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Safety on the eastern flank – a common goal of Poland and Lithuania

- Our military cooperation with Lithuania is very good. We are joined by the fact that together we put a lot of effort to ensure security on NATO's eastern flank. We also have a similar attitude towards threats - said Mariusz Błaszczak, Minister of National Defense after meeting with Lithuanian Minister of Defense, Raimundas Karoblis.



On November 23-24, Mariusz Błaszczak, the Polish Minister of National Defense, was in Vilnius, where he participated in the meeting of ministers of defense of the Baltic States and Poland and in central celebrations organized on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the revival of the Armed Forces of Lithuania.

During the visit, the head of the Polish Ministry of Defense spoke, among others on the subject of cooperation and prospects for its development with the Minister of Defense of Lithuania. - Our cooperation is developing dynamically. We talked about security on the eastern flank and the activities that strengthen it - among others about joint trainings, as well as cooperation of special forces. We are in the eFP - Enhanced Forward Presence program. Today we are in the EU; within the framework of NATO we are forming basis for safety and security both in Poland and in Lithuania - said the Minister.

On Saturday, Minister Mariusz Błaszczak signed the declaration on Poland's accession to the "Cyber Rapid Response Teams" program, which was created as part of PESCO. Lithuania is the framework nation of the project. - The point is to commonly use our forces and resources. In Poland, we have institutions that deal with the topic of cyber security. The idea is to synergize our efforts. We will be exchanging, among others, our experiences and will think of even more effective ways to prevent incidents in this area - said Minister Błaszczak.

- This program is about reactions to cyber threats. Together we will work to create the possibility for our immediate and effective response in such situations - he added.

On Saturday in Vilnius, on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the revival of the Lithuanian Armed Forces, a great military parade was organized and attended by about 1,800 soldiers and over 80 military

vehicles. It was the largest parade in the history of Lithuania. Polish soldiers took part in the parade with the LITPOLUKRBRIG flag held by the brigade staff, a platoon of Polish soldiers from the LITPOLUKRBRIG command battalion and the colour party from the representative regiment of the Warsaw Garrison Command. After the ceremony, Minister Blaszczak handed over a commemorative sword to the minister of defense of Lithuania Raimundas Karoblis.

During his visit to Lithuania, Minister Blaszczak laid wreaths at the military cemetery in Antokol and the Rasos Cemetery in front of the Mausoleum of "Mother and Son's Heart" - It is extremely important for us Poles to remember history and draw on heritage. For me personally, this is a very important moment. The place with Mausoleum of the " Mother and Son's Heart " is a symbol that builds our national identity - said the minister.

PESCO (permanent structured cooperation) - permanent structural cooperation in the field of common security and defense policy. It enables EU member states to cooperate more closely in the field of security and defense, joint development of defense potential, investing in the same projects or increasing the participation and operational readiness of the armed forces.