

JOINT DECLARATION

following

THE MEETING

BETWEEN

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

AND

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF

CROATIA AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE

AND

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOSOVA

held in Tirana, Albania on **18th March 2025**

Recognizing the strong and enduring relations between the Republic of Albania, the Republic of Croatia, and the Republic of Kosovo, based on shared values, strategic orientations, and mutual commitments towards regional security and cooperation.

Reaffirming our intent to strengthening trilateral security and defence cooperation to enhance security and stability in Southeast Europe and the Adriatic-Ionian region,

Emphasizing the importance of joint efforts in responding to emerging security challenges, hybrid threats, and other risks that may undermine regional, European and international stability,

Taking immediate action to develop defense capabilities acknowledging ambitions stemming from the NATO Strategic Concept and the European Union Strategic Compass designed to enhance our ability to protect our territories and people and to contribute to international peace and security,

Advancing joint steps to increase defence industrial cooperation and production in line with NATO's Industrial Expansion Pledge and the European Union's "ReArm Europe" plan,

We are determined to ensure that we are well-positioned to meet current and evolving threats and to achieve our defence and security objectives,

We, the Minister of Defence of the Republic of Albania, the Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Croatia and Minister of Defence, and the Minister of Defence of the Republic of Kosovo hereby declare our engagement as follows:

1. Promote defence capabilities related and industry cooperation by:

- Exploring the development and acquisition of defence capabilities through collaborated multinational solutions to enhance the readiness of our military forces;
- Identifying areas for defence industrial cooperation by fostering access to resources and supply chains to create a competitive and resilient defence industry;
- Increasing efforts to invest in new technologies and innovation to accelerate and ensure a unified approach to security and defence transformation.

2. Enhance interoperability through education, training, and exercises by:

- Sharing expertise and best-practices in recruiting, developing, and retaining qualified personnel, including exchanging reserve force concepts, to enhance our deterrence and defence capabilities;
- Enhancing individual and collective education and training opportunities through respective military academies and colleges to raise strategic understanding of common threats and challenges;
- Strengthening bilateral and/or trilateral exercises to improve interoperability, in line with NATO and EU Training and Exercise Policy, to ensure that forces are adequately prepared.

3. Counter hybrid threats and strengthening resilience by:

- Bolstering joint steps to counter hybrid threats, including cyber threats, disinformation campaigns, and foreign malign influence that can compromise or affect national and regional security;
- Sharing information and intelligence for strategic and operational situational awareness and coordination among defence institutions to prevent, detect, and effectively respond to challenges posed to our respective countries;
- Exploring response options that address a wide range of potential threats to our critical infrastructure and communications networks and support cohesion and mutual aid.

4. Provide Full Support for Euro-Atlantic Integration by:

- Aligning policies and positions in the Euro-Atlantic multilateral security and defence institutions and structures to advance our national and common/joint regional interests and objectives;

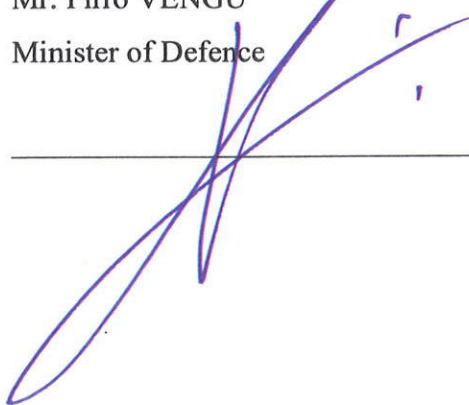
- Committing to closer cooperation and coordination for Kosova's full integration into regional security and defence-related initiatives;
- Supporting the Euro-Atlantic perspective of Kosova by advocating for its status in NATO's Partnership for Peace.

This Joint Declaration is made in the spirit of friendship, solidarity, and mutual trust. It reflects the common strategic visions of the Republic of Albania, the Republic of Croatia, and the Republic of Kosova. It does not create any new international or intergovernmental legal obligations between States, nor does it affect existing obligations with other States.

Signed in Tirana on 18th March 2025

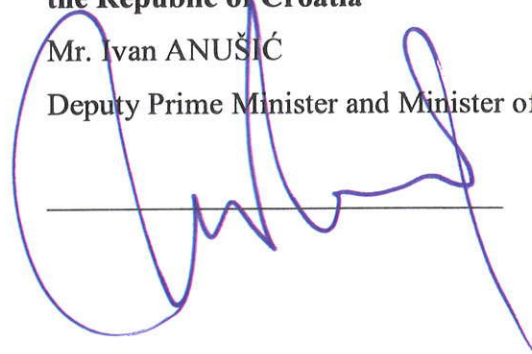
**For the Ministry of Defence of
the Republic of Albania**

Mr. Pirro VENGU
Minister of Defence



**For the Ministry of Defence of
the Republic of Croatia**

Mr. Ivan ANUŠIĆ
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence



**For the Ministry of Defence of
the Republic of Kosova**

Mr. Ejup MAQEDONCI
Minister of Defence

