

The Evolution of the Croatian Armed Forces in the Face of 21st Century Security Challenges

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AGENDA

STRATEGIC SECURITY SITUATION

- Republic of Croatia
- Challenges, threats and risks

ROLE OF THE CROATIAN ARMED FORCES

- Missions and Tasks
- Level of Ambition
- Response to new challenges and threats



STRATEGIC SECURITY SITUATION

Geographical and political position of Croatia

- Long border line (land and sea)
- Membership in NATO and EU



Challenges, threats and risks

- Direct attack on Croatia, NATO and EU territory
- Non-military threats and terrorism
- Failed states
- Not completed transition in the region
- Spreading of extremism and radicalism
- International organized crime and proliferation
- Natural and technical catastrophes
- Climate change
- Cyber security

VERY LOW

MEDIUM

LOW

MEDIUM

MEDIUM

HIGH

MEDIUM

MEDIUM

MEDIUM



ROLE OF THE CROATIAN ARMED FORCES

Quality of leadership, well trained and modern.

BEFORE	TODAY
6 CORPS COMMANDS	NO CORPS STRUCTURE
63 BRIGADES	2 BRIGADES
4 AIRFORCE BASES	2 AIRFORCE BASES
3 NAVAL SECTORS	NO NAVAL SECTORS
THE FLEET	FLOTILA + COAST GUARD
183,000 OF MANDATORY RESERVE	1,000 CONTRACT RESERVE (guidelines)
MANDATORY DRAFT SERVICE	VOLUNTEER DRAFT SYSTEM
47,500 ACTIVE DUTY PERSONNEL	15,509 ACTIVE DUTY PERSONNEL

Mission and tasks:

- Defence of territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence as well as defence of allies

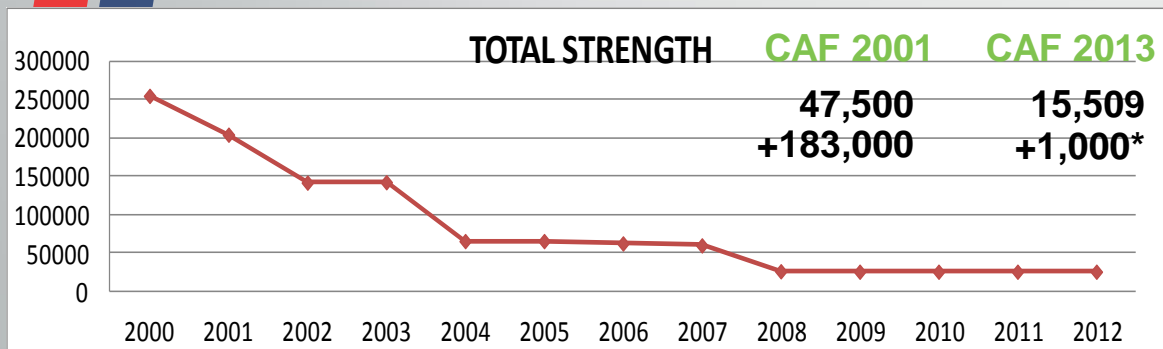
- protection of Croatian integrity,
- contribution to collective defence,
- maintaining sovereignty in the air and at sea .

- Contribution to international security

- contribution to Peace Support Operations,
- defence diplomacy
- arms control, disarmament, non-proliferation.

- Support to civilian institutions

- support to Police and other State agencies,
- support to national protection and rescue system
- support to civilian community



„FROM SECURITY CONSUMER TO SECURITY PROVIDER“

LEVEL OF AMBITION

Maintaining current level of Defence Budget in next three years

Country defence with all available potentials and relying on collective defence

Equipment and training for participation in operations

NATO Capability Targets as a tool

Participation in NRF and EUBGs

Land Force (50% deployable, 10% sustainable)

Air Force (40% deployable, 8% sustainable)

Maritime Force (protection of national interests at sea, possible participation in EU and NATO operations in Adriatic sea)



RESPONSE TO NEW CHALLENGES AND THREATS

- **Need for the development of new military capabilities**
(Smart Defense, Pooling and Sharing, regional initiatives)
- **Proactive approach and continuous transformation of the Armed Forces**
 - Organizational
 - Personnel
- **Readiness**
 - Education and training
 - Exercises
 - Interoperability
 - Equipment and weaponry (kompatibility, dual-use)
 - Deployability



POTENTIAL PROBLEM AREAS

Air policing

- Regional solution?

Defence Budget

- Further decline and its influence on modernization projects

Expansion of non-traditional military tasks and dual-use

- Availability of EU funds?

Protection of sea

- Inter-agency approach





***Republic of Croatia – safe
and secure country for its
citizens in this world full of
uncertainty***

**THANKS
FOR YOUR
ATTENTION**

**QUESTIONS
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