



*Bucharest, 23 August 2024*

*Dear Andrus,*

**Major General Andrus MERILO**

**– Commander of the Estonian Defence Forces –**

I would like to express my deep appreciation for the strong and enduring relationship between the Estonian and Romanian Armed Forces. Our close military cooperation has significantly enhanced the security and defence capabilities of both nations. The continued partnership between our military forces has strengthened our bilateral ties and has contributed to the stability and security of the broader region.

I am writing this letter to let you know that the Romanian Defence Staff will organise the conference *Defence and Military Cooperation Strategies for Ensuring Security in the Black Sea Region*. The conference will be held between 13-14 November 2024 in the context of the 165<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ROU Defence Staff.

We would be honoured if you could delegate a high-ranking representative to our historic event to deliver a presentation on the topic *Approaching NATO deterrence and defence posture by enhancing resilience on the Eastern Flank*.

It is our sincere hope that you will be able to positively respond to this invitation. For further details, the POC for this event is COL Mircea BARAC, tel. +40.744.669.282, email [mbarac@mapn.ro](mailto:mbarac@mapn.ro). We would kindly ask you to confirm attendance to the conference by email, no later than 1 October 2024.

Please find attached the conference main topics and programme details.

*Sincerely,*

**General Gheorghiță VLAD**

**CHIEF OF DEFENCE STAFF**