

Address by Minister of Defence Vlado Misajlovski on the occasion of the Operations Command Day

Barracks "Boro Menkov" – Kumanovo, 17.10.2025

Distinguished Chief of the General Staff,

Distinguished Commander of the Operations Command,

Dear generals, officers, non-commissioned officers and soldiers,

It is with great pleasure that I address you, members of the Operations Command, on your day, which reminds us of the traditions of the Macedonian Army, but also the day when we reaffirm your joint contribution to the security of our country, the safety of our citizens, and the collective security of the joint Alliance.

In the office force of the Army, all branches and services, whose members demonstrate professionalism, motivation and dedication with each passing day, operate side by side. It is from your ranks that the majority of members who, together with the allies, strengthened the eastern flank of NATO in Latvia, Bulgaria and Romania come from. But let us not forget, but rather emphasize that the greatest support to the Macedonian citizens when faced with fires and other types of natural disasters, once again, for the most part, comes from the members of this Command.

It is a huge responsibility, which you fulfil in full, justifying our complete trust. You exist for the country and for our fellow citizens, and we, the Ministry and the General Staff, exist to provide you with the best conditions and the most modern equipment.

The Macedonian Defence budget will continue to grow, and a significant part of these funds is intended precisely for modernization and equipping. You deserve it, and we will work intensively, in addition to the procurement of equipment, to continuously renew personal equipment and armament. Additionally, with our allies and partners, we enable the ongoing upgrading and development of your professional skills and knowledge. With your dedication, you commit us to do that!

My message to the commander and the senior officers in the Command: Continue to work with full enthusiasm and dedication. The safety of each of us depends on your work. I am convinced of your qualities, which we will continue to develop together with each passing day, and I have no doubt that at the upcoming NATO evaluation next year, the Macedonian Army will be presented in the best light.

Last year, the Ministry of Defence, together with the General Staff, had the largest historical budget approved by any Government. Yesterday I had the opportunity to defend the positions in Brussels about the Macedonian Army, but also for about Macedonian country. We will continue next year and in the following years with an even greater pace, to provide more funds and to provide many modernization projects for all of you.

But, what I am especially glad for is that many of the problems and challenges that we had in the past and still have since I became minister, with a beautiful motto that captivates you, and that is that together we are stronger, I would like to personally thank all of you from this podium, but especially the Chief of the General Staff, the Deputy, the Director, General

Gjorgoski, all the generals, but also all the employees in the ministry, for all the common challenges that we are solving together.

One beautiful sentence I heard is the synergy that has captivated all of us together to complete all these processes. And I am truly grateful because with that wind in my back and the full support that I have from all the generals, and I want you all to know that you also have my full support, we will complete many projects together.

In the background, we are working on several initiatives, we are working on things that could truly be historic for all of you.

We are working on new solutions and plans to enhance with additional funds and purchase new modern equipment, and we are working in the background to provide many grants directly for you in the army, and I think that together we will create many beautiful historical moments in the coming period.

From here I would like to directly thank General Gjorgoski for the excellent work he is doing, especially with taking over the Operations Command, but I would also like to thank everyone else. Continue to work persistently, with great dedication, continue to love Macedonia and to protect our homeland.

Happy 17th of October, Operations Command Day!

Long Live the Macedonian Army!

Long Live Macedonia!

Thank you everyone.