



REPUBLIC OF KOSOVA
MINISTRY OF DEFENSE



NEWSLETTER

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Kosovo Security Force Enhances Its Capabilities with SkyDagger Kamikaze Drones



Containers carrying thousands of SkyDagger combat, kamikaze drones arrived at Prishtina International Airport “Adem Jashari.” Dozens of KSF personnel have already completed training in their operation. The contract was signed in December of last year with the Turkish company Baykar, the parent company of the SkyDagger manufacturer. The delivery had been scheduled for January 2026, but the drones arrived three months earlier.

These kamikaze drones — classified as FPV RTF (First-Person View, Ready-to-Fly) SkyDagger systems procured by the KSF — are unmanned combat aerial vehicles equipped with explosive payloads designed to engage both moving and fixed targets. With this purchase, alongside the TB2 Bayraktar and Puma platforms, the KSF continues to strengthen and expand its striking capability, aiming to build a capable, coherent force aligned with emerging technologies and contemporary combat tactics. The drones were transported on Rheinmetall 8×8 multifunctional trucks acquired last year: 10 purchased by the KSF and 5 received as a donation.

Minister Maqedonci Expands International Defense Cooperation at AUSA 2025



Acting Minister of Defense Ejup Maqedonci participated in the Annual Conference and Defense Industry Exhibition *AUSA 2025* in Washington, D.C., at the invitation of the Association of the United States Army (AUSA), which commemorated the 250th anniversary of the founding of the U.S. Army. The exhibition brings together military leaders, defense industry experts, policymakers, and international delegations, providing a strategic platform to explore cutting-edge military technologies and deepen international cooperation. This year's event featured representatives from 92 countries. During the exhibition, Minister Maqedonci held a series of high-level meetings, underscoring Kosovo's commitment to enhancing the capabilities of the Kosovo Security Force and advancing inter-



national defense cooperation. One of the key meetings was with Michael F. Miller, Director of the Defense and Security Cooperation Agency, U.S. Department of Defense. This meeting was also attended by Major General Enver Cikaqi, Deputy Commander of the KSF, Colonel Sylejman Cakaj, Defense Attaché to the U.S., and Colonel Ahmet Ajeti, Director of the Department for International Cooperation and Euro-Atlantic Integrations. The discussions focused on ongoing defense cooperation, with particular emphasis on the procurement of equipment and weapon systems through the Foreign Military Sales (FMS) program, which has facilitated state-to-state purchases with the U.S. at low cost and high quality. The talks also covered future procurements and Kosovo's continued support for Ukraine. Director

Miller congratulated Kosovo on the signing of the Communication and Information Security Memorandum of Agreement (CISMOA), recognizing it as a significant step in strengthening bilateral cooperation.

In addition, the Minister held a meeting with representatives of Lockheed Martin, where they discussed advancements in aviation and military systems. The meeting focused on the strategic importance of integrating these technologies into the KSF and expanding Kosovo's air capabilities through further cooperation. Minister Maqedonci's participation in "AUSA 2025" underscores Kosovo's ongoing commitment to enhancing defense capabilities, strengthening international partnerships, and maintaining sustained cooperation with key strategic allies.



A highlight of Minister Maqedonci's visit was his induction into the U.S. Army War College Hall of Fame, an honor reserved for international alumni who have made significant contributions to the field of defense and security. Minister Maqedonci expressed that this recognition was a reflection of the collective efforts of all those he has worked with throughout his career, and he extended his gratitude to the academy, colleagues, mentors, and his family.

Minister Maqedonci Advances Kosovo's NATO Cooperation in Meeting with NATO Deputy Assistant Secretary General



In a recent meeting with Ms. Burcu San, Deputy Assistant Secretary General for Operations at NATO, Acting Minister of Defense Ejup Maqedonci highlighted Kosovo's ongoing commitment to strengthening its relationship with NATO. The meeting focused on key security challenges, recent achievements, and Kosovo's collaborative efforts with NATO, particularly through the Alliance's Advisory and Liaison Teams. Minister emphasized Kosovo's goal of full NATO membership and reiterated the country's progress in aligning its military capabilities with NATO standards. This meeting underscores Kosovo's determination to integrate

further into the Euro-Atlantic community, strengthening its defense capabilities and international partnerships.

Kosovo and Türkiye Strengthen Defense Cooperation



The Commander of the Kosovo Security Force, Lieutenant General Bashkim Jashari, welcomed the Chief of Defense of Türkiye, General Selçuk Bayraktaroğlu, with a formal military ceremony. The two generals discussed the existing cooperation between the KSF and the Turkish Armed Forces, exploring opportunities to expand this collaboration through joint training, education, and further enhancement of the KSF's military capabilities.

Lieutenant General Jashari thanked General Bayraktaroğlu for Türkiye's continued support in the professional development of the KSF. In response, the Turkish Chief of Defense reaffirmed his country's commitment to deepening cooperation, praising the professionalism and progress of the KSF. Both leaders agreed to further expand bilateral defense cooperation.

On the same day, Acting Minister of Defense Ejup Maqedonci hosted General Bayraktaroğlu for a meeting focused on the security situation in the Balkans and steps for strengthening cooperation between the two countries. Minister Maqedonci expressed his appreciation for Türkiye's support and the excellent collaboration between their respective ministries and armed forces, emphasizing the importance of the cultural and economic ties between Kosovo and Türkiye.

General Bayraktaroğlu assured Minister Maqedonci that Türkiye will continue supporting the training of KSF personnel, the development of defense capabilities, and collaboration with the defense industry, including partnerships with Türkiye's state-owned company MKE and other firms. Both sides agreed that Kosovo has a rightful place in NATO and that the transformation of the KSF positions Kosovo as a valued ally of the Euro-Atlantic alliance.



Third Infantry Regiment Demonstrates Combat Readiness in “Wolf Arrow” Exercise



The Third Infantry Regiment of the Kosovo Security Force (KSF) successfully showcased its combat readiness during the field exercise “Wolf Arrow”, following an intensive period of training and preparation. The exercise, held as part of a broader capability validation process, served to assess the regiment’s operational effectiveness and readiness for the next stage of KSF development and modernization. A Distinguished Visitors Day (DV Day) was organized to mark the event, attended by Acting Minister of Defense Ejup Maqedonci, Deputy Ministers Shemsi Sylaj and Adnan Redzepari, General Secretary Gafurr Dugolli, KSF Commander Lieutenant General Bashkim Jashari, Deputy Commander Major General



Enver Cikaqi, along with officials from the Ministry of Defense, KSF officers, and representatives of local and international institutions. Minister Maqedonci congratulated General Jashari and the regiment’s members for their outstanding performance, commending their professionalism and commitment. He also extended gratitude to U.S. military teams for their continued support in enhancing the KSF’s combat capabilities. Highlighting the government’s ongoing commitment to strengthening national defense, Minister Maqedonci noted that Kosovo has significantly increased investments in modernization, training, personnel, armament, and infrastructure in recent years. Throughout the exercise, KSF units demonstrated discipline, skill, and determination — reaffirming their readiness to fulfill their mission of de-

fending the Republic of Kosovo and protecting its citizens.

Minister Maqedonci hosted a meeting with the Commander of NATO Forces in Naples



Acting Minister of Defense, Ejup Maqedonci, hosted a meeting with Admiral Stuart Benjamin Munsch, Commander of NATO Allied Joint Force Command Naples. During the meeting, they discussed the security situation in Kosovo and the wider region, the development of the Kosovo Security Force (KSF), and the continued cooperation with KFOR. Minister Maqedonci expressed gratitude to Admiral Munsch for KFOR's ongoing support and its commitment to the security of Kosovo.

Deputy Minister Sylja Participated in Ukraine Defense Contact Group Meeting



Deputy Minister of Defense Shemsi Sylja, accompanied by senior officials and officers from the Ministry of Defense and the Kosovo Security Force, participated in the 31st meeting of the Ukraine Defense Contact Group, held at NATO Headquarters in Brussels. The meeting focused on continued support for Ukraine and the strengthening of defense cooperation among partner countries.

Kosovo's participation in this meeting underscores its commitment to standing alongside its allies and supporting international efforts to uphold peace, security, and democratic values.

Kosovo Contributes to Adriatic Charter A5-U.S. Dialogue in Sarajevo

As part of the Adriatic Charter A5 – U.S. meeting, held on October 13-14 in Sarajevo, Director of the Defense Policy Directorate at the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Kosovo, Faruk Geci, participated in the discussions. He emphasized the importance of strengthening both national and regional resilience, as well as Kosovo's commitment to contributing to the security and stability of the Western Balkans. He highlighted the ongoing progress toward achieving full operational capabilities for the Kosovo Security Force by the end of 2028 or early 2029, in line with the Comprehensive Transition Plan. Mr. Geci also under-



scored the necessity of Kosovo's full membership in the Adriatic Charter A5 – U.S. as a means to strengthen regional cooperation, enhance credibility, and foster inclusiveness within Euro-Atlantic frameworks. The Republic of Kosovo remains committed to cooperation, partnership, and the promotion of peace and stability in the region.

Minister Maqedonci Participated in the Sharkathon 2025 Award Ceremony

The Acting Minister of Defense, Ejup Maqedonci, participated in the awards and recognition ceremony for the winners of Sharkathon 2025, organized by the American Chamber of Commerce in Kosovo in collaboration with the Ministry of Defense. Sharkathon, an important initiative aimed at promoting the development of drone technology in Kosovo and fostering connections between local developers, innovators, and potential investors, was held on October 8 at the Innovation and Training Park in Prizren. Minister Maqedonci praised the initiative as a successful example of public-private sector cooperation, emphasizing the importance of innovation and technological development for strengthening local capacities in security and defense. The ceremony marked the culmination of an innovative process, recognizing the most successful ideas and encouraging young talents who are contributing to the country's technological advancement. The event highlighted local innovation as a key factor in strengthening national capabilities in technology and security.



At the conclusion of the ceremony, the awards for the Sharkathon 2025 winners were presented based on the commission's evaluation.

KSF Silver Team in the “Cambrian Patrol” Competition in the United Kingdom

As part of its bilateral activities with the United Kingdom, the KSF team participated in the “Cambrian Patrol” competition organized by the British Army. The KSF team was awarded the Silver Medal, ranking among 118 teams, including 35 international teams from 33 different countries.

The Cambrian Patrol is one of the most challenging military competitions in the world, where teams are tested on tasks such as tactical preparation, CBRN threat response, medical operations, reconnaissance, offensive operations, explosives handling, and more. The KSF team, from the 2nd Infantry Regiment of the Land Force Command, demonstrated exceptional commitment and professionalism, earning the Silver Medal.

The awards for the participating teams were presented by General Sir Roly Walker, Chief of the General Staff of the British Army. Representing the KSF at the ceremony were Defense Attaché Colonel Agron Bajrami, Commander of the 2nd Infantry Regiment Lieutenant Colonel Jaser Mulla, and Command Sergeant Major Fehmi Lulaj.



KSF Interoperates with Partners in Operation Interflex



The Kosovo Security Force has been contributing to Operation Interflex in the United Kingdom by supporting the training of Ukrainian servicemembers, assisting joint training efforts with partner nations to help Ukraine counter Russian aggression. The KSF has been operating with its fourth contingent since the start of its participation in the operation, accompanied by Echo Company (led by a unit from New Zealand). This company comprises four units from different countries: New Zealand, Kosovo, Estonia, and Lithuania.

The KSF contingent is responsible for planning tasks, necessary logistical preparations, and conducting five-week training courses for Ukrainian forces. During the course of their engagement, Echo Company has completed a total of three training courses for Ukrainian personnel. The mission of the KSF contingent is to prepare Ukrainian forces for squad-leader roles and train them in combat tactics, including individual skills, squad-level operations, patrols, offensive and defensive strategies, Troop Leading Procedures (TLP), leadership, command-and-control, unmanned aerial systems (drones), and tactical marksmanship.

Kosovo and KFOR Reinforce Partnership Through Leadership Transition

Over the past month, Kosovo hosted two significant visits by KFOR commanders, underscoring the close cooperation and commitment to maintaining peace and security in the country. Acting Minister of Defense Ejup Maqedonci and Kosovo Security Force Commander Lieutenant General Bashkim Jashari held a farewell meeting with KFOR Commander Major General Enrico Barduani, expressing gratitude for his support and professionalism during his one-year tenure leading the mission. Minister Maqedonci praised Commander Barduani's dedication to upholding peace and highlighted the importance of continued cooperation between KFOR and Kosovo's security institutions. General Jashari thanked the commander for his leadership, and the two discussed recent developments within the KSF, training activities, operational challenges, and the current security situation in Kosovo and the region. Both generals agreed on the need to expand cooperation between the KSF and KFOR to ensure regional stability. Lieutenant General Jashari also hosted a farewell meeting with KFOR Deputy Commander Brigadier General Cahit Irican, thanking him for his dedicated service and contribution to the mission in Kosovo, and wishing him continued success in his military career.



Minister Maqedonci Hosted the Ambassador of Germany, Rainer Rudolph

The Acting Minister of Defense, Ejup Maqedonci, hosted the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany, Rainer Rudolph. During the meeting, Minister Maqedonci discussed the security situation in Kosovo, along with the challenges facing both the country and the wider region during this complex security period. He also briefed Ambassador Rudolph on the current capabilities of the Kosovo Security Force. Minister expressed gratitude for Germany's longstanding support for the Republic of Kosovo, as well as for the increased presence of German troops within KFOR. He also emphasized his confidence that this cooperation would continue under Ambassador Rudolph's leadership, contributing to the deepening bilateral collaboration between the two countries in the areas of security and defense.



The Commander of the Kosovo Security Force Hosted a Meeting with the United Kingdom's Military Representatives to NATO

The Commander of the Kosovo Security Force, Lieutenant General Bashkim Jashari, hosted a meeting with the United Kingdom's Military Representative to NATO, Lieutenant General Ian Cave.

At the beginning of the meeting, General Jashari welcomed General Cave and expressed his gratitude for the continuous support the United Kingdom provides to the KSF through bilateral cooperation, joint activities, and training.

During their discussion, Generals Jashari and Cave reviewed the KSF's achievements, the ongoing transition plan, and the focus on achieving full operational capability. They also addressed the security situation in Kosovo and the region. The meeting reaffirmed the shared commitment to advancing the capabilities of the Kosovo Security Force, positioning it as an essential component of Euro-Atlantic security and strengthening its integration into NATO structures.



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The Commander of the KSF Hosted the Ambassador of the United Kingdom in Kosovo



The Commander of the Kosovo Security Force, Lieutenant General Bashkim Jashari, hosted the Ambassador of the United Kingdom in Kosovo, Mr. Jonathan Hargreaves. During the meeting, they discussed the KSF's progress to date, future planning, and the objectives for advancing bilateral military relations between the United Kingdom and Kosovo. At the conclusion of the meeting, Ambassador Hargreaves thanked General Jashari for his professionalism in leading the KSF, and General Jashari expressed gratitude for the United Kingdom's continuous support in the development and advancement of the KSF throughout all phases of its establishment.

The University Study Center (USC) Participated in the International SCUSA Conference at the United States Military Academy, West Point

Cadets from the University Study Center participated in the International Cadet Conference – SCUSA (Student Conference on U.S. Affairs), held at the United States Military Academy – West Point.

During the conference, the cadets had the opportunity to exchange experiences with cadets and students from various academies around the world, discuss global security issues, and observe how new ideas can be transformed into concrete political and strategic proposals.

This participation represents an important step in the professional and academic development of USC cadets, as well as in strengthening international cooperation with partner academies.



KSF Participates in the International Week of Military Academies at the Officers' School in Germany



As part of its cooperation with the Federal Republic of Germany, a team from the KSF Military Academy – University Study Center (USC) participated in the International Week of Military Academies at the Officers' School in Germany.

During this week, they had the opportunity to visit the city of Dresden and learn about the education system of German officers, as well as their training centers. The KSF team represented the University Study Center, presenting its history and educational development while exchanging experiences

with cadets from other countries.

The KSF Conducted the “Battle Staff Course” and “Drill Sergeant Course” Organized by SATMO



At the Doctrine and Training Command (TRADOC) in Ferizaj, the “Battle Staff Course” and “Drill Sergeant Course” were successfully completed. These courses were organized and conducted by the Security Assistance Training Management Organization (SATMO) teams of the U.S. Army. The Battle Staff Course aims to develop KSF Staff Noncommissioned Officers (NCOs) in the Military Decision-Making Process (MDMP), enhance staff synchronization in warfighting functions, and advance command-and-control processes for battalion- and brigade-level operations. The Drill Sergeant Course is designed to train and prepare personnel to become effective drill instructors, responsible for transforming new recruits into disciplined, physically fit, and tactically proficient soldiers.

KSF Officers Participated in the “Export Joint Operation Plan” Training with Western Balkan Countries

Officers of the Kosovo Security Force participated in the joint training “Export Joint Operation Plan” with Western Balkan countries, organized by the United Kingdom and held in North Macedonia. The training, aimed at preparing officers for operational-level planning, equipped participants with the skills to operate effectively within a planning team at a joint headquarters.



KSF Officers Graduate in the United States

Captain Kreshnik Dreshaj and Second Lieutenant Florent Korrani have both successfully completed advanced training in Military Engineering at Fort Leonard Wood, United States.

Captain Dreshaj graduated from the Captain Career Course, which focuses on preparing young leaders for the planning, leadership, and management of military engineering operations. This training is part of



ongoing efforts to enhance the Kosovo Security Force’s professional capabilities, supported by international partners and aligned with NATO standards.

Second Lieutenant Korrani graduated from the Basic Officer Leadership Course, designed to prepare new leaders for planning, commanding, and executing military engineering operations. He was awarded a Certificate of Outstanding Academic Achievement (Honor Graduate) for his exceptional academic performance during the course.