



Press Release



ALLIED JOINT FORCE COMMAND NAPLES

30 May 2023

NATO Deploys Additional Forces to Kosovo Force

LAGO PATRIA, Italy – In response to recent unrest and the injury of 30 members of NATO's Kosovo Force, NATO has directed the deployment of the Operational Reserve Forces (ORF) for the Western Balkans, which was on a seven-day readiness-to-deploy status.

An additional multi-national battalion of reserve forces has been ordered to decrease their readiness-to-deploy status from fourteen days to seven days, in order to be ready to reinforce KFOR if necessary.

"The deployment of additional NATO forces to Kosovo is a prudent measure to ensure that KFOR has the capabilities it needs to maintain security in accordance with our UN Security Council Mandate," said Adm. Stuart B. Munsch, commander, Allied Joint Force Command Naples (JFC Naples). "I want to commend KFOR for taking swift, restrained, and professional action to intervene to stop the unrest and to save lives. The violence must stop, and all sides must stop taking actions to undermine the peace in any and all communities of Kosovo."

JFC Naples is closely monitoring the situation in Kosovo, and will continue to coordinate with KFOR to ensure that they have all the capabilities and forces they need to impartially ensure a safe and secure environment and the freedom of movement for all communities according to their mandate based upon UN Security Council Resolution 1244 of 1999.