

MINISTRY OF DEFENSE and ARMED FORCES of Bosnia and Herzegovina



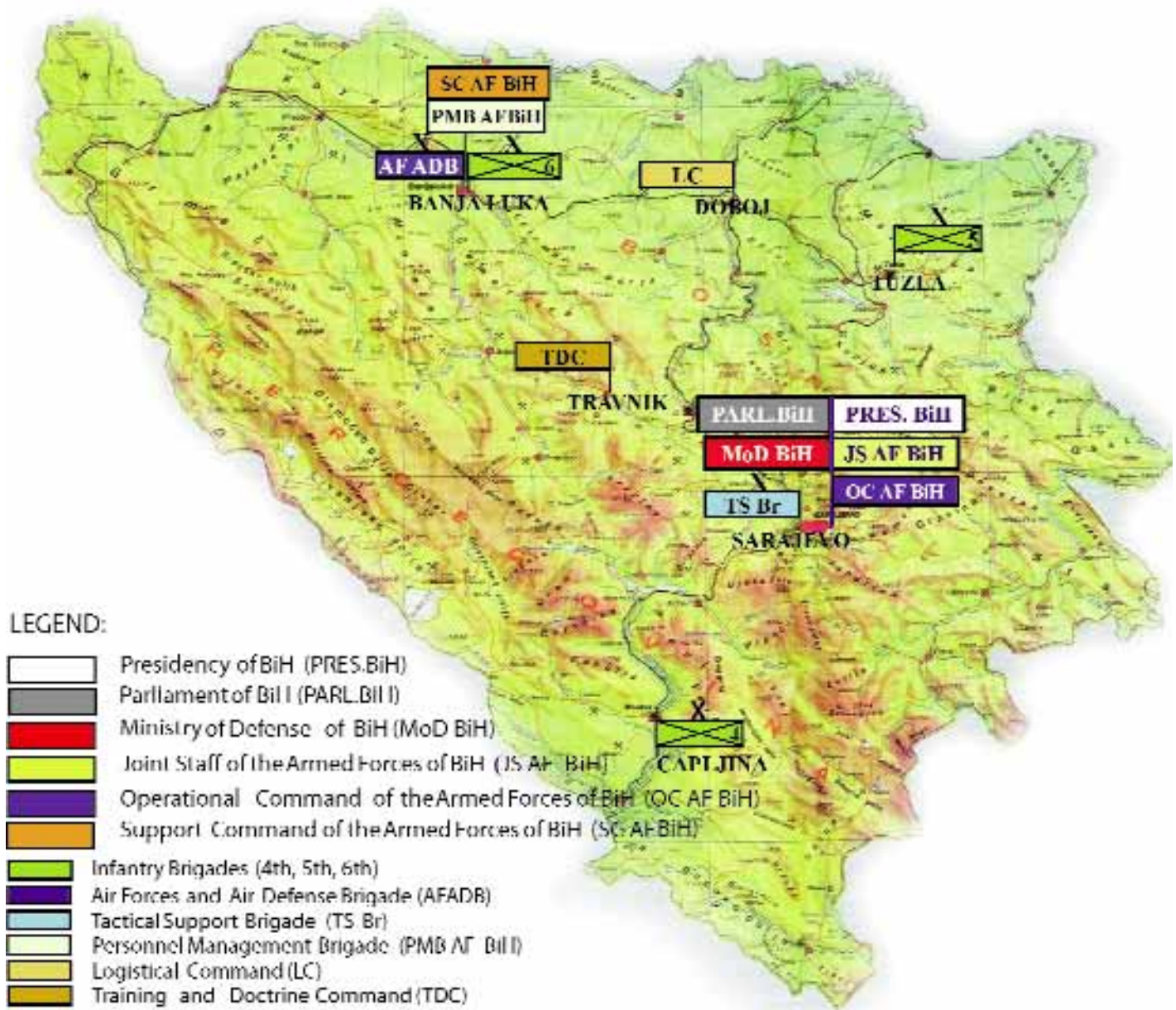


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Bosnia and Herzegovina Defense Structure of BiH



Reform of the Defense Structure in BiH

In July 2001, the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina expressed clear commitment for accession of Bosnia and Herzegovina into European and Euro-Atlantic integration and the NATO Partnership for Peace Program, as well as for implementation of the reforms required in terms of the defense system and the restructuring of its Armed Forces.

Having these objectives in mind, major efforts have been made over the past period in order to create the environment necessary for successful process of reform of the defense system, for attaining of internal stability and creating the conditions for a credible NATO bid.

Chronology of Major Activities in the Process of Reform and Formation of the MoD BiH and AF BiH:

2002

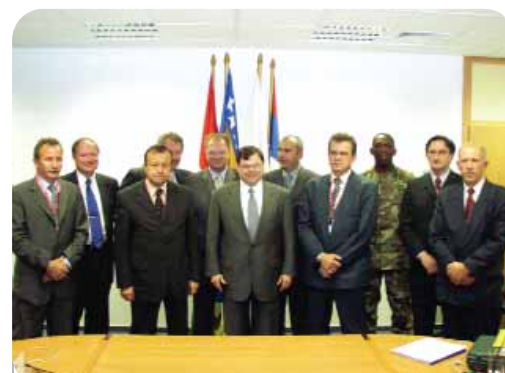
- October – The General Secretariat of the Standing Committee for Military Affairs was established as an antecedent to the Ministry of Defense of Bosnia and Herzegovina

2003

- May – The Commission for Reform of Defense in BiH was established
- December – The first Law on Defense of BiH was passed, thereby establishing the Ministry of Defense of Bosnia and Herzegovina

2004

- March – Nikola Radovanovic was appointed the first Minister of Defense in Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as his deputies, Enes Becirbasic, Deputy in charge of policies and planning, and Marina Pendes, Deputy in charge of resource management
- May – The first-ever joint collective exercise was conducted between the Army of the RS and Army of the FBiH
- June – The NATO Summit in Istanbul was held, at which heads of countries and governments of the North Atlantic Alliance members appealed on BiH to make „continuous progress towards establishment of the single military forces”
- July – 13 Generals of the AF BiH were appointed



Meeting of the Commission held in late 2003



Meeting of the first Minister of Defense and his Deputies with the representatives of the military and diplomatic corps in BiH, December 15, 2004



Meeting of the USEUCOM representatives with the newly appointed Generals of the AF BiH, July 13, 2004

- November – Honorary Unit of the AF BiH was formed

2005

- February – The Decision of the Presidency of BiH passed expressing BiH commitment for NATO membership
- March – The Law on Participation of the Members of the AF BiH, Police Officers, Civil Servants and Other Employees in Peace Support Missions and Other Foreign Activities was passed
- May – The Presidency of BiH passed the decision on deployment of troops from the AF BiH into the Peace Support Mission in Iraq
- June – the 1st rotation of the AF BiH UXO disposal unit was deployed into the Iraqi peace support mission
- December:
 - the second Law on Defense of BiH was passed
 - the Law on Service in the AF BiH was passed



First presentation of the Honorary Unit of the AF BiH, November 26, 2004



Farewell ceremony for members of the 1st rotation of the UXO Disposal Unit bound for Iraq, June 1, 2005

2006

- January – The Entity Ministries of Defense and Army were revoked
 - The Employees from the MoD's of the FBiH and the RS became the employees of the MoD BiH
 - Mandatory military service was revoked
 - The new single budget for defense at the state level came into application
- July – the Decision of the Presidency of BiH was passed pertaining to the size, structure and locations of the AF BiH
 - a total of 16 000 members, specifically:
 - a) 10 000 professional military personnel
 - b) 1 000 civilians
 - c) 5 000 reserve members
 - representation of ethnic groups in the AF BiH:
 - a) Bosniaks 45.9%
 - b) Serbs 33.6%
 - c) Croats 19.8%
 - d) Others 0.7%
- December – the First Anniversary of the AF BiH
- December – Admission of BiH into the NATO Partnership for Peace Program



Marking of the First Anniversary of the AF BiH Day, December 1, 2006



NATO PfP Program Framework Document Signing Ceremony in Brussels, December 14, 2006.

2006 - 2007

- October 2006 – October 2007 – Personnel transition in the MoD and AF BiH
 - January 1, 2006 – 12 668 employees
 - November 19, 2007 – 9 392 employees



2007

- February – Selmo Cikotic was appointed the second Minister of Defense in Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as his deputies, Igor Crnadak, Deputy in charge of policies and planning, and Marina Pendes, Deputy in charge of resource management

- March – BiH signed the Agreement on Exchange of Security Information with the NATO
- May – Formation of the Support Command
 - Formation of the Personnel Management Command
- June – Formation of the 4th, 5th, and 6th Infantry Brigades
- September – Formation of the Air Forces and Air Defense Brigade
 - Formation of the Tactical Support Brigade
 - Formation of the Training and Doctrine Command

- September – The NATO Coordination Team of the Council of Ministers of BiH was established

- October – Formation of the Logistics Command
 - Admission of BiH into full membership of the Southeast Europe Defense Ministers Organization (SEDM)
 - All commands and units of the AFBiH formed and stationed at the locations defined in the Presidential Decision on the Size, Structure and Locations of the AF BiH of July 2006



Tactical Support Brigade Formation Ceremony, September 12, 2007



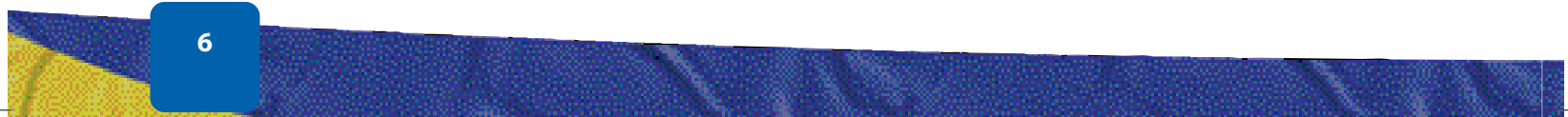
Session of the NATO Coordination Team, chaired by Mr. Igor Crnadak, October 10, 2007

2008

- January – The Presidency of BiH passed the Decision on Amendments to the Decision on the Size, Structure and Locations of the AF BiH (pursuant to the Decision, the required dislocation of the commands and units was completed in compliance with the Plan for Dislocation and Redeployment of Commands and Units)
- February – Beginning of implementation of the training project for the AF BiH members from all brigades
- March – At the May 3rd Barracks in Dobo, the Agreement on Final Disposal of Mobile Military Assets was signed



Agreement Signing Ceremony in Dobo, March 27, 2008



- April – NATO Summit in Bucharest, the invitation to BiH for „intensified“ dialogue



Press conference of the BiH delegation members upon their return from the NATO Summit in Bucharest, April 4, 2008

- April – The first Public Announcement was published for admission of soldiers into the AF BiH
- July – Transfer of duty between the Heads of Joint Staff of the AF BiH



Ceremony at Transfer of Duty between the Heads of JS AF BiH, July 21, 2008

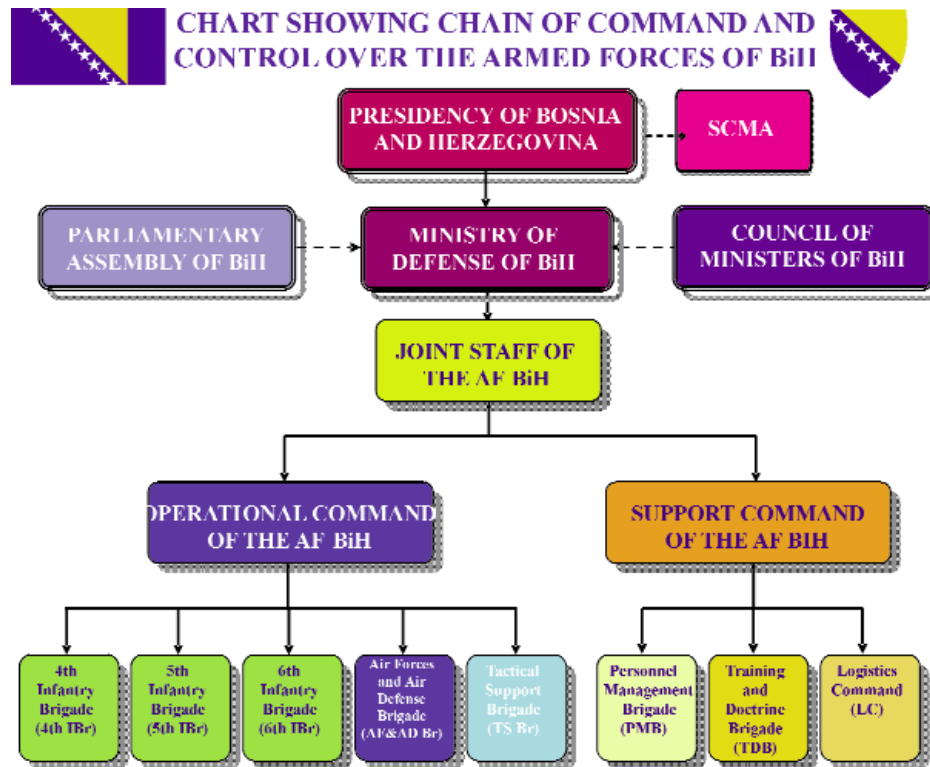
- July – The Presidency of BiH passed the Decision on the Structure of the General Corps in the AF BiH
- August – The 1st rotation of the AF BiH Infantry Unit deployed in Iraq for the first time



Farewell Ceremony for the members of the 1st rotation of the Infantry Unit bound for Iraq, August 14, 2008

- September – BiH invited into membership of the US-Adriatic Charter

Chart of the Command and Control Chain in the Armed Forces of BiH



Presidency of BiH

– has supreme command and control over the AF BiH

Parliament of BiH

– has democratic and parliamentary control over the AF BiH

Ministry of Defense of BiH

– administrative organization in charge of the overall defense strategy and policy

Joint Staff of the AF BiH

– tasked to translate the MoD policy into detailed plans
 – responsible for planning, organization and implementation of directives and orders issued by the Minister of Defense

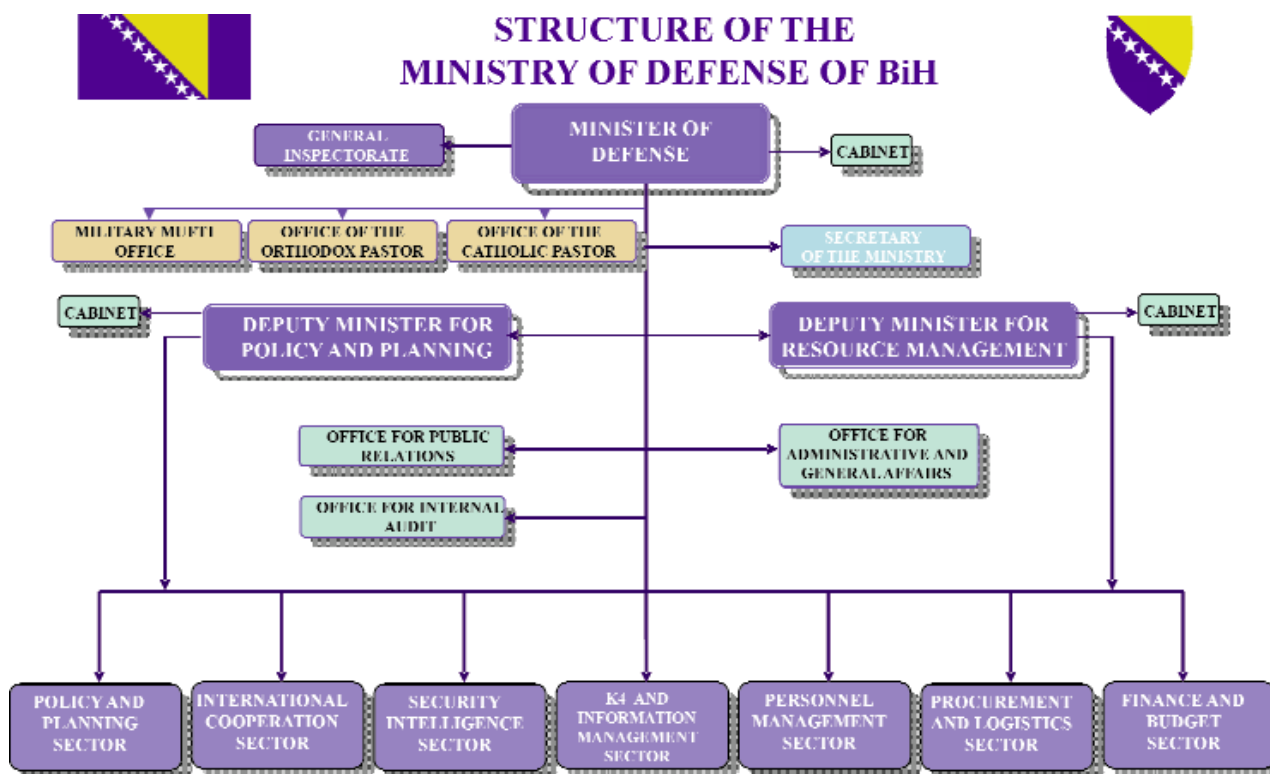
Operational Command of the AF BiH

– has command over all brigades and mobile units
 – has the primary responsibility for implementation of plans pertaining to operations and collective field training

Support Command of the AF BiH

– manages personnel, logistics and training

Ministry of Defense of BiH



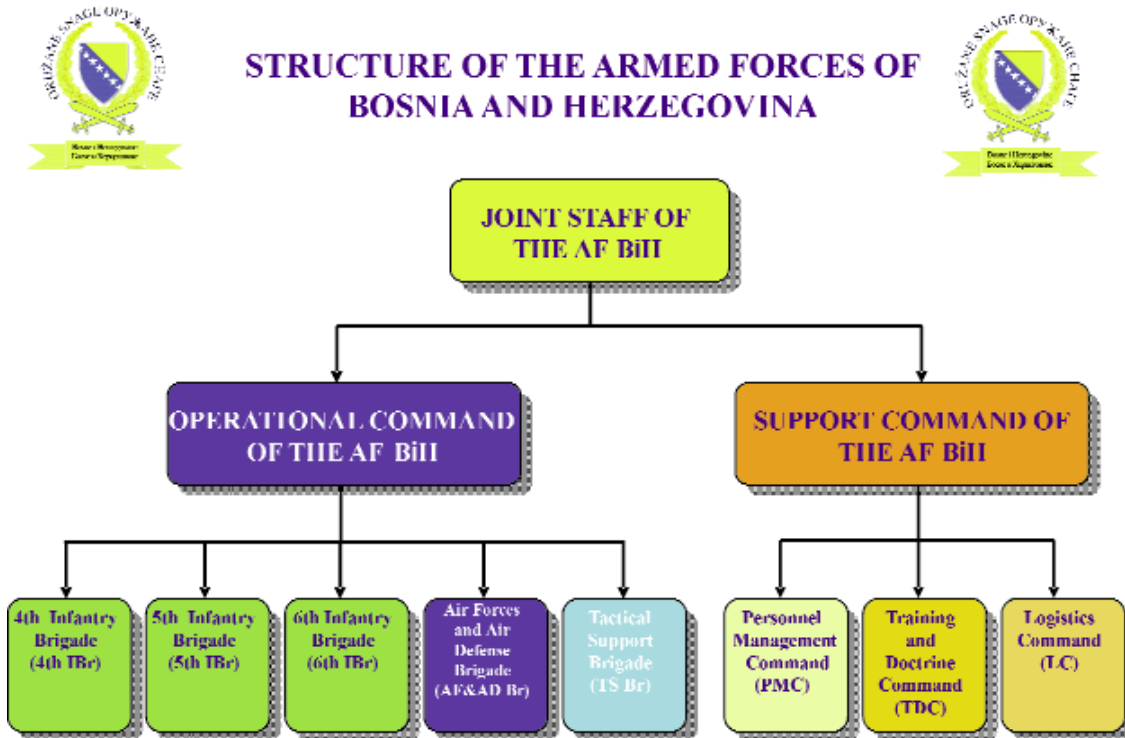
Competencies:

- Creation and maintenance of defense capacity in order to ensure protection of sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence and international subjectivity of BiH,
- Supervision over all aspects of the Armed Forces of BiH,
- Representation of Bosnia and Herzegovina in international relations related to defense affairs,
- Drafting, review and updating of the defense policy of Bosnia and Herzegovina as approved by the Presidency of BiH,
- Drafting and approval of policies and regulations in terms of organization, administration, training, equipping and use of the Armed Forces of BiH,
- Ensuring compliance by Bosnia and Herzegovina of international commitments related to defense,
- Activation of reserve units and reserve members for all operations except scheduled training,
- Deployment or use of any segment of the Armed Forces outside of Bosnia and Herzegovina for all operations or training activities,
- Issuance of instructions to the Head of the Joint staff of Bosnia and Herzegovina for use or deployment of any unit of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina within Bosnia and Herzegovina for the needs other than training,
- Establishment of procedures for approval of military assistance to civilian authorities in case of natural disasters or catastrophes, upon approval provided by the Presidency of BiH,
- Establishment of procedures ensuring transparency in the duties of the Ministry of Defense,
- Other competencies as per the law.

Armed Forces of BiH

Pursuant to the Law on Defense of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Armed Forces of BiH are a professional, single military force organized and controlled by Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Armed Forces, as an institution of BiH, comprises of the members from among all three constitutive ethnic groups and from among of others, in compliance with the Constitution and the legislation of BiH.

Bosnia and Herzegovina organizes, develops and maintains the military capacity and preparedness of the Armed Forces in order to ensure sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independency and international subjectivity of BiH, in order to promote foreign policy objectives of BiH, meet the international commitments of BiH, as well as to protect the citizens of BiH.



Mission of the AF BiH:

Ensuring the sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence and international subjectivity of BiH,
 Promotion of the BiH foreign policy goals,
 Meeting of the international commitments of BiH,
 Protection of BiH nationals.

Tasks of the AF BiH:

Participation in collective security operations, peace and self-defense support operations, including fight against terrorism,
 Provision of military defense to BiH and its citizens in case of attack,
 Assistance to civilian authorities in response to natural and other disasters and catastrophes,
 Mine action in BiH,
 Meeting of international commitments of BiH.

Professional military personnel:

- generals
- officers
- NCOs (non - commissioned officers)
- soldiers

Members of the reserve:

- reserve generals
- reserve officers
- reserve NCOs (non - commissioned officers)
- reserve soldiers

Departments of the AF BiH:

- Land Army
- Air Forces and Air Defense

Branches of the AF BiH:

- Infantry
- Artillery
- Artillery and Rocket Units of the Air Defense
- Armored Mechanized Units
- Aviation
- Engineering
- Communications
- Atomic, Biological and Chemical Defense
- Electronic Surveillance and Defense
- Air Surveillance and Alarming
- Military Intelligence

Locations and Institutions of the AF BiH Units:

JOINT STAFF OF THE AF BiH – Sarajevo

Operating Command of the AF BiH – Sarajevo

- Infantry Brigade (4th Infantry Brigade) – *Capljina*
- Infantry Brigade (5th Infantry Brigade) – *Tuzla*
- Infantry Brigade (6th Infantry Brigade) – *Banja Luka*
 - Infantry Battalions – *Banja Luka, Bihac, Bijeljina, Bileca, Capljina, Kiseljak, Livno, Orasje, Prijedor, Tuzla, Ustikolina, Zenica*
 - Artillery Battalions – *Doboj, Mostar, Zepce*
- Air Forces and Air Defense Brigade – *Banja Luka*
 - Air Defense Battalion – *Sarajevo*
 - Air Surveillance and Alarming Battalion – *Banja Luka*
 - Air Forces Support Battalion – *Banja Luka, Sarajevo*
- Tactical Support Brigade – *Sarajevo*
 - Communications Battalion – *Pale*
 - Engineering Battalion – *Derventa*
 - Military Intelligence Battalion – *Sarajevo*
 - Mine Clearance Battalion – *Travnik*
 - Military Police Battalion – *Sarajevo*
 - Armored Battalion – *Tuzla*

Support Command of the AF BiH – Banja Luka

- Personnel Management Command – *Banja Luka*
- Training and Doctrine Command – *Travnik*
- Logistics Command – *Doboj*
 - Logistical Support Battalions – *Banja Luka, Capljina, Tuzla, Sarajevo*

RANKS IN THE ARMED FORCES OF BiH

a. Rank insignia for Generals on terrain uniforms



b. Rank insignia for Senior officers on terrain uniforms



c. Rank insignia for Officers on terrain uniforms



d. Rank insignia for NCOs on terrain uniforms



e. Rank insignia for Soldiers on terrain uniforms



f. Military imam rank insignia on terrain uniforms



g. Military priest rank insignia on terrain uniforms



h. Military chaplain rank insignia on single terrain uniforms



Personnel Staffing of the Ministry of Defense and the Armed Forces of BiH

The Decision of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina on the Size, Structure and Locations of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina provides that the AF BiH includes a total of **16,000** members, specifically:

PMP _____ **10.000** (officers, junior officers and soldiers)
 CP _____ **1.000**
 Members of the reserve _____ **5.000**

The same decision also defines the ethnic composition, as follows:

- Bosniaks 45.90% or 4826 persons
- Serbs 33.60% or 3533 persons
- Croats 19.80% or 2084 persons, and
- Other ethnic groups 0.70% or 74 persons



Pursuant to the Law on the Civil Service, Law on Defense of BiH, Law on Service at the Institutions of BiH, and the Rulebook on Internal Organization and Job Systematization at the Ministry of Defense of BiH, the current staffing level at the MoD BiH is 236 civil servants and employees, and 60 professional military personnel. Admission is underway for a number of trainees and civil servants.

Pursuant to the Decision of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina on the Size, Structure and Locations of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Armed Forces of BiH are staffed at the rate of some 95 %.

Admission of Young Soldiers in the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina

In line with the Operating Plan for Activities Related to Selection and Admission of Soldiers in Professional Military Service, the first Public Announcement of the Ministry of Defense of BiH was published from March 27, through April 10, 2008, for staffing of 300 soldier positions at the AF BiH.

More than 3000 candidates applied for the Public Announcement. The testing of the candidates was conducted by the sub-committees at the locations of Sarajevo, Banja Luka, Tuzla, and Capljina. Upon completed testing, the candidates were ranked, following which the best ones were referred for medical examinations. The candidates who satisfied the medical examinations were invited for the core training at the Pazaric Basic Training Center.

The training was conducted from June 2, through August 22, 2008, and 313 candidates were successful in completing it, among which there were 21 women candidates. Following the successful training, the candidates signed three-year Agreements for Admission into Professional Military Service, and on September 1, 2008, they were deployed into the units of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

On July 22, 2008, the Ministry of Defense of BiH published yet another Public Announcement for admission into professional military service.





Training for the Members of the Ministry of Defense and the Armed Forces of BiH

The training for the members of the Ministry of Defense and the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina is one of the highest peace-time priorities. Attainment of interoperability with the NATO member forces is a challenge which the MoD and AF BiH have been aspiring towards with an aim to accomplish it as soon as possible.



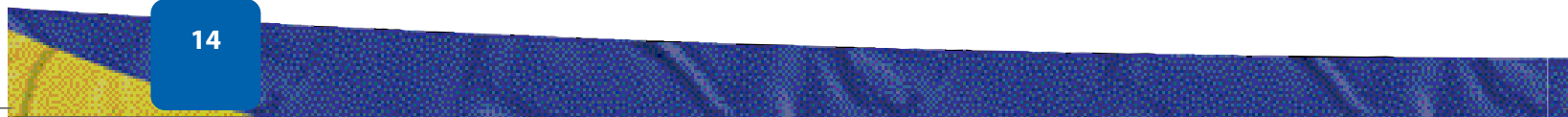
The education and training for the members of the Ministry of Defense and the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina have been conducted in line with the Training Doctrine, Training Guidelines, training plans adopted, bilateral cooperation programs or cooperation projects agreed with the representatives of partner countries and the international community.



The education and training have been aimed at the following basic activities:

- Education and training related to implementation of international treaties and agreements of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and to the measures involving trust building, security and armament control activities.

This training has been conducted in cooperation with the OSCE Mission, Geneva Center for Security Studies, RACVIAC Center in Zagreb, Institute in San Remo, and the like. Through conferences, seminars and other activities, this form of education and training has covered a significant number of members of the MoD and the AF BiH.



- Implementation of the education and training programs related to the NATO and PfP activities (IPP, EAPWP). Through this program, by participation at conferences, seminars, courses and exercises, Bosnia and Herzegovina has been making efforts to build up the capacities determined in the PARP and partnership goals, thus accomplishing interoperability and compatibility of units and commands with the NATO units and commands. During 2008, Bosnia and Herzegovina has selected 175 events. Visits by mobile training teams and visits by expert teams have proven to be particularly efficient.

- Implementation of activities defined in international bilateral agreements. Through this form of activity, a large number of the MoD and AF BiH members has been covered with various forms of education and training at schools and centers in partner countries, in compliance with the NATO standards. As Bosnia and Herzegovina has no military schools of its own, this form of education covers the highest level of training and development at military academies, staff command schools, military national colleges, national defense schools, etc.



The MoD and AF BiH members have been educated at prestigious military schools in the USA, France, Great Britain, Germany, Turkey, Greece, Croatia, Serbia, Malaysia, and other partner states. A large number of the MoD and AF BiH members have completed the aforementioned types of education.

Through participation at training courses, conferences, seminars and exercises, a significant number of members of the Ministry of Defense and the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina have passed through such education, and they have used the knowledge thus acquired to contribute to development of the defense institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina and to its Euro-Atlantic integration.



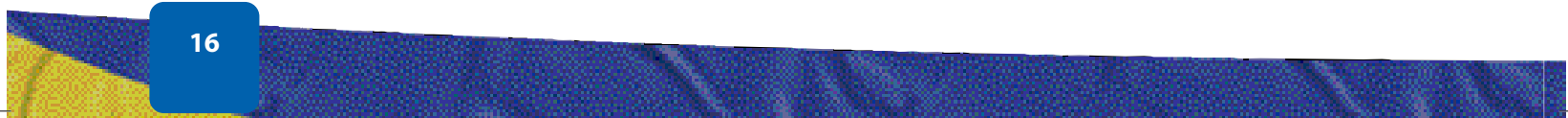
- In the framework of general cooperation, Bosnia and Herzegovina has been a participant of the SEDM, SEESIM, SEEBRIG, American-Adriatic Charger, and other regional initiatives.



Under these initiatives, Bosnia and Herzegovina has taken part at exercises, courses and seminars contributing to increased awareness of the situation in the region and to sharing of the lessons learned.



- Studying of foreign languages, particularly English, has an important role in training of the MoD and AF BiH members. The English language learning system has been redesigned into 5 midi centers (based on the British Council program) and English Language School based on the IMET program, at the Professional Development Center. Two main centers of the British Council are also available, as well as the capacities at the PSOTC and the JS AF BiH. In addition to the aforementioned centers, English is also studied in the partner countries (the USA, Great Britain, Canada, Slovenia, Hungary, Bulgaria, and the like). The STANAG English knowledge testing team has been formed, and the development of the first BiH test is underway, based on the requirements defined in the NATO STANAG 6001.



In addition to English, German, French, Greek and Turkish languages are also studied at the centers of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The PSOTC Center at Butmir near Sarajevo has also played a significant role in education and training of the members of the Armed Forces of BiH. So far, this center has trained seven classes, on average some 30 participants each, for peace support missions. During education and training, the members of the MoD and AF BiH have shown very good results. Increased attention has been attached to the planned education and training for the members of the MoD and AF BiH and to adequate selection of personnel for this purpose.



The newest structure of the Armed Forces of BiH, through the Training and Doctrine Command of the Armed Forces of BiH (Basic Training Center, Professional Development Center, and PSOTC Butmir), has allowed successful education and training for the members of the Armed Forces of BiH.

Training of the AF BiH Units during 2008

The AF BiH training management system is primarily focused on attaining the interoperability and compatibility of the AF BiH forces with the armed forces of the NATO members. The JS AF BiH has completed the activities aimed at drafting of the documents in the training and military education management system, such as: the Leader Development in the AF BiH manual, Training of AF BiH manual, Unit Training manual, Training Management in the AF BiH manual (brigades-battalions). The aforementioned documents have been fully made in compliance with the agreed NATO standards (STANAG).



Schools, courses, seminars in the country

Based on the Annual Education and Course Plan for PMP and CP for 2008, 2334 personnel (of which 1781 officers, 528 junior officers, 17 soldiers, and 8 civilian personnel).

Pursuant to the Leader Development in the AF BiH Manual and the Annual Training Plan for 2008, 30 officers and 30 junior officers have been sent to the core officer and junior officer courses implemented at the COO. Also, pursuant to the Annual Training Plan for 2008, officers have been sent to attend the Staff Command Course, implemented at the CPR.

The Training of the AF BiH in 2008 has been fully conducted based on the ATP for AF BiH. The two major priorities are: training of units for peace support missions and rotations of infantry battalions through the CTC Manjaca.

- The training of the UXO Disposal Unit for the Iraqi Freedom Mission has been successfully conducted as per the envisaged schedule, within the UXO disposal party. The AF BiH instructors have taken on the complete training process previously implemented by the US military mobile training teams. The training was conducted for the infantry unit sent for the mission in Iraq for the first time in August 2008.
- The Combat Training Center (CTC) has been set into full operation and has been completing its mission smoothly. During 2008, there were rotations of one battalion each from all three infantry brigades. The Combat Simulation Center (CSC) has also fully supported the training of the infantry battalions; all battalion simulation exercises have been successfully implemented, and the training of four brigades of the AF BiH shall be completed by the end of the year.



Education in Foreign Countries

35 professional military personnel have been sent for education into foreign countries, specifically: Greece (National Defense School - 1 person, War College - 3 persons, Staff Command School - 2 persons), Serbia (General Staff School - 3 persons, Staff Command School - 2 persons), Croatia (War School - 1 person, Staff Command School - 1 person, Military Diplomatic Education - 2 persons, High Junior Officer School - 1 person), Malaysia (Staff Command College - 1 person), Estonia (Baltic College - 3 persons), Germany (Staff College - 1 person), Turkey (Armed Forces Academy - 2 persons), USA (Major Sargent Academy - 4 persons, Airforce Staff Command College - 1 person, Staff Command College - 2 persons, Postgraduate Studies - 2 persons, State War College - 1 person), France (General Staff School - 1 person), Pakistan (Postgraduate Studies - 1 person).

The AF BiH units have completed training at their local training area missions, notably the training in missions of assistance to civilian structures in case of floods, fires or other natural disasters. The high level of training of the AF BiH on the aforementioned missions has been confirmed on the ground through successful assistance to civilian structures in fire extinguishing actions.

In the future period, the training shall continue to focus on attaining the NATO interoperability and compatibility of the AF BiH units, including priorities in training for peace missions and rotation in training of battalions at the CTC.



Exercise "Joint Effort 2008 "

The exercise "Joint Effort 2008" is one of the exceptionally significant communication exercises (of the highest level in this area), aimed at verification of interoperability of communications tools and systems of the NATO and PfP countries. More than 1200 participants of the exercise from 42 countries and two multinational organizations shall take part in this exercise.

In the PfP spirit, this exercise is organized by the EUCOM aimed at planning, organization and testing of interoperability of the command, control, communications and computer equipment in support for future joint aid, peace or assistance operations in cases of crises. The focus in the "Joint Effort 2008" exercise was to test security in data transfer through computer networks. The communications experts have conducted more than 1,000 various interoperability tests, to be added to the existing 13,000 tests that had been conducted since the beginning. The experiences and results of tests from this exercise are used in organization of communications in all current peace support missions. BiH has been taking part in this exercise since 2007, when it carried the observer status, while in 2008 it has received the status of a fully-fledged participant, and has taken part in the radio segment of the exercise using the device HAR-RIS 5800. The MoD and AF BiH were represented by 16 members.

Peace Support Operation Training Center (PSOTC)

The Peace Support Operation Training Center (PSOTC) is a special purpose education institution providing professional military expertise and staff training for the officers of the Armed Forces of BiH and international officers. The main purpose for establishment of the Center is to offer military training for the new generations of young officers, in support for the host country Armed Forces restructuring process, but it also offers various peace support operations (PSO) courses, as well as seminary for other target groups that have been or will be conducted.

Great Britain has initiated for the establishment of the PSOTC. The idea was clearly defined in 2001, and it was followed by negotiations with partners, construction of the building, development of the curricula, etc. The first PSO staff course was conducted back in 2005.

The PSOTC building is located within the Butmir Camp in Sarajevo, where the main NATO/EUFOR headquarters is also situated.



The PSOTC is administered by the consortium consisting of 16 international partners (Austria, BiH, Denmark, Finland, Croatia, Hungary, Macedonia, the Netherlands, Norway, Germany, Poland, the United States of America, Switzerland, Sweden, Turkey, and Great Britain), the relation among whom is governed in the Memorandum of Understanding.



In November 2007, the PSOTC has been recognized by the NATO Secretary General as a PfP Training and Education Center. This confirms that the training conducted at the Center is compatible in terms of quality with NATO standards and procedures.

The administration board, consisting of the partner state representatives, has initiated the transfer of the Center to Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2013. The host country shall continue to maintain the Center including its international teaching staff. This shall ensure the continuation of the multinational spirit as one of the fundamentals in teaching.

Currently, the PSOTC engages 12 persons from 8 countries (Austria, Denmark, Croatia, Germany, Poland, USA, Turkey, and Great Britain). In addition, the Center employs 20 members of the Armed Forces and 12 civilians from BiH.

Regional Cooperation

The main course conducted at the Center is the PSO Staff Course, focusing on the principles, procedures, planning and carrying out of international peace support operations. The course has been redesigned and funding has been provided for 40 officers (OF1/2) and young officers (OF3), of which number up to 25 officers from the Armed Forces of BiH, while the other officers mainly come from the regional states and partner states. The course is taught in English.



The PSO Staff Course is currently conducted twice per year. The content, duration and quality of the staff course have been established so that the majority of the NATO countries deems it to be the Staff Course for Young Officers. The students of the PSO Staff Course are trained for the position of party commanders or staff officers at the level of battalions/brigades. Over the past four years, 119 officers from the Armed Forces of BiH have successfully completed the PSOTC, of which 32 have returned or are currently serving in the operations in Iraq, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia or Erythrea, with a lot of new volunteers ready to take their places if the MoD BiH should so require. Also, during the staff courses, the Center has trained 51 international officers.

The PSOTC has established mobile training teams, which enable the Center to conduct training outside its headquarters in Sarajevo. The focus of the mobile training teams is the training of brigade personnel, training of staff personnel at higher commands and teaching support to regional institutions. During 2007 and 2008, since when the PSOTC mobile training team has been existing, a total of 513 officers and 36 junior officers of the AF BiH have attended the staff training.

The PSOTC provides ideal opportunities for seminars and courses, so that the Center offers to host these events. The Center has very professional personnel able to provide excellent conference support. So far, mainly using mobile training teams, the Center has provided lecturers to other centers, exchanged teaching materials and ensured support to training in PSO exercises.

The Center has also attracted support from the other regional states.

During 2008, it has organized the Interagency Planning Seminar including participation of the six regional countries. Also, 13 government and non-governmental organizations have assisted in the exercise focusing on civilian and military cooperation in a mythical African state. The seminar shall be organized anew in 2009.

BiH on the NATO Accession Path

The security of Bosnia and Herzegovina is connected with the security and perspectives in its immediate environment, Europe and international community as a whole. Integration within regional, European and Euro-Atlantic collective security structures is a priority area of action for Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Bosnia and Herzegovina accepts the concept of collective military security as the basis for its long-term military strategy. The key element required to attain unquestionable collective military security of Bosnia and Herzegovina is to become a NATO member, because in this case its sovereignty and territorial integrity would also be guaranteed by the whole Alliance, as defined in the Washington Treaty.

To this aim, the BiH Presidency has voiced the political will for membership in the Euro-Atlantic security structures in its 2001 declaration, which among other things states as follows:

“Bosnia and Herzegovina is ready to accept the obligations and rights within the family of equal Euro-Atlantic nations, and take part in and provide an active contribution to collective security ... For this purpose, under NATO assistance, we are ready to work on the reform of the defense system and restructuring of the armies in Bosnia and Herzegovina, in order to accede the aforementioned integration structures”.

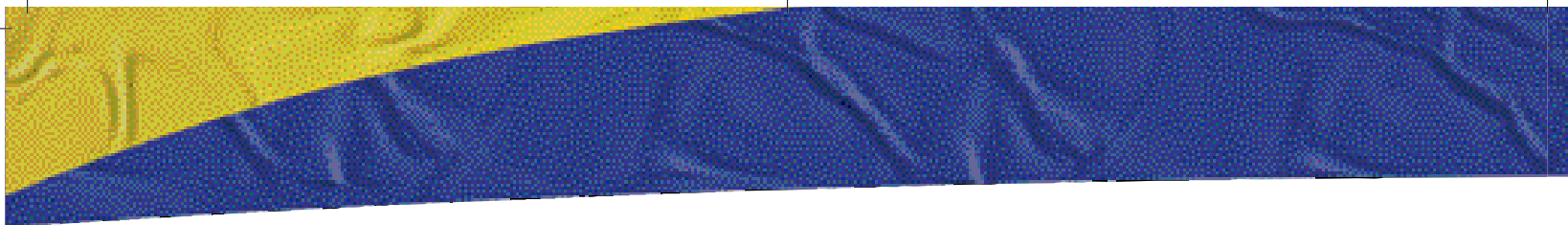
In recognition of the results made in the BiH reforms, the invitation for the membership of BiH in the NATO Partnership for Peace – PfP program was issued at the Summit in Riga, on November 29, 2006.



Following the PfP invitation, the schedule of the major events was as follows:

- Framework Document was signed between the NATO and BiH on December 14, 2006.
- BiH Presentation Document was submitted on January 1, 2007.
- In March of 2007, the Security Agreement was signed, which was certified and came into force in August 2007, thereby allowing for establishment of the BiH Mission at the NATO and for flow of confidential information between the NATO and BiH.
- The NATO Partnership for Peace program provides some very useful tools and mechanisms assisting to the Program participant countries to accomplish the goals expressed in the Presentation Document at accession of the Partnership for Peace. These are:
 - PARP – Planning and Review Process. The first PARP questionnaire was answered on May 29, 2007;
 - IPP - Individual Partnership Program, created based on the bid in the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Working Program (EAPWP). The first IPP was approved in June 2007, and the second IPP was approved in January 2008;
 - IPAP – Individual Partnership Action Plan, specifying the actions and activities intended for undertaking in order to meet the requirements for the NATO accession. The meeting of the NATO Senior Political Committee on February 29, 2008, discussed and adopted the BiH intention to accede the IPAP program.

Intensified Dialogue – as a result of successful implementation of the aforementioned activities, as well as other conditions imposed before BiH, at the NATO Summit in Bucharest in April 2008, BiH was invited to start the Intensified Dialogue with the NATO.



Once BiH has met all the NATO requirements and the conditions to become a credible candidate for the NATO membership, it shall accede the Membership Action Plan program, as the highest level of partnership and the last step prior to full-fledged NATO membership.

Successful first cycle of the PfP Planning And Review Process-PARP

The PARP exposes the whole BiH defense system to the requirements of interoperability, directly influencing the reform of the defense system through changes in training and education, equipment and procurement, resource management, from top to bottom. At the same time, the

PARP provides an insight to BiH into the NATO forces planning process. BiH approximation to the NATO largely depends on the assessment of the NATO PARP teams, who may, through discussion and negotiation, assist in definition of priorities in order to achieve progress towards the NATO membership. The PARP has been focused on promotion of transparency in state defense planning and on better preparation of partner forces for cooperation with the Alliance forces. It strives to encourage development of interoperability between partner forces and Alliance forces in the full specter of the PfP operations, and the training and exercises that pertain to it. BiH has successfully completed the first PARP cycle by approval of the PARP assessment for BiH and of the package of Partner Goals on February 18, 2008. The process of implementation of partner goals, 31 of them, is underway, which shall significantly improve the basis for accomplishment of the required interoperability.

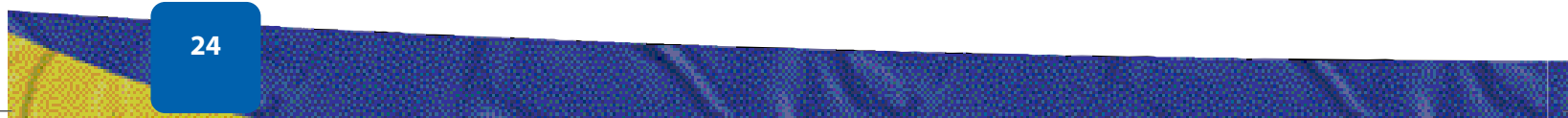
Implementation of the BiH Individual Partnership Program (IPP) for 2008-2009

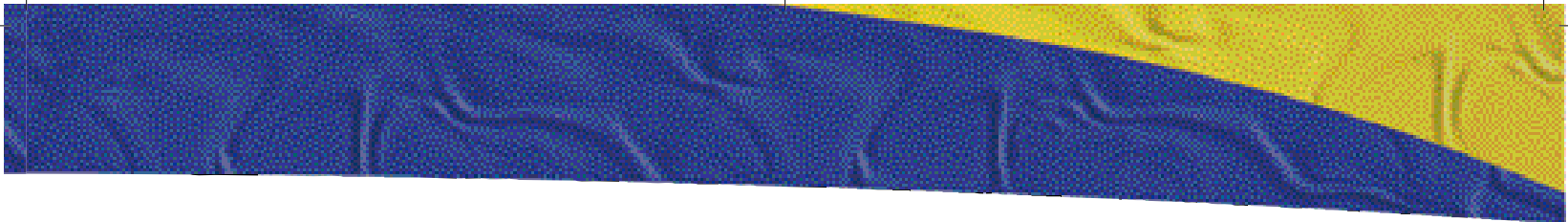


The IPP constitutes operational „translation“ of the goals stated in the Presentation Document and of the Partnership Goals agreed with the NATO during the PARP assessment. This „translation“ is conducted through selection of particular activities included into the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Working Program (EAPWP). The IPP is developed for a two-year period, and it is revised and updated every year.



In June 2007, the NATO approved the first Individual Partnership Program for BiH, constituting cooperation between the state of BiH and the NATO. The proposed IPP BiH for 2008 was offered in December 2007, and approved by the NATO Political-Military Steering Committee (PMSC).





The IPP envisages 21 area of cooperation with 111 activities and 175 events. 100 activities with 151 events pertain to the MoD and AF BiH. The other activities and events pertain to other BiH institutions.



The areas of cooperation related to the MoD and AF BiH are:

- Arms Control, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation (ACD)
- Air Defense Forces (ADF)
- Air Space Control and Management (ASM)
- Consultations, Command, and Control (C3)
- Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Defense (CBRN)
- Crisis Management and Emergency Response Planning (CEP)
- Crisis Response Management (CRM)
- Democratic Control of Armed Forces and Defense Structures (DCF)
- Defense Planning, Budgeting and Resource Management (DPB)
- Defense Policy and Strategy (DPS)
- Humanitarian Mine Action (HMA)
- Foreign Language Studies (LNG)
- Logistics (LOG)
- Medical Services (MED)
- Peace Keeping Terms, Planning and Operational Aspects (PKG)
- Response to Terrorism (RTT)
- Small and Light Weapons (SLW)
- Exercises and Exercise-Related Training (TEX)
- Military Education, Training and Doctrine (TRD)

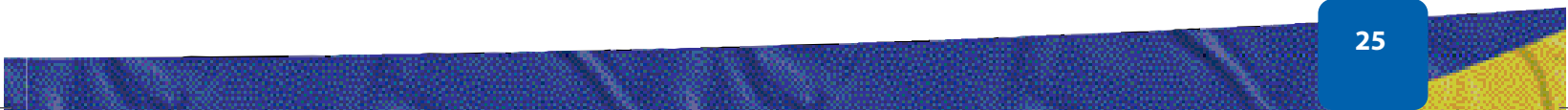


The IPP BiH implementation monitoring team coordinates the selection of candidates for participation at events from the Euro-Atlantic work program, ensuring that the candidates have an appropriate command of English, expertise and functional need for knowledge that may be acquired at courses, seminars or exercises for which they have been nominated.

All organizational units of the MoD and JS AF BiH have nominated candidates for the IPP events.

IPAP (Individual Partnership Action Plan) provides for quality acceleration of the cooperation with NATO

The IPAP is a cooperation mechanism between the NATO Alliance and the partner country aspiring to significantly increase it. The IPAP is a new program, and it is dubbed "Pfp de Luxe". The areas of cooperation are much broader than the defense sphere, with an aim of deepening of mutual cooperation and implementation of the reform processes in the partner country required for accession into European and Euro-Atlantic integrations. Although it has a lot of similarity with the Membership Action Plan – MAP, which shall be the next step for BiH's full-fledged membership following the meeting of the obligations from the Intensified Dialogue, it exists as a parallel program, not as a replacement for the Intensified Dialogue or subsequently the MAP.





It includes all major areas of social life, so the IPAP Presentation Document includes 4 chapters, as follows:

1. political and security matters
2. defense and military matters
3. public diplomacy, crisis management and emergency response planning
4. administrative matters, security protection and resource matters



The IPAP Presentation Document (IPAP PD) constitutes the sublimation of activities and goals that the partner country plans to implement in this direction over a two-year period. After approval of the IPAP PD by the NATO, it is proceeded to draft the IPAP itself, in a way to precisely define the timeframes for implementation of the goals designated in the IPAP PD, and national mechanisms are moved forward for implementation of the IPAP. In recognition of the considerable progress made by BiH in meeting its PfP commitments, in early 2008, the NATO decided to institutionalize the relations with BiH at the IPAP level.

Intensified Dialogue (ID)

In appreciation of the positive results and efforts made by BiH in the area of NATO approximation, in view of ensuring the conditions required for the full membership of the Alliance, at its Summit in Bucharest, held from April 2 to 4, 2008, the NATO decided to raise the cooperation with BiH to a higher functional level, that is to say, the ID level.

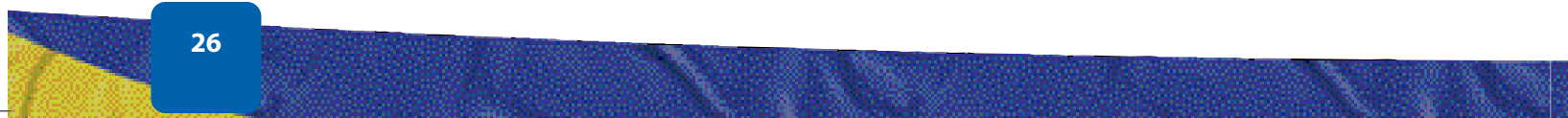
The Intensified Dialogue (ID) is an opportunity for the Alliance to intensify discussions on a broad specter of political, military, financial and security matters pertaining to potential membership of the NATO, without prejudice to the ultimate NATO decision, with „those countries aspiring to become NATO members or wishing to conduct dialogue with NATO on membership issues“. Thus, the ID is a program parallel with the activities under the PfP program, and it is a higher level of relations between the NATO and the countries that express the intention of becoming members of the Alliance.



As a first step, the country that has received the NATO invitation for the ID shall develop the ID Presentation Document, dubbed by the NATO as **Initial Discussion Paper (IDP)**, based on the „NATO Enlargement Study" from 1995, where is shall present the vision of its relations with the NATO. The IDP shall contain all issues that the country wishes to discuss with the NATO.



The IDP contains five chapters:
Politico-Economical Matters
Defense Security Matters
Resource Matters
Information Security Matters
Legal Matters



Therefore, the ID is a process developed for the purpose of further creation of the conditions required for transition into higher functional forms of cooperation, that is to say, the Membership Action plan (MAP) and ultimately into full NATO membership.

Although the Intensified Dialogue process shall not bring many new contents that are not already contained in the PD, PARP or IPAP, the ID process means that the BiH personnel is expected to intensively engage in numerous future round table discussions and meetings to be organized in BiH and in Brussels. The aim of these discussions, that is to say, of the Intensified Dialogue, will be to clarify all issues completely, to recognize the drawbacks and determine the required actions in order for BiH to become a credible candidate for NATO membership, that is, for its transition into the MAP.

Information on the NATO/PfP Program for Building Integrity and Reducing Corruption Risk in Defense Establishments

Under the auspices of the Euro-Atlantic Integration and Partnership Directorate – EIPD and Department for Political Affairs and Security Policy - PASP, in late 2007, preparations started on adoption of the planning documents and implementation of the NATO/PfP program for Building Integrity and Reducing Corruption Risk in Defense Establishments. The program brings along strengthening of institutional capacities in the PfP member country defense system structure building. One of the key documents in this program is the UN Convention on Combating Corruption, and Bosnia and Herzegovina is a country that has ratified this Convention.

The program consists of three parts:

1. Development of Education and Training Packages

The core tasks of the course are the improvement of knowledge and understanding in the defense security sector in the following areas: corruption reduction, transparency and integration of anti-corruption activities into the management of the defense security sector. The work methodology would be based on briefings, discussions, studies and practical exercises. For the needs of the course, it is planned to hire lecturers with appropriate experience in organization areas.



2. Development of Compendium-Promotion of the Best Practical Solutions

It is planned to publish the list of questions that should assist in development of these activities. The DCAF (Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces) has been actively involved. The DCAF will use its expertise in the work and shall remain open for contacts with experts from other countries aimed at development of this segment of the program. The Best Practice Handbook shall be jointly developed by Switzerland and DCAF, which will organize a series of courses on corruption and similar issues.

3. Drafting of the Self-Assessment List, self-assessment and analysis by expert teams aimed at developing the Tailored Cooperation Program (TCP) in this area

The assessment principle in this area would be based on a system similar to the one used for the needs of the PARP process. The countries would fill in this questionnaire, which would be a starting base for the visit of the NATO expert team in this area, which would conduct an analysis of the situation and propose the TCP (Tailored Cooperation Program) in order to improve the program adjusted to partners.

This activity was also mentioned in the final declaration from the Bucharest Summit, in its point 32, in which the participants of the Summit stress out that they shall attach priority to several new practical initiatives, including building of integrity at defense establishments. The NATO has been strongly supporting this initiative, and its results shall also be discussed at the next NATO Summit in 2009.



Development of the System Compatible with the Systems of the NATO and EU Member Countries

The establishment of the single defense system in 2006 at the level of Bosnia and Herzegovina meant that the single budget of the overall Armed Forces in BiH was projected and approved for the first time, a budget approved, financed and executed from the Single Account of the Treasury of Bosnia and Herzegovina.



The precondition for execution of the single budget was the establishment of the single financial operation and calculation of personnel costs. The merger of three totally different systems with all of their specific qualities was one of the basic steps in establishment and functioning of the single structure of the Armed Forces. Particularly because the defense system is the most numerous and most complex structure among the institutions of BiH, and the personnel and facilities are scattered all over the BiH territory. In spite of all differences and complexities, and uncertainties as well in part, over a very short period of time, transitional solutions were established through which segments of operations were transferred step by step from the entity structures up to the state level, and the first payroll was calculated and paid without delay, which was an exceptionally big success, given that all segments of the defense system were in the phase of merging and restructuring. The success in establishment of the single budgeting and financial operation over such a short period of time was a beam of light and one of the basic steps for continuation of the reform process and further development of the AF in the direction of inclusion into the Euro-Atlantic integration.

Parallel with the transition of the defense system, the public administration reform was also started, through which, among other activities, the Ministry of Finance and Treasury of BiH began the process for establishment of the program budget (a program consists of a group of tasks and activities), which would ensure more efficient planning in the defense system and its processes and a more efficient and effective structure of the Armed Forces, improve the transparency in planning and expenditure of the budget fundings, as well as the development of a system that would be compatible and interoperable with the advanced systems in the NATO and EU member countries.



Along with the other institutions, the MoD BiH became involved in this process, while simultaneously adapting this model with the elements of the System Planning, Programming, Budgeting and Budget Execution, which had been in part established within the defense structures. The development of the program budget is part of the complete System Planning, Programming, Budgeting and Budget Execution (SPPBI), the development of which is one of the core partnership goals taken on by the Ministry of Defense of BiH through PfP accession for implementation as an obligation under its plan to attain the armed forces standards prevalent in the NATO member countries.

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The development of the PPBI system is a multi-annual phased process and it includes the drafting and adoption of normative regulations, development of cost-based models and further development of human resources to provide a quality support for the implementation of this system.

In line with the public accounting reform, parallel with the development of the SPPBI, the development is also underway of the internal control system at the MoD and AF BiH, for the purpose of further strengthening of security in disposal and use of the resources available. Like with the other systems, its establishment and implementation is conducted through phases within a time cycle and it includes both normative and material and human resources.

The implementation of the reform solutions is a complex and continued circular process without a beginning or an end, but only with phases implemented over specific periods of time depending on the resources available.

In spite of the complex conditions in which the defense reform process has been conducted, the MoD and AF BiH were accompanied with the financial restrictions which are not at a satisfactory level given the obligations taken on in order to attain the compatibility and interoperability with the NATO and PfP member countries. Over the past period, the defense budget ranged at some 1.3 – 1.5% of the GDP, whereas defense allocations in the countries of the region have been much higher, ranging on average at 2.2 – 3% of the GDP.



In spite of the financial restrictions accompanying the complete defense reform process so far, big results have been accomplished, given that the defense structures have unconditionally met all the requirements for admission of Bosnia and Herzegovina into the Partnership for Peace and they continue to strengthen the processes aimed at preparations for the NATO accession.



Participation of the BiH Armed Forces Members in UN Peace Missions and Peace Support Operations

„Iraqi Freedom“ Peace Support Operation in Iraq



Pursuant to the decisions of the BiH Presidency and Parliamentary Assembly of BiH, since June 1, 2005, the Unexploded Ordnance Disposal Unit of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina has participated in the Iraqi Freedom Peace Support Operation in Iraq. This unit comprises of 36 members. Since the above stated date, the Unit has continuously participated in the mission within the Multinational Forces in Iraq, in seven rotations for six month each.



For the needs of communication and coordination of activities between the BiH command structure and the coalition forces, two liaison officers have been deployed to liaise with the USCENTCOM in Tampa, Florida, USA, and one liaison officer to liaise with the Multinational Command for Iraq (MNC-I) in Baghdad. The mission of the unit is to dispose of the conventional unexploded ordnance through use of explosives at locations specifically designated, designed and secured for such purpose. The unit has conducted its mission in compliance with the Rules of Engagement (ROE) as defined by the Minister of Defense of BiH. The logistical support and security for the unit in movement and during work are provided by the coalition forces in Iraq. The BiH Presidency has authorized the BiH Minister of Defense to issue a separate decision to designate the unit of the Multinational Forces in Iraq in the composition of which the Unit shall operate, as well as the base for its deployment. The Head of the JS AF BiH has been authorized by the BiH Presidency to transfer the competency of operational command over the unit onto the commander of the multinational forces.



During its mission, the Unit changed its engagement sector two times. Since October 24, 2006, the Unit has been deployed within the Center South sector. The Unit is under direct command of the commander of the Center South Multinational Division.

During participation in the Iraq mission, while completing the tasks set in a professional manner, the Unit has accomplished significant results through disposal of over 400,000 pieces of various types of unexploded ordnance. The AF BiH UXO disposal unit has been regularly rated highly and commended by the competent commands in Iraq for its timely and professional completion of tasks.

So far, a total of seven rotations have participated, for six months each, and in August 2008, the eighth rotation was

deployed.

A total of 310 members of the AF BiH have participated in the Iraq mission.



An Infantry Unit from BiH in the operations of the Coalition Forces as well

Pursuant to the decisions of the BiH Presidency and Parliamentary Assembly of BiH, since August 18, 2008, the Infantry Unit of the AF BiH has been also participating in the operations of the Coalition Forces in Iraq, including 49 members and one liaison officer, at the Command of the 39th Infantry Brigade of the Multinational Division in Baghdad. The unit has been securing a part of the Victory Base. The mission of the Infantry Unit of the AF BiH is protection of part of the Coalition Forces, civilian personnel within the base, as well as protection of the infrastructure, facilities and equipment within the military installation - base. Of the 49 members currently in the peace support mission in Iraq, three are women. The engagement of 87 members of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the peace support mission has clearly shown the commitment of BiH

as a responsible member of the international community in terms of wishing and being able to contribute in joint efforts for establishment and preservation of peace and stability in the world. In addition to improvement of relations with the coalition partners, the participation of our unit in the composition of the Coalition Forces in the Iraq mission also shows and concretely demonstrates the progress made in BiH, which is directly linked to the process of reform implementation in the area of defense, thus creating the better preconditions and increasing the credibility in the BiH efforts towards Euro-Atlantic integration structures (EU/NATO).



UN Peace Mission in Ethiopia-Eritrea (UNMEE)

The Armed Forces of BiH have taken part in this UN mission since 2001. So far, 59 officers have participated (9 officers from 2001 through 2996, and 5 officers in 2007, and in 2008, until May 9, 2008, there were two officers). At the moment, the status of the UNMEE Mission has been resolved through the UN Security Council Resolution no. 1827 dated July 30, 2008, terminating this mission.



UN Peace Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUC)

The Armed Forces of BiH have taken part in this UN mission since 2002. So far, a total of 30 officers have participated. Currently, 5 officers are participating in the Congo peace mission (January 18, 2008, through January 18, 2009).

So far, a total of 89 officers have taken part in the UN missions, and the total number of participants from BiH in all missions so far is 405 members of the AF BiH. So far, there have been no casualties. All participants have been volunteers.

Mine Action (MA) at the AF BiH

Based on the General Framework Peace Agreement in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Annex A of the military part of the Agreement, and the London Conference for Peace Implementation, held in December 1996, the Armed Forces of BiH were obligated to undertake the activities to reduce the risk coming from landmines and UXO. All MA implementation activities are done in the spirit and framework of the state laws and standards (Law on Demining in BiH, Rulebook for Accreditation of Organizations for Implementation of Mine Action in BiH, Standards for Removal of Mines and UXO in BiH), and the Standard and Operating Procedures (SOP) approved by the *BH MAC*.

The results accomplished by the AF BiH on demining in BiH over the past six-year period are impressive ones:

Year	2002.	2003.	2004.	2005.	2006.	2007.
AF BiH Output	1341707 m ²	1315610m ²	957 684 m ²	1460996 m ²	2188101 m ²	1771957 m ²

In general, the AF BiH have participated with some 20% of the total demining results in BiH, with a tendency of increasing of this share, which should in particular be shown in the future period, when more significant modernization of machinery for mechanical preparation of land has been planned.



As a MA organization, in their composition, the AF BiH have a demining battalion for direct conducting of MA tasks.

The capacities of the demining battalion are:

- 32 manual units
- 2 manual units for demining of military facilities
- 6 machines for land preparation "Bozena 1,2"
- 1 machine for land preparation "Bozena 5"
- 1 mine cleaning tank "Liberator" (T-55)
- 1 plant team for cleaning of rubble
- 9 POEK teams (teams with dogs for explosive detection)
- 6 teams for general patrolling

Among other things, through accreditation issued by the *BH MAC*, the AF BiH have been accredited for the following activities:

- humanitarian demining:

Classified by methods:

- manual demining
- mechanical preparation
- use of mine detection dogs

Classified by content of specific activities:

- technical patrolling
- soil clearance
- facility clearance

- training of personnel for humanitarian demining
- mine alerting



The AF BiH have been conducting MA activities on a continuous basis, throughout the calendar year, through the summer and winter demining campaign. During the winter demining campaign (December, January, February) the work is conducted with capacities reduced, because such are the weather conditions. At the same time, this period is more intensively used for supplementary and regular staff training. Over the rest of the year, the summer demining campaign is conducted, with full capacities and on the whole territory of BiH.

The MA Annual Plan (mine action) of the Armed Forces of BiH for 2008 envisages the output at the level of 2 093584 m² on 68 demining projects. Currently, the demining teams of the AF BiH are engaged on 30 working sites in 24 municipalities throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The today's AF BiH have been included into the process of training in the area of humanitarian demining since April 1998, when the US Government provided assistance in establishing three demining schools (Travnik, Banja Luka and Mostar). Between April and June 1998, a US Military team of trainers was involved in BiH in training of personnel from the aforementioned demining schools, thus creating the conditions for the beginning of training of the personnel of the today's AF BiH and its involvement in the demining process based on humanitarian standards. Following personnel training, since July 1998, the military has been involved in the process of humanitarian demining in BiH. Under the reform of the Armed Forces of BiH, the Training Unit has been formed within the Demining Battalion of the aforementioned demining schools.

Over the past period, the Armed Forces of BiH conducted independent courses in various specialties based on the requirements of the BiH standards. The completed courses were certified by the Mine Action Center of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Nowadays, numerous demining personnel trained at the AF BiH has been working at many government, non-government and commercial companies in BiH and abroad.



The MA courses organized at the AF BiH are:

- Core demining course
- House cleaning course
- Team-unit commander course
- Course for mechanical land preparation machine operators
- Patrolling course
- Core UXOR (unexploded ordnance removal) operator course
- UXOR team commander course
- Internal quality control inspector course
- Demining platoon (working site) commander course

Based on the completed courses and working experience, the following titles-qualifications are acquired in the area of humanitarian demining: demining worker, medical worker, demining unit-team commander, patroller, house clearing demining worker, land preparation machine operator, UXOR operator, UXOR team commander, dog leader, platoon (working site) commander, mechanical land preparation team commander, demining trainer, UXOR trainer, and quality control inspector in humanitarian demining.

Military-Civilian Cooperation

Over the past period, the Ministry of Defense and the Armed Forces of BiH have invested some major efforts in the segment pertaining to provision of assistance to civilian authorities. The cooperation has primarily reflected in provision of assistance in cases of natural disasters, engineering support to the local authorities, provision of assistance and participation of the AF BiH members in humanitarian activities, evacuation of casualties, and assistance in organization of religious, cultural or sports events, as well as provision for use of the AF BiH resources and accommodation capacities, organization of visits to sites and locations of the Armed Forces of BiH and a number of other activities.



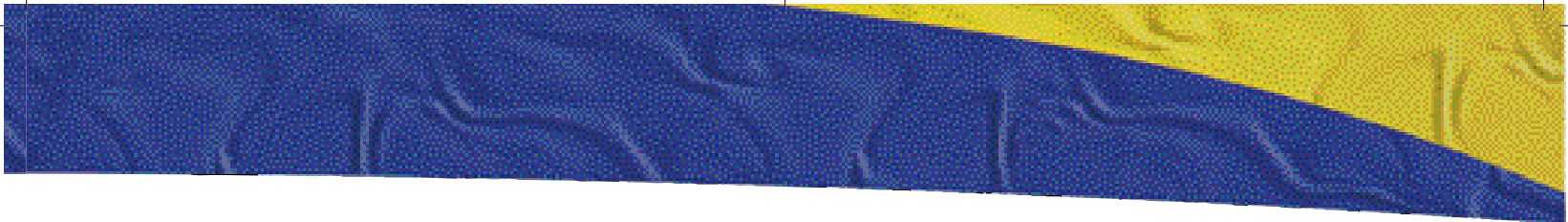
A particularly significant contribution has been given in the part pertaining to mine action and UXO removal, as well as to provision of assistance in fire fighting.

The aforementioned activities have been implemented upon the request of state, entity or municipal institutions, religious communities, school and sports organizations, associations of citizens and non-governmental organizations.

Participation of the AF BiH Members in Fire Fighting During 2008

In line with the role and tasks of the AF BiH as defined in the Law on Defense of BiH, pertaining to provision of assistance to civilian authorities and population in cases of natural and other disasters, during 2008, the AF BiH have taken active part in fire fighting on the affected territory of the BiH municipalities. At all locations where the AF BiH members were engaged, fires were efficiently extinguished thanks to, among other things, their hearty efforts, conscientious and disciplined work and exceptional professionalism. During these tasks, the safety of buildings and other assets near the fire fighting sites was not put at risk even for a single moment.





The tasks related to fire localization and extinguishing involved the work of a total of 114 members from the composition of the Air Forces of BiH, and 184 helicopter flights were made with 2,538 flying hours in fire fighting.

Locations and Periods of Activity

The AF BiH activated the human and other resources on the territories of Mostar, Tomislavgrad, Capljina, Gabela, and Jablanica, where the unit members took active part on fire localization and extinguishing. The members of the Air Forces of BiH were active in the fire fighting tasks during the period from August 16, through September 6, 2008, as follows:



- In the region of the city of Mostar, the Air Forces of BiH members were engaged in the period from August 16, through 27, 2008, and during the fire fighting activity, 99 flights were made and 174,000 liters of water were released;
- On the territories of Gabela and Capljina, the members of the 4 Infantry Brigade took part in fire fighting tasks on August 31, and September 1, 2008, and the field actions were conducted by the trained fire fighting units;
- In the area of Tomislavgrad, the fire fighting activity by the Air Forces were conducted from August 29, through 31, 2008. During this task, a total of 85 flights were made and 220,000 liters of water were released;
- On the territory of Jablanica (Ostrozac), 1 helicopter was activated in fire fighting on September 7, 2008, and 15 tons of water were released during the activity.

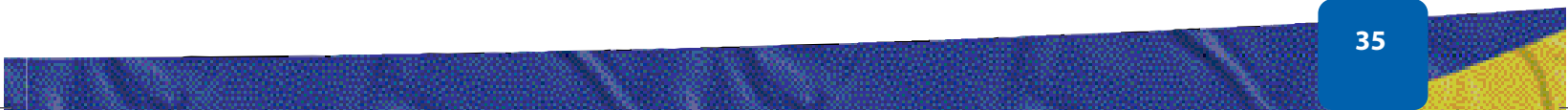
Use of Materials and Military Equipment

In the fire fighting activities, the AF BiH members used the following materials and technical means and equipment:

- helicopters MI – 8T.....2 pcs
- helicopters MI – 8MTV.....2 pcs
- fuel tanks2 pcs
- fire fighting barrel „Flory“.....2 pcs
- rucksacks.....20 pcs

During implementation of the fire fighting tasks, the members and commands of the AF BiH units had good coordination with the civilian authorities.

It is evident that, given the adequate equipment and materials for fire fighting, the AF BiH helicopter units are trained and prepared for quick, efficient and successful action in emergency situations caused by natural disasters, particularly in removal of fire perils.



Armament and Military Equipment

The quantity of operating armament and military equipment in the Armed Forces of BiH meets the needs of the proposed structure, but by its tactical and technical characteristics it is still in part outdated. The basic criterion for selection of the armament to equip the AF BiH has been the assets currently in possession and their technical correctness. It was not realistic to enter a modernization process parallel with the defense reform processes, which would require the involvement of considerable funding, too. Some of the basic types of armament and systems that the MoD BiH has opted for are:

- combat rifle M16A1
- submachine gun M60
- sniper rifle M76
- anti-tank manual rocket launcher OSA M79
- rocket launcher M57 60 mm
- howitzer D-30J 122 mm
- multiple rocket launcher – self-propelling APRA 40 122 mm
- tank M60 A3
- armored helicopter M113 A1
- helicopters UH-1H and Mi8/Mi17MTV



Long-Term Equipment Plan

In mid-2008, the Expert Team was formed to develop the Proposed Long-Term Plan for Development and Modernization of the AF BiH, aimed at attaining the interoperability and compatibility with the armed forces of the NATO and PfP member countries, through standardization and harmonization of the armament and military equipment, and of the operating and administrative procedures, as well as through reduction of the outdated armament and equipment, and introduction of modern ones based on planned and cost-effective justification.

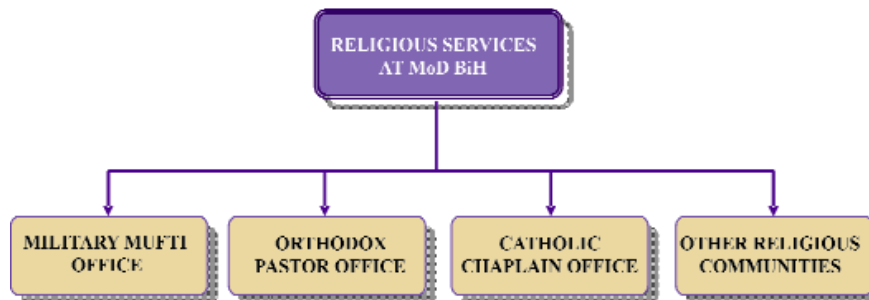
The modernization of forces and NATO compatibility are the long-term goals and they will be integrated into every development project of the AF BiH. The mid-term framework expenditure for the BiH institutions for the periods of 2009-2011 envisages an increase in the funding required for the needs of the defense sector. For the most part, the budget defense funds will be for the most part spent to settle the personnel costs of the members of the defense institutions and the current expenses, even in this planning period. Some 40 million KM have been planned for the needs of investing into special purpose programs, development projects and those involving standardization and modernization of the armament and military equipment of the AF BiH in 2009.



Religious Services at the MoD and AF BiH

The organization and method of functioning of the overall religious life at the MoD and AF BiH have been regulated in the Rulebook on Organization and Method of Functioning of the Religious Services at the MoD and AF BiH. The Rulebook governs the religious services as part of the MoD and AF BiH structure, tasked to organize and ensure the overall religious life at the MoD and AF BiH. In line with this, the Minister of Defense has signed agreements with the Vrhbosanska Archbishopric, Orthodox Church and Islamic Religious Community in BiH, governing the issue of establishment, organization and method of functioning of the religious services at the MoD and AF BiH.

Overview of the Organization of the Religious Services at the MoD BiH



Office of the Military Mufti

Pursuant to the Agreement on Establishment of the Military Mufti Office as an integral part of the single religious services at the MoD and AF BiH, signed on September 11, 2007, the Office of the Military Mufti continues caring for the Muslims within the defense system of BiH. The Military Mufti Office has been structured based on the army structure, and due to the specific quality of the task and the scope of activity, it does not include the *majlis*. All military imams in the Armed Forces of BiH are linked to the Head Imam of the Armed Forces, who is linked to the Military Mufti. Integrated into all defense spheres, established in line with the modern army standards for religious services, the Military Mufti Office is prepared for the new challenges in a multi-religion and multinational environment and is an indispensable entity within the defense system of BiH.

Office of the Orthodox Pastorship

The Office of the Orthodox Pastor, as part of the single religious services at the MoD and AF BiH, is involved in organization and ensuring of the overall religious life of the Orthodox believers at the MoD and AF BiH, such as: care on religious needs, preparation and conducting of religious rites, provision of spiritual assistance in case of death, serious injuries, plight, and other circumstances requiring personal assistance for believers. In addition to the above, the Office of the Orthodox Pastor is also involved in spiritual preparations for military priests, organization and holding of various lectures, seminars and theological forums.

Office of the Catholic Chaplain

The Office of the Catholic Chaplain has become an integral part of the religious services at the MoD and AF BiH based on the Agreement on Establishment, Systematization and Method of Work of the Catholic Chaplain, concluded on September 11, 2007, between the Council of Ministers of BiH and the Vrhbosanski Archbishop. The activities of the Office of the Catholic Chaplain pertain to organization of messes and other liturgies for Catholic believers who are employed at the MoD BiH, soldiers, NCOs, officers and civilian personnel in the AF BiH; spiritual preparations for the Christmas and Easter, pilgrimages, spiritual exercises, organization of lectures, conferences and round tables, provision and distribution of Catholic publications, publishing and preparation of news for the Catholic Press Agency of the Bishops' Conference of BiH on religious events organized by the Offices of the Catholic Chaplains at the MoD BiH and AF BiH. Through its activities, the Catholic Chaplaincy at the MoD and AF BiH has become a branch in the overall pastoral life of the Catholic Church in the region.





Overview of Organization of the Religious Services in the AF BiH

No.	Organizational Structure of the AF BiH	Military Mufti Office	Orthodox Pastorship	Catholic Chaplaincy
1.	JS AF BiH	Main Imam	Main Priest	Main Chaplain
2.	Operational Command and Support Command of the AF BiH	Staff Imam	Staff Priest	Staff Chaplain
3.	Brigades	Brigade Imam	Brigade Priest	Brigade Chaplain
4.	Battalions	Battalion Imam	Battalion Priest	Battalion Chaplain

The members of the religious services are deployed within the AF BiH based on the general acts governing the formation of the AF BiH.



Women in the Armed Forces of BiH

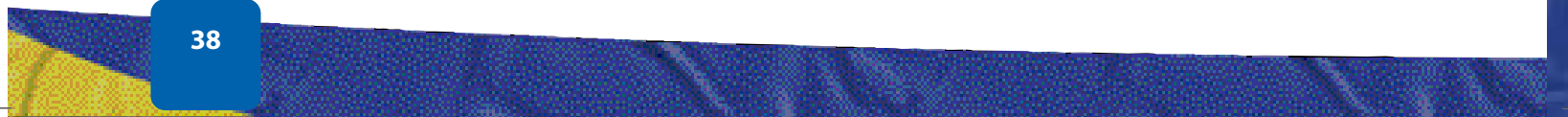
Out of some ten thousand members of the Armed Forces of BiH, 430 or 4.54% are women. The women among the ranks of the AF BiH have mainly completed civilian schools, supplementing their education for military profession through various individual or institutional training courses. Like in the other armies, the benchmark for success is the personal rank and the duty performed. The qualification structure of the female members of the AF BiH is: University Degree - 63, Associate Degree - 31, Secondary School Degree - 235, Highly Skilled Workers - 24, Skilled Workers - 59, Semi-Skilled Workers - 11, and Primary School Degree - 7.

The structure of the personal ranks of the female members of the AF BiH:

-Colonels.....1	-Second Lieutenants11	-Sergeants40
-Lieutenant Colonels.....4	-Sergeant Majors5	-Corporals.....65
-Majors.....10	-Master Sergeants..... 9	-Privates First Class.....34
-Captains.....21	-Sergeants First Class27	-Privates15
-First Lieutenants.....11	-Staff Sergeants.....42	-Civilians135

They are represented in all branches and services, ranging from medical, infantry, procurement, IT, financial, personnel and administrative units, to specific duties in the areas of telecommunications, logistics, such as operators, but also cooks and support personnel at kitchens and restaurants.

The female members of the AF BiH have also taken part in the peace support missions in Ethiopia-Eritrea and in Iraq. One of the indicators of success and interests among young women in professional military service at the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina is admission of the new generation of soldiers, conducted for the first time through the Public Announcement. Of the 319 candidates selected among more than 3000 candidates who applied for the first Armed Forces staffing announcement, 313, including 21 girls, were successful in completion of training. A female student of English and Literature is one of the three new professional BiH soldiers accomplishing the best results during the training of candidates for admission into the Armed Forces of BiH.





The current success in defense reform in BiH has resulted from the hard work performed by the members of the defense structure of BiH, including assistance and encouragement by friends from the international community. The invitation for Intensified Dialogue to BiH from the NATO Summit in Bucharest constitutes recognition by the members of the Alliance of the results accomplished in the defense reform process. The „intensified dialogue“ is the first step towards the NATO MAP-Membership Action Plan, as the last program prior to entry to the NATO Alliance. This invitation is a strong motivation, but also a responsibility, for further reforms aimed at accomplishing the ultimate goal BiH accession to Euro-Atlantic integration structures.

In order to accomplish this goal, during the forthcoming period, the activities of the MoD and AF BiH shall focus on:

- meeting of the partnership goals (31 goals from the PARP Assessment) in order to ensure the soonest possible entry of BiH into the NATO Membership Action Plan (MAP),*
- increased contribution to establishment and preservation of peace and stability in the world,*
- expansion of regional cooperation,*
- addressing the surplus armament and ammunition issues, continued demining in BiH,*
- continued education of the AF BiH members*
- participation in the military exercises „Joint Effort 2009“ in BiH,*
- modernization of the AF BiH.*

The defense reform in BiH is a continuous process, to be implemented in line with the overall capacities of our country.

THE ARMED FORCES



BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA