

Polish Presidency  
of the Visegrad Group  
July 2020-June 2021

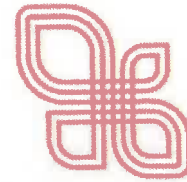
## **Communiqué of the Visegrad Group (V4) Chiefs of Defence Meeting 23-24 June 2021, Cracow, Poland**

On the basis of the invitation of the Chief of Staff of the Polish Armed Forces a regular meeting of the V4 nations in the CHODs format was held on 23-24 June 2021.

The meeting was held under the framework of the current Polish V4 Presidency, which started on 1 July 2020, will be shifted to Hungary from 01 July 2021. The meeting objective was to discuss the matters of current international security conditions, both on the NATO's Eastern and Southern flank, as well as collective interest of the V4 national Armed Forces and the aspects linked to the priorities of the Polish Presidency. The discussions focussed furthermore on the military cooperation significances established at the previous V4 CHODs meetings.

In particular, on the occasion of the meeting, we, the V4 CHODs:

1. Discussed and assessed the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on our armed forces' current and future activities. Particularly, as part of its presidency, Poland initiated the development of common operational requirements for selected military equipment. The works are promisingly being carried out by groups of experts from the V4 countries. We approved the recommendation of the continuation of this effort under the next presidency.
2. Were updated on the V4 EU BG 2023-1 preparation process. Poland confirmed the role of the framework nation for EU Battlegroup 2023 and will provide BG core as a crucial part of it, as well as decided to declare POL OHQ for V4 EU BG 2023-1. Following the Letter of Intent launched by our countries on 22 March 2021, we, the V4 CHODs have just signed a dedicated Memorandum of Understanding which is the boundless milestone in the process of preparation of the V4 EU BG 2023-1. We declare our joint strong commitment to this work, to keep regional military cooperation in the framework of battlegroup preparation and our full determination to devote to the V4 EU BG 2023-1 required forces and capabilities. At the same time it is a clear signal that V4 countries work together not only in NATO but also undertake valuable initiatives in the EU framework.
3. Discussed the matter of the V4 Training and Exercises and agreed to follow the updated V4 Military Training and Exercises Plan in the line of the revised "The Visegrad Group Training and Exercise Strategy". We strongly believe that our countries should maximise their TRES effort to strive to increase involvement in common V4 exercises.

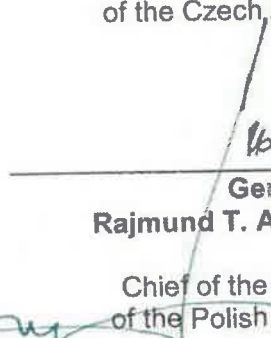


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4. Were briefed on the Operational Commanders' level cooperation of our Armed Forces. We are convinced that this endeavour nested on the operational level offers unique opportunities to exchange our views and experiences with regard to the threat perception, and provides a common platform and primary source of information related to the training and exercise activities that are organized by our nations. We assume the greatest possible involvement in the offered training projects based on our shared views and identified training needs.
5. Discussed the matters of cyber capability development and cyber-defence as an evolving operational domain. We also were briefed on the outcome of the last Warsaw Cyber Summit, as well as exercises in Cyber Domain and related activities. Our promising cooperation on this matter proved that practical training of skills acquired by V4 cybersecurity personnel is crucial in maintaining effective cybersecurity mechanisms. We believe, that V4 joint participation and mixed teams with V4 partners for future iterations of NATO, as well as European exercises could be beneficial for all stakeholders.
6. Conclude that V4 military cooperation that we continuously strengthen is not only an illustration of real exemplary teamwork, but also in a long term dimension it provides a solid foundation to create a safer region and world that we can all benefit from.

  
Lieutenant General  
Jaromír ZŮNA

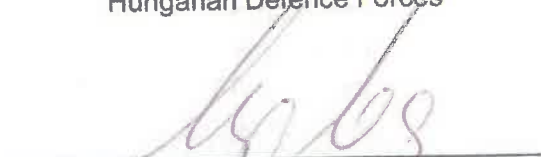
First Deputy Chief of the General Staff  
of the Czech Armed Forces

  
General  
Rajmund T. ANDRZEJCZAK

Chief of the General Staff  
of the Polish Armed Forces

  
Major General  
Romulusz RUSZIN-SZENDI

Commander of the  
Hungarian Defence Forces

  
Lieutenant General  
Ľubomír SVOĽODA

Deputy Chief of the General Staff of the  
Armed Forces of the Slovak Republic