

October 1st, 2019

Issue no. 9

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ROMANIAN MILITARY NEWSLETTER

Defence Minister met with UN Undersecretary General
for Peace-keeping Operations

Special points of interests:

- Defence Minister met with UN Undersecretary General for Peace-keeping Operations
- Biannual Reunion of the Steering Committee for NATO Science and Technology Organization, at Bucharest
- State Secretary Frunzulică, at NATO Days in Ostrava, the Czech Republic
- Land Force and Air Force soldiers, at the NATO Days in Ostrava, the Czech Republic



Defence Minister Gabriel Leș and UN Undersecretary General for Peace-keeping Operations, Jean-Pierre Lacroix (photo by MoND)

Defence Minister Gabriel Leș, who was in a delegation in the United States of America headed by Prime Minister Viorica Dăncilă, met with UN Undersecretary General for Peace-keeping Operations, Jean-Pierre Lacroix, on Tuesday, 24 September, at the UN Headquarters from New York.

The talks focused on restating our country's role as active contributor to the UN peace-keeping missions and operations, optimizing the UN-led missions and our country's participation with an airlift helicopter detachment in the *United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali* (MINUSMA) through October 2019-October 2020.

Minister Gabriel Leș emphasized the importance of the collaboration with the UN, which was also reiterated by Jean-Pierre Lacroix, who

expressed his appreciation for Romania's commitment in supporting the United Nations with such important capability.

The meeting between the two officials was a good opportunity to enforce the UN-led peace-keeping operations and missions and increase their effectiveness, by augmenting the participation under the aegis of this organization, thus, increasing Romania's profile as a security provider.

Biannual Reunion of the Steering Committee for NATO Science and Technology Organization, at Bucharest

Representatives of 35 NATO member and partner states participated in the Biannual Reunion of the Steering Committee for NATO Science and Technology Organization, which took place at the Palace of Parliament and the National Military Club, Bucharest, over 17-20 September.

"The force of our alliance resides on the people's freedom and strong democratic values, which must be preserved and

consolidated. In order to successfully face the hybrid and non-conventional threats, we need significant technological progresses", declared State Secretary for Armaments, Nicolae Nasta, at the opening of the reunion.

Topics of interest for the North-Atlantic Alliance in the field of science and technology were discussed during the reunion, which was organized with the help of the MoND Department for Armaments; the experts present at the activity approached new concepts that would lead to maintaining NATO supremacy at technological level.

The reunion agenda also included the visiting of Romanian research facilities, among which the world's most powerful laser, located at Măgurele research platform.

At the end of the activity, the STO leadership praised the way the reunion was organized and approved the initiation of new collaboration projects in the field of science and technology.

NATO STO is one of NATO central pillars, the members of the STO, counting more than 5,000 people, making up the most numerous research forum in the field of defence and security worldwide.



Biannual Reunion of the Steering Committee for NATO Science and Technology Organization (photo by: Valentin Ciobircă)

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State Secretary Frunzulică, at NATO Days in Ostrava, the Czech Republic

State Secretary for Defence Policy, Planning and International Relations, Doru-Claudian Frunzulică, participated in the events organized on the occasion of the celebration of NATO Days in Ostrava and the Czech Air Force Day, over 20-21 September.

The MoND delegation and the representative of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, State Secretary and chief of Department for Emergency Situations, dr. Raed

Arafat, met both with the Land Force and Air Force servicemen and the members of the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations who participated in the event.

During the representation activities organized by the Czech officials, State Secretary Frunzulică emphasized Romania's commitment in the complex mission of defending NATO's air space, characterized by a dynamic and complex security environment and the importance of the bilateral relations between Romania and the Czech Republic.



State Secretary for Defence Policy, Planning and International Relations,
Doru-Claudian Frunzulică, at NATO Days (photo by Radu Chirilă)

Land Force and Air Force soldiers, at the NATO Days in Ostrava, the Czech Republic

70 Air Force soldiers with two MiG-21 LanceRs, two IAR 99 "Șoim" aircraft, two IAR 330 SOCAT helicopters and a C-27 J Spartan airlift aircraft together with 15 servicemen of the Land Forces, with a TR-85 M1 tank, and AD GEPARD system and a PIRANHA IIIC APC participated in the NATO Days event in Ostrava, the Czech Republic, over 20 - 22 September.

The event was organized on "Leoš Janáček" Airfield from din Ostrava, and Romania was assigned SPN – Special Partner Nation status for this year edition. The Land Forces servicemen as well as the Air Force soldiers executed demonstrative exercises as well as organized static displays and performed dynamic exercises with the MIG-21 LancerRs IAR 330 SOCAT helicopters and a C-27 J Spartan airlift of the Air Force.

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“NATO Days at Ostrava” is mostly an aviation public show, organized annually on “Leoš Janáček” airfield, concomitantly with the Czech Air Force Days and consists in aerial demonstrations and static displays of the armed and police forces of the NATO participating member and partner states. Considered an important event in the field of security in Europe, the event also stands out through its military equipment displays in the field of emergency interventions.



Romanian MiG-21 LanceR, at NATO Days, Ostrava (*photo by Radu Chirilă*)

20 states participated in the 2018 edition, the dynamic character of the event attracting an impressive number of participants (almost 220,000 spectators).

Starting 2014, at each edition, one of the participating states receives the SPN – Special Partner Nation status, which brings about an augmented participation, compared to the participations from the previous editions from 2009, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016 and 2018. SPN benefits from a wider space allocated for the capability display, including the equipment manufactured by its own defence industry as well as from a special media coverage. In 2018, the USA held the SPN status, while in the previous editions the status was received by Poland (2014), Sweden (2015), Germany (2016) and Slovakia (2017).