

## 1. Security Policy: Ukrainian Priorities in the Security and Defence Domain

In the course of the week, the Supreme Commander-in-Chief of the Ukrainian Armed Forces, the President of Ukraine, Viktor Yanukovich, identified priorities for new leaders in the security and defence domain. He also outlined prospective ways of tackling these priority challenges.

**Comment:** *At the ceremony celebrating the 18<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Ukrainian Security Service, Viktor Yanukovich gave his estimate of the processes currently underway in the Ukrainian security and defence domain. The Supreme Commander-in-Chief of the Ukrainian Armed Forces focused on such issues as ensuring national economic security of Ukraine (which he considers to be unsatisfactory at present); increasing global instability and escalation of conflicts in interstate relations; the need for ensuring combat potential of Ukraine and revising threats to its military security; preservation of the defence nature of the Military Doctrine and making adequate defence capabilities the foundations of this doctrine; gradual transition to a professional army; development of new state-of-the-art weapons and equipment, first of all rocket and air defence systems; improvement of the Command and Control system in the Ukrainian Armed Forces. As to relations with NATO, the President of Ukraine stressed, "Maximally close cooperation without integration". During his meeting with the Defence Minister, Mykhailo Yezhel, Viktor Yanukovich emphasised the need for solving the problem of funding for the Ukrainian Armed Forces and unconditional fulfilment of international obligations undertaken by Ukraine.*

## 2. Security Policy: New Composition of the Government Committee

The Cabinet of Ministers issued a number of decrees establishing the composition of the Committee for National Security, Defence, Law Enforcement and Military-Industrial Enterprises. The Cabinet also established the new position of Deputy Minister of Industrial Policy – Chief of the Agency for Defence Industrial Complex.

**Comment:** *According to Decree No460-r of 17.03.2010, responsibilities of the Head of the Committee for National Security, Defence, Law Enforcement and Military-Industrial Enterprises are entrusted to a Vice-Premier. Other members of the Committee include the Defence Minister, the Minister of Interior, the Minister of Justice, a Deputy Minister of Industrial Policy, a Deputy Minister of Emergencies and Protection of Population Against Consequences of the Chernobyl Disaster, the Chief of the Ukrainian Security Service, the Chief of the State Border Service, a Deputy Minister of Economy, a Deputy Minister of Finance, a Deputy Minister of the Cabinet.*

*Decrees No538-r and 539-r of 17.03.2010 also established the new position of Deputy Minister of Industrial Policy of Ukraine – Chief of the Agency for Defence-Industrial Complex. Kostiantyn Antonovych Kucher is appointed to this new post.*

## 3. Manning of the Ukrainian Armed Forces: Conscription Campaign "Spring 2010"

19.03.10. The Defence Minister, Mykhailo Yezhel, signed Decree No146 "On Transition to Reserve and Regular Conscription in April-May 2010".

**Comment:** *According to plans, 26 000 men are to be drafted this time which is 450 men fewer than last autumn. 20 000 out of them will be drafted to the Ukrainian Armed Forces which is 500 men more than during the conscription campaign "Autumn 2009". 5 100 draftees will go to the Interior Troops and 900 conscripts to the State Special Transport Service. As stated in Annex 2 to Cabinet's Decree No228 of 02.03.2010, the financial allocations for the conscription campaign amount to 1 677 000 UAH, including 1 290 000 for the Armed Forces, 328 950 UAH for the Interior Troops and 58 050 UAH for the State Special Transport Service. Conscription of one young soldier will cost the state 64,5 UAH. This sum does not include the cost of food rations and transportation to his designated unit.*

*For the comparison table of conscription in 2001 and 2010 in Ukraine see Annex to the IAR DN 12/2010.*

## 4. Multinational Exercises: Preparation for "Rapid Trident 2010"

24.03.10. A reconnaissance of the area in the Lviv Region where the Ukraine-US CPX "Rapid Trident 2010" will be conducted is currently underway.

**Comment:** *The reconnaissance is conducted jointly by representatives of 12 foreign countries, namely the USA, the UK, Norway, Moldova, Macedonia, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Slovenia, Georgia, Canada, Germany, and Poland. The participants refined the exercise scenario, specified the number of exercise participants and the issue of financial support of the host nation.*

*The "Rapid Trident" series was launched in Ukraine in 1994. The purpose of this exercise is training of multinational headquarters and units for joint operation as part of multinational forces in peace support operations. Another aim is Level I Self-Evaluation of Ukrainian Army units assigned to the Pool of Forces and Capabilities. For instance, the exercise "Rapid Trident 2008" was attended by representatives of Armed Forces from 18 countries. The Ukrainian contingent consisting of almost 300 personnel was the most numerous in that exercise. Over 900 servicemen were involved in the exercise, all told.*

*The Ukrainian Supreme Council's refusal to debate a bill on admission of foreign military units to the Ukrainian territory in 2009 for participation in multinational military exercises (on the 12<sup>th</sup> of June 2009) frustrated the exercises. In view of the lack of legal grounds for admission of foreign military units to Ukraine for participation in multinational exercises, a decision was made to re-format the Ukraine-US CPX "Rapid Trident 2009" into "Evaluation 2009".*

## 5. Multinational Exercises: Preparation for "Blackseafor"

19.03.10. The Ukrainian Navy ship "Slavutych" left her home base in Sevastopol in the framework of preparation for participation in the next activation of the Black Sea Naval Cooperation Group "Blackseafor".

**Comment:** In the course of this sea voyage, the crew of "Slavutych" will practise some elements of the course task K-2 including combat exercises. A Mi-14 helicopter from the Saky Naval Aviation Brigade is engaged in the exercise to simulate bombing and attack for the ship crew to practise air defence procedures. The seamen will also exercise such tasks as counter subsurface subversive operations when unprotected in the roads. The multinational formation of ships from the Black Sea states "Blackseafor" will be activated during 9-27 April 2010. The ships will call at the ports Ereğli (Turkey), Varna (Bulgaria) and Constanta (Romania).

According to the Agreement on establishment of the Black Sea Naval Cooperation Group concluded on 2 April 2001 in Istanbul, the key tasks of the BLACKSEAFOR are search and rescue operations, humanitarian antimine operations, and environmental protection operations. The plans also include good will calls at ports of member states. The Agreement was signed by Ukraine, Bulgaria, Romania, Georgia, Turkey and Russia. The Commander of the Blackseafor is appointed for one year and replaced after the rotation principle.

## **6. Ukraine-NATO: Certification after NATO Standards**

In the Zhytomyr region, an engineer company (8<sup>th</sup> Army Corps) assigned to the Pool of Forces and Capabilities passed certification after NATO standards, namely Level II Self-Evaluation.

**Comment:** The purpose of the certification was to evaluate actions of squads operating as part of a peacekeeping contingent. The unit in question is manned with contract servicemen only. Combat training for the company includes exercising military standards of the Allied Operational Command. The company participated in the Ukraine-US CPX "Rapid Trident 2008" where it conducted Level I Self-Evaluation after NATO standards. In 2009, in the course of the exercise "Rapid Trident 2009", the unit passed Level I Evaluation by NATO experts. This year the engineer company will be submitted for Level II Evaluation by NATO experts.

## **7. Development of Weapons and Equipment: Technical Support to the Submarine "Zaporizhia"**

21.03.10. First Deputy Chief of the Main Staff of the Russian Navy, Vice Admiral Oleg Burtsev, stated that Russia intended to help Ukraine with maintenance of the Ukrainian submarine "Zaporizhia".

**Comment:** The only Ukrainian submarine "Zaporizhia" is ready to take to the sea after a 15-year-long repair. From 1991 till 1994 the submarine was repaired by Russians. Ukraine has been repairing "Zaporizhia" since 2001 – first at the dock "Metalist" in Balaklava, then, since 2003, at the Shipyard No13 which is part of the Russian Black Sea Fleet. On 20 July 2009, after the submarine "Zaporizhia" had left the dock, specialists of the 13<sup>th</sup> Shipyard commenced preparation for mounting of accumulators that had been procured from Greece back in 2003 (according to the then provisional schedule, the repair was to have been completed in 2004). It was only in early January 2010 that the accumulator was finally mounted on the submarine and preparation for dockside trials and sea trials could begin. According to information from the Defence Ministry as of late 2009, 10 million UAH are required to complete repair of the submarine "Zaporizhia".

## **8. Conversion: List of Ammunition for Disposal**

The Cabinet of Ministers issued Decree No 383-r of 02.03.2010 establishing a list of ammunition to be disposed of during 2010-2011.

**Comment:** The Cabinet entrusted the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Industrial Policy and the National Space Agency with a task to ensure disposal of ammunition from the approved list within the scope of allocations provided for by the State Budget.

According to the approved list, the majority of ammunition for disposal will be taken from arsenals and depots located in Tsvitokha and Shpychyntsi (Khmelnitskyi Region), Chudniv and Ushomyr (Zhytomyr Region), Rozsishky (Cherkassy Region), Bilenke (Odessa Region), Ichnia (Chernigiv Region), Lozova and Balaklia (Kharkiv Region), Makariv and Olshanytsia (Kyiv Region), Bogdanivka (Kirovigrad Region), Kalynivka (Vinnytsia Region), Buz'ke (Mykolaiv Region).

## **9. The Ukrainian Armed Forces and Society: Pensions for Retired Servicemen**

The Ukrainian Cabinet of Ministers entrusted security, defence and law enforcement agencies of Ukraine with a task to consider the possibility of easing the burden on the Pension Fund of Ukraine through revision of accounting and payment of pensions to retired servicemen.

**Comment:** The Government sent out a written order to security, defence and law enforcement agencies entrusting them with a task to work out by 22 March 2010 propositions on amendments to current legislation in terms of pension support to servicemen, private soldiers and leaders in order to decrease the deficit and fill the Pension Fund. The Government believes that the following key measures should be taken to decrease the deficit in the Pension Fund and balance it: impose limitations on the size of pensions and make it an absolute value (no more than 6 000 UAH) instead of its being twelve times the living wage; suspend payment of early pensions until the beneficiary reaches the pension age established by the law; freeze special and preferential pensions and additional payments transferred from the State Budget; bring special/preferential pensions closer to the general pension formula; increase length of service required to grant the minimal pension.

**Comparison Table  
Conscription in Ukraine in 2001-2010**

Military Formations	2001		2002		2003		2004		2005		2006		2007		2008		2009		2010
	Spring	Autumn	Spring																
Ukrainian Armed Forces	<b>35000</b>	<b>34000</b>	<b>33000</b>	<b>32000</b>	<b>30000</b>	<b>30000</b>	<b>26000</b>	<b>19441</b>	<b>23000</b>	<b>27000</b>	<b>21139</b>	<b>24518</b>	<b>22000</b>	<b>22000</b>	<b>15000</b>	<b>20000</b>	<b>20000</b>	<b>19500</b>	<b>20000</b>
Security Service of Ukraine	455	420	510	500	385	590	310	375	385	590	276	305							
State Border Service of Ukraine	3000	3000	4700	4200	4000	3700	3000	3500	2500	4000	2500	2000	1000	300					
Interior Troops	7370	5000	7000	7000	5500	5500	6500	5500	4500	7000	6200	5600	6100	5900	5700	5000	5500	5700	5100
Ministry of Emergencies Troops	1570	1200	1590	1600	1390	1500													
State Special Transport Service										1560	680	1480	810	1300	900	550	1000	1250	900
<b>Total</b>	<b>47395</b>	<b>43620</b>	<b>46800</b>	<b>45300</b>	<b>41275</b>	<b>41290</b>	<b>35810</b>	<b>28816</b>	<b>30385</b>	<b>40150</b>	<b>30795</b>	<b>33903</b>	<b>29910</b>	<b>29500</b>	<b>21600</b>	<b>25550</b>	<b>26500</b>	<b>26450</b>	<b>26000</b>