



**Joint Communiqué of the Ministries of Defence
of the Visegrad Group and Germany
11-12 June 2023, Vysoké Tatry**

We, the Ministers of Defence of the Visegrad Group and the Federal Republic of Germany, acknowledge the dramatic shift and deterioration of the security environment in Europe caused by an unprovoked invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation. There can be no doubt that Russia is the aggressor in this conflict. Together, we keep supporting Ukraine in its just and defensive fight for freedom, democracy and European values by any and all means our countries deem appropriate.

At today's meeting, we reaffirmed our commitment to implementing the decisions from the Madrid Summit and assessed the preparation of the upcoming NATO Summit in Vilnius. We will continue taking steps towards increasing defence investments in order to reinforce NATO's deterrence and defence posture in line with the 360-degree approach to security, and in particular by measures to secure the Eastern flank of the Alliance. We reconfirmed our goal to form modern, capable and interoperable Armed Forces.

We agreed to work together to reinforce EU efforts aimed at advancing European defence cooperation and maintaining the EU as a credible security actor. We discussed options to step up the support for Ukrainian Armed Forces also in the EU framework, including through the European Peace Facility and EU ammunition initiatives. In this context, we stressed the need to strengthen the European defence industry.

We recognise the strategic importance of enhancing Military Mobility for our armed forces, and acknowledge that this should become an example for close NATO-EU cooperation. In order to facilitate and accelerate current progress, we call for adequate funding in particular of the EU Connecting Europe Facility Military Mobility envelope.

Building on continuous, engaging and flexible dialogue, the Visegrad Group and the Federal Republic of Germany will maintain cooperation in support of our shared interest to provide security for our citizens and preserve peace in Europe.