In the new context of globalization, states as actors of security are facing new challenges related to economic, political, financial, social and even image issues. In a world full of conflicts, poverty, global warming, food, access to resources, etc. are citizens’ main concerns, which led to the globalization of protest actions.

Under these circumstances, public order forces must consider the interaction of international threats with internal processes and must strengthen their cooperation, inclusively by sharing capacities, in order to provide a qualified response to the manifestations that may trouble public order and safety.

Taking into account the European provisions on the establishment at EU level of permanent military structures with crisis management attributions, Romania has expressed its desire to be among the states providing police forces with military status, to carry out missions for preventing international conflicts, crisis management, counseling, assistance, training and even substitution of local police forces.

One of the main instruments in this field is the European Gendarmerie Force, whose operational management is ensured for the next two years by the Romanian Gendarmerie. This structure, together with the International Association of Gendarmerie and Police forces with military status - FIEP, has the capacity to provide the answer to many public security issues on the international agenda.

I am convinced that the following years will confirm the value that Gendarmerie forces can bring to the international diplomatic and military effort to rebuild peace and to protect civilians in areas affected by conflicts, disorder and insecurity.

Colonel Gheorghe-Sebastian CUCOȘ,
General inspector of the Romanian Gendarmerie
Romania for the UN Security Council: a long-term commitment to peace, justice and development

“...A new mandate in the UNSC will provide Romania with the opportunity to act with deep respect for our common heritage, aware of the need for reform in many areas of the UN, and to leverage partnerships for action-oriented responses.”

Klaus Werner Iohannis

The United Nations, the most representative forum in promoting multilateralism, is for Romania an important framework for the promotion of Romanian foreign policy. Since 1955, when Romania joined the United Nations, our country has constantly focused its resources on reflecting national interests within the shaping process of the international evolution and on strengthening its political and security profile both globally and regionally.

By virtue of these elements, Romania wants to continue the tradition of confirming its role as a responsible actor of the global community through its intention to run for a non-permanent membership in the UN Security Council (UNSC) in 2020-2021. The motto of the candidacy fully reflects the comprehensive national approach: “a long-term commitment to peace, justice and development”.

The candidacy at the main global forum with responsibilities in maintaining international peace and security reflects our country’s commitment to promoting the principles of the UN Charter and recognizing Romania’s contribution to the Security Council for a non-permanent membership during four other precedent mandates (in 1962, 1976-1977, 1990-1991 and 2004-2005). On the occasion of the festive launching ceremony held at the United Nations headquarter in New York on June 2, 2017, the Romanian Foreign Minister said “we live in a complex, volatile world where we face new and diverse challenges which we have to deal with every day. The need for a strong organization, such as the UN, which is a guarantor of peace and a platform for finding the most appropriate solutions, is greater than ever. Romania will contribute to joint efforts at the UN level and will share collective responsibility in resolving international crises, including from the perspective of holding a non-permanent membership in the UN SC.”

Romania’s long-term involvement in the consolidation of UN capabilities was mainly reflected in the peacekeeping dimension by initiating and promoting resolutions impacting on international peace and security. During its last mandate in the SC, Romania has demonstrated its ability to manage a range of complex global challenges and to propose effective solutions that allow a focus on preventive diplomacy and post-conflict reconstruction. Romania has promoted the first UN resolution on co-operation with regional organizations (1631/2005).

In the current international context, marked by the multiplication and diversification of risks and threats to peace and security, the role and responsibilities of the Security Council, as well as the expectations of UN member states, are amplified.

By obtaining and exercising the mandate of a non-permanent member of the UNSC during 2020-2021, Romania will contribute to the consolidation of its credibility and prestige globally, including by capitalizing on the reputation gained in previous SC mandates.

Participating in the debates and decisions of the Security Council as a member of the world’s most prestigious peace and security forum offers opportunities that can be capitalized for the benefit of Romania and all international partners.

Aligned with these ideas, Romania’s priorities in the Security Council include, among others:
- promoting the objectives and principles of the UN Charter;
- resolving peacefully the disputes by maintaining or building peace;
- strengthening the effectiveness of peacekeeping missions by clear and efficient mandates, along with providing adequate means of implementation;
- promoting the protection of women and children in armed conflicts;
- tackling the problems faced by states with special needs;
- improving cooperation between the UN and regional organizations in maintaining international peace and security;
- supporting peacekeeping efforts with sustainable peace building measures to ensure long-term stability in conflict-affected countries.

Romania has the opportunity to participate in the decision-making process within the world organization, with influences on the international situation at a global level. Peace, one of the common
goals of all UN member states, is a major objective of our country which, since 1991, has participated in UN peacekeeping missions with over 10,000 soldiers, policemen and gendarmes who were deployed in 20 of UN missions. Romania’s participation in missions has highlighted, over the years, the efficiency of Romanian troops and Romania’s political willingness to engage in multinational military activities to maintain international stability.

Year 2017 marks 18 years of active participation of the Ministry of Internal Affairs troops in the global effort to maintain peace. Currently, through police and gendarmerie forces, Romania is among the first European states contributing troops to UN missions.

Thanks to the promotion of women’s candidacies in the UN peace missions, 15% of the Romanian police and gendarmerie officers participating in the missions are women. The achievement of these efforts was realized by awarding the International Female Police Peacekeeper 2015 to a female police officer, a member of the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH). In addition, a female officer currently occupies the post of Head of operations at the UN Mission in Liberia (UNMIL).

In over 62 years of membership, Romania has been an active presence in the main UN organs. Thus, Romania held the membership of the Security Council in 1962, 1976-1977, 1990-1991 and 2004-2005 and held the presidency of the General Assembly at its 22nd ordinary session (1967-1968).

Our country was a member of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in 1965-1967, 1974-1976, 1978-1980, 1982-1983, 1990-1998, 2002-2005 and 2007-2009. The re-election of Romania on June 15, 2017, member of ECOSOC, is a direct consequence of our country’s sustained involvement in most of the UN’s activities, and also confirms the appreciation our country enjoys internationally as well as the strengthened relationship system bilateral and multilateral.

In the previous magazine the Director of the NSPCOE explained the concept of Stability Policing (SP) (Replacement and reinforcing missions), the history about the NSPCOE and the way it is organized. In this piece you will learn more about the parties that benefit from the NSPCOE and the way the NSPCOE works.

NATO Stability Policing Centre of Excellence (NSPCOE), the sequel

Col. Arend te Velde, NATO SP COE Chief of Staff

The NSPCOE has a large community benefitting from their products. As the name of the NSPCOE already states it is NATO that is benefitting from the NSPCOE. NATO realizes the importance of SP and has written an Allied Joined Publication (AJP) about SP. With the promulgation of the AJP, NATO formalized SP as a NATO important (part of) operation(s). NATO as an organization consists of a large number of nations in which several of them are having a special consideration on SP.

Besides the participating nations in the NSPCOE, an increasing number of nations (not only NATO nations) are showing interest in the products of the NSPCOE. For example, nations from the middle-east and the other side of the globe (Australia and New Zealand) attended classes and workshops. Furthermore, delivering dozens of SME’s to workshops, supporting Resolute Support and training large quantities of international personnel the NSPNISP COE contributes to a wide variety of countries and organizations.
The NSPCOE has a strong external focus on topics which are considered to be Stability Policing (SP) topics or strongly related to SP. The goal is to support organizations and countries in general with a special emphasis for NATO. Starting from the establishment of the NSPCOE there was a lot of interest in the possibilities and the topic.

Request for support came in and a very tight planning was necessary in order to give support. In the present time the NSPCOE is even more known and it came to the point that sometimes requests for support are rejected.

The compass for the NSPCOE is the Strategic Plan. This plan is made operational within the Program of Work (POW). The POW consists of 3 topics:
1. Requests for support;
2. Courses for NSPCOE personal in order to develop the personal;
3. Activities developed and given priority by the NSPCOE itself.

The budget and yearly planning of the NSPCOE are based on the POW as well as the yearly planning.

The charters of the NSPCOE are all connected, it is called “the circle” while all activities in the NSPCOE are influencing each other. When a process is fully implemented and in place it is part of this circle. The Education & Training Branch (E&T) is responsible for the development and currency of the trainings (like Crowd and Riot control / Stability Policing for leaders and others).

These trainings are designed with the support of international working groups. After their first introduction, trainings need to be kept current in order to keep their quality and being able to cover all latest developments in the field SP. In order to do this, it is of high importance that the Doctrine & Concept development (D&CD) Branch is sharp on the developments in the field and works on the quality of the subject from a Doctrinal point of view. Their knowledge is a main input for the trainings. Their external orientation is therefore of high importance.

As being said that within the circle we have a third Branch, the Lessons Learned (LL) Branch. This Branch is also sharp on developments in the field of SP but from a LL point of view. The information they gather, together with their recommendations are an important influencer for the D&CD Branch. With this last discipline the circle within the NSPCOE is closed and able to maintain high quality in their productions.

The NSPCOE consists of the Directorate and the Branches which are manned by the representatives from the Czech Republic, France, Italy, Poland, Romania, Spain, the Netherlands and Turkey.

In some organizations the work of the supporting units is underestimated but the NSPCOE realizes that without a good support there will be no products, at all. This support is given by the Directorate.

The Directorate is making it possible for the Branches to deliver the NSPCOE products. Besides giving support, the Directorate also organizes several events itself which are giving a good visibility to the NSPCOE. (For example, the Military Police Panel (MPP) from NATO).

The Branches are involved in a wide varieties of activities under which there are some focus points.

**CD&E branch**
- Leadership of the writing team within the MPP which handles SP issues;
- Participation in the SFA/FFAO working group. This working group is focusing on strategic items and tries to foresee the future. Participation is influencing the necessity of SP for the future;
- Developing a doctrinal point of view on the place of SP in the NATO planning process and the development of a guide for NATO planners.

**LL branch**
- The development of a joint analyses report on the quality of SP within NATO operations and exercises;
- The development of a LL community of interest focused on SP;
- Participation in a NATO project in order to develop a concept on SP.

**E&T branch**
- Development and delivering of various training products;
- Development of a curriculum to educate Afghan future mentors and delivering these trainings within international mobile training teams;
- Participating in exercises as Subject Matter experts.

Having future focus on 2018 it is planned to close “the circle” as being explained before. In order to do so, we hope to have a SP LL community in place as well as the “planners guide”. Furthermore, we are focusing more on bringing future international police trainers in position through a ‘Train the trainers’ program. Depending on the introduction of the NATO SP concept we, as a NSPNSPCOE, will play an important role by implementing it.

Getting better acquainted? You are welcome on the website, Facebook page and of course you are invited to follow the NSPNSPCOE on twitter.

www.nspNSPCOE.org


https://twitter.com/nspNSPCOE
GENDARMERIE AND PUBLIC ORDER CULTURE

On 4 May 2016, the Council of Europe adopted the 2016 Convention on an integrated safety, security and service approach at football matches and other sports events, which provisions are mandatory.

Romania signed the new Convention on 29 November 2016, and at present, the formal ratification is an ongoing process. This is a huge commitment proving that we really want to improve and react in a best European way possible.

The real challenge now is to fit the words with the effective and concrete actions to be made in order to customize the best Romanian solution in order to address our Balcanic problems related to sport events policing.

Lic. Anton CERNAT, Cpt. Adrian DINCA

Past events, from Europe or elsewhere, should not be regarded just as news, but as examples or warnings about what could still occur, anywhere, anytime. An extremely light and fast conclusion is that, the most of the incidents have a common aspect: they occurred when less expected.

So, being aware that such incidents will unfortunately continue to appear we should reduce the vulnerabilities, to correctly evaluate the threats and assess the risks and to address the problems in most adequate way possible (expect the unexpected and be prepared for it).

Some of the general guidelines underlined by the Convention are:

• Having in mind that safety, security and service dynamically interact and overlap each State will customize a strategy (regularly evaluated and refined) based on a multiagency integrated approach;

• The national strategy should be tailored by expert practitioners taking into consideration the European good practices and the national experience (good or bad); this customized strategy can be used for football as well for other type of sport events (indoors or outdoors);

• Considering the fact that no agency (public or private) can effectively minimize safety and security risks at sport events if operating in isolation, within the national strategy all actors (public or private) should have a clear image of their roles and responsibilities, especially those that there are complementary;

• Policing strategies take account of good practices including, in particular: intelligence gathering, continuous risk assessment, risk based deployment, proportionate intervention to prevent the escalation of risk or disorder, effective dialogue with supporters and the wider community and evidence gathering of criminal activity as well as the sharing of such evidence with the competent authorities responsible for prosecution.

In order to conclude these technical details, it should be stressed that the Convention provisions represent only the flavor of the new European approach: the “nuggets” are set up into the Standing Committee Recommendation 1/2015; within this extremely comprehensive document European experts gathered best (proved to be efficient) practices related to safety, security and service. More than this, the same document includes a tool (shaped as a checklist) that each state can use to evaluate the current status in complying this the provisions of the new Convention (TS4).

The philosophy set up by TS4 centers on service as the first pillar in importance in developing a welcoming ethos around which safety measures should be drafted. Security is the last resort and should be applied in an intelligence-led, graduated, balanced and targeted manner; in this way the authorities will maintain perceptions of appropriate policing among crowd participants (more or less, the behavior of supporters generally and risk groups in particular can be variable and influenced by a wide range of external factors, including policing tactics).

Dialogue is another key-policy item indicated by CoE as crucial factor to a successful national strategy.

Cross-institutional dialogue, based a common policy and made by professionals in a very transparent manner is a good practice for informing all stakeholders, supporters and wider community about the sport event in general and operational requirements in particular.

An effective communication strategy is crucial in terms of using the media to provide information and reassurance to local communities in cities and towns hosting football matches and in providing supporters with a wide range of information on policing football operations, including behavioral tolerance levels, and relevant legislative and regulatory provisions.

From the police perspective, all the law enforcement agencies should remember that dialogue is impossible through the helmet and the feed-back could reveal ideas for further improvements in approaching crowds.

Follow the Convention- case study Romania Munich, 7th of September 2017

The integrated multiagency approach on safety, security and service (including governments, municipal authorities, police, security forces, football authorities, supporters and local communities) was in the spotlight of the UEFA-European Union Stadium and Security Conference, held this autumn in Munich.

The respective event brought together some 350 representatives of UEFA, the EU, national football associations, football clubs, police forces and other stakeholders for discussions and exchanges on the broad range of security-related issues surrounding the game.

Topics on the agenda included how to counter the continuing problem of violence in and around stadiums, the threat of potential terrorist attacks at football matches, the dangers posed by, among others, pyrotechnics and drones, ensuring accessibility to football matches for all, and potential liabilities and risks for the organizers of football events.

The 2017 UEFA-EU Stadium and Security Conference examined a case study of how Romania is implementing the 2016 Convention on Integrated Safety, Security and Service.

The case study of implementing the 2016 Convention in Romania was presented through six mini-videos related to following subjects: Integrated Multi-Agency Approach, Exclusion Strategy and Banning Orders, Stadium Facilities and Safety Certification, Certified Stewarding, Policing Style and International Police Co-operation.
Conference Session

The Munich conference heard from a panel comprising David Bohannan (Chair of the EU ‘Think Tank’ of Policing Experts), Adrian Dinca (Vice Chair of the Standing Committee) and Anton Cernat (Heid of the Romanian National Football Information Point).

Integrated Multi-Agency Approach

In the video, it was stated that Romania has put in place a National Committee against Violence in Sport, which is responsible for the implementation of a national strategy in the field of preventing and tackling football related violence.

In the light of the new Convention this inter-institutional entity should be refined as well, by meeting on a regular basis, stability of the expert members and coordinating the local subsequent bodies.

Most probably the challenge is to ensure the right Ministry led the body – it needs to be the Ministry of the Interior – and of translating strategy into action.

Exclusion Strategy and Banning Orders

Excluding the troublemakers is a critical element of changing the football audience. Romania had brought in legislation allowing three levels of bans. Police and gendarmerie can impose bans directly on known risk supporters. Prosecutors also have administrative exclusion powers. Finally, the criminal courts can make exclusion orders of up to five years, although there can be difficulties persuading judges to impose the bans.

Romanian spotters use IT tech in order to exchange information on banned persons, tracking them in the city to make sure they cannot come to the stadium.

The effectiveness of the arrangements in place led to the conclusion that bans imposed by individual police and gendarmerie officers were accepted because they proved to be the most efficient tool and it is more effective than a criminal conviction.

Stadium Facilities and Safety Certification

Romania had built eight new football stadiums since 2000, the jewel being the 55,600 National Arena in Bucharest which had hosted the 2012 UEFA Europa League Final, so facilities and infrastructure appeared to have been improving.

However the whole nation had been shaken by the Collectiv night club fire in October 2015 in which 64 people had died. This brought to public notice the fact that many venues in Romania functioned without the correct fire safety approvals from the authorities. Incredibly, the National Arena was one such building. The stadium was closed in November 2015 and did not reopen for five months. The financial losses during that time were estimated at €750,000 – that’s a lot of money for not having the correct safety certification.

In relation with this subject, an appropriate conclusion could be that a competent independent body is needed to ensure that certification decisions will not suffer from any external influence.

Certified Stewarding

Romania had defined an occupational standard for stewarding and adopted the UEFA 'train the trainers' package to provide a mandatory 90 hours training. These measures are allowing Romania to standardise training for stadium stewards at a national level.

The new system was being rolled out successfully. Making it a requirement for all stewards – safety and security - to be trained and certified to the same standard had been a key factor, as had securing the support of the private security industry. Work is now needed to be done to implement a certified system for the stadium and club security officers themselves.

Policing Style

The Gendarmerie Chief of Staff and the Bucharest match commander showed in the video how the police had embraced the concepts of “friendly but firm” policing style and graded policing deployment – using officers in ordinary uniform to communicate with the fans and escalating to a more public order style only when the circumstances demanded it. There had been some initial resistance to the new ideas, however their clear benefits had made it possible to implement them quickly. Since the move to a more dialogue-based approach, no large-scale interventions by the gendarmerie had been needed. Their job was to be present but invisible.

The challenge for Romania is to ensure this philosophy will be adopted across the whole country.

Spotters and International Police Co-operation

Romania has one of the best resourced NFIPs in Europe. It was highlighted the clear benefits of this resourcing commitment. You cannot be fully operational without sufficient staff to cover on the road at matches and back in the office. Better intelligence meant less other police deployment.

Romania – like the 26 other signatory countries – is moving towards joining the four nations (France, Monaco, Poland and Russian Federation) which have already announced their ratification of the new Convention. Romania’s efforts are to be commended and UEFA will continue to partner them on their journey.

We embrace the concluding message of the conference, in which UEFA President Aleksander Ceferin underlined the European body’s commitment to ridding football of various negative factors that create potential risks at matches, and which affect spectators’ enjoyment of the match experience.

“Supporters are the lifeblood of football” he said. “Without them, the game would lose its atmosphere, its passion and its meaning. The spectators have the right to expect football events to take place in a safe, secure, comfortable and welcoming environment – and that they should be able to feel excitement, rather than any kind of fear or concern.”
The summer of festivals

“NEVERSEA”, a small town in a city

Col. Sorin TRANCĂ

The story was written in Constanța, for three days and three nights in which over 150,000 people, local people and tourists, stepped into the magical realm of Neversea. The festival took place in an area of over 100,000 square meters, where on the seven scenes stepped 150 famous artists and DJs among whom: Jason Derulo, Tiesto, Afrojack, Dua Lipa, Rita Ora, Sam Feldt, Fatboy Slim, Years & Years and Ella Eyre.

The story began in early April when Decebal Făgădău, the mayor of Constanța signed the collaboration protocol for organizing NEVERSEA musical event in Constanța in the first decade of July, a local replica of the UNTOLD International Festival.

On the first day, Sam Feldt, the DJ with the most viewed song of summer “Summer on you” and who was in Romania for the first time, said after the show that he wanted to return to NEVERSEA. Rita Ora was amazed at the warmth of the Romanian people. The legendary Tiesto gathered in front of the main stage, tens of thousands of fans, both from the country and from abroad, and Lost Frequencies and Tujamo made the Black Sea sunrise a magical one. Tujamo said: “Every time I come here, I think of a marathon to organize music festivals. For three days and three nights in which over 150,000 people, local people and tourists, stepped into the magical realm of Neversea. The festival took place in an area of over 100,000 square meters, where on the seven scenes stepped 150 famous artists and DJs among whom: Jason Derulo, Tiesto, Afrojack, Dua Lipa, Rita Ora, Sam Feldt, Fatboy Slim, Years & Years and Ella Eyre. The story began in early April when Decebal Făgădău, the mayor of Constanța signed the collaboration protocol for organizing NEVERSEA musical event in Constanța in the first decade of July, a local replica of the UNTOLD International Festival.

Filled with positive energy and with the explosion of happiness of tens of thousands of fans, Afrojack, one of the world’s best DJs, descended among the fans and prolonged the show with half an hour.

The third day of the festival brought on the stage two of the most awaited Romanian artists: Dua Lipa and Jason Derulo, who made over 55,000 fans vibrate and the fireworks at the end left most of the present ones with tears of happiness in the eyes.

So that all these things can happen, the structures of the Ministry of Internals took increased security measures for the largest seaside festival. On the evening of July 6, at 08 o’clock p.m., the representatives of the structures from the Ministry of Internals at the central and county level joined by the Local Police and the head of the security company met for the first time at the advanced command point, in order to set the latest details of this important mission. The advanced command point included the commanders of structures from the Ministry of Internals in the county, as well as officers with responsible positions from these structures – the Mobile Gendarmes Group from Constanța, the Police Inspectorate of Constanța County, the Emergency Situations Inspectorate of Constanța, the Coast Guard of Constanța, the Immigration General Inspectorate of Constanța, the Brigade for Combatting Organized Crime from Constanța, the Service for Special Interventions and Actions - which were all coordinated by officers from the central structure of the Ministry of Internals and the General Inspectorate of the Romanian Gendarmerie.

The activity was monitored by the director of the National Center for Integrated Leadership from the Ministry of Internals, Chief Commissioner Grezi Richard and by the director of Public Order and Safety Directorate within the General Inspectorate of the Romanian Gendarmerie, colonel Liviu Uldău. The chief of the command point was appointed the commander of the Gendarmerie Special Intervention Brigade, colonel Cătălin Paraschiv, who coordinated the activity of public order forces in the field.

From 07th to 09th July, over 600 anti-terrorist fighters of the Romanian Gendarmerie Special Brigade, fighters specialized in maritime anti-terrorist actions, dogs trained specifically for the detection of prohibited substances, together with gendarmes from the Mobile Group of Constanța, ensured security measures for all the participants in this event, together with other public order structures from the Ministry of Internals, the Local Police and the security company. The morning of July 7 began with a control of the Service for Special Interventions and Actions in the entire perimeter and with a control of dogs specially trained to detect explosive or pyrotechnic substances, so that the show can be performed in the best possible conditions for all participants. After searching the participants, the gendarmes, the police and the security company started their mission.

The access by car to the festival area was banned, and the authorities provided the public with Neversea transportation service. In the old area of Constanța there were gendarmes everywhere and special troops representatives. There were security filters within a 5 km range to protect the 150,000 participants in the festival.

For three days the show gathered on the seaside people from Romania but also from abroad who participated both in mainstage concerts but also in concerts on other scenes of the festival.

NEVERSEA managed to become the largest festival on the Black Sea beach, but also the second largest in Romania as for the number of participants, after UNTOLD, so for public order forces, the primary mission was the safety of the participants.

The beginning of the summer season also marked the start of a marathon to organize music festivals. The hundreds of thousands of participants were among the heroes of stories written in Constanța, Cluj Napoca or Buftea.
For four days, the city of Cluj Napoca was the favourite destination of young people from Romania and from all corners of the world. At the 3rd Edition, the Untold Festival, a unique event for Romania, organized in Cluj-Napoca from 3rd to 6th August, gathered over 1,200 gendarmes, policemen, firemen and pilots of the Special Aviation Unit from Cluj-Napoca who acted for ensuring public order and security measures (over 950 of them in the festival’s perimeter and 135 joint patrols in the city). The commander of the mission for ensuring public order was colonel Liviu Uzlău.

333,000 participants were fully delighted with the 200 artists who went on the 10 scenes of the festival, the participants dancing until the dawn of each day on the music of some of the best DJs in the world. According to the organizers, each scene had a story and a special design for which worked architects, engineers and technical teams. During the four days and four nights, all full of emotion and magic as declared by the young people who came from different corners of the country or of the world, the show was at its best.

The Gendarmerie, together with other structures of the Ministry of Internals, took additional measures to ensure and maintain public order. The patrol and preventive actions were intensified in the vicinity of the venue, as well as in the accommodation areas and on the routes leading to the location of the event. The railway station, the airport, public transport means, as well as the accommodation areas of the Romanian tourists, all benefited from the attention of law enforcers.

In order to make it work as needed, five Advanced Medical Points and a mobile hospital operated in the perimeter of the festival, served by firefighter paramedics, volunteers and medical staff from the Emergency Department-Emergency, Resuscitation and Extrication Medical Service from Cluj. In addition, two special vehicles for putting out fires and for extrication, a CBRN special vehicle and a transport and command vehicle were permanently mobilized.

Special support for the festival was provided by the Air Special Unit from Cluj-Napoca, a crew with a helicopter type EC-135 with FLIR (electro-optical observation system during day and night), from the General Inspectorate of Aviation of the Ministry of Internals, which overflew the area, monitoring and transmitting in real time data and images needed for the smooth running of this event.

It was an event where I could see so much energy per square meter! We thank the festival participants for understanding this year too to manifest their joy in a responsible manner and for choosing safe fun!
There were nine such situations during the four days training, culminating with the 2000m altitude intervention in Sinaia, where the situation was dramatic: several tourists were badly injured and located in a difficult accessible area, identified by landmarks. The teams divided the search area and the tourists were found, but they could not be transported pedestrian, thus, air support was requested. A helicopter of the Special Aviation Unit recovered the wounded and transported them to the city, where they were taken over by their colleagues from SMURD, and afterwards recovered the rescuers.

And this exercise, as part of the "Strengthening the Capabilities of the Romanian Gendarmerie" project, co-financed through the Swiss-Romanian Cooperation Program, once again demonstrated that the use of the helicopter in search and rescue operations is not a fad, more and more a necessity.

Even if it is costly, air support intervention ensures:

• Considerable reduction of time for effective intervention, sometimes up to 50-75%, which often makes the difference between a successful and a doomed action, between life and death.

• Considered reduction of time and effort for transport. Air support ensures:
  • easier access to damaged areas (rock walls, canyons, steep valleys), for performing insertion techniques of the rescuers and the extraction of the rescue-victim binomial;
  • increased range of action and increased quantity of intervention materials (depending on the type of helicopter) plus high mobility.

Currently, the helicopter is the ideal means of transporting fast, efficient and with minimum risk, the specialized intervention teams and casualties; air support is a component of the emergency service that offers equal opportunities for every single person that might find themselves in a situation of being rescued, regardless of the hostile environment they are in.
For the fifteenth consecutive year, the Romanian Gendarmerie organizes the "International Superior Course" at "Mihai Viteazul" Application School for Officers. Running from 4 September to 8 December, the course focuses on training officers belonging to internal security forces for the purpose of exercising specific functions within an international staff during UN peacekeeping missions.

Cpt. Cristina POTAMIAN

The International Superior Course, class of 2017, gathers 11 officers belonging to the internal security forces from countries such as France, Madagascar, Morocco, Moldova, Jordan, Lebanon, Romania and Ukraine. Captain Cristian Vătrai, within the Mobile Gendarmes Group of Craiova, was selected for the position of commander of the International Superior Course.

Continuity is also the fact that, for the seventh consecutive year, the Romanian Gendarmerie through "Mihai Viteazul" Application School for Officers concluded a protocol with the International Francophonie Organization, which ensures the attendance costs for three students from OIF member countries on the African continent, namely 2 students from Madagascar, one student from Tunisia and one student from Morocco.

The official opening of the training session took place on September 7, in the presence of Colonel Ionut Sindile, empowered the first deputy of the general inspector and Chief of Staff. In his opening speech, he stated that "each of you is a true representative of his country, a participant in the exchange of ideas, opinions and arguments, which will finally offer us the possibility to develop and perfect the methods of training used to participate in peacekeeping missions.

Also, on the basis of the good cooperation relations between the Romanian Gendarmerie and the French National Gendarmerie under the sign of which this course has been held so far, the French National Gendarmerie expressed its willingness to support the efforts of the Romanian Gendarmerie by the presence at this course of Lieutenant - Colonel Michon Marcel, deputy commander of the International Superior Course, as well as by the presence of French teacher Stephanian Emilie, who will carry out a temporary support mission to the Romanian Gendarmerie for nine months.”

Within the 14 classes of the International Superior Course, there were about 42 foreign lecturers and 219 trainees from 26 countries from 3 continents: Albania, Algeria, Armenia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, France, Georgia, Italy, Macedonia, Madagascar, Mali, Morocco, Montenegro, Palestine, Poland, the People’s Republic of China, the Republic of Moldova, the Czech Republic, Romania, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Serbia, Slovakia, Tunisia, Turkey and Ukraine.

The International Superior Course has a particular interest for international organizations such as the United Nations (UN) and the International Organization of Francophonie (IOF), proven by the certification of the course by UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations since 1 April 2015 and by the annual funding by IOF of the participation for students from the African continent.

* In conclusion of my speech, I wish you, dear students, a warm "Welcome to Romania!” and especially in the middle of the Romanian Gendarmerie, convinced that our institution will be a welcoming host that will skillfully combine Romanian culture and civilization with the specifics of the activities carried out during the course”, Colonel Ionut Sindile said.
Romanian gendarms in international missions

Cpt. Gheorghe ENE

In the current global political and strategic context, peacekeeping and war prevention depend, more than ever, on the effectiveness of preventive diplomacy and successful crisis management that affects security. Thus, international organizations have stepped up their efforts in this area, but in many cases dialogue and negotiations have had to be duplicated by missions to protect civilians and help legitimate authorities to strengthen their institutional capacity. Romania has taken an active part in this effort and the militaries within the Romanian Gendarmerie contribute to the success of the missions in different theaters, under the aegis of the UN, EU, NATO or OSCE, whether it is the protection of civilians, creating the conditions of a sustainable peace or training, counseling and assistance to local forces missions.

MONUSCO followed, since 1 July 2007, another UN operation. This mission is the change reflected by the social evolution in that country.

MONUSCO is authorized to use all means necessary to successfully meet its objectives of ensuring the protection of the civilian population, of members of humanitarian and human rights organizations that act in the area against the threats of physical violence, as well as supporting the Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo in its efforts to stabilizing and consolidating peace.

On this mission, Major Tatu Sebastian participates on behalf of the Romanian Gendarmerie.

MONUSCO

Operation MONUSCO in the Democratic Republic of Congo

MONUSCO's mandate was further amended by Security Council resolution 2227 of 29 June 2015 as follows: ceasefires; support to the implementation of the Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation in Mali; good offices and reconciliation; protection of civilians, human rights and the return of displaced persons; the extension of State authority; the promotion of human rights in that country.

The Mission was asked to support the transitional authorities of Mali in the stabilization of the country and implementation of the transitional roadmap, focusing on major population centres and lines of communication, protecting civilians, human rights monitoring, the creation of conditions for the provision of humanitarian assistance and the return of displaced persons, the extension of State authority and the preparation of free, inclusive and peaceful elections.

By unanimously adopting resolution 2164 of 25 June 2014, the Security Council amended the mandate of the Mission and decided that it should focus on duties, such as ensuring security, stabilization and protection of civilians; supporting national political dialogue and reconciliation; and assisting the reestablishment of State authority, the rebuilding of the security sector, and the promotion and protection of human rights in that country.

The last one is to assist the Malian authorities, as necessary and feasible, in protecting from attack the cultural and historical sites in Mali, in collaboration with UNESCO.

Romanian Gendarmerie deployed 3 officers, within training department: major Dobul Catalin, major Panfil Marian and major Marghia Justinian-Dacian.

EU EUCAP SAHEL Mali

The EUCAP Sahel Mali mission supports the Malian state to ensure constitutional and democratic order, to create the conditions for sustainable peace and to maintain its authority throughout the country. EUCAP Sahel Mali consists of a team of counselors and instructors working with internal and ministerial security forces to improve the human resources system, to reorganize training policy and train cadres in the high potential sector (‘future cadres’).

EUCAP Sahel Mali is part of the comprehensive EU approach to security and development in the Sahel region. Two other CSDP missions are in the region: EUTM Mali, which supports the recovery of effective and responsible small armed forces and EUCAP Sahel Niger, which supports the fight against organized crime and terrorism in Niger.

From the Romanian Gendarmerie, Lieutenant Colonel Feciuc Cristian-Ovidiu participates in this mission.

ONU MINUSMA Mali

The EU Civilian Monitoring Mission in Georgia (EUMM Georgia) has as main objective observing the situation on the ground as a result of Georgia summer war in 2008.

Currently, the mission is organized on the principle of multinationality, by replacing national contingents with some of the mixed type. In this regard, the patrol teams were trained on three issues: internally displaced and some of the mixed type. In this regard, the patrol teams were trained on three issues: internally displaced and humanitarian issues; police, justice and human rights; army.

Within the EU Monitoring Mission in Georgia (EUMM Georgia), Romania has an important contribution, the fifth in terms of staff (20 persons). Romania's team is headed by Alina Doroftei, a diplomat at the MFA. Captain Stanciu Sandu participates on behalf of the Romanian Gendarmerie.

Romania is directly interested in stabilizing the Black Sea region, which is one of our foreign policy priorities, and through effective participation in EUMM Georgia, Romania proves to be a responsible actor in this region.
The EU is setting up a mission to advise on the reform of the civilian security sector in Ukraine (EUAM Ukraine) in order to assist Ukraine in the field of civil security reform, including the police and the rule of law.

Mandate. In order to support Ukraine’s commitments in the area of security sector reform, the non-executive civilian CSDP mission guides and advises the relevant structures of Ukraine in developing renewed security strategies and in the subsequent implementation of relevant, comprehensive and coherent reform efforts, with a view to:

- creating a conceptual framework for planning and implementing reforms that lead to sustainable security services, capable of securing the rule of law in a way that will help to strengthen their legitimacy and increase the trust of the population, with full respect of human rights and in line with the constitutional reform process;
- reorganizing security services in a way that allows control and accountability to be restored.

Captain Oprea Neculai of the Gendarmerie is a representative of Romania on this mission.

UNMISS South Sudan

UNMISS South Sudan has the following objectives:

- civilians protection;
- regularly monitoring, investigating, verifying and reporting on human rights abuses and violations of international humanitarian law;
- creating the conditions for providing humanitarian assistance so as to facilitate full, safe and unhindered access to aid personnel for all those in need in South Sudan and, in particular, for internally displaced persons and refugees;
- supporting the implementation of the Hostility Cessation Agreement.

The Gendarmerie deployed three gendarmes on this mission as monitors and instructors: Captain Dima Adrian, Captain Bulearca Anghel and NCO Nicolae Constantin-Liviu.

Afghanistan

RESOLUTE SUPPORT MISSION

Starting with January 1, 2015, NATO is engaged in a training, counseling and assistance mission for Afghanistan’s security forces and its institutions. RSM succeeds the ISAF operation (from December 2001 to December 2014), with around 13,000 troops. Unlike ISAF, the Resolute Support mission is non-combat (not engaging in fighting against insurgents).

Since July 2017, two Romanian officers have been deployed in Afghanistan as part of the staff participating in NATO’s Resolute Support mission. These are: Colonel Octavian Ciora, who holds the position counselor for the Chief of Staff of the Afghan Ministry of the Interior and Major Ion Dan, who has been a Staff Officer within the Operational Center.

MINUJUSTH in Haiti

Based on the achievements of the past 13 years, the UN decided to complete the MINUSTAH mission on October 15, 2017.

Taking into consideration the need for sustainable stability, peace building and support, as well as the necessary support to reduce significant risks and vulnerabilities, the Security Council has recommended a new peacekeeping mission in Haiti, entitled United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti - MINUJUSTH.

The mandate of this mission will be to support the Haitian government to strengthen the rule of law institutions in Haiti, support and develop national police (PNH), as well as monitoring, reporting and analyzing the respect of human rights.

MINUJUSTH will be made up of seven established Police Units - FPU (totaling 980 members) and 295 policemen on individual posts - IPO. It emphasizes that 295 police officers will play a key role in implementing the priorities set out in the PNH Strategic Development Plan for 2017-2021.

Two of these policemen are Lieutenant Colonel Neculai Octavian and Major Paun Gabriel deployed since October at MINUJUSTH.
CHANGE OF COMMAND

On Tuesday, 27th of June 2017, took place the ceremony of taking over the command of the European Gendarmerie Force (EGF). In the presence of Member States’ delegations, brigadier general Philippe RIO (National French Gendarmerie) handed over the EGF flag to Romanian colonel Lucian Gavrilă and said: „Dear Lucian, in a few minutes you will hold the command of the European Gendarmerie Force. I envy you for having many challenges to face, and here, in the Permanent Headquarters, a great team is waiting for you and together you will succeed. I wish with all sincerity, to you and to the entire EUROGENDFOR community, the best of luck for the next 2 years. And don’t forget! Together we will be stronger!”

Romanian Gendarmerie holds this function for the first time, for a 2 years mandate. At the Headquarters in Vicenza (Italy) we can also find in mission captain Ovidiu Paşcu, logistics officer, NCO Irina Lucia Bitu, in Financial Branch, and NCO Daniel Laurenţiu Cerbu, in Communications and Information Systems Branch.

EGF agenda

Cpt. Gheorghe ENE

EGF COMMITMENTS

The new EGF leadership must apply the CIMIN commitments, one of which is the participation in the EU Liaison and Planning Cell (EULPC). Its main goal is to support UNSMIL mission in order to restore the stability and security in Libya. The mission is currently following the implementation of the Security Plan in Tripoli, the transformation of the Presidential Guard into a gendarmerie-type force, similar to the European ones, and planning the return of the UN mission to Libya.

The EGF Headquarters official is captain Ovidiu Paşcu who, under the coordination of the Defense Counselor of EU Delegation in Libya and together with the other 7 members of the Cell is working to successfully fulfill the mission. When the mission started, Captain Ovidiu Paşcu had a meeting with the Ambassador of Romania in Tunisia, Mister Dan Stoicescu, to inform about his presence in this mission, about its main objectives, but also about the objectives and capabilities of the EGF.

The European Gendarmerie Force also aims to develop the communications and informatics system, by approving and pursuing the implementation of the project proposed by the Communications and Information Technology Bureau. The head of the Bureau, Major Carmen Fernandez and her assistant, NCO Daniel Laurenţiu Cerbu, are responsible for the project implementation. The main objective will be to update the software products and to create an informatics platform able to assure the information exchange and team work in real time, both at commander’s level and at the EGF officials’ level during their missions.
In order to better explain the financial impact of the project, but also other financial aspects of the EGF headquarter, the commander Lucian Gavrilă assigned lieutenant-colonel Jose Capelo and NCO Irina Lucia Bînu to represent the mission during the financial administration council meeting in Bucharest between the 19th and the 21st of September. During the same meeting Romania handed over the Council Presidency to Poland’s delegates.

EGF REPRESENTATION

In addition to the management of the current EGF’s commitments, Colonel Lucian Gavrilă represents the institution at high-level meetings with European Union structures, the most recent meeting being the one with the EU delegation that gathered the Head of the Directorate for Nuclear Safety and Security of the General Directorate for International Cooperation and Development of the European Commission, Mr. Olivier Luyckx, Ms Cherry Roberts from the European Commission and Mr. Renzo Console from the European External Action Service.

EGF MODEL

The European Gendarmerie Model, as the Brigadier General Philippe Rio (French National Gendarmerie) said, is not a specific country, but a standard. A European standard! “We bring this model to the missions we are executing outside the EU. And it is much better to offer the standard of a single gendarmerie, combining our efforts to multiply the final result. Together we are stronger, of a single gendarmerie, combining our efforts to multiply the final result. Together we are more efficient. It’s my conviction that it has an idea. Because all these people work in the interest of the organization and their countries of origin. They act only for EU security and not for their own interest. That makes the difference, being both the strength and the weakness of the EGF. The former EGF commander explains this as follows: “It is our weakness because it is a complex tool, but it is also our power!”

BILATERAL VERSUS TOGETHER

Why weakness and power? First of all, the decision process is heavier than in the case of a bilateral agreement. It is simpler but not stronger than acting together. Because acting together, you do not act personally with the countries concerned, but based on the decisions of a committee. Members of the European Committee that gather to support an external partner. In doing so, support is stronger in political and diplomatic terms. It brings more expertise from several states.

So it’s not just a country that comes and says that it has an idea. Because all these people work in the interest of the organization and their countries of origin. They act only for EU security and not for their own interest. That makes the difference, being both the strength and the weakness of the EGF. The former EGF commander explains this as follows: “It is our weakness because it is a complex tool, but it is also our power!”

Unfortunately, crises are developing. We have very recent examples in the European Union. There are more and more crises, which logically brings the need for increased crisis management capacity. And this development highlights the PHQ activity, because the EGF is one of the instruments used in such situations.

The Permanent Headquarter has new operational challenges every day. And if you work with a team of professionals who often face challenges, then, along with them, the team develops their abilities, welfare and enthusiasm.

So this is the new context that makes the PHQ more and more prepared and productive if we can say that. Here, certainly, a professional team has formed, capable of reacting accordingly.

Although it is a young organization, over time, the EGF has gained a reputation, visibility, and the Permanent Headquarter of Vicenza is currently being very solicited.

So it is easier to support such activities together. It is more complex, but the result is much stronger. You can give yourself more support, more time, and you can have the exact expertise you need. So EUROGENDFOR is not just a surplus of Member States’ capacity and is not easy to spot.

EUROGENDFOR HEADQUARTER

EUROGENDFOR cannot do everything, but sometimes it can add value. And this value is to plan and lead multinational missions. That’s what the Permanent Headquarter does. EUROPOL does this, so the United Nations. But these institutions work on their own. The EGF is available to those who need this ability to plan and run.

He followed the natural course of a brilliant military career: platoon commander, company commander, commander of a mobile detachment, Deputy Chief of Staff of the European Gendarmerie Force - Vicenza. He was the head of the Ministry of Internal Affairs contingent in Afghanistan and Advisor to the Head of the Afghan Ministry of Interior. Every stage of his life has contributed to becoming the man of today and brought him, at the head of the European Gendarmerie Force.

He will certainly succeed, as he has done every time, to accomplish his mission successfully. Certainly, in the next number of this magazine there will be a more detailed article about one of those who make us proud to wear a blue gendarme uniform.
FIEP SUMMIT 2017

The Senior Council of Directors and Commanding Generals - FIEP Summit took place in Amman (Jordan), from 15th to 18th of October, 2017.

The commanders and general directors of the FIEP forces - full and associate members or observers - were invited to participate in this reunion, as follows:

- French Gendarmerie Nationale, Italian Arma dei Carabinieri, Spanish Guardia Civil, Portuguese Guarda Nacional Republicana, Turkish Jandarma, Netherlands Koninklijke Marechaussee, Moroccan Gendarmerie Royale, Romanian Jandarmeria, Jordanian Gendarmerie Forces, Tunisian Carde Nationale, Palestinian National Security Forces, Ukrainian National Guard (Full Members);
- Argentinian Gendarmeria Nacional, Chilean Carabineros, Qatari Lakhwiyas Forces, Brazilian National Council of the General Commanders of the Military Police and Military Fire Corps (Associate Members);
- Djiboutian National Gendarmerie (Observer).

Moreover, during the Summit ceremony, the general directors and commanders within FIEP signed the Common Declaration, which contains the consolidated version of the FIEP Statute with its annexes, and also the FIEP working program during 2018. The main aspects included in the Common Declaration reflect the works undertaken during the four FIEP Commissions organized under the Jordanian Presidency, having as general theme: “The Migrants Crisis – Balance between Protection of Migrants and National Security”.

Some important issues discussed and decided during this year were the following:

The admission processes and the status of the forces:
- It was decided by unanimity to grant the National Guard of Ukraine and also the Palestinian National Security Forces the Full Member Status within FIEP;
- It was decided by unanimity to grant the National Council of the General Commanders of the Military Police and Military Fire Corps from Brazil the Associate Member Status within FIEP, after one year as Observer;
- Following the decision of all FIEP members, the National Gendarmerie of Djibouti was granted the observer status within FIEP, with the possibility that after minimum one year and upon their request, to upgrade their status to Associate Member;
- The Kuwaiti National Guard and the Special Tasks Department within the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia: the FIEP members agreed to postpone the admission procedures for next year, under the Turkish Presidency;
- The National Gendarmerie of Senegal sent to the Jordanian Presidency a letter of intention to adhere to FIEP as Associate Member. Consequently, it was decided to continue the admission procedures in 2018, during the Turkish Presidency.

The FIEP strategy – evolution of the Association:

The main decisions taken are the following:
- to change the name of the European and Mediterranean Association of Gendarmeries and Police Forces with Military Status – FIEP into the International Association of Gendarmeries and Police Forces with Military Status - FIEP. The new designation reflects much better the concept of the FIEP Association and its composition;
- to transform the European Affairs Commission into the International Affairs Commission, which could bring an added-value to FIEP as well as to each member force, taking into consideration the benefits in terms of cooperation and exchange of expertise;
- to adopt a new voting system on two levels: in order to avoid the blocking of the decisions and to respect all FIEP members interests, the decisions during the commissions will be taken by a 2/3 majority, while the vote by unanimity will continue to be exerted during the Summit.

The FIEP Statute and its amendments:

Considering the large number of candidatures to FIEP, the Romanian Gendarmerie proposed to create the standards of admission for the new forces. All FIEP members agreed to introduce a new annex to the FIEP Statute which aims at clearly describing the steps, standards and procedures for a candidate force to adhere to FIEP. Thus, the Romanian Gendarmerie significantly contributed to create the annex, especially due to its participation in two fact finding missions in Ukraine and Brazil during the Romanian FIEP Presidency in 2016, when it also coordinated the international evaluation team. Based on its experience and lessons learned, the Romanian Gendarmerie has contributed to standardize the evaluation and admission process for the candidate forces to FIEP.

The FIEP Library:

The Romanian Gendarmerie had the initiative to create a virtual library of FIEP and have largely contributed to implement this project, in order to re-create a “written history” of FIEP and for the newcomers to have a better understanding of the Association’s background.

The general theme under the Turkish Presidency:

The FIEP members have decided that the general theme for 2018 is: “The Prevention of Terrorist Attacks in Public Spaces”. This topic will be tackled by the FIEP experts in order to share best practices and exchange experiences in the field of reference.

Moreover, FIEP was reformed this year. There have been profound changes, fundamental to the Association and unprecedented due to their implications: the adoption of a new voting system, of the membership standards, a greater openness to the expertise of third parties and the enlargement to the worldwide spectrum, reflected by the new name of the Association itself (The International Gendarmerie and Military Police Association) and in the consolidated version of the FIEP statute. Beyond doubt, these transformations will lead to the increase of the expertise exchange, to the creation of standardized admission procedures for new members, to a greater degree of flexibility and cooperation, to strengthening the visibility and credibility of the Association and, last but not least, to value the concept of gendarmerie type forces.”
Moldova – the last redoubt in the Great War

The participation of the Gendarmerie in fulfilling the national ideal

1916 - 1918

In the following lines we will speak about a great moment in the history of our people, the historical stage that led to the accomplishment of the greatest national ideal - the Union of all three Romanian provinces, and here we refer to the Great War. Known in the World History as the First World War (from July 28, 1914 to November 11, 1918), the armed conflagration would bring dreadful struggles in the foreground, the use of new weapons and fighting tactics for the first time, a war of moral and physical wearing down, fighting positions, trenches, which led to the poor morale of the troops. The gendarmes fought along with the Romanian Army of Operations, aware of their mission and role, sometimes determined to become victorious, but also to ensure the peace and security behind the front line.

On August 14, 1916, through the High Royal Decree no.2789 was decided the Mobilization of the Romanian Armed Forces, and the first day of mobilization began at midnight, on the night of 14-15 August. The next day, King Ferdinand issued the following Proclamation:

"Soldiers,
I called you to carry the flag of your victory over the borders where Our brethren look forward to you with a hopeful heart.

The shadows of the Great Princes, Michael the Brave and Stephen the Great, whose remains lie in the lands which you will liberate, Urge you to Win, as worthy descendants of the soldiers who were victorious at Râzboieni, Câlușăreni and Plevna.

You will fight alongside with the Great Nations,

A fierce battle awaits you, so we must endure the hardships bravely, with God’s help the victory will be Ours. Show yourself worthy of the ancient glory.

Throughout the ages, a whole Nation will speak well of you and will glorify you.

(ss)Ferdinand"

In the war, the Romanian Army of Operations will participate in fighting battles with 365 infantry battalions, 104 cavalry squadrons, 374 artillery batteries and 3,500 gendarmes, mobilized on the active part; the remaining 6,500 will compose the sedentary part of the army.

The role of the gendarmes from the army of operations, from the active part, was to participate in military actions in the front line, to police the front line and what happens behind the front line, to establish gendarme posts in the liberated cities, to provide informational support, to provide army units with the gendarmerie research system, to participate with the gendarmerie posts in the border areas in the realization of the army staff, to ensure the movement, guarding and defending of the command points and to ensure the praetorial service (made up of gendarmerie officers with the minimum rank of captain, who have administrative, judicial police and court functions, exercising their duties in the area of the main unit where they work).

The gendarmes from the sedentary part carried out missions to maintain public order and protect public and private assets, support the authorities for collecting and storing agricultural crops, requisition of the necessary assets for the army of operations, supervising the mood of the population, mobilizing it for combat engineer work, pursuing and capturing dangerous offenders, the organization of anti-aircraft defense and the elimination of the effects of bombings, the prevention of sabotage, etc.
The advancement of the front line and the army’s failure at Turtucaia (from 1st to 6th September 1916) and at "Flămânda Maneuver" (from 23rd September to 6th October 1916) put an end to the offensive from Transylvania and repositioned the troops in defense, on battle lines unfavorable to the Romanian forces, which determined the armies of Central Powers to take the initiative. The rural gendarmerie companies had to withdraw alongside with the Operation Army in the unoccupied territories. Thus, on 4th October 1916, by Circular Order no.14679 of the Gendarmerie General Inspectorate, the Rural Gendarmes Company from Brăila with a staff of 1 officer and 116 gendarmes was repositioned in Covurlui county, on the territory of Oancea village, where it will supplement the gendarmes staff of Horincea, Prut de Sus, Prut de Jos, Bujor and Zimbru, as well as the staff of the subordinated gendarmes posts.

After the reorganization of the army and of the gendarmerie in 1917, are maintained praetorial services alongside the Great General Headquarters, the 4 Armies and the divisions, a moment when the police companies, consisting of rural gendarmes and troops, will appear for the first time and will be commanded by infantry captains. The new reorganization will also be seen in the victories against the 9th German Army of Field Marshal Augus von Mackensen and against the 1st German Reserve Corps of General Kurt von Morgen and against the Gerok Group as well as against the right wing of the 1st Austro-Hungarian Army in the battles from Mărăşti - Mărăşeşti - Oituz and Vrancea Mountains.

At the beginning of 1918, Galaţi city faced an unexpected danger, the enemy established at Galaţi - Nămoloasa - Focşani battle line and a disorganized Russian army, which wouldn’t listen to the commands of the military leaders and which wanted to loot. This moment, not shown by history textbooks, is known as the "Battle for Galaţi", a battle fought by a few sailors, infantrymen, gendarmes and firemen from Galaţi with the redoubtable 4th Siberian Corps intending to pass with arms through Bessarabia. We will speak at the right time about the battle that took place from January 7 to 9, 1918, with the victory of the Romanian soldiers.

Dear reader! You had the opportunity to browse a few pages from the tumultuous history of the Romanian people, its army and its gendarmerie. These are a few moments full of pride that marked our history, a difficult history, a history of a people at the crossroads of the great empires, a history that must be brought to light to reaffirm the pride of being Romanian.

HONOUR AND GLORY!

At the beginning of 1918, the King sent the next High Order to the army:

"Soldiers!
It’s been a year of heavy fights in which your flags are covered with Glory again.
Joint work for the victory over different varied armies has gathered new laurels and the fame of our army’s bravery and its endurance strength, has penetrated far beyond our borders.

You have awakened the admiration and won the gratitude of our allies, and the enemy has been imposed to respect the Romanian soldier.
Today, on the threshold of a new year, I deeply thank you all, from General to soldier.
The New Year, however, finds enemies inside the borders of the Country, the poor population in the occupied lands, still feels the heavy pressure of this invisible fist.

The enemy walks like a wolf in lamb clothing, flattering with sweet words, so that he can surely catch his prey, like the false prophets, he walks happily and can only produce disintegration and death.
You My Brave Warriors from Mărăşti, Mărăşeşti and the Oituz Mountains stand steadfastly to faithfully guard the border, so that no one can penetrate through the steel ring you made through your bravery.

Now with weapons at your feet, you should always keep an eye on the enemy, your heart should beat with the same confidence and warmth for your Country and your King who embraces you with the love of a parent, puts all the hope and faith in your arm and in God who rewards His sons with righteousness.
You are undoubtedly the future!
From all my heart I wish you a good year which can fully bring you the fruit of your labor in a battle for Our holy cause!
Order given in Our Royal District on January 1, 1918.

(ss)Ferdinand"