

Ministry of Defence of Montenegro, OSCE, UNDP and Embassy of the United Kingdom are officially signing two project documents related to Montenegro Demilitarization Programme

What: Representatives of the Ministry of Defence of Montenegro, the Embassy of the United Kingdom, the OSCE and the UNDP in Montenegro will officially sign the Project Documents for two projects of the Montenegro Demilitarization Programme (MONDEM). The first one is to authorize transfer of € 407.289,40 realized from the Destruction of Heavy Weapons and the second one GBP 250.000.00 contribution towards Conventional Ammunition Demilitarization.

In the presence of high government officials, resident ambassadors and heads of international organisations, the Project Documents will officially be signed by:

Minister of Defence of Montenegro, Mr. Boro Vučinić
Ambassador of the United Kingdom of Great Britain, H.E. Mr Kevin Lyne
Head of the OSCE Mission to Montenegro, Ambassador Paraschiva Badescu
UNDP Resident Representative a.i./UN Interagency Focal Point in Montenegro, Mr. Garret Tankosić Kelly,

When: February 12th (Tuesday), at 2 pm

Where: Ministry of Defence, Conference Room, Podgorica, Montenegro

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Destruction and Recycling of Heavy Weapons

Montenegro has a relatively small number of heavy weapons systems inherited from the State Union. Yet they are an obstacle to defence reform and armed forces restructuring; in effect they are an obsolete financial and security liability. The presence of these systems necessarily requires significant numbers of soldiers to operate, maintain and secure them; hence there is a requirement for retaining additional conscript forces. This project is designed to destroy these heavy weapons systems by recycling in a manner that complies with all relevant EU environmental legislation, and hence to international 'best practice'. Destruction of 61 tanks resulted in revenues of € 407.289,40. This amount will be used for Demilitarization of Conventional Ammunition.

SALW (Conventional Ammunition) Demilitarization

Montenegro has a significant stockpile of over 9,900 tonnes of surplus conventional ammunition that requires destruction, disposal or demilitarization. The situation can be resolved in the near to medium future.

This project is designed to dispose of conventional ammunition in a safe, efficient and effective way that complies, wherever achievable, with all relevant international and EU environmental and safety legislation, and hence to existing international 'best practice'.

The generous donation of GBP 250 000.00 from the Government of the United Kingdom and the donation of the Government of Montenegro will ensure timely start to this important project.