



REPUBLIC OF KOSOVA
MINISTRY OF DEFENSE



NEWSLETTER

July-August 2024

Kosovo and Albania Strengthen Defense Cooperation



The Minister of Defense, Ejup Maqedonci, welcomed the new Minister of Defense of Albania, Pirro Vengu, accompanied by his delegation, with a high military ceremony.

After the meeting between the two ministers, a bilateral meeting was also held between the delegations, where close and fraternal cooperation was discussed, as well as its expansion, especially in the fields of defense and security. At the press conference organized on the occasion of this visit, Minister Maqedonci thanked his counterpart for the honor and respect shown during his first visit abroad to the Republic of Kosovo.

“We continuously cooperate with the Republic of Albania and the Albanian Army to face every challenge, danger, and threat that aims to jeopardize our common heritage, values, and security. With the support of the Republic of Albania, we intend to be part of other Euro-Atlantic structures in the future,” said Minister Maqedonci, adding that as two democratic countries, we will continue to contribute to the global fight against the dangers that threaten global security.

Meanwhile, the Minister of Defense of Albania, Pirro Vengu, thanked Minister Maqedonci for the warm and fraternal welcome and, among other things, emphasized that the Ministry of Defense and AFRA, with all the resources they have, will support the KSF in increasing its capacities as well as in investing in human capital.

The two defense ministers emphasized that the excellent cooperation in the fields of defense and security between the two countries will continue to deepen, especially in the areas of training and operationalization, with special emphasis on the expansion of cooperation in the military industry.



Kosovo Defense Minister Hosted NATO Assistant Secretary General to Discuss Regional Security and NATO Integration

The Minister of Defense of Kosovo, Ejup Maqedonci, hosted the Assistant Secretary General of NATO for Operations, Thomas Goffus, at the Ministry of Defense.

Among other things, during the meeting they exchanged information and views about the general security situation in Kosovo and the region.

Minister Maqedonci informed Mr. Goffus about the developments in the Ministry of Defense and the Kosovo Security Force and

thanked him for the support that NATO is giving to the development of the Ministry of Defense and the Kosovo Security Force, through the Advisory Liaison Team, as and KFOR's contribution to maintaining peace and security.

Among other things, Minister Maqedonci has emphasized that the Republic of Kosovo remains steadfast on its path towards integration in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.



KSF is Ready to Continue its Development and Become a Professional, Interoperable Force with NATO and its Allies

Lieutenant General Bashkim Jashari hosted the Military Representative of the United Kingdom to NATO and the EU,



Lieutenant General Ian Cave Cb. General Jashari thanked him for the continued support that the United Kingdom provides bilaterally, as well as in his capacity as the United Kingdom's military representative in NATO and the EU. The excellent cooperation between the Armed Forces of the United Kingdom and the Kosovo Security Force (KSF) in training, exercises, and joint landings was enhanced. General Jashari also informed General Cave of the achievements of the KSF, the transition plan, and his focus as a commander within this plan on the development of infantry regiments and specialist capacities in other units.

General Cave thanked General Jashari for the reception and congratulated him on the development of the KSF and its increasing

capacities. The two generals also discussed the security situation in Kosovo and the region, as well as the fact that the KSF is a force that contributes to the security of the region and beyond.

Among other things, General Jashari stated that the KSF is ready to continue its development and to take all necessary actions to become a professional and interoperable force with NATO and its allies.

General Erhard Bühler Visited Ministry of Defense to Discuss Security and NATO Aspirations

The former commander of KFOR and the Allied Joint Forces Command in Brunssum, the Netherlands, General Erhard Bühler, visited the Ministry of Defense. He was hosted by the Minister of Defense, Ejup Maqedonci, the Commander of the KSF, Lieutenant General Bashkim Jashari, and the Deputy Commander of the KSF, Major General Enver Cikaqi.

During the meeting, they discussed the current security situation in the country, the development stage of the Kosovo Security Force, and Kosovo's intention to join NATO.

Minister Maqedonci thanked General Bühler for his service in Kosovo as KFOR commander and his invaluable contribution to the country's security, for which he will always remain a friend of Kosovo. General Jashari also expressed gratitude for Bühler's support so far, and both generals pledged further cooperation between the two states.





REPUBLIKA E KOSOVËS
MINISTRIA E MBROJTJES

FSK

Institucioni i sigurisë **më i besuar**
nga qytetarët e Republikës



Burimi: Instituti Ndërkombëtar Republikan, 2024

In a survey for the Western Balkans conducted by the International Republican Institute, **67% of respondents rated the Kosovo Security Force as the most reliable institution in Kosovo**. The citizens of the Republic of Kosovo expressed full confidence in the Kosovo Security Force.

This result reflects the dedication of the members of our army, guided by the principles of transparency and full accountability of the Ministry of Defense and the Kosovo Security Force in fulfilling their objectives.

Kosovo Army: A Priority for the Government of the Republic of Kosovo

It has been proven that the army is a priority for the Government of the Republic of Kosovo.

Within this mandate, it has recruited **1,931 new soldiers and cadets**, while forty cadets are still in the process of being recruited. The increase in defense capacities was a promise of the Minister of Defense, and in addition to doubling the total number of soldiers, investments have been made to ensure that the Kosovo army has the most modern weapons systems in its military arsenal.

The number of recruitment and development activities foreseen in the Comprehensive Transition Plan has not only been met but exceeded. The Ministry of Defense and the KSF are ahead in the implementation of the CTP, with a clearer vision than ever for the future of the Kosovo army as part of the great NATO alliance.



Minister Maqedonci and General Jashari Participated in Change of Command Ceremony for the United States Army Support Group in the Balkan Area

The Minister of Defense, Ejup Maqedonci, together with the commander of the Kosovo Security Force, Lieutenant General Bashkim Jashari, participated in the change of command ceremony of the Support Group of the United States Army, for the Balkan area, which was held in July at the Bondsteel camp in Ferizaj. Minister Maqedonci thanked Colonel Terry Saul for his contribution to the country's security so far and wished success to his successor, Colonel Kim McGhee in her new role.



Kosovo and Germany Sign €7.74 Million Donation Agreement for Defense Cooperation

In the framework of the bilateral cooperation with the Federal Republic of Germany, an agreement for donation was signed between the Ministry of Defense of Kosovo and that of Germany. The agreement was signed by the General Secretary of the Ministry of Defense, Gafurr Dugolli, and the German attaché in Kosovo, Lieutenant Colonel Oliver Palkowitsch.



With this agreement, which amounts to 7.74 million euros, it is intended that through the purchase of various specialized equipment, the operational capacities of the National Training Center for Search and Rescue and the National Guard will be advanced.

The signing of the said agreement will have a direct impact on the fulfillment of the mission of the KSF in military support for the civil authorities.

Türkiye Supports Kosovo's Defense with 31 Million Lira Donation



The Government of the Republic of Türkiye has allocated 31 million liras, or about 1 million US dollars, to the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Kosovo as a donation to increase the military capacities of the KSF. This donation is part of the Turkish government's external military support program.

The relations between our two countries have always been at the highest levels, and the contribution of the Republic of Türkiye in raising the capacities of the Kosovo Security Force has been continuous, both in terms of training and military equipment.

The Minister of Defense, Ejup Maqedonci, thanked the Republic of Türkiye for the donation and assured that

our cooperation, built in the spirit of mutual trust, will continue in the years to come. Türkiye, as a friendly country, remains one of the most important strategic partners for the Republic of Kosovo.



Deputy Minister Sylja Stayed on an Official Visit to The United Kingdom

The Deputy Minister of Defence, Shemsi Sylja, stayed on an official visit to the United Kingdom at the invitation of Air Vice Marshal Nigel Maddox CBE. On this occasion, the delegation from the Ministry of Defense and the Kosovo Security Force, visited the Royal Air Force base in Swanwick to learn about the air command and control system of Great Britain. The delegation was hosted by the high command of Squadron 78 of the Royal Air Force and officials from the prestigious company IBM. During this visit, the delegation had the opportunity to become familiar with the operations and capacities of the GUARDIAN system, which is used by many NATO countries. Additionally, the delegation conducted cultural visits to understand the values and ancient history of the British people.

Facilitating KSF's Global Engagement: New Law Amendments Approved



At the 214th meeting of the Government of the Republic of Kosovo, the Draft Law on the amendment and completion of the Law on Sending the Security Force of Kosovo Abroad was approved. Based on the current mission of the Kosovo Security Force and the readiness of our army to participate in international operations, as well as the increased interest in cooperation with friendly countries, the amendment of the provision that deals with the actions taken within the procedure for the participation of military members in other military activities was made with the aim of facilitating and

simplifying the relevant procedures, so as to avoid any possible delay or obstacle in providing the possibility of professional and academic training for military members.

KSF Soldiers Honored for Participation in Operation INTERFLEX



For their outstanding performance and contribution within the “Interflex” operation, the Minister of Defense, Ejup Maqedonci, decorated the members of the KSF who were part of the contingent participating in the “Interflex” international operation with medals for “Participation in International Operations.”

The minister expressed his gratitude to the soldiers who, with professionalism, dedication, and commitment shown during the service in this operation, represented the Republic of Kosovo in a dignified manner.

In this operation, for six consecutive months, alongside the British Army and twelve other participating countries, the KSF soldiers provided training for the Ukrainian Armed Forces at the tactical and combat level.

On this occasion, COMKSF thanked the contingent for

their professionalism, dedication, and commitment during the service in this mission. General Jashari emphasized that this contingent has represented the Republic of Kosovo in the best possible way, and as a result, it is being continued with other contingents. In the end, COMKSF gave recognition to the contingent for outstanding performance.

Operation INTERFLEX is a multinational operation aimed at preparing and training the Ukrainian army in their fight for the protection of sovereignty and territorial integrity against Russian aggression. During this six-month mission (January-July 2024), our members, together with British Army soldiers, have been engaged as instructors in training the Armed Forces of Ukraine in various combat tasks.



Kosovo Supports Ukraine with EOD Training for Ukrainian Trainees



The third group of trainees from Ukraine in the EOD ½ training was certified last month. For 6 weeks, KSF Demining Company instructors and US EUCOM instructors trained the trainees in explosive device recognition, specialized equipment, and work procedures on how to safely dispose of explosive devices.

At the certification ceremony, the Commander of the National Guard of the Kosovo Security Force, Brigadier General Naim Haziri, congratulated the trainees, emphasizing the importance of their noble mission. He also mentioned the importance of the support provided by the KSF as an army aligned with Western allies to assist Ukraine in the mission of removing unexploded ordnance.

The trainees will return to Ukraine and contribute to their units in eliminating explosive device hazards. The Kosovo Security Force has continuously offered its capacities to help Ukraine cope with the invasion by Russia.

Honoring Excellence: US Defense Personnel Receive Medals in Kosovo



In a ceremony organized on the occasion of the end of their mission in our country, Minister Maqedonci awarded the Distinguished Service Medal to the US Defense Attaché in Kosovo, Colonel Darrick Mosley, the Chief of the Defense Cooperation Office at the US Embassy, Lieutenant Colonel Ryan Conley, and the US Military Attaché in Kosovo, Lieutenant Colonel Benjamin Kim.

“The excellent cooperation in the field of defense between Kosovo and the USA is also the result of the sincere and continuous commitment and dedication of the military personnel of the American Embassy in Kosovo, of which I am a witness from the past as a soldier and now as a minister,” Minister Maqedonci emphasized.

Wishing them success in their new tasks, Minister Maqedonci confirmed with Colonel Mosley, Lieutenant Colonel

Conley, and Lieutenant Colonel Kim the lifelong friendship with the Ministry of Defense and the Kosovo Security Force, while expressing the belief that the special cooperation will continue with their successors.



Lieutenant General Bashkim Jashari appreciated the high level of cooperation between the KSF and the US military forces in the field of training, exercises, and joint operations. General Jashari said that their contribution has been essential in multiplying joint activities. Colonel Mosley, Lt. Col. Conley, and Lt. Col. Kim were awarded the Selfless Service Medal for distinguished service and performance while performing duties as the US military representatives in Kosovo for continued support and advancement of bilateral military

relations between the two countries.

General Jashari Participated in US National Guard Bureau Ceremonies

At the invitation of the US National Guard Bureau, the Commander of the KSF, Lieutenant General Bashkim Jashari, made an official visit to Washington, DC, in the USA. During the visit, General Jashari, accompanied by the Commander of the Iowa National Guard, Stephen Osborn, had the opportunity to meet the highest leaders of the US Army and the US National Guard Bureau. General Jashari met with the Army Chief of Staff, General Randy George, whom he thanked for his continued support for the KSF



and discussed shared priorities for the future.

Following the visit, General Jashari participated in the handover ceremony of the US National Guard Bureau Chief. This ceremony was led by the Chairman of the Joint Staff of the US Armed Forces, General Charles Q. Brown Jr., where General Daniel Hokanson left office. COMKSF thanked General Hokanson for his leadership within the State Partnership Program between the Kosovo Security Force and the Iowa National Guard. General Jashari also participated in the acceptance ceremony for the position of Army Director of the National Guard Bureau, where Lieutenant General Jon Jensen retired and General Jonathan M. Stubbs took over. During the briefing meeting with General Stubbs, both agreed that the cooperation will continue further in exercises, training, and other joint activities.

Strengthening Cyber Security: ISG Supports Kosovo's Defense Ministry



The Minister of Defense, Ejup Maqedonci, hosted a special meeting with the team from the American Institute for Security Governance (ISG), who are supporting the MoD and the KSF with professional advice in the establishment of cyber protection capacities. On this occasion, Minister Maqedonci thanked them and expressed his deep gratitude for their two-year commitment and close cooperation with our experts in creating Cyber Defense Strategy and Policies related to the organizational and functional aspects of the Ministry of Defense and the KSF in the field of cyber security.

Ministry of Defense Advances Long-Term Strategy with New PPBE Regulation

The Ministry of Defense marked an important step in the long-term development of the Defense System Management Strategy by signing the Regulation for defining the process of Planning, Programming, Budgeting, and Execution (PPBE) in the Ministry of Defense and the Kosovo Security Force (KSF).

This essential document for the long-term development of institutional defense capacities was drawn up after a detailed analysis by the Ministry of Defense and the KSF, supported by the American Embassy through the engagement of PPBE adviser Joe Duncan, within the Global Defense Reform Program.

The Regulation clarifies each step from planning to execution of activities that directly support the implementation of the General Transition Plan. It also defines the responsibilities, decision-making authority, management methods, and coordination and monitoring processes within the Ministry of Defense and the KSF.



Kosovo Security Force Honors Iowa National Guard for Medical Support



The Commander of the KSF, Lieutenant General Bashkim Jashari, in recognition of their commitment and outstanding contribution to the development of military medical capacities, decorated the medical personnel of the Iowa National Guard.

Iowa National Guard personnel have provided ongoing support to the KSF Medical Regiment by offering training for medical personnel, as well as professional expertise and support. They have been essential throughout the process of building medical capacities, up to the validation of these capacities for Role 1.

COMKSF highly appreciated the contribution and assistance that the Iowa National Guard has given in increasing medical capacities in the Kosovo Security Force. They also jointly agreed on further cooperation in the continued development of these capacities.



Future Leaders-Kosovo Cadets Graduate from Albanian Military Academy



The Deputy Minister of Defense, Shemsi Sylja, accompanied by the commander of the KDS, Brigadier General Jeton Dreshaj, participated in the graduation ceremony and military oath-taking of students who completed their studies in the academic year 2023/2024 at the Academy of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Albania. Among the 60 cadets who graduated, four are from the Kosovo Security Force. Deputy Minister Sylja stated that the

graduation ceremony of the Kosovo Security Force cadets at the Academy of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Albania is an important event. He congratulated the young cadets on their graduation, emphasizing that the Ministry of Defense will always support their professional development.

Deputy Minister Sylja Honors Fallen Police Officers on Memorial Day

The Deputy Minister of Defense, Shemsi Sylja, accompanied by senior officers of the Kosovo Security Force, paid tribute and placed a wreath of flowers on the tombstones of police officers who fell in the line of duty.

Every year, on July 26, the Kosovo Police marks the Memorial Day of Fallen Policemen in the Line of Duty, thus appreciating and honoring the life and work of its members.

Our heroes gave their lives in the service of the country, fulfilling their high state duty in pursuit of establishing order, enforcing law, and protecting territorial integrity and sovereignty



General Dreshaj participated in the 10th Forum of the Land Forces of the European Armies



The Commander of the Land Forces of the Kosovo Security Force, Brigadier General Hysen Dreshaj, and the Chief of Staff of the LFC, Colonel Valdet Berisha, participated in the 10th Forum of the Land Forces of the European Armies, which took place in Dresden, Federal Republic of Germany, from August 27 to 29, 2024.

The conference aimed to share experiences between the armies and discuss support for Ukraine, lessons learned, the future of mechanized warfare, and leadership requirements and needs.

During his stay in Germany, General Dreshaj held bilateral meetings with some of the partners participating in the conference and also visited the KSF cadets who are being educated at the Military Academy in Dresden, Germany.

KSF part of the Seminar for Strategic Leadership in the United Kingdom



The Chief of Staff of the KSF, Brigadier General Ilir Qeriqi, participated in the Strategic Leadership Seminar at the Defense Academy in the United Kingdom, following an invitation from the UK. The seminar focused on strategic-level

leadership, leadership models, ethics, and the management and administration of strategic changes in decision-making. Senior military officers from 20 countries discussed the advancement of leadership during times of threat, global security developments, and experiences and interoperability among allies. The Chief of Staff of the KSF, Brigadier General Ilir Qeriqi, at the invitation of the United Kingdom, took part in the Strategic Leadership Seminar held at the Defense Academy in the United Kingdom. The seminar focused on leadership at the strategic level, leadership models, ethics, management and administration of strategic changes in terms of decision-making at the Strategic level.

Senior military officers from 20 countries of the world discussed the rise and advancement of leadership in times of threats, global developments in the field of security as well as experiences and interoperability among allies.



Kosovo Defense Seniors Honor Trainees and Emphasize Continued Capacity Building

The Minister of Defense, Ejup Maqedonci, and the Commander of the KSF, Lieutenant General Bashkim Jashari, along with senior officers from the General Staff of the Kosovo Security Force, attended the certification ceremony of the trainees of the Qualification Course for Special Forces.

During the event, both congratulated the trainees on their achievements and expressed their commitment to continue supporting the development of these crucial capacities for the Kosovo Security Force.

KSF Officers Graduate in the Republic Of Albania

The College of Defense and Security in the Republic of Albania organized the graduation ceremony for the trainees of the Command and General Staff Course and the Senior Officer Course. These programs provide the necessary knowledge for planning and conducting combat operations in a complex operational environment related to national security, as well as the ability to make sound decisions and give accurate advice in situations where the use of military force is considered. At this ceremony, four officers from the KSF graduated from the Command and General Staff Course (CGSC), and two officers graduated from the Senior Officer Course (SOC). The Armed Forces of the Republic of Albania, within the framework of cooperation with the Kosovo Security Force, are helping to raise professional capacities at all levels of military education.



Minister Maqedonci and General Jashari Visited the Medical Field Exercise “Role 1”



In the framework of the development of the capacities of the Kosovo Security Force towards a professional and interoperable force with the Euro-Atlantic partners, in the month of August the medical field exercise “Role 1” was held, this activity was organized in cooperation with the teams from the National Guard of Iowas and the US KFOR contingent from Camp Bondsteel.

In the visit of Minister Maqedonci and the KSF Commander, Lieutenant General Bashkim Jashari, the KSF instructors and the Americans gave the highest praise for the commitment and performance of the KSF personnel engaged in this exercise.

During this exercise, our soldiers have been trained in providing “Role 1” and “Role 2”

medical services such as: triage, medical evacuation, treatment of emergency cases and air evacuation.

Kosovo Security Force Launches First-Ever Basic Infantry Officers Course



The Kosovo Security Force has organized the Basic Course of Infantry Officers for the first time in the country at the Officer School of the Defense Academy. The mission of this course is to train and develop infantry officers to be mentally, physically, and morally prepared to lead infantry units.

BCIO is a 13-week course that trains young officers in advanced tactical infantry and battlefield leadership skills, evaluates leadership potential, and qualifies candidates for leadership in the infantry field. The key tasks to be executed during this course are tactical maneuvering, synchronization of light infantry assets, physical preparation, and precision fire with light infantry weapons.

The course is supported by the American teams of the US

Army Mobile Training Assistance Organization (SATMO) and will now be organized every year as part of the annual training plan.

The commander of the KSF Land Forces participated in the RUSI Land Warfare Conference

At the invitation of the Chief of Staff of the Army of the United Kingdom, General Sir Roly Walker, Brigadier General Hysen Dreshaj, Commander of the Land Forces Command, participated in the RUSI Land Warfare Conference held in London.

The annual conference gathers commanders of ground forces units to discuss and analyze development strategies, cooperation, and joint operations in missions. During the conference, General Dreshaj met with General Sir Roly Walker and thanked him for the invitation and the continuous support that the United Kingdom provides to the state of Kosovo, particularly to the KSF. Additionally, during the conference, Brigadier General Dreshaj had the opportunity to meet with senior military representatives from partner countries' land forces.



Minister Maqedonci Awards Medal to US Advisor for Defense Contributions



The Minister of Defense, Ejup Maqedonci, hosted a farewell meeting for Joe Duncan, the advisor for Planning, Programming, Budgeting, and Execution (PPBE) within the Global Defense Reform Program of the USA. On the occasion of the end of his mission, Minister Maqedonci thanked the American adviser for his extraordinary contribution to the development of the country's defense capacities and decorated him with the Medal for Outstanding Service. Throughout his mission, in his capacity as advisor to the Ministry of Defense and the Kosovo Security Force, Mr. Duncan was particularly noted for his involvement in drafting the Planning, Programming, Budgeting, and Execution Regulation, a document that governs the internal MoD/KSF process for the effective and efficient

use and allocation of resources to provide capabilities and implement necessary actions to fulfill the constitutional and legal mission of the Ministry. On this occasion, Minister Maqedonci expressed his thanks and gratitude to the military staff at the US Embassy in Pristina for their continuous support with advisors and training for the civilian and military staff, aiming at the professional development of the personnel of the Ministry of Defense and the Security Force of Kosovo.

Strengthening Defense Partnerships: Minister Maqedonci Meets with UK Defense Officials



Minister Maqedonci hosted a meeting with the United Kingdom's defense attaché, Lt. Col. Edward Green, and the bilateral adviser, Lt. Col. John Hunter. The United Kingdom has been an important and supportive partner at each stage of the state-building process of the Republic of Kosovo, significantly contributing to the development of human, logistical, and legal capacities in various sectors, particularly in security and defense. During the meeting, they discussed activities being developed based on the bilateral plan between the states, including the "Interflex" operation, which is currently the most important mission of the KSF abroad. Recognizing the potential of our army, they also discussed expanding cooperation in new directions.

"Our path is clear. Kosovo's membership in NATO is the destination for our army as a professional force to contribute to peace beyond our state borders," Minister Maqedonci added at the end of the conversation.

Minister Maqedonci Bids Farewell to Turkish KFOR Commander

The Minister of Defense, Ejup Maqedonci, hosted a farewell meeting for the Commander of the Turkish contingent of KFOR, Colonel Sabri Gokhan Karamursel, on the occasion of the end of his mission in the Republic of Kosovo. The Minister thanked Colonel Karamursel especially for his commitment and personal contribution to the further development of bilateral relations between our countries in the field of defense. Wishing him success in his future tasks, Minister Maqedonci assured him that even with his successor in office, he will continue to cultivate the same spirit of cooperation.



The Minister of Defense and the Commander of the KSF hosted for a farewell meeting the Defense Attaché of Türkiye in Kosovo



Jashari thanked him for his contribution and continuous support for the advancement of bilateral military relations between the two countries. Minister Maqedonci also wished success to the colonel in his new task, welcoming him and his successors. COMKSF appreciated the high level of cooperation between the KSF and the military forces of Türkiye in the fields of training, exercises, and joint operations.

As a sign of deep respect and gratitude for his contribution during his service in Kosovo, Minister Maqedonci and General Jashari welcomed the Turkish Defense Attaché in Kosovo, Colonel Çağdaş Akif Kahraman, in a farewell meeting. As a sign of appreciation for his extraordinary role in increasing the capacities of the KSF, Minister Maqedonci decorated him with the medal for “Outstanding Service.” Meanwhile, General



Outstanding Achievements by KSF Officers in Türkiye



Captain Atdhe Hasani and Captain Krenar Voca successfully completed the “Staff Officer Course” at the National Defense University in Istanbul. Their work and dedication were recognized, with Captain Atdhe Hasani being ranked as the best international officer and Captain Krenar Voca as the second-best international officer. Participants in this course included officers from six different countries. At the Command of the Military Veterinary School in Gemlik, Bursa, participants of the specialized K9 courses in search and rescue, mines, bombs, and explosives were certified. This training was successfully completed by

OR5 Faik Haskuka, OR4 Fitim Zulfaj, OR3 Valdrin Sada, and OR3 Laurent Muçolli. Notably, OR4 Fitim Zulfaj also completed the K9 Instructor course in addition to the specialist course. Cooperation with the Republic of Türkiye is aiding the KSF in the professional development and advancement of soldiers from Kosovo in various military fields.

KSF Officers Participate in the “War Game Designer Course” Training



Members of the Kosovo Security Force, Lieutenant Colonel Liridon Poroshtica and Major Ardian Ramadani, have successfully completed the “War Game Designer Course” in the USA. This course aims to develop strategic designers of war games for the Armed Forces and Ministries of Defense, aiding in the creation and development of strategies based on planning and force

development needs.

During this course, the officers gained specialized knowledge in the theories and techniques of professional war game creation. At the end of the course, participants designed their own games. Our officers created a strategic game focused on the defense of Kosovo’s territory, which was selected as the best game designed and developed for this generation.



KSF And Partners Successfully Carry Out the “Valor Shield 2024” Field Exercise



The Special Operations of the KSF conducted the “Valor Shield 2024” field exercise. In addition to the SO, the Special Intervention Unit (SIU) of the Kosovo Police, the Special Operations Regiment (SOR) of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Albania, and other KSF support units from Intelligence, Communication, the Regiment of First Infantry, and Medical Teams participated. The exercise “Valor Shield 2024” was

also supported by the Special Operations Command for Europe and the United States of America.

Besides validating Special Operations groups during “Valor Shield 2024,” the exercise aimed to exchange experiences with military and police organizations facing complex security threats in joint operational environments.

KSF Officers are Trained in The USA for Artillery

Second Lieutenants Shpëtim Hasani, Labinot Osaj and Arian Karaxha have successfully completed the Basic Field Artillery Leadership Course in the United States of America.

The training is aimed at preparing soldiers as Artillery Platoon Leaders, Fire Support Officers and Fire Control Officers.

As Artillery Platoon Leaders participants gain hands-on knowledge of the US M777 (155mm), M109 (155mm), and M119 (105mm) howitzer. In the Fire Support module, soldiers are prepared for the specifics of howitzers, fire support planning and calling, fire observation and the types of support provided by field artillery as well as in the field of the Fire Control Center are trained in the calculation and factors of different that affect a more precise shot.

Due to the successes shown in the training, Second Lieutenant Arian

Karaxha managed to receive the “Distinguished International Honor Graduate” award.



Training for Battle Operations

In the framework of cooperation with the Armed Forces of the Republic of Türkiye, and in the framework of raising the combat capacities of the Kosovo Security Force, under the leadership of Turkish instructors, the Basic Training for Battle in the second Regiment of the Ground Forces was carried out. The Republic of Türkiye is continuously helping to increase the capacities of the Kosovo Security Force in all areas, supporting professional development and technical support.



The KSF Cadet Graduates from the Croatian Defense Academy

Cadet Shaban Shehu, after four years of study at the Croatian Defense Academy, has successfully completed the academy and received the rank of lieutenant, and due to the high results during his studies, he will continue his master's studies, after completion he will join the Kosovo Security Force give his contribution to the rise and advancement and to distribute the knowledge to the KSF soldiers.



The KSF Lieutenant Receives the Honor Graduate Award in the USA

Lieutenant Leotrim Meziu has successfully completed the Infantry Basic Officer Leader Course (IBOLC), in Georgia, United States of America, being awarded the International Honor Graduate award.

During the 19 weeks that this course lasted, Lieutenant Meziu has shown high performance, presenting the Kosovo Security Force with dignity, among the 170 participants who were in the course, American officers and officers from different countries of the world.



KSF Officers Completed the Advanced Command and Staff Course in the UK

Kosovo Security Force officers Major Fatmir Lami and Major Faton Bektashi have successfully completed the Advanced Command and Staff Course (ACSC) at the United Kingdom Defense Academy in Shrivenham. They also completed the academic program, earning the title of Master of Arts in Defense Studies from King's College London.

The course is residential and lasts 46 weeks, attended by UK officers and international officers from 48 partner countries. It focuses on key areas such as command, leadership, and management; research and critical thinking; understanding global realities and the security context. The aim is to prepare senior leaders with military professional skills and provide intellectual enhancement for success in operations and leadership in governance.



KSF Officer Receives Dexter Award for Superior Academic Performance in the US

Lieutenant Korab Seferi has successfully completed the "Signal Basic Officer Leaders Course" (SBOLC), at the Fort Eisenhower Cyber Center of Excellence (CCoE) of the United States of America, due to his high academic achievements, Lieutenant Seferi received the award Dexter for superior academic performance.

The Signal Officer Basic Course aims to prepare officers for Military Operations Doctrine, troop command procedures, the military decision-making process, information systems, planning, execution and management of communications and the management of communication requirements at the Battalion level and brigade.

