



MILITARY STRATEGY OF ROMANIA – 2021*

CREDIBLE DEFENSIVE CAPABILITY, FOR A SECURE ROMANIA, IN A WORLD MARKED BY NEW CHALLENGES

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* <https://www.mapn.ro/legislatie/documente/STRATEGIA-MILITARA-A-ROMANIEI.pdf>



Romania's military strategy operationalises the defence dimension established in the National Defence Strategy for 2020-2024 and customises the implementation of the defence policy objectives and of the capability targets derived from the provisions of the White Paper on Defence, 2021 edition.

At the same time, the Military Strategy is a way to present to the general public the main risks and threats of a military nature to Romania, the national military objectives, the necessary defence capabilities and the priorities to achieve them, as well as to detail for the internal and external audience the guidelines on the Romanian Armed Forces configuration, size, preparation, equipment, and the operational concepts established for fulfilling the objectives and missions.

Within the Strategy, Romania's security is seen in terms of a comprehensive and integrated approach to a strengthened national defence, a context in which all state structures and institutions as well as the population participate in a coordinated manner in the overall effort to ensure national security.

This approach also takes into account the current context, in which NATO undertakes its own strategic reflection process, adapts its posture and defines a new strategy, the EU configures its Strategic Compass, and at national level we have just completed, for the first time, a defence strategic analysis process. The result of these simultaneous processes will determine the national military posture in the current decade. Our long-term security may depend on the actions we take and the resources we invest now.

The current strategy is part of a broader planning effort, carried out over a period when security and defence challenges acquire new dimensions, while the COVID 19 pandemic continues to have manifest influence not only over the healthcare system but also



over the social, economic, diplomatic and security ones. It provides the necessary guidelines until 2024, and, at the same time, lays the foundations for the sustainable transformation of the Armed Forces until 2040.

The present military strategy incorporates a number of elements of continuity from previous strategies, in particular with regard to the security guarantees offered by membership of NATO, the EU and strategic partnerships, by addressing risks and threats in an allied context, by continuing essential procurement programmes and force structure transformation plans. At the same time, the new strategy emphasises the need for innovation, adaptation and implementation of certain objectives along the lines of effort related to the units' reaction capability, the peace and war establishment, the digitalisation and the use of new technologies.

The document is aimed at establishing achievable objectives and assuming responsibility for meeting these objectives. That is why we focus on what we can complete by 2024, namely strengthening the reaction capability of the units established by order, modernising the education system, the reserve preparation system, the medical system, and adapting the legal framework necessary to conduct missions in peacetime, crisis situations and at war.

In addition, the important lines of effort also concern the construction of dual-use capabilities, the support for the development of the national defence industry to sustain these capabilities, as well as the development of a security culture and a new mentality, in which the Armed Forces, as the main binder of the capability and unity of the state in crisis situations, through their actions, are responsible for national resilience.

Therefore, we consider continuing the military's involvement in combating the pandemic caused by the new coronavirus. This pandemic has highlighted not only the need for developing and maintaining robust resilience, for the existence of material stocks, but also the need for professional leadership, for an adequate legal framework allowing to meet the justified expectations that the population has from its armed forces, in difficult situations, which can be other than security crises.

As a whole, the strategy thus provides the necessary guidelines for a new generation of military leaders, urging conceptual flexibility and actional efficiency in going through the stages of the Romanian Armed Forces transformation process by 2040, to implement a flexible, multidomain force structure, with a broad spectrum of technologically advanced capabilities, based on knowledge, multispectral camouflage, deception, focused on the multi-skilled fighter, equipped with means to ensure survival in the tactical field, extensive situational awareness and increased firepower.

