



# MINISTRY OF DEFENSE AND THE ARMED FORCES OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA



# BROCHURE

## 2015



# Brochure

## Ministry of Defense and the Armed Forces of BiH

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Public Relation Office of the BiH Ministry of Defense

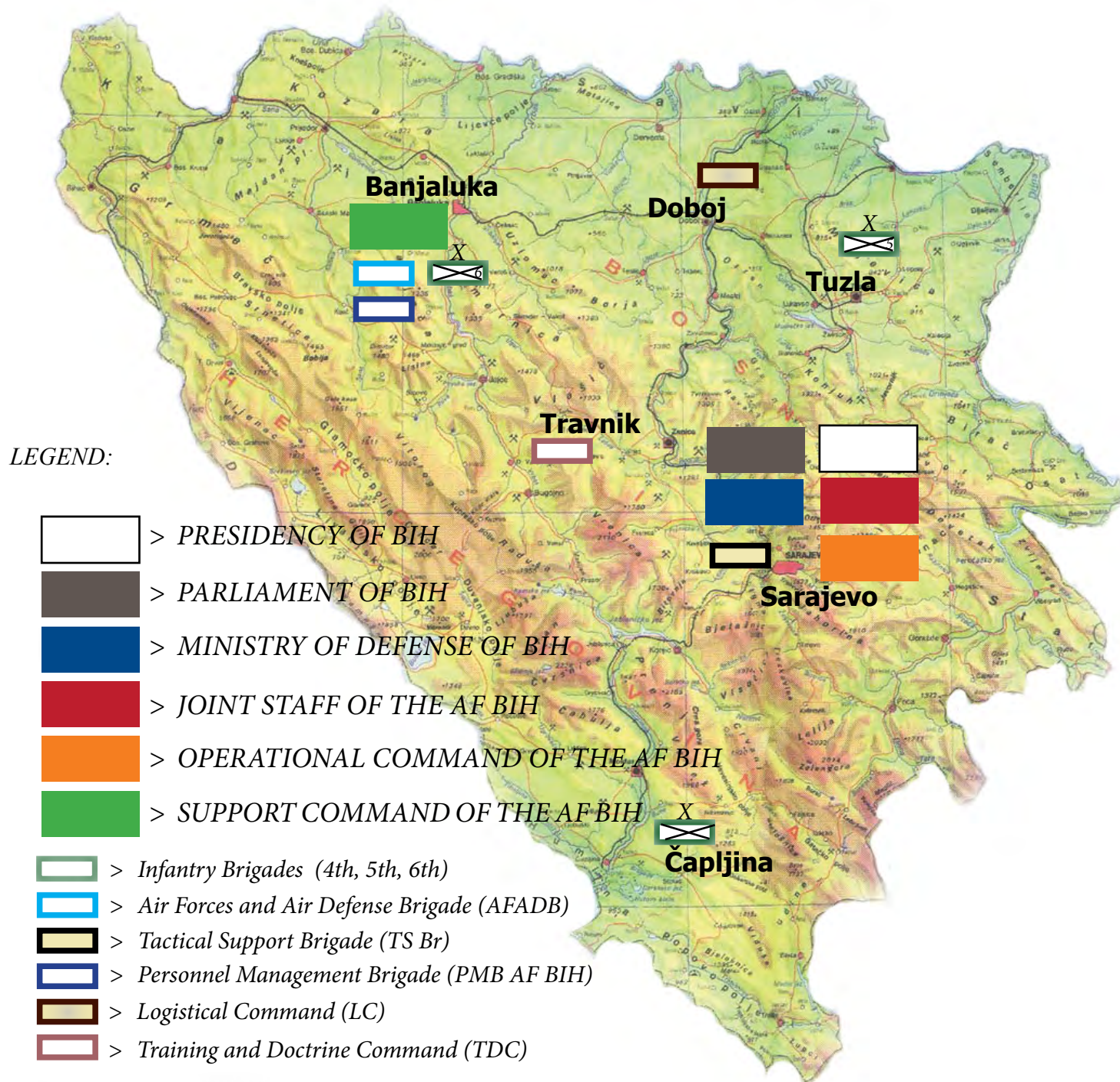
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# BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

## DEFENSE STRUCTURE OF BIH





# Reform of Defense Structure in BiH

In July 2001, the Presidency of BiH 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 the reform of the defense system, for attaining of internal stability and creating the conditions for credible NATO bid.

## Chronology of BiH MoD important events:

### 2002

- **OCTOBER** - The General Secretariat of the Standing Committee for Military Affairs was established as an antecedent to the Ministry of Defense of BiH

### 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



*Meeting of the Commission, Sarajevo, 2003*

### 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
- **NOVEMBER** – Honorary Unit of the AF BiH was formed



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



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





## 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

## 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) Other 0,7%
- ▶ **DECEMBER** – the First Anniversary of the AF BiH
- ▶ **DECEMBER** – Admission of BiH into the NATO Partnership for Peace Program



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



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



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



*NATO PfP Program Framework Document Signing Ceremony in Brussels, 14 December 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 Clkotic was appointed the second Minister of Defense in BiH 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 Tactical Support Brigade  
– Formation of the Air Forces and Air Defense 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,  
12 September 2007*



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



*Agreement Signing Ceremony in Doboj, 27 March 2008*

## 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 Doboj, the Agreement on Final Disposal of Mobile Military Assets was signed
- ▶ **APRIL** – NATO Summit in Bucharest, the invitation to BiH for “intensified” dialogue
- ▶ **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
- ▶ **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
- ▶ **SEPTEMBER** – BiH invited into membership of the US-Adriatic Charter
- ▶ **DECEMBER** - The official end of the participation of AFBiH members in the “Iraqi Freedom” by the arrival of the final group of AFBiH members from Iraq



*NATO Summit in Bucharest, 4 April 2008*



*Ceremony at Transfer of Duty between the Heads of JS AF BiH, 21 July 2003*



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

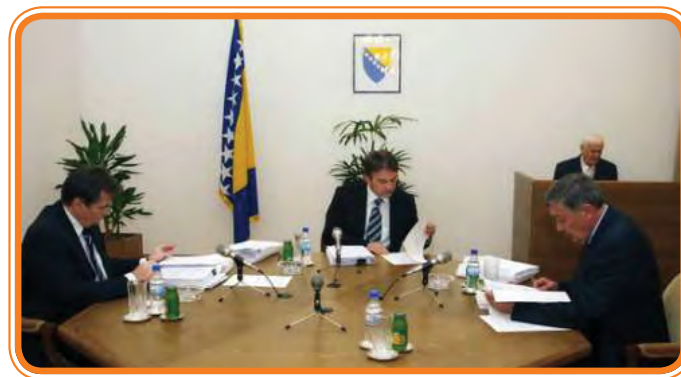


*Ceremony at the arrival of the 8th Rotation of the EOD unit and 1st rotation of the Infantry unit, 15 December 2008*



2009

- ▶ **JANUARY** - the BiH Presidency made a decision to deploy 10 staff officers of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF); in the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
- ▶ **MARCH** - BiH became a TCN to ISAF after the signing of the Agreement on AFBiH participation in ISAF and the Financial Agreement
- ▶ **MARCH** - 2 officers deployed to Afghanistan, Danish Contingent on 25 March 2009 - official start of engagement in the ISAF mission
- ▶ **APRIL** - Military Section of the BiH mission to NATO, HQ Brussels officially commenced its work on 1 April 2009
- ▶ **APRIL** - the decision made on the development of the strategic document - Defense Review (27 April 2009)
- ▶ **MAY** - signing of the Agreement on BiH joining the NATO Codification System (NCS). BiH accepts NCS principles, procedures and policies. BiH has an opportunity to join the NATO Codification System and to use the established data bases
- ▶ **JUNE** - the Agreement to cooperation between the BiH Ministry of Defense and the BiH Ministry of Security regarding response to natural and other disasters



*Session of the BiH Presidency, 5 January 2009*



*Signing of the agreement, Brussels, 11 March 2009*



*Signing of the agreement, 14 May 2009*

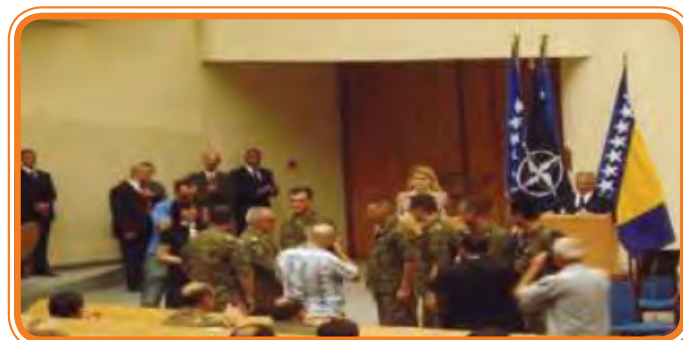




- ▶ **JULY** - the institution of the Parliamentary Military Commissioner established by the adoption of the Law on the Parliamentary Military Commissioner of Bosnia and Herzegovina (7 July 2009)
- ▶ **JULY** - the first Partnership Goal for joining NATO met - Partnership goal G-0355-I language standards
- ▶ **AUGUST** - Operational Command and Control Center for BiH defense institutions opened
- ▶ **SEPTEMBER** - Joint Endeavor 2009 - more than 435 participants from 27 countries and BiH as a host nation had an opportunity to test the global telecommunication interoperability
- ▶ **SEPTEMBER** - 8 AFBiH officers deployed to the ISAF mission, Afghanistan, as part of the German contingent
- ▶ **OCTOBER** - BiH submitted the application for joining the Membership Action Plan (MAP)
- ▶ **OCTOBER** - Closing ceremony of NATO TF and opening of the BiH MoD Regional Transition Centers
- ▶ **NOVEMBER** - meeting of US-Adriatic Charter Ministers



*Signing of the agreement, 29 June 2009*



*Certification award ceremony for STANAG team AFBiH, 14 July 2009*



*OC opening ceremony, 5 August 2009*



*Joint Endeavor 2009, exercise site Kozara Barrack, Banjaluka, 4-17 September 2009*

## 2010

- ▶ **MARCH** - 300 AFBiH soldiers discharged from the AFBiH due to the termination of their contracts
- ▶ **APRIL** - the decision made on cooperation between Bosnia and Herzegovina and NATO at MAP level
- ▶ **MAY** - the decision made on the NATO Perspektiva Program
- ▶ **JULY** - the first 2008-2010 IPAP cycle completed
- ▶ **JULY**- the BiH Presidency made a decision to deploy 45 members of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) mission, (27 July 2010)
- ▶ **OCTOBER** - the first rotation of the AFBiH infantry unit deployed to ISAF
- ▶ **NOVEMBER** - NATO Perspektiva Program



*NATO Summit in Tallinn (Estonia), 22-23 April 2010*



*NATO HQ, Brussels, 14 July 2010*



*Deployment ceremony, Dubrave Military Base,  
15 October 2010*



*BiH Parliamentary Assembly, 18 November 2010*





## 2011

- **JANUARY - DECEMBAR** – Termination of professional military service for 182 AFBiH soldiers who did not meet the requirements for extension of contracts on professional military service
- **FEBRUARY** - Organization of the 51st Military Ski Championship
- **APRIL** – In accordance with the decision made by NATO Allied Command Transformation, three PSOTC courses were accredited in the NATO Education Training Opportunities Catalogue
- **OCTOBER** – The BiH Presidency made the decision on deployment of a group of instructors to the ISAF mission to work at the military police school



*Olympic mountains of Jahorina, Igman, Bjelašnica,  
21 -26 February 2011*

## 2012

- **JANUARY - FEBRUARY** - 23rd International Conference of Heads of Religious Services in Military, 30 January - 03 February in Sarajevo
- **FEBRUARY** - Appointment of the third BiH Minister of Defense, Muhamed Ibrahimovic, M.Sc. and his deputies: Deputy Minister for Policy and Plans Marina Pendes and Deputy Minister for Resources Mirko Okolic
- **FEBRUARY** – First group of six AFBiH military police officers deployed to Afghanistan as instructors, within the team composed of members of armed forces of the countries signatories to the U.S.-Adriatic Charter



*Conference opening ceremony 30 January 2012*



*Official verification of the records on transfer of authority  
of the BiH MoD senior officials, 16 February 2012*



- **APRIL** – The BiH Presidency made the Decision on Changes and Amendments to the Decision on Size, Structure and Locations of the AFBiH - in accordance with the decision, new 63 prospective military locations identified



*NATO Summit in Chicago, 20 and 21 May 2012*

- **MAY** – NATO Summit held in Chicago during which BiH was credited for the results achieved on the path to NATO



*Čapljina, 28 May - 07 June 2012*

- **MAY - JUNE** – International exercise “Shared Resilience 2012”

- **JUNE** – Second Conference of NCOs of the U.S.-Adriatic Charter Member States’ Armed Force



*Sarajevo, 12 -15 June 2012*

- **OCTOBER** – South Eastern Europe Defense Ministerial Meeting (SEDM)



*Sarajevo, 02 - 04 October 2012*

- **OCTOBER** – MoD and AF BiH TV serial has started broadcasting “Our force”





- **NOVEMBER** – New Minister of Defense Zekerijah Osmić appointed

- **DECEMBER** – AFBiH Military Police Unit deployed to the ISAF mission in Afghanistan to provide military police support to U.S. forces on the ground and to mentor the Afghan Civilian Police



*House of Representatives of the BiH Parliament confirmed the appointment of the new BiH Minister of Defense, 23 November 2012*

## 2013

- **JANUARY** – BiH Presidency made the Decision to relieve Lieutenant General Miladin Milojevic from the position of the Chief of AFBiH Joint Staff and the Decision on appointing Major General Ante Jelec as acting Chief of the AFBiH Joint Staff, and decisions to relieve and appoint general officers in the AFBiH



*Transfer of authority of the Chief of the AFBiH Joint Staff, 28 February 2013*

- **JANUARY** - PSOTC reintegrated into the AFBiH



- **FEBRUARY** – International military-logistics exercise LOGEX 13



*Barracks "Rajlovac" - Sarajevo, 04-15 February 2013*

- **JUNE** – Explosive ordnance and remnants of war EXPLODE project launched



*EXPLODE project ceremony, Doboj, 27 June 2013*

- **JULY** – Ammunition, Weapons and Explosive Ordnance Strategic Committee established



*1st Strategic Committee, Army Hall – Sarajevo, 16 July 2013*

- **SEPTEMBER** - NATO Assistant Secretary General for Public Diplomacy Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović visited the BiH Ministry of Defense



*Meeting between NATO ASG and BiH MoD management, Sarajevo, 23 September 2013*

- **OCTOBER** – Cooperation Agreement in the Fields of Defense and Security between the BiH Council of Ministers and OSCE and the Protocol on the Implementation of the SECUP Project between the BiH MoD and the OSCE signed



*Signing ceremony, Sarajevo, 9 October 2013*





- **NOVEMBER** - US Adriatic Charter Chiefs of Defense Conference (A-5)



*A-5 Chiefs of Defense Conference,  
Sarajevo, 19 – 21 November 2013*

- **DECEMBER** – Ethic Line project launched in the BiH MOD and AFBiH



*Ethic Line Presentation, Sarajevo, 2 December 2013*

2014

- **FEBRUARY** – Training of the first generation of civilian candidates for AFBiH officers started



*Ceremony marking the beginning of training of  
future AF BiH officers, Pazarić, 5 February 2014*

- **MARCH** – The BiH Presidency issued a decision on the participation of the BiH AF in the Integrated Multidimensional Stabilization mission of the UN in the Republic of Mali - MINSUMA, on 06 March 2014



*Presidency of BiH*



- **MARCH** – Prevention of Sexual Violence in Conflicts – Empowering Local Security Forces in Peace Support Operations Conference



*Sarajevo, 28 March 2014*

- **APRIL** – Temporary Mine Action Center commenced its work



*Temporary AFBiH Mine Action Center,  
Rajlovac, 1 April 2014*

- **APRIL** – BiH Ministry of Defense registered its official Facebook profile



*BiH MoD Facebook profile, 4 April 2014*

- **MAY** – BiH Presidency authorized the BiH Minister of Defense to employ the Armed Forces in flooded areas in BiH







# AFBiH ENGAGEMENT DURING FLOODS, May 2014



**Bijeljina**



**Maglaj**



**Doboј**



**B. Šamac**



**Orašje**



**Željezno Polje**





- **JUNE** - 8<sup>th</sup> Balkan Countries Chiefs of Defense Conference (B-9)



*Sarajevo, 4 June 2014*

- **JULY** - BiH Presidency made a decision on promotion of AFBiH general officers and promotion of officers into general officer ranks assigned to the highest and most responsible duties in the BiH MoD and AFBiH



*Sarajevo, 3 July 2013*

- **SEPTEMBER** - NATO Summit in Wales



*BiH MOD and AFBiH delegation at NATO Summit, Wales, 4 September 2014*

- **SEPTEMBER** - Full Training Capability Certificate presented to PSOTC by the US Government, first such center in Europe



*Certificate award ceremony, Butmir, 25 September 2014*





- **DECEMBER** – Promoted the first generation of young AFBiH officers



*Contract signing ceremony, Sarajevo, 17 December 2014*

- **DECEMBER** – BiH Presidency decided on AFBiH participation in the Resolute Support Mission in Afghanistan

- **DECEMBER** – BiH Presidency decided on AFBiH participation in the Resolute Support Mission in Afghanistan



*Čapljina, 26 December 2014*

- **DECEMBER** – Deployment ceremony of the AFBiH infantry unit to the new coalition mission Resolute Support

## 2015

- **MARCH** – Two AFBiH NCOs deployed to the Resolute Support mission in Afghanistan within the A-5 framework



*Pleso Airport – Zagreb, 4 March 2015*



- **MARCH** - New BiH MOD management appointed: Marina Pendeš, Minister, Dr. Emir Suljagić, Deputy Minister for Policy and Planning and Boris Jerinić, Deputy Minister for Resource Management



*BiH MoD new management*

- **MAY** - Memorandum of Understanding signed between the BiH MoD and entity ministries of health and the Health Department of the Brčko District Government



*MoU signing ceremony, Army Hall, Sarajevo*

- **MAY** - Ceremony marking the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of BiH participation in PSOs



*Marking the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of BiH participation in PSOs BiH*

- **JUNE** - The Ministry of Defense and the Armed Forces contributed to the magnificent visit of Pope Francis to Bosnia and Herzegovina

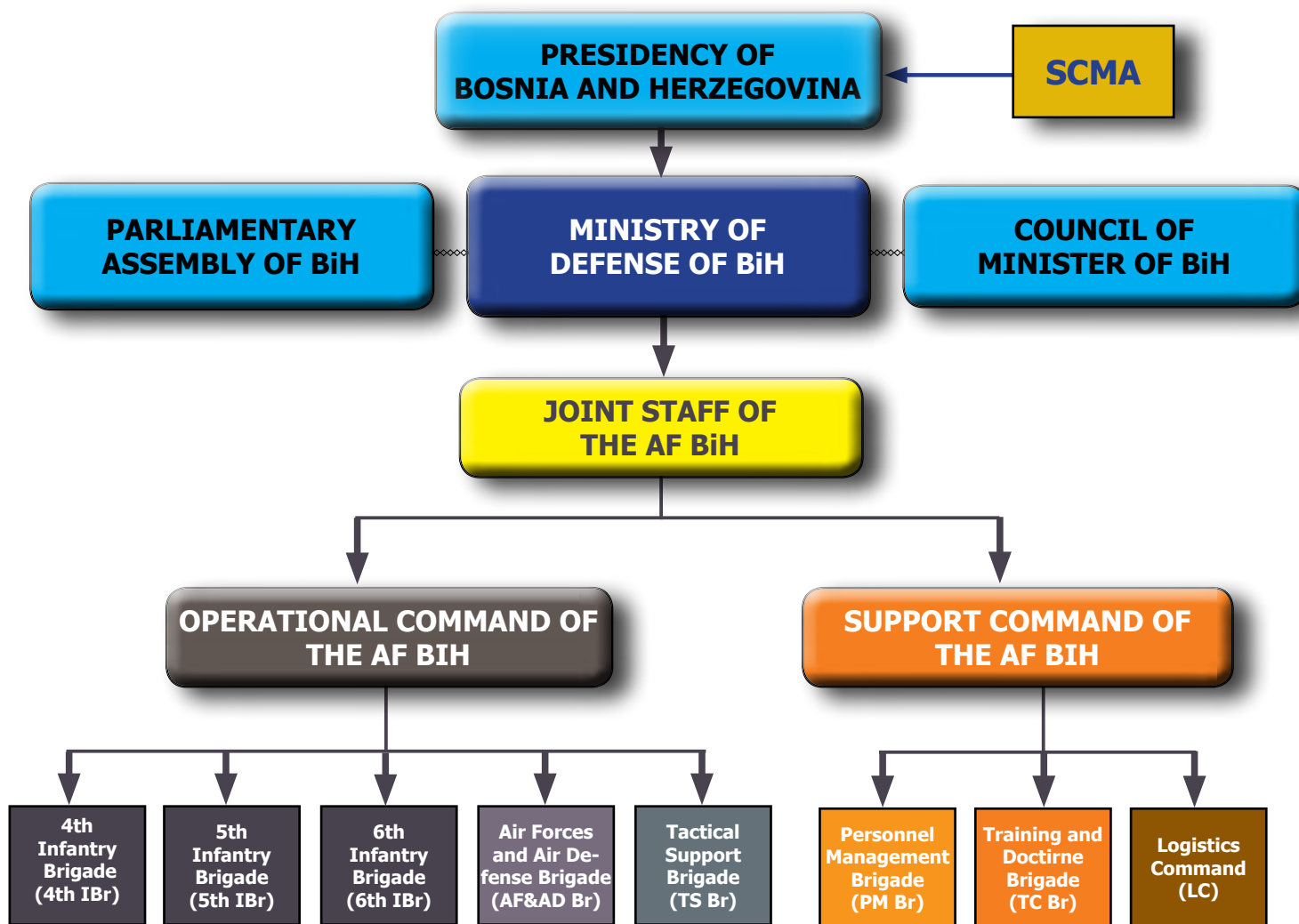


*Minister Pendeš at the arrival ceremony for Pope Francis, Sarajevo Airport*





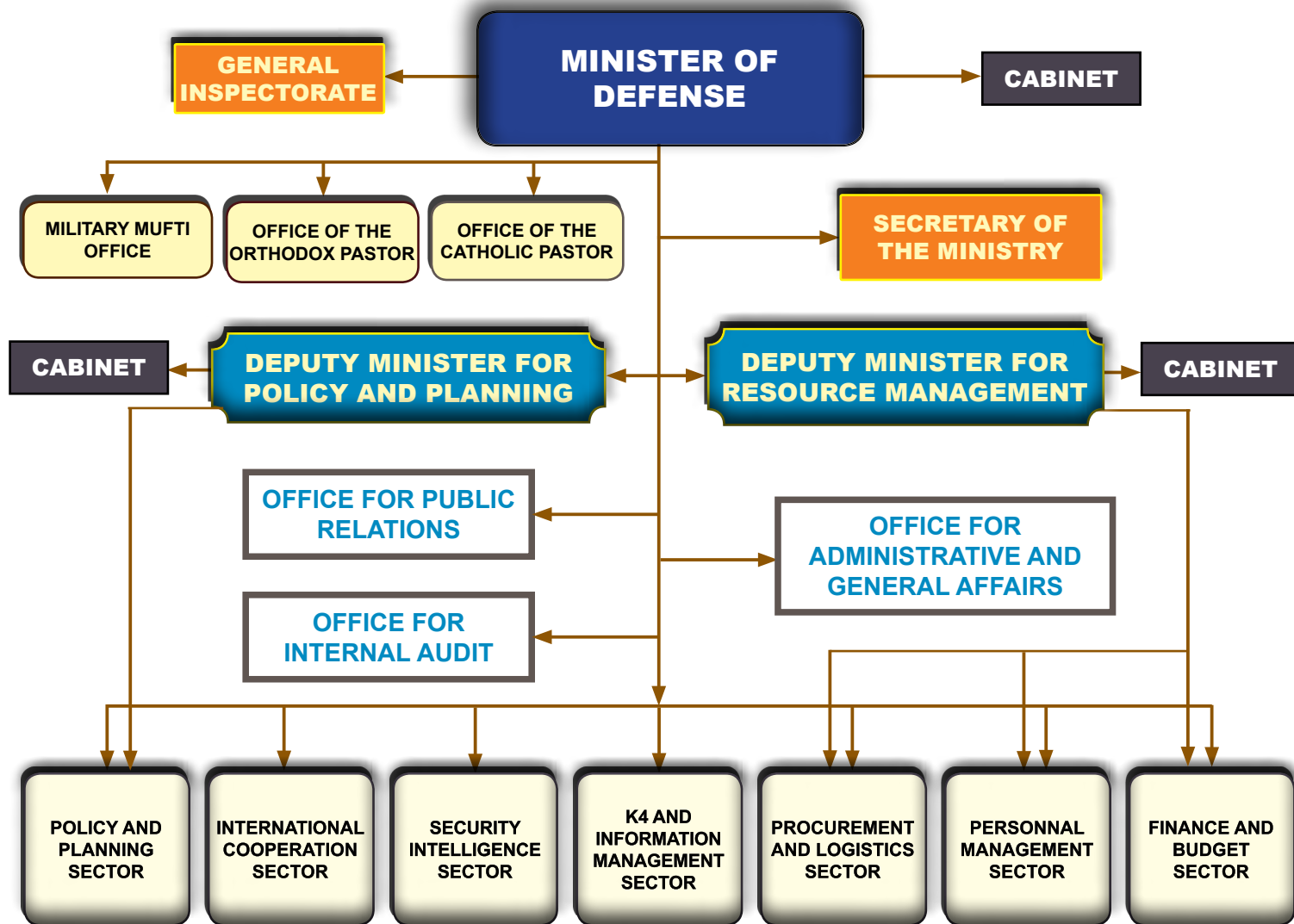
# CHART OF THE COMMAND AND CONTROL CHAIN IN THE ARMED FORCES OF BIH



- **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 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.



# STRUCTURE OF THE 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 BiH in international relations related to defense affairs,
- Drafting, review and updating of the defense policy of BiH 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 BiH of international commit-

ments 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 BiH for use or deployment of any unit of the AF BiH within BiH 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.

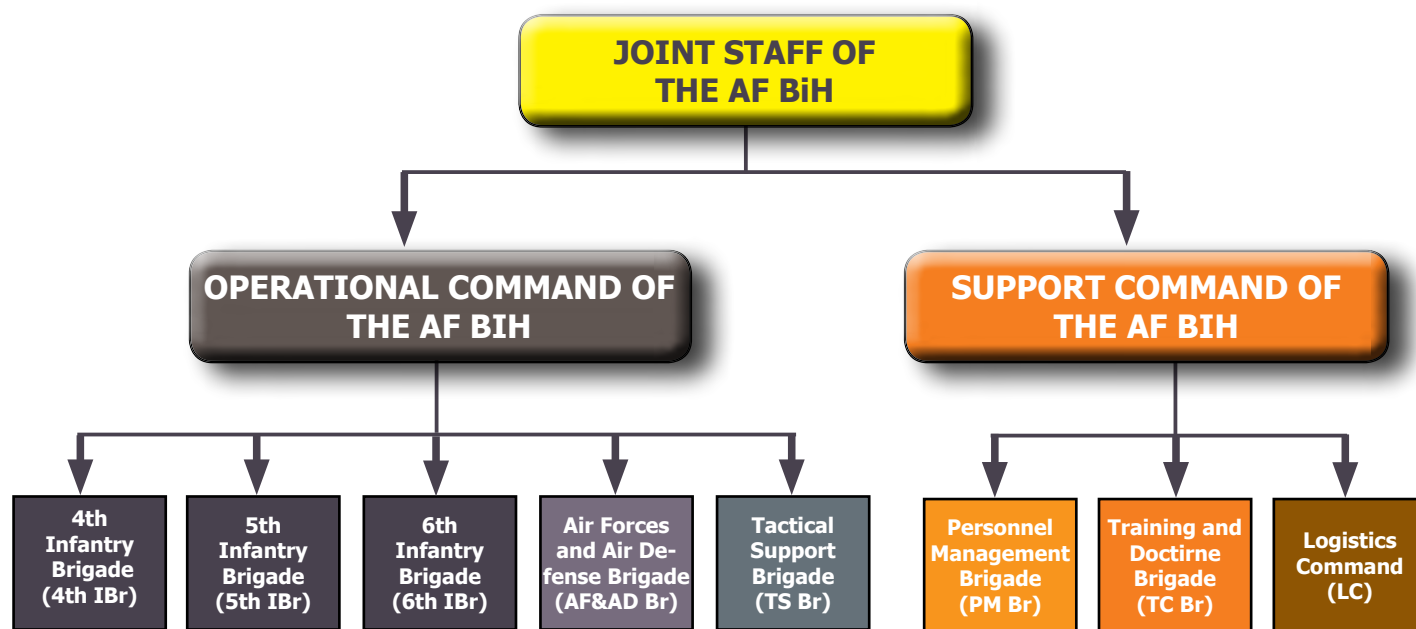




## ARMED FORCES OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Pursuant to the Law on Defense of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Armed Forces of BiH are 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. BiH 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.

### STRUCTURE OF THE ARMED FORCES 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) - Čapljina
- \* Infantry Brigade (5th) - Tuzla
- \* Infantry Brigade (6th) - Banjaluka
  - Infantry Battalions - Banjaluka, Bihać, Bijeljina, Bileća, Čapljina, Kiseljak, Livno, Orašje, Prijedor, Tuzla, Ustikolina, Zenica
  - Artillery Battalions - Doboj\ Mostar, Žepče
- \* Air Forces and Air Defense - Banjaluka
  - Air Defense Battalion - Sarajevo
  - Air Surveillance and Alarming Battalion - Banjaluka
  - Air Forces Support Battalion - Banjaluka, 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 - Banjaluka

- \* Personnel Management Command - Banjaluka
- \* Training and Doctrine Command - Travnik  
(CTC - Pazarić, CPD - Travnik, CSC - Manjača, CTC - Manjača, PSOTC - Butmir)
- \* Logistics Command - Doboj
  - Logistical Support Battalions - Banjaluka, Čapljina, Tuzla, Sarajevo

## MANNING OF THE AF BIH

The BiH Presidency's Decision on the size structure and locations of the Armed Forces of BiH sets out that the AFBiH will have a total of **16,000** members:

- **Professional military members.....10,000**  
(officers, NCOs, and soldiers)
- **Civilians.....1,000**
- **Reservists.....5,000**

The same decision sets out the ethnic representation, as follows:

- **Bosniaks; 45.90% or 4,826 persons**
- **Serbs: 33.60% or 3,533 persons**
- **Croats: 19.80% or 2,084 persons, and**
- **Other nationalities: 0.70% or 74 persons**





# RANKS IN THE ARMED FORCES OF BIH

## GENERAL OFFICERS



Brigadier-general  
(OF-6)



Major-general  
(OF-7)



Lieutenant-general  
(OF-8)

## SENIOR OFFICERS



Major  
(OF-3)



Colonel  
(OF-4)



Brigadier  
(OF-5)

## OFFICERS



2nd Lieutenant  
(OF-1)



1st Lieutenant  
(OF-1)



Captain  
(OF-2)

## NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS



Sergeant  
(OR-5)



Staff Sergeant  
(OR-6)



Sergeant First Class  
(OR-7)



Master Sergeant  
(OR-8)



Sergeant-Major  
(OR-9)

## SOLDIERS



Private  
(OR-1)



Private First Class  
(OR-2)



Corporal  
(OR-3)

## MILITARY IMAM RANK



Battalion Imam  
(OF-2)



Brigade Imam  
(OF-3)



Staff Imam  
(OF-4)



Head Imam  
(OF-5)

## MILITARY PRIEST RANK



Battalion Priest  
(OF-2)



Brigade Priest  
(OF-3)



Staff Priest  
(OF-4)



Head Priest  
(OF-5)

## MILITARY CHAPLAIN RANK



Battalion Chaplain  
(OF-2)



Brigade Chaplain  
(OF-3)



Staff Chaplain  
(OF-4)



Head Chaplain  
(OF-5)



*I like to say that investing in the MoD, indeed in the Armed Forces, means investing in a safer and stronger Bosnia and Herzegovina.*



**Marina Pendeš**

**Minister of Defense**

Every day personnel of the Ministry I am leading and personnel of the BiH Armed Forces, through their actions fulfil the role entrusted to them and thus justify every taxpayer's mark allocated for those purposes.

I like to say that investing in the MoD, indeed in the Armed Forces, means investing in a safer and stronger Bosnia and Herzegovina, seen as such aside from all the negativities the country is facing. Our personnel who participate in peace missions and other international activities shoulder to shoulder with personnel of NATO and other countries are honoring our international commitments. I have been one of the leaders of the MoD since the Ministry's beginnings and I am proud to say that I was a part of the structure that conducted one of the most successful reforms in the post-Dayton BiH; processes which we ran and which we are still implementing at the Ministry may be an example for colleagues serving on other duties in BiH authorities at all levels – how to tackle challenges and resolve them step by step, while recognizing all the different and opposing stances.

We succeeded in building a single Armed Force from the belligerent armies, which now uses its experiences and knowledge across the world in peace support operations, which is a development worthy of respect. Still, the new MoD management will have to face myriad challenges as well. Our country still bears the burden of many minefields, weapons, ammunition and explosive surpluses, and we still have not registered prospective defense property, which has been a condition for the activation of the Membership Action Plan and moving closer to NATO since 2010, and which is now the responsibility of the newly-formed BiH Council of Ministers. In my conversations with members of the diplomatic-consular corps in BiH, but also with colleagues from NATO member countries, I have been fiercely advocating for BiH, and have tried to draw their attention to everything positive that we have achieved, as a counterweight to some issues that are stalling our progress towards Euro-Atlantic integration.

We should not forget either that renewing our barracks and military equipment and educating and training our military and civilian personnel require additional efforts. We are here to serve our population and I am convinced that our fellow citizens appreciate that fact. We have been using modern and quality means, different communication strategies, to bring our work closer to civilians in BiH. We regularly organize open door days in our barracks, publish information publications, we are active in the social media... and all of those efforts certainly contribute to the success story that the Ministry of Defense is. Encouraged by all the positive developments that I have described, and in view of the positive energy among the Ministry's leadership and the EU's open doors, I have no doubt that in this current term in office we will do plenty to fulfill the tasks entrusted to us in order to build a better life in BiH.





*The most important issue for the integration process right now are technical and administrative procedures for the registration of immovable defense property to the state of BiH, that is to say the BiH Ministry of Defense, which is a condition for the activation of the Membership Action Plan (MAP) and application of the Annual National Plan for NATO accession.*



## **Dr. Emir Suljagić**

### **Deputy Minister for Plans and Policies**

The Ministry of Defense of BiH continues to meet obligations within the NATO integration process, in line with its legal responsibilities. The most important issue for the integration process right now are technical and administrative procedures for the registration of immovable defense property to the state of BiH, that is to say the BiH Ministry of Defense, which is a condition for the activation of the Membership Action Plan (MAP) and application of the Annual National Plan for NATO accession. The Ministry has made credible efforts in that direction, and we have proved that we are able to manage strategic processes and fulfill our part of obligations on the path towards NATO.

The BiH Presidency provided us with strategic guidelines for the completion of the Defense Review and drafting of a realistic and financially sustainable AFBiH Development Plan and Modernization Plan. It will be also necessary to review and update strategic documents, such as the Security Policy, Defense Policy and Military Doctrine.

In the next few years, we will have to face the challenge of developing capabilities for participation in peace operations and peace support operations, including the continuation of participation in the Resolute Support mission in Afghanistan, UN missions MONUSCO in Congo and MINUSMA in Mali, and capabilities needed to support civil authorities in the event of natural disasters, including those needed to respond to new challenges such as the fight against terrorism and other forms of extremism in BiH.

In addition to all of the above, we are committed to fulfil our other international obligations, such as the activities of NATO's Partnership for Peace Program, regional cooperation through SEDM, A5, B9, and the Balkan Medical Task Force, and we fully support the rationalization and synchronization of work among regional security fora.

The greatest challenge of all may yet be how to achieve greatest effects possible at the lowest possible cost, that is to say meet our responsibilities laid down in the law while staying within the BiH MoD budget.

Nonetheless, the MoD and the AFBiH remain a credible and relevant state structure capable of responding to all security challenges and needs of peoples and citizens of BiH.



*Another important future activity is the rejuvenation of the soldier, NCO and officer cadre, in view of the fact that in the next 10 years a significant number of experienced soldiers, NCOs and officers will retire.*



## **Boris Jerinić**

### **Deputy Minister of Defense for Resource Management**

The Deputy Minister of Defense for Resource Management will focus his future activities on the improvement of the defense budget planning, programing and execution. This process is the precondition for all short-

term and long-term activities related to supplies, procurement and modernization of the AFBiH, standardization of contracts, capital investments and the rejuvenation of the soldier, NCO and officer cadre. The new leadership is committed to making important steps forward in the further and necessary modernization of the AFBiH, both in terms of personnel and material, in order to help the AFBiH meet all the challenges that they have been working on diligently for years, with modest or scarce and limited funds. Despite those issues, the AFBiH's contribution and assistance to civilian structures and citizens in recent floods were immeasurable, as well as in putting down fires, fighting snow storms and saving lives of BiH citizens at risk, with all the AFBiH resources engaged.

In order to continue training our Armed Forces to perform their tasks even more effectively, the priority of the Deputy Minister for Resources will be training, regular maintenance and modernization of helicopter capabilities at our disposal, as well as the procurement of other assets that will allow our personnel to fulfil their tasks with increasing success.

Despite the fact that funds available for capital investments remain modest, we will continue working on the timely and rational planning of expenditures, a more effective approach to the public procurement process and timely restructuring of the budget, if necessary, and in particular the standardization and better quality of contracts that our organization enters into.

Another important future activity is the rejuvenation of the soldier, NCO and officer cadre, in view of the fact that in the next 10 years a significant number of experienced soldiers, NCOs and officers will retire – it is therefore very important to recognize this challenge on time in order to replace the experienced personnel with younger and quality cadre that have to be identified, trained, educated and put into service of the overall defense system.





## MOD AND AFBiH PERSONNEL

On 29 April 2015, the BiH MoD had 257 staff, while the planned manning is for 325 positions. Of those 257, 151 are civil servants, 88 employees, 9 senior civil servants and 9 special-status staff. Sixty professional military also serve in the MoD. The AFBiH manning in the last two years ranged from 91% in early 2013 to the current 89%. The Law on the Budget of BiH Joint Institutions limited the manning of the MoD and AFBiH to 10,011, although the BiH Presidency's Decision on the AFBiH Size, Structure and Locations provides for 10,000 professional military members, 1000 civilians and 5000 reserve. The MoD and the AFBiH faced the issue of discharge of personnel under the Law on Service in the AFBiH first time in early 2010 when a number of soldiers were unable to extend their professional military contracts because they had passed the legal age limit of 35 years. Since 2010 to date, a total of 2087 soldiers have been discharged for that reason, of which 1767 in 2010, 181 in 2011, 1 in 2012, 792 in 2013 and 66 in 2014. According to the plan, another 90 soldiers are planned for discharge in 2015.

### Military personnel rejuvenation process

Within overall activities towards preparing, planning, organizing and accepting new generations of soldiers into the AFBiH, the Ministry has invested additional efforts to improve the recruitment and accession process with the aim of ensuring maximum seriousness and transparency, and equal treatment and opportunities.

#### ► The breakdown of soldier accession into the AFBiH by classes:

*12<sup>th</sup> class: 15 April 2013 and 1 May 2013 – 298 soldiers (277 men and 21 women)*

*12<sup>th</sup> class: 1 October 2013 – 289 soldiers (263 men and 26 women)*

*14<sup>th</sup> class: 1 August 2014 – 248 soldiers (228 men and 20 women)*

*15<sup>th</sup> class: 31 December 2014 – 65 soldiers (57 men and 8 women) and 1 January 2015 – 47 soldiers.*

*In keeping with the Progress Plan, activities are underway on the selection and accession of soldiers into the AFBiH on the basis of a public vacancy announcement of 8 September 2014 (16<sup>th</sup> class – 130 soldiers); their training will commence in September and accession to service is planned for 1 January 2016.*

The average age of candidates for accession to the AFBiH is 22. Through the accession of new soldiers to date, the average age of AFBiH soldiers has fallen from 33 to 27. Overall, the average age of AFBiH personnel is 36 (generals 49, officers 43, NCOs 40, soldiers 27 and civilians 46).

The rejuvenation of the soldier category and the recruitment of officers from the civilian pool will continue in the future as well. The sheer variety of places from which our candidates come testifies to the fact that the interest for serving in the AFBiH is alive across BiH.

### Accession and training of young officers

The BiH Armed Forces have already completed a number of reform tasks. Young officers were previously recruited from the existing pool of soldiers and NCOs or through schooling at military academies of friendly countries, which was insufficient for AFBiH purposes. AFBiH cadets at foreign military academies would achieve excellent results and return with commendations but, once again, it was not enough.



In 2013 and 2014, the implementation of a three-year Pilot Project for the AFBiH Officer Selection and Training, launched in 2012, continued; the project is a result of the need to have in place our own system of selection and training of AFBiH officer candidates.

The Project is being implemented in cooperation with the UK Embassy and the NATO HQ Sarajevo. The activities have been progressing at the planned speed, to the satisfaction of all the participants in the process. The selection process completed in 2013 was followed by a one-year long training in 2014. Twenty-nine candidates completed the basic officer training, including two women. The new officers were commissioned in early 2015.

The Coordination Team of the BiH MoD, responsible representatives of the MoD and the AFBiH and UK Embassy and NATO HQ Sarajevo personnel continue to monitor the process and provide their assistance and support. The public vacancy announcement for the accession of the second generation of officers was published and 343 candidates applied. The three-month basic military training at the Basic Training Center and the six-month basic NCO and officer training in the Professional Development Center are underway.

Fourteen candidates were assigned to training. Contracts on the accession to the AFBiH professional military service with those candidates will be signed on 1 January 2016.

This inherent model of selecting and training young AFBiH leaders contributes in the best way possible to the strengthening of the overall AFBiH capabilities but also the affirmation of BiH in and outside the country.





## MOD AND AFBiH ACTIVITIES

### Activities related to Gender in Defense System

The MoD's latest statistics for 2014 show that women make up 55.2% of the MoD staff, 23.6% of the civilian personnel in the AFBiH, and 5.4% of the professional military personnel. Overall, women make up 6.6% of the AFBiH personnel. The highest percentage of women among professional military personnel is in the soldier category due to the process of rejuvenation of the AFBiH personnel. The lowest percentage is among officers. Of the total number of AFBiH personnel who participated in peace operations in 2014, women make up 8.62%. Those were mostly female NCOs and soldiers.

Representatives of the MoD and AFBiH have been contributing actively to the work of the Gender Equality Agency, including participation in the working group that developed the Action Plan for the implementation of UN Resolution 1325 in BiH – those same representatives are also members of the Coordination Body for the Monitoring of the Implementation of the Action Plan. The BiH Council of Ministers issued a Decision on the Adoption of the 2014-2017 Action Plan for the Implementation of UNSCR Resolution 1325.

The UNSCR 1325 Resolution Implementation Action Plan clearly set out objectives and activities of vital importance for the implementation of the Resolution for which the BiH MoD is responsible. In May 2013, the North Atlantic Council adopted the 2013 BiH PARP Assessment, which included a new partnership goal – Gender Equality Perspective. The Ministry assigned the responsibility for this PG to the Personnel Management Department, which has been carrying out activities towards its implementation.

Together with ministries of defense of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia, the BiH MoD participates in a UNDP/SEESAC's regional project called Support for Gender Mainstreaming in the Security Sector Reform in the Western Balkans.

The BiH MoD was active in the development of a study

on the status of women in armed forces of Western Balkan countries. The study was developed as a part of, once again, regional project called Strengthening of Regional Cooperation on Gender Mainstreaming in Security Sector Reform in the Western Balkan, launched by the UNDP. Within this project, at the initiative of UNDP/SEESAC and with the support of the Nordic Center for Gender in Military Operations, from 5 to 13 March 2014 a regional training of gender equality trainers was held at the PSOTC.

BiH thus obtained its first gender equality instructors who will deliver future training in the field of gender equality and broaden the network of gender equality instructors in the MoD and AFBiH. From 26 January to 6 February 2015, another four gender equality trainers were trained at the Belgrade Peace Operations Center, bringing the total number of gender equality trainers to 11.

Gender focal points were appointed in AFBiH commands and units down to the level of battalion or units of the same/higher level, and the network of focal points formed. In addition to their regular duties, these personnel are responsible for monitoring and analyzing gender equality situation, reporting on it and proposing measures to improve it, as laid down in the Standard Operating Procedures for Gender Equality Focal Points in the AFBiH.



## Activities on the promotion of prevention of sexual violence in conflict and postconflict societies

On 28 March 2014, at the Army Hall in Sarajevo, The Ministry of Defense, in cooperation with the UK and Norwegian embassies in BiH, hosted a conference Prevention of Sexual Violence in Conflict – Strengthening the Role of Regional Security Forces in Peace Support Operations. The conference was assessed as a success and it served as an introduction to the Summit to End Sexual Violence in Conflict.

The PSOTC contributed to the conference as well, which was confirmed by statements of conference



participants who identified the Center as a regional leader in gender-related courses for peace operations. From 10 to 13 June 2014, BiH MoD and AFBiH representatives, led by the then Deputy Minister Marina Pendeš, attended the Summit to End Sexual Violence in Conflict in London. Over 140 countries took part in the summit.

With the help of the UK and Norwegian embassies, the MoD and the PSOTC developed a framework training program for the security sector entitled Prevention of Sexual Violence in Conflict.

The program is innovative in nature and it is one possible way of organizing and delivering training in the area of prevention of sexual violence, that is to say it is a catalogue of training modules from which organizers or instructors may choose a module that fits their requirements and which they can adapt to their students. The Program was adopted in September 2014.

From 2 to 4 December 2014, a Prevention of Sexual Violence in Conflict workshop was held in the organization of the PSOTC.





## INFORMATION ON THE GENERAL CORPS IN THE MOD AND AFBiH

### ► AFBiH Joint Staff

> **Anto Jeleč, Chief of the AFBiH Joint Staff;** personal rank: Lieutenant General; duty position: Chief JS AFBiH; formation rank: Lieutenant General; place of service: Sarajevo.

> **Mirko Tepšić, AFBiH Joint Staff Deputy Chief for Operations;** personal rank: Major General; duty position: AFBiH Joint Staff Deputy Chief for Operations; formation rank: Major General; place of service: Sarajevo.

> **Senad Mašović, AFBiH Joint Staff Deputy Chief for Resources;** personal rank: Major General; duty position: AFBiH Joint Staff Deputy Chief for Resources; formation rank: Major General; place of service: Sarajevo.



### ► AFBiH Operational Command

**Dragan Vuković, Commander AFBiH Operational Command;** personal rank: Major General; duty position: Acting Commander AFBiH OPSCOM; formation rank: Major General; place of service: Sarajevo-Butmir.

**Mirsad Ahmić, AFBiH Operational Command Deputy Commander for Operations;** personal rank: Brigadier General; duty position: Deputy Commander for Operations AFBiH OPSCOM; formation rank: Brigadier General; place of service: Sarajevo-Butmir.

**Ivica Jerkić, AFBiH Operations Command Deputy Commander for Resources;** personal rank: Brigadier General; duty position: Deputy Commander for Resources AFBiH OPSCOM; formation rank: Brigadier General; place of service: Sarajevo-Butmir.

### ► AFBiH Support Command

**Husein Tursunović, Commander AFBiH Support Command;** personal rank: Major General; duty position: Commander AFBiH SUPCOM; formation rank: Major General; place of service: Banjaluka

**Marko Stojčić, AFBiH Support Command Deputy Commander for Operations;** personal rank: Brigadier General; duty position: Deputy Commander for Operations AFBiH SUPCOM; formation rank: Brigadier General; place of service: Banjaluka

**Gojko Knežević, AFBiH Support Command Deputy Commander for Resources;** personal rank: Brigadier General; duty position: Deputy Commander for Resources AFBiH SUPCOM; formation rank: Brigadier General; place of service: Banjaluka.

### ► BiH MoD Office of the Inspector General

**Enes Husjenović, Inspector General of the BiH MoD;** personal rank: Brigadier General; duty position: BiH MoD Inspector General; formation rank: Brigadier General; place of service: Sarajevo.

> **AFBiH 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade - Tomo Kolenda, Commander 4th Inf Bde AFBiH;** personal rank: Brigadier General; duty position Commander 4th Inf Bde AFBiH; formation rank: Brigadier General; place of service: Čapljina.

> **AFBiH 5<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade - Kenan Dautović, Commander 5th Inf Bde AFBiH;** personal rank: Brigadier General; duty position Commander 5th Inf Bde AFBiH; formation rank: Brigadier General; place of service: Tuzla.

> **AFBiH 6<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade - Radovan Ilić, Commander 6th Inf Bde AFBiH;** personal rank: Brigadier General; duty position Commander 6th Inf Bde AFBiH; formation rank: Brigadier General; place of service: Banjaluka.



# BIH ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF COOPERATION AND PARTNERSHIP WITH NATO



## IMPLEMENTATION OF ACTIVITIES RELATED TO PARP, IPAP AND MAP

### PLANNING AND REVIEW PROCESS (PARP)

One of the instruments of cooperation with NATO is the Planning and Review Process (hereinafter: PARP), which has been in place since 2007, and which in 2014 entered its fifth cycle.

2013

On 22 April 2013, the PARP assessment meeting was held at the NATO HQ in Brussels, in the 28+BiH format, for the purposes of providing additional clarifications to the PARP Assessment text to representatives of all NATO countries (the North Atlantic Council – NAC).

Before the review of the PARP Assessment, several countries (Turkey, Denmark, Slovenia, Holland, Norway, Montenegro, Albania, US, Italy, Macedonia, Great Britain, Greece and Poland) had used the opportunity to issue general statements to help recognize BiH's efforts on the path to EuroAtlantic integration, in particular the country's participation in ISAF and in the development of regional cooperation, with the stipulation that certain difficulties remained in place (issues of prospective defense locations and the Defense Review document, arms and ammunition surpluses, etc.), slowing down the process despite the expectations.



2014

On 15 April 2014, a delegation of the MoD and the AFBiH met with representatives of NATO member countries in Brussels, in the 28+1 format.



PARP - "28 + 1"  
Brisel, 15.04.2014.

In 2014, key activities under PARP were directed to the execution of tasks related to the 2014 PARP questionnaire which the NATO HQ Brussels had supplied in June 2014. The MoD as the lead body for the questionnaire, together with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Security, prepared answers to questions broken down by areas, which in fact represent a cross-section of AFBiH resources and capabilities from the point of view of interoperability with NATO.

Answers to the PARP questionnaire were submitted to relevant NATO authorities in Brussels in October same year, in order to consolidate the document.





2015

Consultations with a team from NATO HQ Brussels about the answers in the PARP questionnaire, that is to say the draft 2015 BiH PARP Assessment, were held on 17 and 18 March 2015 at the Army Hall in Sarajevo. In May 2015, a meeting took place between MoD and AFBiH representatives and NATO representatives concerning the drafting of the final 2015 BiH PARP Assessment.

The MoD regularly reported to the BiH Council of Ministers on the implementation of activities under PARP through information delivered to the BiH NATO Integration Process Commission.

## PARTNERSHIP GOALS – PGs

On 18 and 19 March 2014, at the Army Hall in Sarajevo, working meetings were held with a delegation of NATO HQ in Brussels (NATO International Staff) in order to discuss the implementation of the current set of BiH-NATO Partnership Goals.

Under PARP, BiH adopted Partnership Goals with NATO geared towards building BiH's interoperable defense and other capabilities. The current, fourth set of PGs includes 40 goals (24 general, 11 land and 5 air force goals). Of those 40, the MoD and AFBiH are responsible for 36, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for 1, and the Ministry of Security for 3. The MoD and AFBiH monitor the fulfillment of partnership goals through quarterly analyses which are regularly submitted to the NATO HQ Sarajevo, JFC HQ Naples and the military section of the BiH Mission to NATO.

## OPERATIONAL CAPABILITIES CONCEPT EVALUATION AND FEEDBACK PROGRAM – OCC E&F

In 2009, within PARP, BiH instated the Operational Capabilities Concept (OCC) focused on the collective training and achievement of interoperability for AFBiH units declared for NATO-led operations. To date, SEL-1 and SEL-2 evaluations (by certified AFBiH evaluators) of declared AFBiH OCC units, and NEL-1 and NEL-2 evaluation of units of the 6th Inf Bde (by NATO evaluators) were carried out; preparations are underway for SEL-1 assessment (units of the 4th Inf Bde).

In September 2014, within the Operational Capabilities Concept, NEL-2 evaluation of units of the 6th Inf Bde (by NATO evaluators) was conducted, and in October 2014, NEL-1 (by AFBiH evaluators) was conducted for units of the 4th Inf Bde at the Manjača Range. In May 2015, NEL-1 evaluation (by NATO evaluators) was conducted for units of the 4th Inf Bde, again at the Manjača Range. In May 2015, the AFBiH 4th Inf Bde had an outside evaluation exercise called Dynamic Response 15-4 at the Combat Training Center and the Combat Simulation Center at the Manjača Range.





## II INDIVIDUAL PARTNERSHIP ACTION PLAN - IPAP

BiH has participated in three Individual Partnership Action Plan cycles to date (2008-2010, 2010-2012, 2012-2014), under the leadership of the BiH NATO Integration Process Commission as the responsible state body.

### 2014

Bosnia and Herzegovina is currently in its fourth, 2014-2016 IPAP cycle. The Council of Ministers adopted the consolidated IPAP 2014-2016 document in March 2014, and NATO approved it same year in September. The document includes actions and activities relative to responsibilities of all BiH institutions and agencies, with the MoD being responsible for the defense and military part.

Following up on previous consultations between the MoD and responsible NATO HQ Brussels authorities and the established need for additional consultations and conversations regarding the implementation of IPAP, on 5 May 2014 a working meeting was held with Ms. Despina Fragouloupoulou of the NATO HQ Brussels, the BiH desk officer. The BiH team was made up by representatives of the ministries of foreign affairs, defense and security and led by Assistant Foreign Minister Mitar Kujundžić.

During the meeting, Ms. Fragouloupoulou was especially interested in the possible progress and status of the issue of the registration of immovable defense property (sites), the Defense Review document, fight against organized crime and corruption, and public diplomacy, for the purposes of developing a general report on the progress of NATO aspirant countries (BiH, Montenegro, Macedonia and Georgia) before the summit in Wales.

### 2015

In February 2015, the MoD and AFBiH completed the Self-assessment of 2014 Defense and Military Actions and Activities Implementation, which was then submitted to the BiH NATO Integration Process Commission for consolidation by way of merging it with contributions from other BiH institutions. Upon consolidation, the NATO HQ Brussels will be consulted about the assessment, and after that will follow the final assessment of the implementation of IPAP activities and actions by BiH.

## ANNUAL NATIONAL PLAN - ANP

At an informal NAC meeting held in Tallinn in April 2010, a decision was made to accept BiH into MAP, with the provision that the NAC will accept the first Annual National Plan once BiH has met the condition to register the immovable defense property as state property for use by the MoD and the AFBiH.

Since BiH failed to meet the condition for the activation of MAP, NAC did not approve the launch of the Annual National Plan under MAP; consequently, no concrete activities related to the Plan have been carried out in the period behind us.

The condition still remains unfulfilled but the MoD, together with the NATO HQ Sarajevo and in anticipation of the MAP activation, collected full property and legal documentation for 31 of the total 63 prospective defense sites. Necessary documents are being collected for the remaining 32 sites.







## MoD AND AFBiH PARTICIPATION IN OTHER NATO/PfP ACTIVITIES

### PROGRAM OF COOPERATION WITH NATO

BiH no longer works on the basis of the Individual Partnership Cooperation Program (IPCP) which was previously the fundamental instrument of cooperation with NATO; BiH now works with NATO under the Individual Partnership Action Plan (IPAP).

This means that, on the basis of consolidated PARP and IPAP documents, NATO assesses our priorities and military objectives by applying certain measures of success to gauge the progress achieved. On the basis of those parameters, NATO recommends activities and events from the Partnership Cooperation Menu and verifies in which way they are used. The International Military Staff has been leading this process using the Road Map. In other words, BiH selects events from the Partnership Cooperation Menu, compiles a list and submits that list to NATO. NATO checks the compliance between the requirements (the list) and our military and partnership goals and road maps, approves the list and financially supports our participation in events selected.

The MoD thus developed a list of cooperation activities with NATO in 2015 which the BiH Minister of Defense approved in December 2014 to help the implementation of those activities from the very beginning of 2015.

The 2014 NATO Cooperation Program included 24 cooperation areas, 103 activities and 133 events, of which 30 were assigned to the MoD, 102 to the AFBiH, and 1 to the Ministry of Security.

*Comparative breakdown of the implementation of the BiH-NATO Cooperation Program in 2014 and from 2007 to 2013:*

Year	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>Activities</b>	39	111	131	127	127	140	159	103
<b>Events</b>	45/22	175/106	183/118	180/127	194/153	188	197/133	133/112
<b>%</b>	50	60	64	70	79	83	67,5	84

MoD representatives participated in consultation meetings with NATO HQ Brussels representatives regarding the compilation of the 2015 List of Cooperation Activities with NATO, and the implementation of the 2014 list.

### EXERCISES ABROAD

The regular procedure was conducted from June to August 2014 to enable the Minister of Defense to approve the 2015 AFBiH Personnel and Units Annual Plan for Training and Exercises Abroad on 22 August 2014.

In keeping with Article 11 of the Law on the Participation of AFBiH Members, Police Officers, Civil Servants and Employees in Peace Support Operations and other Activities Abroad (BiH Official Gazette 14/05), the information about the Annual Plan was submitted to the Council of Ministers, the Presidency and the Parliamentary Assembly.

**BiH NATO INTEGRATION PROCESS COMMISSION**

MoD representatives (3 persons from the International Cooperation Department) actively participated in the work of the BiH NATO Integration Process Commission in line with obligations set out in the decision on the establishment of the Commission by the Council of Ministers.

In 2014, the Commission held 4 regular meetings and several interagency consultations to discuss issues related to the fulfilment of BiH's obligations under the Partnership for Peace Program, including the monitoring of the current instruments of cooperation with NATO (PARP, ACP, IPAP), drafting of the 2014-2016 BiH IPAP document and the consolidation of the document with NATO, monitoring of the drafting of answers to the 2014 PARP questionnaire, monitoring of 2014 BiH-NATO partnership goals implementation, monitoring of the implementation of the Action Plan for the Implementation of the 2014 BiH Communication Strategy, monitoring of and helping prepare the BiH delegation for participation in the NATO Summit in Wales, preparations for the activation of BiH's MAP upon resolution of the issue of registration of prospective defense sites.

# The Armed Forces of BiH



NATO  
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## BILATERAL AND REGIONAL DEFENSE COOPERATION

### BILATERAL COOPERATION

#### Memoranda of understanding, agreements on defense cooperation, protocols and contracts

- The Ministry of Defense has concluded 54 international documents (24 memoranda of understanding, 18 agreements and 12 contracts/protocols).
- The Ministry is currently working towards the signing of 9 international documents (7 agreements and 2 protocols).
- In 2014, 4 international documents were signed (2 memoranda, 1 agreement and 1 protocol).
- The legal procedure was conducted and 9 international documents prepared for signing: 1 memorandum, 6 agreements and 2 protocols.



### REGIONAL DEFENSE COOPERATION

*In 2014, the MoD participated in the following regional initiatives:*

#### ► Southeastern Europe Defense Ministerial (SEDM)

In 2014, BiH contributed to the work of this forum through:

- > *MoD representatives participated in the work of the SEDM Coordination Committee.*
- > *Observing the work of the Political Military Steering Committee of the Multinational Peace Force (SEEBRIG).*
- > *Participation in the development of all the documents of this forum.*
- > *Participation at a meeting in the SEDM format as part of the Comprehensive Regional Ministerial held in Montenegro in October 2014.*

The MoD also took active part in the 2014 SEESIM exercise hosted by Croatia and Bulgaria.

#### ► SEEC – Forum for Western Balkans Defense Cooperation

At a regional comprehensive ministerial of countries assembled in the SEEC-Forum for Western Balkans Defense Cooperation held in Slovenia, from 1 to 3 October 2013, Assistant Minister for International Cooperation Mr. Zoran Šajinović chaired the meeting of SEEC defense policy directors. It was agreed at the meeting that BiH and Norway would continue to co-chair SEEC in the first half of 2014 as well.

During the meeting that the BiH MoD organized in cooperation with the Norwegian Ministry of Defense on 27 March 2014, SEEC countries reconciled their stances on the closing of this forum, in the following way:



- > *There is no need to maintain the SEEC-Forum for Western Balkans Defense Cooperation as a means to coordinate regional training centers, future Balkans Medical Task Force or potential new projects.*
- > *Prospective future SEEC projects should be legally regulated through memoranda of understanding.*
- > *In order to secure a platform for dialogue and coordination among political actors regarding SEEC projects, regular annual meetings of Western Balkans defense policy directors (WBDPD) should continue as a transitional solution.*
- > *WBDPD meetings will be organized as part of comprehensive regional meetings of defense ministers of South-Eastern European countries and the Western Balkans (CRM), and the CRM host country will be responsible for organizing and chairing WBDPDs, unless otherwise agreed.*

Let us remind you, the active work of SEEC defense policy directors helped the formation of regional centers. The defense policy directors accepted that the Peace Support Operations Center (PSOTC) be put forward as a regional center, that is to say an example of regional cooperation in the training for peace operations. In order to promote regional cooperation, actions were also taken towards launching and establishing new initiatives under the umbrella of the Smart Defense Pooling and Sharing, within the Clearing House mechanism. The philosophy behind the Smart Defense Pooling and Sharing is to rationalize costs of project, and avoid duplications and overlapping of projects.

Two new regional centers have been planned so far: the Regional Center for Media Training (PARC) in Skoplje and CBRN Defense Center in Kruševac, Serbia. Ideas for establishing a Regional Pilot Training Center (PTC) in Podgorica, Montenegro, and a Regional Center for Medical Training (MTC) in Skoplje have been also put forward.

#### ► **US-Adriatic Charter (A-5)**

Since January 2014 the Republic of Albania took over the chairmanship of the A-5 forum. A delegation of the AFBiH Joint Staff participated at the 18th A-5 Chief of Defense Conference that took place from 10 to 12 June 2014 in Pržno, Sveti Stefan, Montenegro. An AFBiH representative participated in the A-5 NCO Conference organized in Skopje, Macedonia, from 23 to 26 June 2014.

A representative of the AFBiH is involved in the work of the A-5 working group and participated at two implementation meetings of the working group in 2014.

On 15 October 2014 a BiH MoD Delegation participated at the A-5 Ministerial meeting within the Comprehensive Regional Ministerial. The topics of the meeting were “Establishment of interoperability through regional cooperation” and “Post-ISAF Afghanistan – Possibilities for joint participation.”

Bosnia and Herzegovina took over the chairmanship of the US-Adriatic Charter for 2015. In that respect, a program of activities for 2015 has been developed.

#### ► **Balkan CHOD's Conference B-9**

The Balkan CHOD's Forum was established at the initiative of Greece and Turkey in 2006. The first conference took place in April 2007 in Greece.

Forum member countries are Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Montenegro, Greece, Macedonia, Romania, Serbia and Turkey.



The goal of the forum is to consider and strengthen the model of military cooperation among Balkan countries, as well as the model of response to all security challenges, risks and threats in the region. The main activities



of the forum include training and education, as well as activities designed to jointly obtain the required level of interoperability that will facilitate joint operations in different situations. This is primarily related to implementation of joint military exercises as well as development of annual assessments of asymmetric threats in the Balkans.

The Balkan CHOD's Conference is organized once a year. Meetings held in preparation for the conference include those of the Coordination Group, Education, Training and Exercise Sub-Working Group (ETESWG), Asymmetric Threats Sub-Working Group (ATSWG), and the Team for the configuration of the SEETN (South East Europe Exercise Training Network) Project, which is a part of the ETESWG.

So far, seven Balkan CHOD's conferences have been organized. The eighth conference was organized in Sarajevo on 4 June 2014 and the ninth conference was held in Podgorica in 2015.

#### ► IT connecting of simulation training centers in B9 countries through the SEETN Project and launching of a website for B9 countries

The aim of the project is to interconnect simulation centers of all Forum B9 member countries and provide technical requirements for the implementation of a joint simulation exercise (SIMEX). The first test of the operation of the system is planned for March 2015 and the exercise is scheduled for the fourth quarter of 2015. Organization of the exercise would not entail significant costs as each country would participate from its remote site. The lead nation in this project is Bulgaria and the project has been going on for two years.

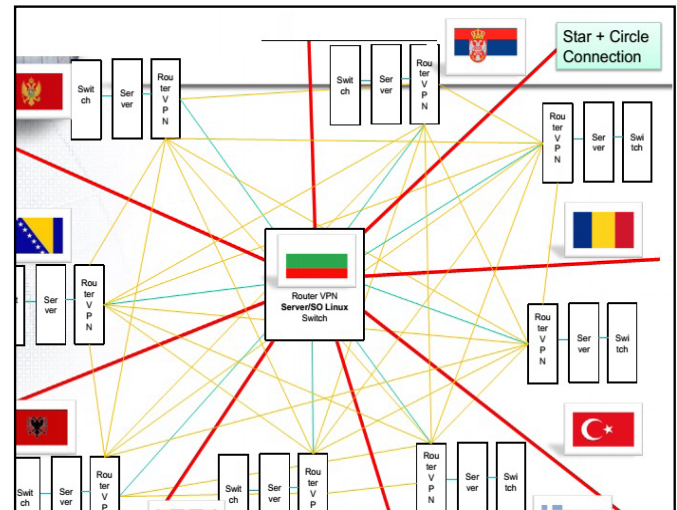
Furthermore, an initiative has been put forward to launch a B9 Forum website. The website would be informative and would contribute to better promotion of the forum. It would include information on activities, meetings and



projects. Joint statements, photos and videos from specific activities would also be posted. All member countries would decide by consensus what kind of information would be posted on the website.

The terms of reference (TOR) for the project were developed and are to be approved at the conference in Sarajevo. This is a new project led by Bulgaria.

Bulgaria would maintain and update the website for a period of three years.



### ► Establishment of regional network of training centers

The goal of the project is to interconnect and establish a network of training centers that would facilitate exchange of instructors, establishment of expert teams for specific areas that could perform education and training in the region and elsewhere. This is a new project led by Bosnia and Herzegovina. BiH (PSOTC) will host the first conference of training center commandants in the first half of 2015. The conference will mark the beginning of development of a network of centers and further work on this issue.

### ► Organization of the annual B9 exercise

A LIVEX exercise is organized once a year at the B9 Forum level. In 2013, a Special Forces exercise was organized in Serbia. All countries except Albania participated in the exercise. Bosnia and Herzegovina participated in the exercise with an EOD team.

In 2014, a Forum B9 exercise was organized in Turkey. The trend of organizing these annual exercises will continue.



### ► Asymmetric threat assessment

These activities are implemented by the Asymmetric Threats Sub-Working Group. Its activities are reflected in the development of annual intelligence assessment of asymmetric threats, development of Asymmetric Threats e-Newsletter and the twice-yearly check-up of telecommunication links between the operational centers of B9 Forum member countries.

### ► Comprehensive Regional Ministerial for South East Europe and West Balkans

- > *A Comprehensive Regional Ministerial (CRM) for South East Europe and West Balkans was held from 14 to 16 October 2014 in the Republic of Slovenia;*
- > *Montenegro organized a meeting in order to continue with the implementation of the initiative titled „Rationalization of regional defense cooperation in South East Europe and West Balkans“, which was approved at the South Eastern Europe Defense Ministerial (SEEDM) in October 2012 in Sarajevo and launched at the*





*CRM meeting in October 2013 in Slovenia;*

- > *Organization of three events in three days at one location, which were attended by more than 10 defense ministers and the NATO Deputy Assistant Secretary General, resulted in an obvious rationalization of funds and time. Furthermore, the CRM meeting confirmed that it provides an excellent platform for discussions on synchronization of regional efforts, avoidance of unnecessary duplications and improvement of efficiency of existing regional initiatives;*
- > *The commitment to make CRM meetings a tradition was confirmed by the announcement of the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Croatia that it will host the 3rd CRM meeting.*

### ► **RACVIAC- Center for Security Cooperation**

Currently the Director of RACVIAC is Mr. Branimir Mandić from Bosnia and Herzegovina.

#### *Implementation of activities with RACVIAC in 2014:*

No.	Activity	Number of activities	Number of participants	Planned in 2014	Implemented in 2014	Implement-ation	Implemented in 2013.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	<b>Seminar</b>	6	5	6	6	100%	6
2.	<b>Course</b>	6	10	6	5	83%	3
3.	<b>Round table</b>	0	0	0	0	0%	0
4.	<b>MAG</b>	2	2	2	2	100%	2
5.	<b>Workshop</b>	1	2	1	1	100%	4
6.	<b>Symposium</b>	2	3	2	2	100%	1
7.	<b>Conference</b>	6	33	6	6	100%	6
8.	<b>Meeting</b>	2	0	2	2	100%	2
9.	<b>Other activities</b>	7	0	7	0	100%	3

## MILITARY-DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION ABROAD

The primary purpose of military-diplomatic representatives is to represent the BiH MoD and AFBiH in the respective countries and international organizations in order to develop military cooperation and promote friendly relations. In this context, BiH defense attachés abroad had a number of meetings with representatives of defense ministries and armed forces of the respective countries. The focus of their engagement was implementation of bilateral defense cooperation plans. Over the past year, military-diplomatic and military representatives of BiH abroad implemented and participated in more than 400 activities.

# PARTICIPATION OF AFBiH

## ► ISAF – Afghanistan

As per Decision of the BiH Presidency of 23 July 2014 on the extension of the mandate to AFBiH personnel in the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) mission in the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, the AFBiH deployed eight officers to the Regional Command North with the contingent of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Germany. In accordance with the decision, the eleventh rotation of eight AFBiH officers was deployed in July 2013 to the headquarters of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Germany within Regional Command North (as of 1 August 2014, Train, Advise and Assist Command (TAAC) North), with the mandate until 31 December 2014. In 2014, the eleventh rotation of the AFBiH contingent of eight officers was deployed to serve in the German Command Contingent as a command staff element. The mission ended on 31 December 2014.

-Pursuant to the decision of the BiH Presidency of 4 June 2014 on immediate withdrawal of AFBiH infantry unit from the ISAF operation, the mandate of the AFBiH infantry unit was terminated on 10 June 2014. The AFBiH contributed to the ISAF mission with an infantry unit since October 2010 as part of the Danish Combat Group in Regional Command South West. The mission of the AFBiH infantry unit (a 45-member contingent) ended on 9 June 2014, after a total of eight rotations



## ► MINUSMA – Mali

As per Decision of the BiH Presidency of 6 March 2014 on participation of AFBiH officers in the UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Republic of Mali (MINUSMA) two AFBiH staff officers were deployed to the mission. The first rotation of AFBiH staff officers was deployed in September 2014.





# PERSONNEL IN PSOs

## ► RESOLUTE SUPPORT - Afghanistan



An infantry platoon from the AFBiH (a 45-member contingent) tasked with providing force protection in Bagram base within the US TAAC South was deployed and commenced its mission on 1 January 2015.

The AFBiH contingent of eight staff officers was deployed with the German TAAC North and commenced its mission on 1 January 2015.

Within the framework of the US–Adriatic Charter (A-5), two AFBiH noncommissioned officers were deployed to TAAC North, where the Republic of Croatia is the lead nation, to participate in the training of Afghanistan national forces.

## ► MONUSCO – Congo

As per Decision of the BiH Presidency of 6 March 2014 on the extension of the mandate of the AFBiH contingent in the UN organization-stabilization mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUSCO), AFBiH members were deployed to the mission. Regular rotation of the contingent happened in August 2014 as per the Decision. Currently, the thirteenth rotation of the contingent of five AFBiH members is deployed to the mission for a period of one year.





## TRAINING AND EDUCATION IN BIH MOD AND AFBiH

### EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN 2013 AND 2014

Over the past two years training was organized in accordance with the plans and programs for education and training in the country and abroad. In 2013 out of 1,405 planned participants in various types of training in the country and abroad, 1,292 attended the events.

The implementation level is 91.95% (1,004 men and 288 women). 245 female participants were from the BiH MoD and 43 from the AFBiH.

In 2014, out of 1,303 planned participants, 1,215 attended various events and the implementation level was 93.24% (1,053 men and 162 women). 130 women were from the BiH MoD and 32 from the AFBiH.

In 2014 there was a minor decrease in the number of participants (77) which was a result of better selection of activities and the requirement to make financial savings.

### Foreign language courses in BiH MoD and AFBiH

In 2014, 354 AFBiH members (140 officers, 174 noncommissioned officers, 39 soldiers, 1 civilian) were sent to attend foreign language courses in the country and abroad, specifically, 335 in the country and 19 abroad.

### Foreign Language Proficiency Tests

The Foreign Language Proficiency Evaluation Section of the Personnel Division of the AFBiH Joint Staff and Foreign Languages Section of the Professional Development Center organized ALCPT tests for 8,484 AFBiH members in English language proficiency. At the same time, STANAG 6001 test in English language proficiency (reading, listening, writing and speaking) was organized for 1,167 AFBiH members.

STANAG tests were also organized for German language proficiency (70 members), French language proficiency (96 members) and Turkish language proficiency (13).

A test designed to determine the level of foreign language proficiency was organized for 798 persons. Specifically, 149 for German, 5 for French, 588 for Turkish, 55 for Greek and one person for the Italian language.

In 2014 the Foreign Language Proficiency Evaluation Section of the Personnel Division of AFBiH Joint Staff and Foreign Languages Section of the Professional Development Center organized ALCPT tests in English language proficiency for 672 AFBiH members and STANAG 6001 tests (reading, listening, writing and speaking) for 211 AFBiH members. The STANAG test was also organized for German for 7 members and for French for 12 members. In 2014, at the invitation of other countries and upon approval by the BiH MoD, the Foreign Language Proficiency Evaluation Section organized two STANAG 6001 tests and evaluations of personnel of the Montenegrin Ministry of Defense and Military. The Foreign Language Proficiency Evaluation Section also conducted a trial BiH STANAG 6001 test in the Republic of Croatia. The STANAG team from the Republic of Croatia organized a trial test, at which AFBiH members took their test.

### Training

The goal of training and military education in the AFBiH is to produce highly professional and trained

officers, noncommissioned officers, soldiers and units who are able to response to a full spectrum of operations in order to fulfill requests by the BiH institutions which perform civil command and oversight over the



AFBiH, and to develop highly trained command staff that can rapidly adapt to emerging circumstances, and ensure a timely and adequate engagement of units. It is worth mentioning that within the framework of implementation of training activities and military education in the AFBiH the most important events related to training of AFBiH personnel and units are organized in the Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC). The training includes, inter alia, general military training organized for candidates in training, training of future professional military personnel in the Basic Training Center (BTC) in Pazarić, individual training for noncommissioned officers and officers through the Military Courses Section and the Foreign Language Section in the professional Development Center (PDC), simulation exercise of practical combat situation at battalion and brigade command level (JCATS) in the Combat Simulation Center (CSC) Manjača, and practical unit exercises to the battalion level (CPX, STX, KGB, SIMEX, CAX, FTX and LFX) in the Combat Simulation Center (CSC) Manjača, which practically closes the cycle and is the pinnacle of training, that is to say, application of the knowledge gained in the AFBiH.

The PSO courses are envisaged to teach AFBiH officers and noncommissioned officers the required skills, inventiveness, flexibility and patience, which are necessary for successful execution of a PSO mission. The Peace Support Operations Training Center educates promising officers and noncommissioned officers in the AFBiH for the position and role that modern military has in stabilization operations, as well as for successful and close cooperation with their colleagues from other partner countries.

» In 2013 the AFBiH continued to implement the process of individual and collective training of personnel, units and commands in line with the Guidelines and the approved AFBiH Annual Training Plan. Lack of resources required for training informed the necessity to plan the training on the basis of rationality and affordability.

In 2013 training in the AFBiH focused on four key training areas: institutional training in TRADOC training centers (in line with approved plans and programs related to professional development of officers

and noncommissioned officers in the AFBiH), field exercises with external evaluation, evaluation according to the OCC E&F program and joint training of AFBiH and EUFOR units. It needs to be emphasized that three exercises with external evaluation were organized at the Manjača range, which included 2,100 members of the AFBiH, as well as two OPREH exercises of EUFOR and the AFBiH and a SEL-2 evaluation under the OCC E&F program. At the external evaluation exercises our declared units were evaluated as “Combat Ready”, which opened the path for the final NEL-2 evaluation level and ensured inclusion of additionally declared components in the process. Other forms of collective training such as training organized by EUFOR Mobile Training Teams (MTT) and training within the Military to Military (M2M) framework were also organized. Another activity that needs to be emphasized is the launching of a pilot project of cooperation between the AFBiH and the armed forces of Great Britain related to selection, training and recruitment of young officers from the civil society to the AFBiH. In 2013, in accordance with the MTP and the plan of exercises abroad, more than 50 AFBiH members participated in six international military exercises abroad. Participation in such activities yielded multiple benefits such as “achieving a higher level of interoperability between the AFBiH and NATO (achievement of joint standards related to the structure of planning, training, equipment, communications procedures, language, etc.) The AFBiH achieved major progress with development and implementation of planning procedures, implementation and analysis of exercise in accordance with NATO standards and their implementation in the AFBiH training system. Today the AFBiH plan their military exercises in an identical way as NATO partner countries. In 2013 the AFBiH implemented three major events related to collective training. Specifically, the command post exercises (CPX/CAX – brigade level) and the associated field exercise of battalion battle group (LIVEX/FTX). Implementation of these exercises marked the end of a three-year training cycle and is also the final qualification test which will show the current level of operational capabilities of commands and units based on doctrinal and assigned tasks. Evaluations from





these exercises, as well as the evaluations that the commands and units get during the external evaluation exercises will be used as input that training planners will use for the assessment and selection of the method of training and improvements of operational capabilities in the next training cycle.

» In 2014 the AFBiH continued the implementation of the process of individual and collective training of personnel, units and commands in line with the Guidelines of the AFBiH JS Chief and the approved AFBiH Annual Training Plan. Lack of resources required for training informed the necessity to plan the training on the basis of rationality and affordability. Progress and significant results were achieved in improvement of the level of training and capabilities, as well as in the area of introduction and implementation of NATO norms and standards at all command and control (C2) levels.

In 2014 training in the AFBiH focused on four key training areas: institutional training in TRADOC training centers (in line with approved plans and programs related to professional development of officers and noncommissioned officers in AFBiH), field exercises with external evaluation, evaluation according to the OCC E&F program and joint training of AFBiH and EUFOR units. The following three major collective training events organized in BiH need to be emphasized: two Dynamic Response exercises at the Manjača range and Joint Endeavor 14 exercise, in which 4th and 6th infantry brigades participated with more than 1,500 members. Joint Endeavor 14, a joint exercise of EUFOR and the AFBiH, was initially planned in a different format, specifically as Dynamic response 14-5, which was planned to take place at the Manjača range. However, in cooperation with EUFOR partners the exercise was modified, prepared and organized in a very short period of time. As a result, Joint Endeavor 14 was planned and implemented in accordance with the situation on the ground and on different locations in BiH. As a necessary step and a logical continuation of operations involving provision of assistance and support to civil authorities and the population, the exercise was implemented with the

goal to mitigate and remove consequences of floods in the areas most affected by floods in BiH, as well as on some AFBiH sites which were also affected by the natural disaster. In addition to 750 AFBiH members, 450 EUFOR members from the multinational battalion including companies from the armed forces of United Kingdom, Republic of Slovenia and Republic of Austria, and 22 cadets from the armed forces of the United States, who joined the military-relief operation voluntarily and through the US Embassy, also participated in the exercise. Furthermore, 85 AFBiH members successfully participated in seven international exercises within different NATO programs aimed at achievement of NATO norms and standards, which were organized abroad (Germany, Italy, Croatia, Sweden, Slovenia, Serbia and Turkey). Participation in such activities yielded multiple benefits such as “achieving a higher level of interoperability between the AFBiH and NATO (achievement of joint standards related to the structure of planning, training, equipment, communications procedures, language, etc.). We particularly take pride in the significant progress achieved in the implementation of the OCC E&F program. In this context, from 8 to 12 September at the AFBiH Manjača range near Banja Luka the final evaluation (NATO Evaluation 2- NEL 2), as the final test of the declared units under the OCC E&F program from the AFBiH 6th infantry brigade and the Tactical Support Brigade, was successfully finalized. The evaluation is the crown of a three-year equipping and training cycle, and the set goal is to achieve full compatibility and interoperability for participation in NATO led operations. After a comprehensive test by NATO certified evaluators that lasted several days, the 1st Infantry Company, 1st Infantry Battalion, 6th Infantry Brigade and 3rd EOD Platoon, EOD Company, Demining Battalion, Tactical Support Brigade, were evaluated as Combat Ready, which qualifies them as NATO certified units that have achieved or exceeded the high NATO standards and are ready for participation in future NATO-led operations. Within the framework of this program, SEL-1 evaluation of



the declared infantry company from the 4th Infantry Brigade was successfully completed at the Manjača range. All other AFBiH units declared within the OCC E&F program are following the same path as planned. Other forms of collective training such as training

organized by EUFOR Mobile Training Teams (MTT) and training within the US Military to Military (M2M) program were also organized.

## Activities of the PSOTC

The Peace Support Operations Training Center (PSOTC) organized training and education related to PSOs, and courses for AFBiH personnel and non-defense personnel. It operates as a NATO partner and regional center for PSO training and education with the goal of achievement of NATO and UN compatible standards by MOD and AFBiH personnel and provision of support to the AFBiH in the overall efforts of BiH to contribute to international peace and security.

In December 2012 the PSOTC was transferred to the BiH MoD and since January 2013 it is fully integrated in the AFBiH. Although BiH is still not a NATO member country, the PSOTC earned its position as a UN and NATO accredited center and through its operation it became a recognized center of excellence in PSO-related education and training. As a result, the PSOTC is recognized as an accredited center by the UN, NATO and the US. In such a way it promotes the image not just of the AFBiH, but BiH as a whole. It is important to emphasize that the PSOTC is the first training center in Europe and the second in the world to receive the Full Training Capability Certificate from US State Department (2014). In 2014 the PSOTC was also awarded as the best unit of the AFBiH. In 2015 the Center begun to organize pre-deployment training for staff officers and noncommissioned officers for all UN and NATO missions in which AFBiH personnel participate.

From March 2013 to April 2015 the PSOTC organized 63 training events attended by 1,656 national and international students.

Each year between 25 and 30 events are organized. These events primarily include courses (six NATO, two university courses and one UN-accredited course), seminars and conferences as follows:

- > *International PSO staff officer course for PSO,*
- > *International basic Staff Officer Skills Course,*
- > *PSO Junior NCO Course,*
- > *PSO Staff NCO Course,*
- > *NATO CIMIC Orientation Course,*
- > *Security Sector Reform in PSO,*
- > *UN Police Course,*
- > *Utility of Gender in PSO Course,*
- > *Building Integrity in PSO Course,*





- > *UN Military Observer Course,*
- > *International Information Operations Course,*
- > *Counterinsurgency Course,*
- > *Media Management in PSO Course,*
- > *Euro-Atlantic Security Course,*
- > *Defense Attaché Course.*

In addition to residential courses, the PSOTC sends its mobile training teams to different countries (including West Balkans, Denmark, Kazakhstan, Kirgizstan and Sweden). The MTTs are specialized for:

- > *Counterinsurgency Course,*
- > *PSO Staff Orientation Course*
- > *Protection of Civilians in PSO*
- > *Utility of Gender in PSO Course,*
- > *Building Integrity in PSO Course.*

The PSOTC shall continue to operate as a center of excellence for PSOs in order to support the professional development of armed forces. The center has also initiated the relevant processes to be accredited as a NATO center and preparation of the global UN conference “International Association of Peacekeeping Training Centers (IAPTC)” in 2016.

## Plan and programs of education and training of MoD and AFBiH personnel in 2015

In the first quarter of 2015 the activities of the Section were focused on implementation of the adopted plans and programs for education and training in the country and abroad. Education and training in the country and abroad is implemented through International Cooperation Programs and Regional Cooperation Programs.

One of the most important programs is the program of cooperation between BiH and NATO for 2015 (IPCP) which includes 147 events. So far 28 events attended by 24 MoD/AFBiH members have been implemented. Five activities, which involved 7 AFBiH members, were implemented through the IMET Program.

Some 53 activities were planned within the framework of the M2M program. Eight of them have been implemented and attended by 230 AFBiH members. Two MoD/AFBiH members were sent to two seminars in the Marshall Center. One seminar in the Marshall Center was cancelled.

The PSOTC Annual Plan includes 23 courses. So far, seven activities have been implemented with 107 attendees, 97 from the AFBiH and 14 from abroad.

As for representation of the AFBiH abroad, so far five out of the planned 23 activities of the MTTs have been implemented and included engagement of 10 AFBiH members in activities in Serbia, Montenegro, Greece, Italy and Germany.

The program of exchange with other training centers abroad included 28 activities. So far, three have been implemented in Turkey, Greece and Croatia and included engagement of 4 AFBiH members.

The program of exchange with other training centers envisaged 28 activities.

So far 4 activities have been implemented and included engagement of instructors from Sweden, Greece, Macedonia and Switzerland.

The 2015 plan includes participation in 12 exercises, conferences, command post exercises, and participation in exercises with units and as observers, including 9 exercises in which 48 AFBiH members participated.

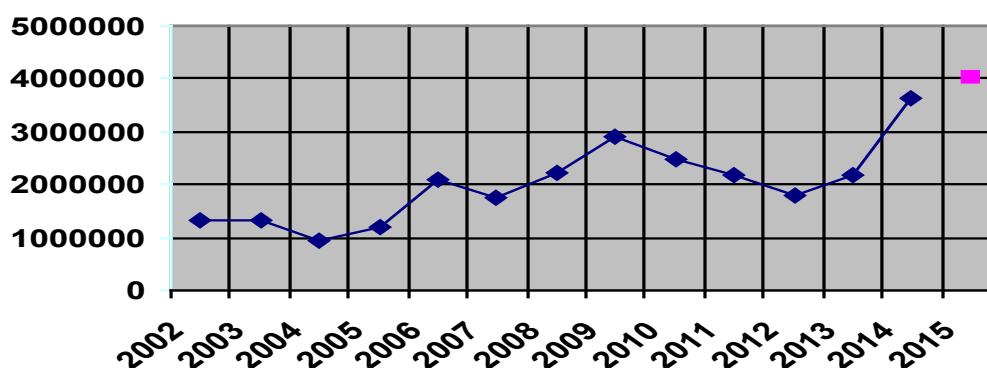
The bilateral cooperation plans are implemented as planned.





## COUNTERMINE ACTION IN THE AFBiH

The AFBiH conduct their activities in the area of humanitarian demining and countermine action in accordance with the approved Strategy of Demining in BiH for the period 2009-2019, as well as the Annual Action Plan for this area in order for BiH to become mine-free by 2019.



So far, the Armed Forces of BiH have been constantly engaged in humanitarian demining operations and are one of the most important factors of this process in BiH with more than 20% of totally engaged capacities.

» In 2013, the AFBiH achieved significant and remarkable results. About 1,800,000 m<sup>2</sup> of surface area was demined, and 147 pieces of different types of mines and 175 pieces of different types of unexploded ordnance (UXO) were found and destroyed in the process. In 2013, 19 demining sites were handed over for use to the end user (local communities): three in Bihać, two in Srebrenica and Tuzla, and one in Mostar, Velika Kladuša, Livno, Orašje, Trebinje, Berkovići, Gradačac, Hadžići, Derventa, Semizovac and Brčko each.

It is particularly necessary to note the assistance and support provided by the EOD teams of the AFBiH Demining Battalion to the State Investigation and Protection Agency (SIPA) in disposal and destruction of remaining ammunition, mines and explosive ordnance at the location of Kaloševići village, where 1,234 pieces of different types of various ordnance were found and destroyed, as well as in the relocation of 638 pieces of found mines and explosive ordnance from the location of „Trešnjev Panj“, Tešanj Municipality, to the ammunition storage site „Gladna brda“, Glamoč.

» In 2014, AFBiH demining capacities were engaged in several demining projects in our country. It was planned to demine over 3.75 million m<sup>2</sup> of the territory by implementing 69 demining projects in 30 municipalities in BiH. 96.7 % of the plan was successfully implemented, i.e. over 3.6 million m<sup>2</sup> of the territory was demined, 1,874 mines and UXOs were found and destroyed and 52 demining sites were handed over for use to end users – local communities.

The AFBiH achieved such respectable results under very difficult circumstances, taking into account the many problems brought about by the disastrous floods, which had caused major shifting of minefields.

By temporary establishment of the Mine Action and EOD Center in Rajlovac, the AFBiH have significantly reinforced their operational demining capacities, thus becoming a regionally recognized factor in this area.

This center has enabled continued training and capacity building of our deminers, deminers of the armed forces of the countries in the region, proper adoption of demanding and high standards in this area, as well as provision of training services to all agencies and non-governmental organizations performing this activity in BiH.

Working to implement planned humanitarian demining activities, the AFBiH have made significant contribution to the reduction of mine and UXO risk and threat and have significantly increased safety for all residents and citizens throughout BiH.



This is primarily a result of maximum engagement of our available demining capacities, but also of our daily cooperation with BHMACH, civil protection agencies and EUFOR in BiH.

The AFBiH remain committed to continue with humanitarian demining activities actively and in a planned manner and to implement mine action plans in the territory of BiH in the upcoming period. This year's plan is to demine over 4 million m<sup>2</sup> of the territory, which will be fully supported by the BiH MoD leadership in order to further contribute to BiH becoming a happier and safer place for its citizens and future generations.

## CIVIL-MILITARY COOPERATION

Internally in BiH, the role of the Armed Forces has been recognized for its support to civilian structures in different areas, in particular in response to natural and other disasters. Assistance to civilian authorities in reaction to natural and other disasters was implemented upon request of the BiH Ministry of Security that was receiving requests from entity and local authorities, processed them and submitted requests for the engagement of the Armed Forces of BiH. Upon approval of the BiH Ministry of Defense, the AFBiH were adequately and timely responding to such requests based on available resources. Pursuant to Article 4, item c) of the BiH Law on Defense, the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina were engaged to assist civilian structures in the event of natural and other disasters. Since Military Brochure issue 3 (March 2013) until today, the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina have achieved significant results in this area and made their full contribution. This period can be looked at through different phases when natural and other disasters occurred; therefore, results of the work of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina will be presented accordingly.

*In 2013, the area of Bosnia and Herzegovina was affected by fires and the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina were engaged in mitigating the consequences and achieved the following results:*

- » Engagement of AFBiH resources in firefighting during the summer in Herzegovina, especially in the areas of the Jablanica Municipality, Mt. Ozren, as well as in assisting during recovery after the fire in the Cantonal Hospital "Dr. Irfan Ljubijankić" in Bihać. While helping with the survey of the fire-affected sites and firefighting at the above locations throughout BiH, 202 AFBiH members were engaged, there were 98.6 flying hours, about 11,898 tons of water were dropped and 68,980 liters of GM-1 jet fuel consumed. The Armed Forces of BiH made their full contribution during and after the fire in the Cantonal Hospital „Dr. Irfan Ljubijankić” in Bihać where they were engaged in firefighting, recovery and clearing of the fire site, evacuation of patients and hospital equipment, helicopter medical evacuation of patients from Bihać to other clinical centers, and in making available and preparation of other resources of the AFBiH barracks „Adil Bešić” in Bihać for the purposes of the hospital. The Armed Forces of BiH made their capacities (personnel, materiel, accommodation capacities and a helicopter for MEDEVAC) fully available to the relevant structures in Bihać in order to resolve the problem of taking care and evacuation of patients of the Cantonal Hospital in Bihać as adequately as possible. 150 AFBiH members were engaged in firefighting and taking care of the hospital patients, while more than 360 AFBiH members were engaged in the recovery of damage caused by the fire and in preparation of capacities in the barracks in Bihać for the needs of the hospital. All requests of civilian structures were, in accordance with the procedures, accepted and met by the AFBiH, which on this occasion also demonstrated solidarity and readiness to assist civilian structures in protection of property and materials, and reacted selflessly and timely to the conflagration and provided significant assistance to endangered population in the areas affected by the fire.

Since mid-May 2014, the AFBiH were decisively and constantly, within available human and material resources,



capacities and capabilities, providing assistance to affected population, civilian authorities and local communities in fighting the unprecedented floods in BiH.

The AFBiH were engaged in 46 municipalities throughout our country, primarily in saving human lives and property, then in recovery and mitigation of consequences of this huge disaster in places where it was most needed. In this operation the AFBiH had the possibility to test under the most difficult conditions its operational plans and capabilities, capacities and available resources, to evaluate and respond to the challenges and risks that an unpredictable natural force can create and cause.

We can note with pleasure and pride that the AFBiH, despite all the difficulties they faced, managed with their professionalism, courage and dedication to take the maximum of the available materiel, to timely react to all requests of the civilian authorities and to meet all set obligations within their abilities.

***We note only some of the tasks and activities carried out by the AFBiH:***

### **Phase I – Defense against the floods:**

- > Rescue and evacuation of people, cattle and materials from flooded area using helicopters, motor vehicles and boats,
- > Airlift of patients and cargo,
- > Construction and reinforcement of embankments (engagement of personnel to move and fill bags, helicopters for reconnaissance, construction and reinforcement of embankments),
- > Delivery of water, medicines and other provisions,
- > Engagement of mobile kitchens for preparation and distribution of food,
- > Medical support to affected population in the flooded areas,
- > Accommodation and medical treatment of civilians at AFBiH locations.

### **Phase II – Recovery after the floods:**

- > Recovery of roads,
- > Detection and disposal of UXOs and mines by EOD teams,
- > Cleaning public institutions and areas,
- > Cleaning riverbeds, disposal of garbage and bulky waste,
- > Pumping out water,
- > Recovery of landslides,
- > Drainage cleaning and excavation,
- > Construction and laying of bridges,
- > Medical support to affected population,
- > Disinfection, disinsectization and pest control of terrain and public institutions,
- > Supplying population with potable water,
- > Loading, transport, unloading and storing of humanitarian aid.

The above situation was a big test of organization, professionalism and capability, but also a test of the power of will, courage and motivation for all members, commands and units of the AFBiH.

Because of the new situation, all AFBiH activities, including training, are adjusted for provision of assistance to civilian structures and population in the affected areas.



As a result and in accordance with the situation in the field, the “Combined Endeavor 14” exercise was planned and conducted at several locations in BiH as a necessary next step and logical continuation of the operations of provision of assistance and support to civilian authorities and population, aimed at recovery and mitigation of consequences of the floods in the most affected areas in BiH and some AFBiH locations affected by this big natural disaster. In addition to 750 AFBiH members, 450 EUFOR members within a multinational battalion with companies from the armed forces of the United Kingdom, Republic of Slovenia and Republic of Austria participated in the exercise, but also 22 U.S. cadets as volunteers who engaged in this military, but primarily humanitarian activity through the U.S. Embassy in BiH.

It is necessary to emphasize that starting from the initially planned 19 projects at the affected areas throughout BiH, 37 projects were successfully implemented upon requests of civilian authorities, effects of which are visible in local communities in the field.

***We would like to note only the most important results and effects of the engagement of AFBiH resources in this operation:***

- > Rescue and evacuation of civilians,
- > 8,669 civilians and 100 heads of cattle were rescued by land, water and air,
- > Emergency care and accommodation for civilians at military locations,
- > At six AFBiH locations (barracks in Banja Luka, Bijeljina, Bileća, Doboj, Dubrave-Tuzla and Zenica), 3,628 civilians, of which about 30% were children, were accommodated and taken care of,
- > Recovery and construction of embankments,
- > 20 tons of different material were transported using land and air lift and about 3.5 km of embankment was constructed,
- > Over 1,044 tons of different humanitarian aid, nine tons of bottled water and 210 m<sup>3</sup> of potable water were transported by land, water and air,
- > 416,000 m<sup>2</sup> of different terrain was recovered through engineering operations,
- > Eight bridges laid and 83 km of roads recovered,
- > 27 km of riverbeds cleared,
- > 123 tons of potable water and more than one ton of foods from the AFBiH reserves supplied to population,
- > 108 facilities, more than 24,000 civilians and over 1 million m<sup>2</sup> of different land surface decontaminated,
- > 396 pieces of different UXO disposed, etc



*BiH AF in assistance to civil authorities*



It is necessary to emphasize that the overall cost of the engagement of AFBiH resources during the floods, to include the engagement under the operational plan WAVE 2012 and the “Combined Endeavour 14” exercise, was about 1.2 million KM. It is clear that the effects of the AFBiH engagement are much bigger than the invested funds, all for the benefit of the population, local communities and the entire BiH.

We can proudly say, and this is confirmed by the achieved results in the field, that the AFBiH with their action provided major contribution to the overall stability of the situation and prevention of further casualties and material damage.

## The Engagement of the BiH Air Forces during the summer 2015

During the summer of 2015, Bosnia and Herzegovina had been affected by numerous fires in whose extinguishing the major role played the Armed Forces of BiH. Specifically, in the municipalities Trbinje, Bileća, Bosnian Grahovo and Jabalnica, with more than 28 flight hours were engaged BiH AF's helicopters M18T and M18MTV. The BiH AF's helicopters, that ejected 250 tonnes of water, with huge assistance of the BiH AF Infantry Brigades, prevented a disasters of huge proportions. During the summer 2015, the helicopter forces were also engaged in the three-hour flight by helicopter UH 1H, in order to find an Italian citizen, who disappeared in the area of Međugorje.

The AFBiH have made their assets available for different cultural, sport, religious and traditional event, ceremonies and competitions. The biggest contribution made has been in the form of different engineering works for the benefit of local communities. With such engagement, the AFBiH have once again affirmed their permanent and long-term commitment to steadfast execution of this legally defined task in the future within available operational capacities and capabilities, all aimed at the improvement of general living conditions of local communities and all citizens in BiH.

## DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS WEAPONS AND AME

Among other things, the Armed Forces of BiH are responsible for storing, safeguarding and maintaining the overall stocks of weapons, ammunition, and mines and explosive ordnance (AME), which until 2006 were under the authority of the entity ministries of defense (FBiH MoD and RS MoD), i.e. the entity armies.

At the time of transfer of that authority from the entity ministries of defense to the BiH MoD, we took over more than 38,000 tons of different AME and approximately 100,000 pieces of different caliber weapons.

Based on the analysis of the situation it was established that the average age of those items was 25 years and more, while for some quantities it was impossible to determine the history or the lifecycle. For some quantities it was not possible to determine with certainty what were their production conditions and quality, and those were mainly items produced in the recent past (the so-called wartime production). Following the adoption of the material formation, an analysis showed that real

needs of the AFBiH included approximately 7,000 tons of AME, while all other quantities were surplus.

The same was done for weapons, and at our storage sites there are still approximately 40,000 pieces of different calibers of weapons, which were declared non-prospective, i.e. surplus for the AFBiH.

It is also important to note that the conditions of storage and safeguarding at that time were at the lower border of the permitted standards. This was primarily related to the physical condition of storage facilities (poor repair due to inadequate maintenance, old buildings), quantities and types of weapons and AME at some storage sites, methods of storing and the age of weapons and AME and so forth.

The Ministry of Defense and the Armed Forces of BiH, and international organizations present in Bosnia and Herzegovina have reached an agreement to form joint bodies in order to contribute to a safer environment in BiH. Therefore, on 16 July 2013, the



Strategic Committee on Disposal of Surplus Weapons and AME was formed, members of which are senior representatives of international organizations operating in BiH (such as NATO, EUFOR, ambassadors of some European countries and so forth) and the Minister of Defense, deputy ministers and general officers from the AFBiH Joint Staff.

The Coordination Committee on Weapons, Ammunition and Mines and Explosive Ordnance, together with three working groups, was formed by the decision of the BiH Minister of Defense immediately after, also in June 2013. Purpose of the Committee is to coordinate all



activities and tasks assigned by the Strategic Committee related to disposal of surplus weapons and AME as well as activities designed to improve safety at weapon and ammunition storage sites.

In addition to MoD and AFBiH members, members of the Coordination Committee also include representatives of international organizations and institutions operating in BiH. Therefore, permanent members of the Committee or the working groups are representatives of EUFOR, NATO HQ Sarajevo, OSCE Mission, UNDP and U.S. Embassy in BiH. Significant assistance to the Coordination Committee is also provided by the embassies of Switzerland, Austria and Sweden and the Office of the EU Special Representative. They have all provided significant support over the last period in the implementation of all previously mentioned activities and they plan to do the same in the upcoming period.

Its establishment has accelerated previously initiated activities to increase safety at storage sites as well as the activities on disposal of surplus weapons and AME.

Committee meetings are held periodically.

During meetings, members are briefed on accomplishments and results, problems in work are discussed and solutions are recommended in order for the process of disposal surplus weapons and AME to be completed as soon as possible.

In mid-2013, a comprehensive process to determine AME quantities and quality, so called 100% inspection, started. The goal is to open all boxes and count every single round or tube, so that our trained inspectors, using visual inspection, immediately assess the condition of ammunition in order for further activities in this regard to be taken. In conducting such an inspection, several dozens of items are checked, depending on type (general condition of the packaging, condition of projectiles/ rounds and all their integral parts).

At the very beginning we noticed a shortage of and the necessity for specialists who would carry out the activities and begin with the process of education of personnel outside the defense system (civilian universities, training abroad and so forth). In parallel to this, we have started establishing our own capacities for training of much-needed personnel to work with ammunition using the latest methods and standards in this area. This will create favorable conditions for intensified AME control and further measures in the process of disposal of surplus weapons and AME, all aimed at increased safety at our storage sites, but also safety of citizens in BiH and people in the region.

By the end of March 2015, we inspected more than 4,200 tons of ammunition of different caliber through the process of 100% technical inspection during which we inspect almost every single item of ammunition. It is important to note that last year inspections of ammunition were fully completed at two locations: „Grabež“, Bihać and „Bukova Greda“, Orašje. Through different forms of assistance and donations of our international partners, we have significantly increased safety and capacities of the process of disposal of surplus AME over the past period. This was achieved by major infrastructural investments in the facilities where demilitarization, burning and melting of AME is done. Consequently, in the barracks „3. maj“ in Doboj, antistatic floors and partition walls have been installed, the ventilation system has been renovated,





which to major extent has improved working conditions and safety of the personnel working there. Installation of the EWI incinerator for infantry ammunition, „pull apart“ machine for demilitarization of ammunition and band saw has significantly increased daily destruction capacities and the application of the latest standards in the process of demilitarization, while everything is done in an environment friendly manner. All these activities are carried out through the “EXPLODE” project, which has been implemented together with the UNDP. The budget for this project is 4.6 million Euros, which also includes the part intended for humanitarian demining of the terrain. The project is funded by the Delegation of the European Union.

Also, in addition to the above, traditional method of AME destruction using open detonation at the “Glamoč” range is still used. This method is used by all other militaries as necessary and there is no place for different misinformation that can be occasionally found in the media. We would like to note that this method is used as the last resort only for destruction of ammunition that cannot be destroyed in an environment friendly manner, i.e. in the process of demilitarization, because of instability and high risk of further handling of such ammunition. Unfortunately, we must point out the huge quantity of ammunition that belongs in that category. We would like to note that destruction at the “Glamoč” range, using both the method of open detonation and incineration in the incinerator for small arms ammunition, is done on our behalf by „Sterling“ Company, engaged based on the signed Technical Arrangement with the U.S. Government, while AFBiH members provide significant assistance in those activities. In order to increase the capacities for demilitarization of ammunition, it is provided a new incinerator at the location of Glamoč, and the same is in function. Since the establishment of the AFBiH in 2006, about 13,000 tons of different AME in total have been demilitarized using different methods in the capacities of BiH defense industry and AFBiH.

Since June 2013 until the end of March this year, demilitarization has been done in the AFBiH capacities only and, despite all adverse weather conditions, in particular in winter, about 2,400 tons of AME have been successfully demilitarized.

The MoD and AFBiH are committed to achieving full capability of AME lifecycle management, which entails, inter alia, application of the latest standards of storage. In this segment significant results have been achieved in terms of improvements, in particular through the EXPLODE project implemented by the UNDP in BiH and the SECUP (Security Upgrade) project, which has been initiated in cooperation with the OSCE Mission to BiH. The partner of the BiH Ministry of Defense in the implementation of the EXPLODE project is the United Nations Development Programme in BiH (UNDP). The focus of the project is on increased safety in the processes of demilitarization and disposal of surplus weapons and AME.

The project officially started on 27 June 2013 and the plan is to implement it within 28 months – by May 2016. The budget for the implementation of the project in the amount of 4.6 million Euros has been provided by the Office of the EU Special Representative in our country.

### **The EXPLODE project is implemented in phases and consists of three components:**

- 1) Demilitarization of AME,***
- 2) Capacity building for arms control and***
- 3) Ammunition stockpile management.***

The main goal of the SECUP project is to increase security in and around weapon and ammunition storage sites in BiH. It is focused on the improvement of infrastructure security standards at storage sites.

Those activities will reduce the risk of proliferation of weapons and ammunition and bring standards of physical security in stockpile management to a higher level. And last but not least, they will contribute to major savings in the budget of the BiH Ministry of Defense.

It is planned for the project to be implemented from 2013 to 2015. The project officially started last October, and the funds were mainly provided by the governments of Switzerland, Norway, Sweden, Turkey, Denmark, Czech Republic and Lichtenstein, and according to the latest information Germany has joined in to strengthen this project. The project is implemented in phases and we have recently signed an agreement with the OSCE Mission to BiH on continuation of the project in 2016. As already mentioned, this project is based on security



of storage sites and it primarily includes installation of video surveillance systems at two ammunition storage sites – “Kula” Mrkonjić Grad and “Krupa” Hadžići, as well as other infrastructural works such as: renovation of old and installation of a new wire fence around storage

the process of disposal of surplus AME to the end as soon as possible, our intention is to include into this process all available capacities in BiH. However, due to the lack of capacities in BiH for disposal of certain AME types, we are trying to solve the problem of high-



*Process of destroying AME*

sites, installation of reinforced doors and entry gates, installation of video surveillance and intruder detection system, outside lighting and air-conditioning. Improvement of security standards requires good synchronization of wishes, efforts and possibilities of the AFBiH, NATO, EUFOR, UNDP, OSCE, EU, as well as the embassies of U.S.A., Austria, Switzerland and Sweden. In order to monitor the entire lifecycle of AME, we have started to analyze chemical stability of gunpowder in cooperation with our international partners. We therefore expect additional, valid data about the condition of our ammunition based on which we are going to plan further activities. Austria has donated six mobile laboratory sets to test chemical stability of gunpowder and our members have been trained to use the laboratories. The process of chemical analysis of gunpowder started at the end of the last year and we already have first results. Since such method of chemical analysis of ammunition gunpowder is not sufficient or complete, certain activities have been initiated in cooperation with the Swiss Government in terms of donation and construction of a stationary laboratory for chemical analysis of gunpowder with a significantly larger capacity, which would be a huge step forward in further work and the overall ammunition lifecycle management at AFBiH storage sites. In order to bring

risk ammunition (air bombs, rocket projectiles) and white phosphorus ammunition in cooperation with the international community through regional approach, i.e. by issuing an international tender, which is the common method of solving this issue in the countries in the region. For all the above mentioned segments specialists need to be trained for operations with ammunition and we are therefore planning and conducting training for AFBiH members to that effect. In this regard, an ammunition training section has been formed to educate our own personnel in this area. This will increase the number of AFBiH members/ specialists involved in the activities with ammunition, thus significantly accelerating the process of disposal of surplus weapons and AME. Important assistance in implementing all the above activities over the past period has been provided by permanent members of the Committee or its working groups, representatives of EUFOR, NATO HQ Sarajevo, OSCE Mission, UNDP, U.S. Embassy in BiH, representatives of the embassies of Switzerland, Austria and other friendly countries, and the Office of the EU Special Representative in BiH. They are all strongly committed to provide selfless assistance and support in the period to come, and without their assistance we would not be able to make such a significant progress in creating a safer environment.





## RELIGIOUS SERVICE

### Office of the Catholic Spiritual Guidance

The Military Ordinariate has been established by the signing of the Agreement on the Establishment, Forming and Operation of the Catholic Spiritual Guidance in the MoD and AFBiH between the BiH Council of Ministers and the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Vrhbosna on 11 September 2007.

The agreement between Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Holy See on the spiritual guidance of Catholics, members of the Armed Forces of BiH, was signed on 08 April 2010, and on 07 July 2010 it was ratified by the BiH Presidency. The decree on the establishment of the Military Ordinariate in Bosnia and Herzegovina was issued on 01 February 2011 by Pope Benedict XVI. The Military Ordinariate with more than nine chaplaincies covering the entire BiH caters to the spiritual needs of Catholics, members of the MoD and AFBiH, and their family members. In barracks with designated areas or built chapels there are regular masses, spiritual preparations and penitential rites before Easter and Christmas, as well as holy days of obligation. Also, the Military Ordinariate organizes military pilgrimages to Lourdes, Republic of France and to Marija Bistrica, Republic of Croatia and together with the Archdiocese of Vrhbosna participates in the organization of the pilgrimage to Bobovac, Vareš Municipality. Distribution of Catholic press, spiritual exercises, lectures and conferences are also activities that this office organizes and coordinates with military chaplains and dioceses in BiH.



For the period March 2013 – June 2015, we would like to note the most important activities of the Military Ordinariate.

In the organization of the Military Ordinariate in BiH and the BiH Ministry of Defense, members of the Ministry of Defense and the Armed Forces of BiH of Roman Catholic denomination every year in May go on a pilgrimage to the International Marian Shrine Lourdes, Republic of France. International military pilgrimages to Lourdes started in the years after World War II because of the very desire to restore peace and build bridges of confidence among the former warring militaries and divided nations. Here,

universal human messages of peace are joined in a special way with the necessity to preserve peace as the main mission of armies. This is the only place in the world and the only international event where members of the



Armed Forces of BiH, under the official flag of Bosnia and Herzegovina and wearing the official uniform of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina, participate together with others from all over the world.

In addition to catering to their own religious needs, they also represent their homeland Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Ministry of Defense and the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Every year, MoD and AFBiH members go on a pilgrimage to Marija Bistrica, Republic of Croatia, which has been organized since October 1993. From 2013 to 2015 they participated three times. This pilgrimage

gathers a huge number of soldiers and police officers, ministers, senior military and police officials and their families. At this pilgrimage, very often there are also envoys of other military ordinariates in the world, which creates a special spiritual atmosphere and makes this pilgrimage an international event. From 2013 to 2015,



MoD and AFBiH members went three times on a pilgrimage to Bobovac, the former royal fortress located in the area of Kraljeva Sutjeska parish, about 60 km north of Sarajevo. In addition to members of the Ministry of Defense and the Armed Forces of BiH, BiH police forces, delegations of the neighboring countries, and Roman Catholics from all over BiH and other countries also participate in this pilgrimage. The pilgrimage to Bobovac was initiated by Cardinal Puljić in October 2002 in memory of the day of the death of Bosnian Queen Katarina Kosača (25 October 1478), in order to pray together for personal needs, for their own people and homeland Bosnia and Herzegovina, but also for all people and ethnic groups living here.

The Ministry of Defense and the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina provided assistance in different ways, with pleasure and selflessly, during organization of one of the most important events in this decade for the state of BiH – the visit of Holy Father Pope Francis to Bosnia and Herzegovina, both during the preparation for the visit and on the day of the visit, 06 June 2015.

It is of particular importance that many employees of the Ministry of Defense and members of the Armed Forces participated as believers at the Holy Mass at Koševo stadium.

### Office of the Orthodox Christian Spiritual Guidance

Orthodox Christian military clergy in the MoD and AFBiH deals with the organization and support to all religious activities of Orthodox Christians in the MoD and AFBiH, such as care about religious needs, preparation and holding of religious services, provision of spiritual help in case of serious injuries, suffering, death as well as other circumstances that require personal assistance to believers. We would like to note only a few events and activities carried out by the Office of the Orthodox Christian Spiritual Guidance.

Former brigade priest Milorad Milinković has been appointed as the new Head of the Office of the Orthodox Christian Spiritual Guidance, for which he received blessing of the Holy Synod of Bishops of the Serbian Orthodox Church. The Bishop of Bihać-Petrovac, Mr. Atanasije (Rakita) has been appointed as the new military bishop, representative of the Serbian Orthodox Church in the MoD and AFBiH. The Patron Saint's Day of the Republika Srpska Army – St. Vitus Day – was organized by the 3rd Infantry (Republika Srpska) Regiment in 2013, while the central ceremony was held in the monastery of Saint Parascheva of the Balkans at five lakes in Bijeljina, where the Divine Liturgy was celebrated by Bishop Atanasije with concelebration of military priests. In 2014, the central ceremony to celebrate the Patron Saint's Day of the Republika Srpska Army – St. Vitus Day – was held in Andrić-grad in Višegrad and in the monastery Dobrun. The Divine Liturgy was celebrated by His All-Holiness Patriarch Irinej with concelebration of several archpriests of the Serbian Orthodox Church, as well as priests of the Archdiocese of Dabrobosanska.

The Office of the Orthodox Christian Spiritual Guidance has been organizing pilgrimages for members of the MoD and AFBiH. Members have had an opportunity to visit and pay reverence to the holy places in this world's





homeland of Lord Jesus Christ – Israel and Palestine. They visited the monasteries on Mount Athos, paid reverence to holy objects treasured in the monasteries of Chilandari, Esphigmenou, Karea, and the relics of Saint Demetrius in Thessaloniki, and military priests held memorial service at the Serbian military cemetery Zeitenlik in Thessaloniki. MoD and AFBiH members had an opportunity to also visit monasteries in Serbia, Montenegro and BiH during the year.

On the occasion of marking the 100th anniversary of the beginning of the Great War (1914-1918), on 30 September 2014 in the barracks „Vojvoda Stepa Stepanović“ in Bijeljina, His All-Holiness Bishop of Tuzla-Zvornik Hrizostom with concelebration of military priests consecrated the Memorial Temple of “Saint Martyr Prince Lazar and all Saint Serbian Martyrs”. The ceremony of consecration was attended by representatives of the MoD and AFBiH, the Government of the Republika Srpska, RS MIA members, BiH Border Police, as well as many citizens of the city of Bijeljina. It is worthwhile mentioning the participation of the Republic of Serbia MoD’s Military Band at the ceremony. For the last two years, military clergy, together with many guests, has been marking on 12 November the Patron Saint’s Day of military clergy, Saint Barnabas in the temples of Saint George and Saint Basil of Ostrog in Eastern Sarajevo. Divine Liturgy was celebrated by Bishop of Bihać-Petrovac Atanasije with concelebration of military priests and priests of the Archdiocese of Dabrobosanska.

## Office of the Military Mufti

During 2014, the Office of the Military Mufti carried out a number of activities at locations of the Armed Forces of BiH in order to take provide full care to Muslims – employees of the Ministry of Defense and members of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and adequate support to believers on different occasions and in different circumstances, as required. In this regard, activities of the Office of Military Mufti focused on several areas: ritual activities, such as daily prayers, Friday noon prayers, Eid prayers and funerals, significant dates: New Islamic Year (1436th), Mawlid, Ramadan, Eid and other holy nights in the calendar of the Council of the Islamic Community in BiH, and participation at national and international religious activities such as: educational programs, seminars and conferences.

In addition to the above, the Office of Military Mufti supported organization of important events, such as “Ajvatovica”, or had primary responsibility for the religious program during the event “Defense of BiH – Igman”. Each year, to include the last one, the Office of Military Mufti conducted necessary preparations for the departure of MoD and AFBiH personnel to Hajj. This particular activity of the Office of Military Mufti plays a very important role, since it provides irreplaceable spiritual care and strengthens believers in their efforts to build themselves as complete individuals and soldiers, ready to fulfil assigned tasks. Through implementation



of the planned activities, the Office of Military Mufti has also tried to improve conditions of religious life of Muslims in the defense system at all levels where Muslims are assigned to. Therefore, certain activities have





been carried out with regard to maintenance, repair and renovation of premises for religious services in barracks of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina, such as: masjids (prayer rooms), places for ablution and other religious facilities. For the purpose of better promotion of its work, the Office of Military Mufti has prepared and printed certain promotional materials such as: Ramadan timetable and Ramadan instructions, desk calendars with timetables and pocket prayer timetables. Through military imams assigned to commands and units of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Office of Military Mufti made efforts last year to provide necessary support to Muslims in fulfilling their duties, all in order for them to have a functional role in the defense system.

### Participation at the 26<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Heads of Religious Services in Military

Representatives of the AFBiH Religious Service participated this year (2015) also, in early February, at the International Conference of Heads of Religious Services in Military, which is traditionally organized by NATO HQ in cooperation with a host nation. This year, the 26th International Conference of Heads of Religious Services in Military was held in cooperation with the Ministry of Defense of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Amsterdam. According to the Conference agenda, the topic titled “Chaplains in Divergence of Social Changes” was covered through presentations of lecturers and participants. Military Mufti Hadis Effendi Pašalić and Archpriest Milorad Milinković participated at the Conference on behalf of the Ministry of Defense of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

79 participants from 28 countries attended the Conference.



## SPORT ACTIVITIES IN THE AFBiH

### 6. CISM Futsal Cup for Peace - Sarajevo 2014

Under the auspices of the International Military Sports Council (CISM), the BiH Ministry of Defense and the Armed Forces of BiH hosted the 6th CISM Futsal Cup for Peace - Sarajevo 2014 from 22 to 26 September 2014 in the Sports Hall „Ramiz Salčin“, Mojmi in Sarajevo.

In addition to the host – the AFBiH, military national teams of the Republic of Croatia, Republic of Macedonia, Republic of Slovenia, Republic of Serbia and Republic of Montenegro participated in the futsal tour-







nament. The military national team of Bosnia and Herzegovina won the 6th CISM „Futsal Cup for Peace-Sarajevo 2014“, after winning 5:3 over the team of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Croatia in the finals played on 25 September 2014 in the Sports Hall „Ramiz Salčin“ in Sarajevo. The team of the Armed Forces of Montenegro won 6:2 over the military national team of Serbia in the match for third place, and the team of the Macedonian Army ended up the fifth after winning 2:1 over the team of the Slovenian Army. After the finals, the closing ceremony of the 6th CISM Cup was held, during which medals were presented to the best teams and players. Zoran Borović from Montenegro was voted the best player, Radoš Čović from Bosnia and Herzegovina was the top scorer, Predrag Dekić, also from the Armed Forces of BiH, was the best goalkeeper, while the fair play trophy was awarded to the team of the Army of the Republic of Slovenia.

## AFBiH athletics championship

In the barracks „Kozara“ and at the City Stadium in Banja Luka, AFBiH athletics championship was held from 22 to 24 September 2014, with the participation of members of AFBiH commands and units in the following disciplines: 400m, 800m, 1,500m, 3,000m and 10,000m races (men and women), shot put (men and women), and long jump (men and women).

Like the years before, huge assistance in the organization of the competition was provided by the athletes of „Borac“ FC Banja Luka.

All contestants demonstrated good will and dedication to achieve as good results as possible, even though conditions were not perfect due to rain and cold weather.



## Shooting competition in the AFBiH

In the barracks „Adil Bešić“ in Bihać, a shooting competition was held at the level of the AFBiH from 29 September to 01 October 2014 with the participation of teams from AFBiH commands and units. The competition was held in the following disciplines: three position shooting from M 16 A1 rifle and precision shooting and duel with CZ 999 pistol. Results presented during the competition once again demonstrated the high level of training in traditional military disciplines.





ORUŽANE SNAGE

ОРУЖАНЕ СНАГЕ



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