

## **COMMON CHALLENGE-19**

MULTINATIONAL COMPUTER ASSISTED COMMAND POST EXERCISE







**The Common Challenge-19** Multinational Computer Assisted Command Post Exercise (CPX) is a key, and final event in the one and a half years long EU BG preparation process. Poland, as a framework nation, with troops from Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary and Croatia will stay on Council of the European Union alert from the 1<sup>st</sup> of July till 31<sup>st</sup> of December, 2019 ready to be deployed up to 6000 km from Brussels.

The main goal of the COCE-19 certification exercise to be reached is to confirm the EU BG Force Headquarters (FHQ) and Joint Logistics Support Group (JLSG) full readiness as Battlegroup Core with all its elements were already certified during PUMA-18 exercise in November, 2018.

Common Challenge-19 exercise will be conducted from 09 MAY–17 MAY 2019. The Officer Scheduling the Exercise (OSE) is General Commander of the Polish Armed Forces, the Officer Conducting the Exercise (OCE) is Land Forces Inspector General Command of the Polish Armed Forces (GC PAF). The OCE is responsible for the detailed planning and the overall execution of COCE–19.

**The aim of the exercise** is to provide opportunity to train, evaluate and certify FHQ and JLSG HQ in order to accomplish the training process that will allow to achieve the FOC as well as FHQ planning and commanding ability supported by JLSG HQ.



#### LAND FORCES INSPECTOR

Brig. Gen. Wojciech Grabowski

From 1 July 2019, the European Union Battle Group with the Visegrad Four (V4) countries and the Republic of Croatia will be on the 6 month – period stand by to allow the European Union and its Member States to independently and rapidly respond to emerging conflicts and crises.

It is my pleasure as the Land Forces Inspector of the Polish Armed Forces and the Common Challenge-19 (COCE-19) Exercise Director at the same time to welcome You at the Military Training Area in Nowa Dęba for the certification of EU BG 2019-2.

COCE-19, as the final phase of EU BG 2019-2 preparation, is about to confirm the preparation of command and headquarters of the EU BG to conduct crisis response operation, stabilization and peacekeeping missions, conducted on the basis of the UN Security Council mandate. The exercise will comprise elements that test and develop EU's military capabilities, and ensure that relevant EU concepts are exercised if possible across the full capability requirement spectrum.

I am convinced that not only the exercise will confirm the excellent preparation and readiness of soldiers from all countries participating in EU BG, but also the conclusions and final remarks from Common Challenge-19 will be used for the further development of the military cooperation.

Brig. Gen. Wojciech Grabowski







General Command of the Polish Armed Forces, is a joint command, responsible for commanding military units of the branches of the Armed Forces at peacetime and crisis and other units, after assigning for Operational Command, during war. Its responsibilities include training commanders and staffs, forces, personnel reserve as well as professional education. It also functions as a holder of equipment that is it indicates the features and specificity of the equipment that will be necessary for particular group of soldiers for achieving their indicated operational capabilities.

The structure of the General Command includes the command, staff and inspectorates of: Land Forces, Navy, Air Force, Special Forces and Branches of Armed Forces and Training. They are the main General Commander's tools for realisation of tasks within their particular areas. Moreover, divisions, flotillas, wings, independent brigades and training centres are subordinate to General Command of the Polish Armed Forces.

The main objective of General Command of the Polish Armed Forces is to organize the process of preparation of forces and means as well as their assignment for conducting operations according to the plan prepared by Armed Forces Operational Command. The strategic triad that is General Staff, General Command of the Polish Armed Forces and Armed Forces Operational Command is engaged in realization of that task. Exercise Common Challenge-19 is led and supervised by the GENCOM.



On the basis of planning documents and conclusions from Strategic Defence Game conducted by General Staff of Polish Armed Forces, Operational Command draws up standards and defines capabilities for assigned forces. It also organizes training and prepares and harmonizes units dedicated for an operation. General Command of the Polish Armed Forces is responsible for achieving the defined operational capabilities. Moreover, it participates in the process of preparing plans of using Armed Forces within the planned defensive operation and crisis management. Among its competences there are also tasks connected with preparation and maintaining Combat and Mobilization Readiness of forces and reserve.



General Command also plays a leading role in the process of training forces assigned for participation in stabilization operations, crisis management and humanitarian actions. Of course, after finishing the stage of training, the Armed Forces Operational Command will conduct so called certification that is a test of the gained capabilities and readiness for taking up activity. At the next stage these subunits will be transferred to subordination of Operational Command of Branches of the Armed Forces and the task of General Commander will be to maintain readiness of the reserve for supplementing the assigned forces and resources.





In not such a long European Union Battlegroup's history (counting slightly more than 12 years) Poland will have its third chance to contribute to this joint European effort. This time, while providing more than 1300 troops and civilians to the EU BG, will have the privilege and responsibility to be the framework nation for the EU BG V4 2019/II. Arm by arm with troops from Czech Republic (20% personnel contribution to the BG), Hungary (14%), Slovakia (9%) and Croatia (0,25%) will stay on Council of the European Union alert from the beginning of July till the end of December, 2019 ready to react as far as up to 6000 km from Brussels.

The EU Battlegroup is composed of:

- deployable Field Headquarters (FHQ),
- Battlegroup Core (main combat power),
- · Combat Support elements (ISR Group, Air Group, MILENG, -MP, CBRN unit, Non-kinetic support units),
- Combat Service Support elements (JLSG, Medical units).

Except for Battlegroup Core every single element consists of personnel from contributing countries (is multinational) what can give us a great possibility to cooperate and develop in many areas but is challenging itself at the same time.



#### 6<sup>TH</sup> AIRBORNE BRIGADE COMMANDER FHQ COMMANDER

Brig. Gen. Szymon Koziatek

The nearest challenge standing in front of the Brigade is to provide European Union with the security as EU Battlegroup.

6<sup>th</sup> Airborne Brigade is a light unit characterized by high strategic mobility, with the capability to be deployed by air to any place in the Earth (at full strength or as independent battalion-sized task force). The brigade performs tasks typical of airborne units such as seizing key objects or terrain within the enemy formations. The brigade is also capable of conducting global or local crisis response actions (counteracting terrorism, separating hostile parties, peace enforcement and noncombat evacuation operations). Some operations are conducted in cooperation with Special Forces. The brigade uses the Polish Air Force cargo planes.

The Brigade currently comprises the following units: 6<sup>th</sup> HQ battalion, three airborne battalions (6<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> abn bn) and 6<sup>th</sup> logistics battalion. The brigade is capable of independent combat activities due to having all necessary support and security units in its structure. The brigade character and its capability of conducting combat tasks enables the unit to face the challenges of the second decade of the XXI century. The reorganised unit refers to the glorious traditions of its elite predecessors: 1<sup>st</sup> Independent Parachute Brigade and 6<sup>th</sup> Pomeranian Airborne Division.





The main combat power of the European Union Battlegroup is the BG Core – enhanced battalion-sized element equipped with Armoured Personnel Carriers (Rosomaks) and HMMWVs. Polish troops from 6<sup>th</sup> Airborne Brigade, mostly from 18<sup>th</sup> airborne battalion, supported by the mechanized company from the 12<sup>th</sup> Mechanized Brigade and Joint Terminal Attack Controller (JTAC) from the 1<sup>st</sup> Land Forces Aviation Brigade will stay on alert ready to be deployed as far as 6000 km from Brussels in every direction.





The JLSG, with its more than 400 troops, is a very essential component of the entire EU BG and that is why 4 main nations contributing to the EU BG have its representatives in the JLSG.

It is a joint, force generated, deployable logistic capability When activated, the JLSG HQ will provide the tactical-level executive for command and control of Force Commander assigned forces for the delivery of the joint logistic support network.

The JLSG also ensures that it is able to sustain itself at first line and second line either through organic assets or through agreements with other components.

The JLSG interacts with the components providing common services and support to meet their individual requirements through use of its assigned forces, host-nation support and contracts. Component commanders, in accordance with transfer of authority, may grant COMJLSG command of component tactical assets. It will provide command and control of allocated units to support the deployment, operational-level sustainment and redeployment of the force.

#### Timeframe:

Deployment: 06 May 2019 EXCON readiness 07 May 2019 PHASE I in barrack Evaluation 08 May 2019 PRE-EX Period: 09–11 May 2019 MINIEX: 12 May 2019 (including Opening Ceremony) CAX Phase: 13–16 May 2019 (Phase II Field Evaluation) DVDay: 17 May 2019 Redeployment: 17/18 May 2019

	MAY														
6	7	8	9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17									18			
G+57 Phase III – Execution															
	Sub-phase B – Operations														
DEPLOYMENT	TA & EXCON IOC	In-barracks evaluation		PRE-EX	TA FOC	MINIEX	STARTEX	Crisis Ma Ope	AX anageme eration	ent a	DV Day	REDEPLOYMENT			

#### MILITARY TRAINING AREA DĘBA

It is situated in the south-eastern Poland (nearly 90 miles from polish-ukrainian border) at the confluence of the rivers Wisła and San.

Military Training Area Dęba is composed of:

- Complex Dęba;
- River Fording Area on the River San in Radomyśl.



Adress: OSPWL – Dęba ul. A. Krzywoń 1 39-460 Nowa Dęba woj. podkarpackie

#### Distances to the major cities:

Warszawa (airport)	. 158 miles
Kraków (airport)	. 105 miles
Rzeszów (airport)	34 miles
Lublin (airport)	93 miles



#### MAIN TRAINING FACILITIES:

- Tactical Exercises Ground "TWIERDZA"
- Tactical Exercises Ground "II KIERUNEK"
- Artillery Range

- Tanks & Armour Vehicles Range
- Infantry Range
- Infantry Range "BOJANÓW"

# DISTINGUISHED VISITORS DAY

#### LG AREA

#### FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2019 MILITARY TRAINING AREA DĘBA

.G AREA

**FEG** "Twierdza"

FHO

VIP

PARKING

**12:00–12:30** Official welcome and exercise briefing

**12:50–13:25** European Union Battle Group dynamic display

**13:30–14:00** Armament's static display

**14:00–14:45** Lunch

**14:45** End of Distinguished Visitors Day

Guest greeting, Information about the exercise, command post presentation.

REFUEL

Helipad

#### TACTICAL EXERCISES GROUND "TWIERDZA"





