Defence, Mihai Fifor, made a visit to the Hellenic Republic over May 14th to 15th at the invitation of his counterpart, Panos Kammenos.

During the talks, the two officials reviewed the stage of the Romanian-Hellenic cooperation on defence at bilateral and regional level, but also within NATO and the EU, and assessed the possibilities to enhance cooperation on defence between the two states. The invitation was made that the Greek Armed Forces participate in rendering operational NATO structures hosted by Romania and in the multinational exercises to be conducted by Romania in 2018.

Minister Fifor thanked his Greek counterpart for having contributed with senior staff officers to "Sea Shield 18," the largest NATO exercise in the Black Sea region this year, organized by the Romanian Navy Forces.

May 24th, 2018

Issue no. 4

Pag. 2

The talks agenda included the modernization and acquisition programs of the two military, as well as the fair sharing of responsibilities and risks among allies. Also, they exchanged views on the security in the Western Balkans, the Black Sea region and the Mediterranean Sea.

The two officials expressed their mutual interest in consolidating cooperation on defence, including the area of developing military capabilities, by making the most of the Romania-Hellenic cooperation options, both within multinational initiatives and the multinational initiatives developed under NATO and EU aegis. Fields of interest were identified that would be the basis for initiating common projects for the defence industries of the two countries.

As part of his visit to the Hellenic Republic, the Minister of National Defence, Mihai Fifor, visited on Tuesday, May 15th, the Salamina Fleet Command, where he was briefed on the education and training facilities of the Hellenic Naval Forces, such as the Crew School, the submarine training simulator, the equipment and technical equipment of the Hellenic seamen.

During the discussions with Salamina Naval Base's commanders, the defence minister highlighted the interest of the Romanian side to enhance the cooperation between the naval forces of the two countries. He spoke of the major acquisition programs Romania has in view in the naval field.

Minister Fifor visited the Skaramagas Shipyard, an occasion for the Greek side to present the facility and the technological process of building various types of ships, including submarines. During the discussions with the representatives of the shipyard, the co-operation opportunities which open in this context were highlighted.

Defence Minister's Meeting with the Chairman of the Standing Committee on National Defense and Foreign Affairs

During his visit to the Hellenic Republic, the Minister of National Defence, Mihai Fifor, had a meeting on May 14th, with Konstantinos Douzinas, chairman of the Standing Committee on National Defense and Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Parliament.

The two officials appreciated the good relations of the two countries and expressed their mutual interest in strengthening defence co-operation relations, at bilateral and regional level. They stressed the high level of the military cooperation.

Minister Fifor spoke of Romania's commitment to consolidate its statute as a pillar of regional stability and security provider and presented the defence priorities of Romania related mainly to the strategic procurement programs and the allocation of 2 percent of the GDP for defence.

They also discussed the importance of continuing the strategic dialogue and continuing bilateral relations also in other areas of mutual interest.

May 24th, 2018

Issue no. 4

Pag. 3

Romanian-American Strategic Dialogue on Defence in Bucharest

The Romanian-American Working Group on Defence met for a new round of the Bilateral Strategic Dialogue, at the defence ministry, on Wednesday, May 9th. The working session was opened by the Romanian Defence Minister Mihai Fifor who reiterated that “Romania remains a solid, predictable and trustworthy partner of the United States that have a major contribution in the region”.



Romanian-American Strategic Dialogue on Defence in Bucharest

The talks of the High-Level Romanian-American Defence Working Group were coordinated by the two co-chairmen, the Romanian Secretary of State for Defence Policy, Planning and International Relations, Mircea Duşa, and Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Thomas Goffus.

The dialogue focused on exchanging views on current security and defence topics and on concrete aspects of cooperation with the US, at bilateral level and within NATO. “The strategic partnership is an important contribution to our common security and defence efforts for the Euro-Atlantic region. Romania actively supports the coherent approach of NATO’s eastern flank, as she is both a beneficiary and a contributor to the NATO forward presence,” Duşa said. The two delegations highlighted the dynamics of the Romanian-US Strategic Partnership and the prospects for intensifying defence co-operation, as essential components of security and stability of Romania and the region.

NATO’s forward presence on the entire eastern flank, including the southern part, for the maritime, land and naval components, the US initiative on increasing timeliness and response, military mobility, equal sharing of burden, as well as bilateral co-operation in military exercises were among the topics included in the agenda. Among the concrete projects discussed were the support for NATO and EU initiatives to increase military mobility, as well as joint investment with the US in upgrading the infrastructure of some bases such as Mihail Kogălniceanu, Câmpia Turzii and Cincu, conducted through the European Defence Initiative (EDI).

The meeting of the High-Level Romanian-American Defence Working Group is part of regular defence consultations between Romania and the US under the bilateral strategic partnership.

May 24th, 2018

Issue no. 4

Pag. 4

Informal Meeting of the EU Defence Ministers in Sofia

The State Secretary for Defence, Planning and International Relations, Mircea Duşa, participated in the Informal Meeting of the EU Defence Ministers in Sofia, over May 4th to 5th.

The discussions started with the meeting of European Defence Agency (EDA) Steering Committee that included an analysis of the adaptation efforts of EDA to the new level of ambition and its new tasks concerning the initiatives of the Coordinated Annual Review on Defence (CARD), the Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO) and the preparing action. Mircea Duşa said he appreciated EDA's contribution to implementing the EU Global Strategy and stressed that the Agency should adapt constantly in order to be able to support the member states in their effort to ensure the military capabilities needed to generate a response to the new security challenges. The present officials discussed the perspectives of developing the Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO) and establishing a common set of governance rules for the assumed PESCO projects.

Another important topic on the agenda was the crisis management in terms of the current security challenges and the potential cooperation among international organizations.



State Secretary for Defence, Planning and International Relations,
Mircea Duşa, at the Informal Meeting of the
EU Defence Ministers in Sofia