

EUFOR forum

MAGAZINE



EUFOR's Change of Command of Multinational Battalion Page 12

EUFOR's Operation Commander visits Sarajevo



COS EUFOR visits showpiece Ammunition Storage Site 6

EUFOR Chief of Staff and Chief Joint Military Affairs visited AFBiH ASS Krupa to witness progress on the upgrade of the ammunition storage facility.



COMEUFOR and EUSR Host New Year's Reception 7

COMEUFOR and Head of the EU Delegation and EU Special Representative, Ambassador Johann Sattler, held a New Year's reception at Camp Butmir.



EUFOR JMA Engage in Mine Action Workshops 13

EUFOR representatives from the Joint Military Affairs (JMA) Countermines Team attended a three-day workshop.



MNBN prepares to combat future threats 15

MNBN conducts an exercise securing the weapon storage site (WSS) in Rajlovac against a fictitious, increased terrorist threat.



The New Year has continued where the old one left off, with life in EUFOR maintaining a busy pace. This can hopefully be seen through the content of Edition #119 of the EUFOR Forum, my second as Editor in Chief.

In January COMEUFOR hosted a New Year's Reception with the EUSR, attended by members of the BiH authorities and the International Community. Whilst February saw high level visits from EUFOR's Operation Commander and the Head of the EU Command Element, as well as the Change of Command of the Multinational Battalion. These things don't just happen on their own, so a big thank you to all involved in these successful events.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to stories in this edition. Please continue to support your magazine by sending the Public Affairs Office interesting information and pictures, or let us know in advance about events so that we can gather material in person.

Lieutenant Commander Carl Perry

Commander EUFOR
Major General Reinhard Trischak
EUFOR Public Affairs Chief
Lieutenant Colonel Nicolai Tschol

Forum Magazine Staff
Spokesperson
Lieutenant Commander Carl Perry

Layout
Mr. Jasmin Zeherović
Photographs contributed by
Warrant Officer Gernot Payer

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EUFOR LOT Houses

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European Force in Bosnia and Herzegovina
Published 23 January

2019. je bila naporna godina za EUFOR. Još jedna godina uz vježbu Brzi odgovor. Godina koju je obilježila saradnja sa Oružanim snagama Bosne i Hercegovine, agencijama za provođenje zakona, vladom BiH, delegacijom EU-a i međunarodnim partnerima. Edukacija u lokalnim zajednicama o opasnostima od mina, pomaganje civila i darivanje krvi, podrška kombinovanoj i zajedničkoj obuci. Sve u cilju izgradnje uspješne i sigurne budućnosti BiH u 2020. godini!

2019 was a busy year for #EUFOR. Another year of peace and security with Exercise Quick Response #QR19, cooperation with Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Law Enforcement Agencies, BiH government, EU Delegation and international partners. Working within the community on Mine Risk Education, helping civilians and donating blood. Supporting combined and collective training with #AFBiH and #LEAs. Here's to building a successful future for BiH in 2020! #SASE

Full story at: <http://euforbih.org/.../2674-eufor-in-2019-a-retrospective>

English version of video at: <https://youtu.be/P2qpxJHFKM>



6,015 People reached 279 Engagements Boost Post



EUFOR Mission Althea
@euforbih

The Project entitled "The Country Assessment of Mine Suspected Areas in #BiH 2018-2019" is jointly implemented by the BH Mine Action Centre, #NorwegianPeoplesAid and AF BiH, funded by the #EuropeanUnion in amount of 900,000 EUR. tinyurl.com/yx5yamta



The European Union is investing substantial funds to support an implementation of Bosnia and Herzegovina Mine Action Strategy.

134 views 0:19 / 1:30

The Project entitled "The Country Assessment of Mine Suspected Areas in BiH 2018-2019" is jointly implemented by the BH Mine Action Centre, NorwegianPeoplesAid and nd AF BiH, funded by the EuropeanUnion in amount of 900.000 EUR.



EUFOR Mission Althea
@euforbih

Take a look back at @euforbih in 2019 in this short video

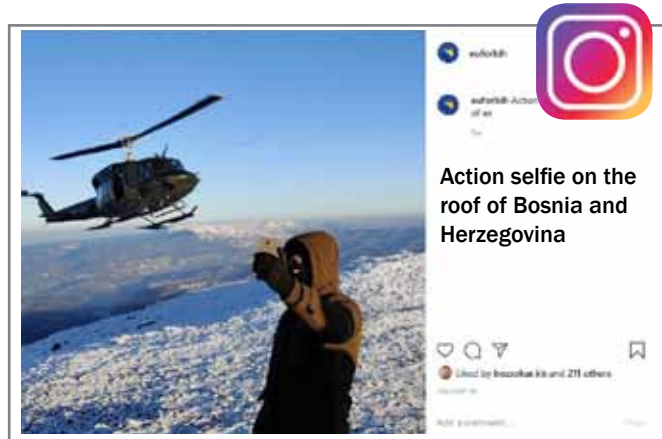


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Join us in taking a look back at EUFOR in 2019 with this short video. 2019 was a busy year for Operation EUFOR Althea and has left us with much to be proud of.



euforbih

Action selfie on the roof of Bosnia and Herzegovina



Liked by Inozka K and 211 others



You Tube

Colonel Johann Jannig
Chief JMA EUFOR

Mine Action workshops – an Integral Part of the Project "Country Assessment of Mine Suspected Areas in BiH". Video with statements after workshop

Top EU Generals Visit EUFOR in Sarajevo

Between 11-13 February 2020, Lieutenant General Olivier Rittimann, the Operation Commander for Operation EUFOR Althea, and Lieutenant General Antonio Vittiglio, Head of the European Union Command Element, visited the EUFOR mission in BiH. COMEUFOR, Major General Reinhard Trischak, welcomed the Generals to Camp Butmir and updated them on EUFOR's latest activity and the current situation in BiH.

In addition to the usual round of briefings, Lieutenant General Vittiglio's short visit programme also allowed for him to spend some time with the servicemen of the Italian contingent, which included Chief J1 and part of the meteorology team in EUFOR.

During the second day of his visit, Lieutenant General Rittimann and Major General Trischak met with key military and political figures; the Minister of Civil Affairs of BiH, Ankica Gudeljević; the Minister of Security of BiH, Fahrudin Radončić; the Deputy Minister of

"I am glad that both of us have expressed our hope that joint activities will continue to the benefit of all residents of BiH."

Deputy Minister of Defence Mijo Krešić



Defence of BiH, Mijo Krešić, and the Armed Forces BiH Chief of the Joint Staff, Lieutenant General Senad Mašović.

Issues covered during these meetings included the continuation of work within the Master Plan for

the safe management and disposal of ammunition, weapons and explosives, notably the marking of small arms and light weapons in BiH; and also support to the Mine Action Strategy for BiH to become a mine free country as soon as possible.

In a statement at the Ministry of Defence, Lieutenant General Rittimann said:

"It's very important to have a close cooperation with your ministry to the mutual benefit of Bosnia and



Minister of Civil Affairs of BiH, Ankica Gudeljević, with EUFOR Operation Commander



EUFOR Operation Commander with Minister of Security of BiH, Fahrudin Radončić.



EUFOR Operation Commander, Lieutenant General Rittimann, and COMEUFOR, Major General Trischak, meet with the Armed Forces BiH Chief of the Joint Staff, Lieutenant General Senad Mašović.

Herzegovina and of the European Union.” He stated that EUFOR remains ready to support the Bosnia and Herzegovina authorities in order to maintain peace and stability.

Deputy Minister of Defence Krešić stated: “Cooperation with EUFOR has always been of great importance to us, and I am glad that both of us have expressed our hope that joint activities will continue to the benefit of all residents of BiH.” He also expressed his: “...appreciation and pleasure with the support from EUFOR and European Union.”

The final day of Lieutenant General Rittimann’s visit consisted of a briefing from the EUFOR Liaison Observation Team (LOT) in Sarajevo about their work in the community and a meeting with the BiH Parliamentary Military Commissioner. Lieutenant General Rittimann and Major General Trischak were then guests at the Commissioning Ceremony for the 6th Class of Officers commissioned into the Professional Military Service of the AF BiH.



EUFOR Operation Commander, Lieutenant General Rittimann, meets LOT House staff in Sarajevo.

COMEUFOR welcomes Swiss Chief of Joint Operation Command and Deputy Chief of the Armed Forces



On 4 February 2020, COMEUFOR, Major General Reinhard Trischak, welcomed the Swiss Chief of Joint Operation Command and Deputy Chief of the Swiss Armed Forces, Lieutenant General Aldo C. Schellenberg, accompanied by the Commander of the Swiss Armed Forces International Command SWISSINT, Colonel Alexander Furer, to Camp Butmir.

During an office call, Major General Trischak gave an update on EUFOR’s current activity and the situation in the country. They discussed the good level of cooperation that exists between EUFOR and Switzerland and Lieutenant General Schellenberg reiterated the Swiss commitment to the mission.

Before the meeting, Lieutenant General Schellenberg took time to meet with the Swiss troops of the Liaison and Observation Team (LOT) houses in Trebinje and Mostar, which offer mine awareness training to local schools and meet with members of the community in order to monitor the security situation.

Swiss troops also provide some Staff Officers, Project Officers and the Special Ammunition and Weapons Advisor to COMEUFOR. They coordinate, support and monitor all the activities, projects and stakeholders within the BiH Ammunition, Weapons and Explosives Master Plan for the transparent disposal of surplus ammunition and weapons and the introduction of a sustainable life-cycle management in BiH.

COS EUFOR visits showpiece Ammunition Storage Site

On 15 January 2020, EUFOR Chief of Staff, Brigadier General László Szabó, and Chief Joint Military Affairs, Colonel Johann Jamnig, visited AFBiH ASS Krupa to witness progress on the upgrade of the ammunition storage facility. They received a brief on the project and current activities.

The ASS Krupa has been chosen as the AFBiH model of an upgraded storage site. The site is currently being upgraded to meet all international standards. The projects are mainly funded by international donors which is being implemented by the United Nations



The projects are mainly funded by international donors which is being implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE).

Development Programme (UNDP) and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). The upgrades are due to be finalised in 2020.

As part of Project Explode+ (UNDP), upgrades to the site include safety measures, refurbishment of new buildings for administration and accommodation, a new gate-house and the complete refurbishment of the warehouses, amounting to 21 buildings. The refurbishment works covering all necessary works to meet international security standards.



EUFOR's Commander meets with Irish Ambassador

COMEUFOR, Major General Reinhard Trischak, held a meeting with the Irish Ambassador to BiH, His Excellency Myles Geiran, during an official office call at Camp Butmir on 20 January 2020.

Major General Trischak briefed the Ambassador on EUFOR's current activities and future plans. COMEUFOR thanked Ambassador Geiran for the valuable contribution that Irish troops make to the mission here in BiH. Ambassador Geiran's schedule also allowed him to spend time with the Irish contingent stationed at Camp Butmir.



COMEUFOR and EUSR Host New Year's Reception

On 21 January 2020, COMEUFOR, Major General Reinhard Trischak, and Head of the EU Delegation and EU Special Representative, Ambassador Johann Sattler, held a New Year's reception at Camp Butmir for the key leaders of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the International Community and diplomatic corps in BiH.

Among the honoured guests were Minister of Defence of BiH, Dr. Sifet Podžić, Minister of Security of BiH, Mr. Fahrudin Radončić, Minister of Civil Affairs of BiH, Ms. Ankica Gudeljević, Chief of the Joint Staff of the AF BiH, Lieutenant General Senad Mašović, and the ambassadors of many nations.

Addressing all those present, COMEUFOR said that the event was: "...an opportunity to thank all our partners in the common effort to support Bosnia and Herzegovina in ensuring durable peace and progress toward EU membership."

Ambassador Sattler praised the: "...excellent cooperation between EUFOR and my Office."

During his address, COMEUFOR highlighted the successes of 2019: Exercise Quick Response 19 and its inclusion of Law Enforcement Agencies in the Republika Srpska for the first time; work within the BiH Ammunition, Weapons and Explosives Master Plan for the disposal of surplus ammunition and weapons and the introduction of a sustainable life-cycle management; as well as building on the cooperation with the EU Delegation, consolidating monitoring and mentoring support to demining, with a sustainable Mine Action Strategy.



"Event was an opportunity to thank all our partners in the common effort to support Bosnia and Herzegovina in ensuring durable peace and progress toward EU membership."

Major General Trischak

"I would also like to express my appreciation for EUFOR's support to and close collaboration with local authorities. These close working relations are an essential precondition for achieving concrete, positive results for the benefit of BiH citizens."

Ambassador Sattler





Recognition for Service

An International Medal Parade for 222 EUFOR soldiers, sailors, and airmen from 12 countries was held at Camp Butmir on Tuesday 28 January 2020.

COMEUFOR, Major General Reinhard Trischak, presided over the event, which was also attended by the Ambassadors of Turkey, Bulgaria, Romania, Poland, Slovakia and the Deputy Ambassador of Hungary.

“It has been a great pleasure to join the medal parade and not only receiving the EUFOR medal, but also gaining a lot of experience the last half year,” said First Lieutenant Nagy from Hungary.

The Operation Althea medal was first presented in 2004 and is a version of the Common Security and Defence Policy Service Medal. It is inscribed with the Latin phrase “Pro pace unum”, which translates as “United for peace”.



Commandant Sue Ramsbottom, a member of the Irish contingent, received her medal with her daughters watching on.

“It was an honor to receive the ALTHEA medal, after serving in EUFOR for almost a year”.



“Your commitment, your diligence and the effort you put into your work in EUFOR Op Althea are highly valued and did not go unnoticed. I strongly believe that the success of our mission can be

directly derived from our members, our diversity and everyone’s individual commitment to the mission.”

COMEUFOR

Change of command of EUFOR'S MNBN



On 25 February 2020, the Change of Command of EUFOR's Multinational Battalion (MNBN) was marked with a military ceremony and parade at Camp Butmir, Sarajevo. COMEUFOR, Major General Reinhard Trischak, handed the colours of the MNBN from Lieutenant Colonel Manfred Leitner to Lieutenant Colonel Alfred Steingresz to signify the Change of Command.

Major General Trischak presided over the ceremony and began by thanking the outgoing Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Leitner.

"Your leadership along with your genuine personal commitment to the culture, values and spirit of EUFOR ensured that the 'One mission, one team' concept prevailed throughout your tenure and prevails today," he said. "Your commitment and that of the MNBN to getting things done and getting things right exemplifies what we are about.

Turning to the new Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Steingresz, COMEUFOR said:

"I am delighted to have you here

and I look forward to the pleasure of soldiering together with you." He also described the Multinational Battalion as: "...a united, cohesive and very capable military unit."

Addressing the parade, Major General Trischak said: "EUFOR's presence, your presence, enhances the feeling of security among the local population... We need to assure and reassure the citizens of BiH that we care about their security. Your presence here proves your commitment and that of your home nations to a Safe and Secure Environment here in BiH." He continued: "As COMEUFOR, I am proud of your reputation and that of EUFOR."

"The takeover of



"We need to assure and reassure the citizens of BiH that we care about their security. Your presence here proves your commitment and that of your home nations to a Safe and Secure Environment here in BiH.

As COMEUFOR, I am proud of your reputation and that of EUFOR."

COMEUFOR

the command over the MNBN is without doubt a highlight of my military career so far," said Lieutenant Colonel Steingresz. "It fills me with pride that I have the honour to serve in this position within the mission EUFOR/ALTHEA."

Lieutenant Colonel Leitner thanked Major General Trischak and remarked that the highlight of his tenure was: "The successful exercise Quick Response 19, where six companies from six different nations were under the command of the Multinational Battalion... across the country, in close co-operation with Local Authorities, Law Enforcement Agencies and the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina."

Highlights of the Ceremony including the CoC



C and the Medal Parade of the MNBN



Lieutenant Colonel Alfred Steingrez, New MNBN Commander



What are your feelings today, regarding the CoC event and your future mission?

I am excited and proud to be once again the Commander of the Multinational Battalion of EUFOR/ALTHEA.

First of all I am curious to experience the changes that have happened here since my last time as a Commander of the Multinational Battalion in 2013 and secondly, to be a vital part of the development of EUFOR, for the next seven months here in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

What are the main tasks of the Multinational Battalion?

The main tasks of the Multinational Battalion are to ensure the security of Camp Butmir in Sarajevo. As well as to maintain the visibility of EUFOR around Bosnia and Herzegovina, so that the local communities can be assured of the presence and support of EUFOR. We also provide a Quick Reaction Force to support the local authorities, if the situation requires it.

Very important to us are also the Combined Trainings with the Armed Forces of BiH.

What are your expectations for the next seven months?

I expect that we will fulfil these tasks to the very best of our abilities to support Bosnia and Herzegovina within EUFOR's mandate according to the motto of the unit I originally serve with, "Brave, firm and loyal!" I hope for an interesting and challenging mission for me and my soldiers.



Education:

The new Commander of the MNBN Alfred Steingrez graduated 1993 from the Austrian Theresia Military Academy in Wiener Neustadt. Later he decided to continue his studies at the Austrian National Defense Academy. In 2007 he completed the master program 'Master of Security and Defense' (MSD).

Career:

The early part of his military career he spent in the Armored Infantry Battalion 13 (PzGrenB13). Since 2014 he has been the Battalion Commander of the Armored Infantry Battalion 13/4.

Deployments:

During his military career he participated in 5 tours. Four of them in Kosovo and one in BiH, where he already had the possibility to serve as the Commander of the MNBN.

EUFOR JMA Engages in Mine Action workshops



On 28-30 January 2020, EUFOR representatives from the Joint Military Affairs (JMA) Countermines Team attended a three-day workshop, jointly organised by Bosnia and Herzegovina Mine Action Centre (BHMAC) and Norwegian People’s Aid (NPA), as an integral part of the Project “Country Assessment of Mine Suspected Areas in Bosnia and Herzegovina”.

The workshop was attended by the Head of the Cabinet of the Ministry of Civil Affairs, Nikolina Hajder, and over 50 mine action professionals, diplomatic representatives and members of the EU delegation in BiH, UNDP, the Armed Forces of BiH,

“With the full support of EUFOR all project partners, namely BHMAC, Norwegian Peoples Aid and Armed Forces BiH, have managed to conduct the Country Assessment of Mine Suspected Areas in BiH in a very professional manner. The new Mine Action Strategy is based on the new Land Release process. For it to work, this is the only option and the way forward. We must trust in the new process.”

Colonel Johann Jamnig, Chief JMA

Civil Protection Administrations and EUFOR.

The workshop covered the topics: “Definition of Productivity Indicators and Resources Needed for the Implementation of the Land Release in BiH”; and “Development of Mid-Term Land Release Action Plan”.



Video footage can be found on:



Multinational Battalion patrol helps stranded motorists – twice!

A patrol of the EUFOR Multinational Battalion (MNBN) had an eventful day on 30 January 2020, as they provided roadside assistance to not one, but two cars that left the road in the vicinity of Tuzla.

The patrol of the 2nd Platoon of the Hungarian Company of the MNBN, which consisted of 8 soldiers, was conducting routine business near Tuzla. As they began their day's activity around 7.30am, with the sun not far above the horizon, the patrol encountered a car at the side of the road, in the soft ground. Stopping to provide assistance, they found two male passengers requiring help to get their car back on the road.

The road surface appeared to be wet, which coupled with the light conditions, may have been a factor in the car ending up in the ditch. The soldiers attached the car to their 4x4 vehicle using a tow rope and, with a little pushing, managed to get the car back on the road, enabling the grateful occupants to continue their journey.

Later that afternoon, around 2.30pm, the patrol happened to be passing the exact same spot, when they noticed another car stranded at the side of the road. This time the pair of travelers involved were not so lucky, as there appeared to be significant damage to the Peugeot car that had come into difficulty. Once again they were able to tow the car out of the ditch, but instead of being able to continue their journey, they waited for the arrival of a recovery truck.

The patrol leader said:

“You never know what you are going to find from one day to the next. It is a great feeling to be able to help people who find themselves in difficulty. The local citizens were very grateful of the help of EUFOR.”



Patrol Facts:

- Journey: from 29 - 31 Jan, three routes.

March Route 1: Sarajevo - Vares - Ribnica - Zivinice - Tojsici - Dubrave

March Rote 2: (Significant one): Dubrave - Zivinice - Gracanica - Doboje - Modrica - Gradacac - Dubrave

March Route 3: Dubrave - Tojsici - Priboj - Karakaj - Caparde - Tojsici - Zivinice - Kladanj - Sarajevo



Stopping to provide assistance, the patrol found two male passengers requiring help to get their car back on the road.



The pair of travelers involved were not so lucky, as there appeared to be significant damage to the Peugeot car.

MNBN prepares to combat future threats

On 16 January 2020, COMEUFOR, Major General Reinhard Trischak, witnessed the Multinational Battalion (MNBN) conducting an exercise securing the weapon storage site (WSS) in Rajlovac against a fictitious, increased terrorist threat.

The aim of this exercise was to provide support to AF BiH to maintain the security and integrity of the WSS. The Turkish company of the MNBN established liaison with AFBiH and restored a safe and secure environment until full operational capability was established.

The exercise included some staged incidents; this offered the company a realistic and holistic exercise approach. Commander of the MNBN, Lieutenant Colonel Manfred Leitner said: “The company showed that



they can report in the required time and had the possibility to improve their techniques and tactical procedure.”

by Captain Karina Sedlacek

MNBN patrol links up with LOT Team in Višegrad

One of many tasks of the EUFOR’s Multinational Battalion (MNBN) is to work in close coordination with the various Liaison Observation Team (LOT) houses situated across Bosnia and Herzegovina. It was for this purpose that the Commander of the MNBN (COMMNBN), Lieutenant Colonel Manfred Leitner, visited the Slovakian LOT house in Višegrad on 22 January 2020.

The visit of COMMNBN was timed to coincide with the arrival of a patrol of the Hungarian Company of the MNBN. The MNBN regularly conducts patrols throughout BiH providing a visible presence in the community, assessing the condition of transportation links and coordinating with the LOTs.

The Commander of the LOT house gave everyone a very warm welcome and gave a situation



update. Topics such as the main supply routes, relationships with the local community and the current migrant situation were discussed. COMMNBN was grateful for the opportunity to gain a more in depth insight to the Višegrad area from the people on the ground.

by Captain Karina Sedlacek and Lieutenant Commander Carl Perry

“It is always important for a commander to get an overview so that a holistic impression of the situation can be assessed, in order to make the best possible decisions”

Lieutenant Colonel Leitner

COMEUFOR visits LOT Houses in Central BiH



LOT House Travnik

On 21 February 2020, COMEUFOR, Major General Reinhard Trischak, visited three EUFOR Liaison Observation Team (LOT) houses in the area of Central Bosnia and Herzegovina. He spent time with soldiers who man the LOT houses in Zavidovići, Zenica and Travnik.

Major General Trischak began his day with a helicopter flight to Zavidovići, where he was welcomed by the Commander of the Turkish troops stationed there. He received a briefing on the local area and any issues of concern to the local community. COMEUFOR also took some time to speak with the soldiers and thanked them for their hard work.

COMEUFOR then proceeded to visit two other LOT houses at Zenica and Travnik, also manned by Turkish troops. Visiting LOT houses in this way allows COMEUFOR to gain first-hand knowledge from the soldiers who spend their time embedded in the local area, keeping a finger on the pulse of the population and the issues that matter to the local community.

There are 17 Liaison Observation Team houses located throughout BiH. They are EUFOR's link to local communities and authorities, allowing EUFOR to stay in contact with the citizens of BiH. LOT teams also conduct



LOT House Zavidovići



other tasks, such as delivering essential Mine Risk Education to more than 15,000 individuals per year; including vulnerable and at-risk groups such as farmers, forestry companies, hunting clubs and school children of all ages.



LOT House Zenica



Relationship building with the new convocation of the Council of Ministers



Minister of Defence for BiH

7 January 2020 – COMEUFOR met the new Minister of Defence, continuing the good cooperation between EUFOR, the MoD and the AFBiH.

BiH Minister of Defence, Sifet Podžić, welcomed COMEUFOR, and thanked General Trischak for EUFOR's contribution to the safe and secure environment in BiH. COMEUFOR praised the level of professionalism of members of AFBiH. The discussion also focused on the importance of advancing the issues of surplus weapons and ammunition disposal and de-mining, as well as weapons marking and registration.

Minister of Security for BiH

7 January 2020 – COMEUFOR met the new Minister of Security, Fahrudin Radončić. During the courtesy call they acknowledged the good level of cooperation that exists between EUFOR and the Law Enforcement Agencies. They also discussed the migrant crisis and Information Exchange.

Minister Radončić stated that the Ministry of Security intends to continue to support EUFOR with the exercise Quick Response.



Minister of Civil Affairs for BiH

27 January 2020 – COMEUFOR met the new Minister of Civil Affairs, Ankica Gudeljević. The Ministry of Civil Affairs has a broad portfolio, with one of its responsibilities being demining.

COMEUFOR addressed the issue of the Demining Commission, stressing the importance of establishing a new Demining Commission as soon as possible to ensure that work in this area can continue.

Deputy Minister of Defence

20 January 2020 – COMEUFOR met the Deputy Minister of Defence of BiH, Mr Mirko Okolić.

During the meeting they spoke about the good level of cooperation that is enjoyed between EUFOR and the AFBiH. They also discussed future plans and the need to continue the levels of engagement and cooperation.





EUFOR Observes 12th Anniversary of Helicopter Crash

A ceremony of remembrance was held on 13th January 2020 at Camp Butmir to mark the 12th anniversary of a helicopter crash which claimed the lives of 11 EUFOR personnel from the Republic of North Macedonia.

On 12th January 2008, a military helicopter carrying troops home from the EUFOR mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina crashed near its final destination of Skopje. Tragically, all 11 personnel on board were killed.

Taking part in the ceremony were COMEUFOR, Major General Reinhard Trischak, and the Ambassador of the Republic of North Macedonia, His Excellency Mr Ekrem Ebibi. During the ceremony, soldiers from EUFOR formed an Honour Guard by the memorial stone. Eleven candles were lit to signify the lost lives.

The Republic of North Macedonia is one of five non-EU nations that contribute to the EUFOR mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina.



COMEUFOR congratulates Sarajevo marathon winner



On 20 January 2020, COMEUFOR, Major General Reinhard Trischak, took time out to congratulate a soldier from the EUFOR Multinational Battalion, based at Camp Butmir, who won the 2nd Unusual Marathon, Sarajevo.

Warrant Officer Michael Baumgartner, 43, took part in the 42.2km long race on Sunday 19 January 2020, completing the course in a time of 3 hours and 3 minutes. The race started at 'Sniper Alley', went along the Spring of the River Bosna and ended at the Goat's Bridge.

When did you start running?

I started 2002/2003 with my best friend Mario. Since then we were running together some marathons or ultra-marathons (up to 100km), but also the IRONMAN-Triathlon.

Why did you choose long-distance running?

I wanted to get to know my own limits, constantly master new challenges, but also to switch off from my daily routine and relax.

Why was the victory unexpected?

Usually it is always professionals and semi-professionals who start. But also my preparation was a bit difficult. Due to the air pollution I had to train quite often on the treadmill instead of running outside.

How did it feel to be at the top of the podium?

I felt happiness and pride, especially as a reward for the countless training units over the last years, often also under bad weather conditions (rain, snow).

What are your future goals?

First of all continuing my hobby in a healthy way and without injuries for the rest of my life and second I would like to finish some marathons also in other countries and continents, maybe also in unfamiliar and unusual climate zones (desert, jungle,...).

Run for Peace



On 19 February 2020, EUFOR personnel from Camp Butmir took part in the International Military Sports Council (CISM) ‘Run for Peace’ to mark the International Day of Military Sports.

Event organiser, Captain Mark Cullagh, said:

“The CISM Day Run for Peace was a big success. We had male and female competitors all ages, who all displayed the great characteristics that you would expect of military personnel worldwide and especially in this camp. Everyone displayed great commitment, determination and physical fitness. We had some fantastic individual performances, with people finishing their race in extremely fast times.

“For me the most impressive thing were the people. Everyone was professional, friendly and the camaraderie among the group was great to see. A very enjoyable event, with new friendships formed, new t-shirts and some medal winners.”

He continued:

“I would like to take this opportunity to thank and congratulate everyone who participated in the event.”

Winners

Male	5km	Michael Baumgartner	AT
	5km over 50	Alexander Kovacs	AT
	2km	Tomas Konya	HU
	2 km over 50	Paul Jalaguier	FR
Female	5km	Bianka Monori	HU
	5km over 50	Anna Kovacs	HU
	2km	Georgiana Scaunasu	RO



CrossFit Competition



Winners

Female	1st	Emma Burke (IE)	25:01
	2nd	Viktoria Fegyveres (HU)	25:09
	3rd	Gabriella Odok (HU)	30:00
Male	1st	Tibor Bakas (HU)	20:39
	2nd	Dusan Galajda (SK)	21:59
	3rd	Mate Nagy (HU)	22:23



Basketbal 3X3 tournament

Standings after RR

1st	Experts	+24	8
2nd	Fire Fighters	+21	6
3rd	Hungary	-8	2
4th	Istanbul 34	-18	2
5th	IMP	-19	2

Semifinals

Experts-Hungary 19:8

Fire Fighters-Istanbul 34 21:7

Final Game

Experts: Fire Fighters 10:20

Game for 3rd place

Hungary-Istanbul 34 8:7

Standings

1st Place - Fire Fighters / EUFOR BiH
 2nd Place - Experts / BiH Armed Forces
 3rd place - Hungary / Hungary

Calling all amateur photographers!



Gunja bridge, Brčko

Winning photo by: Major Gerhard Tripolt, LOT Brčko

Continue snapping and send your photos with a short description (what, where, when, who) and the name of the photographer to euforpao@gmail.com before 15 April 20.

The best photo will be published in the next EUFOR Forum and win EUFOR branded POWERBANK.



Kraljeva Sutjeska
28 March

Upcoming tours:

Medjugorje & Pocitelj:

14 Mar 20

Srebrenica:

21 Mar 20

Fojnica monastery & Travnik:

28 Mar 20

Cost: 3.00 €

Please be advised that the travel assigning/booking list is available as of 03 March 2020 at MWA Office (BLDG 103 Room 21).

Mail Reinhard.Zeller@eufor.europa.eu or

Tanja.Miskovic@eufor.europa.eu