The first meeting of representatives of Multinational Corps Northeast (MNC NE) and representatives of the navies of Denmark, Germany and Poland, i.e. the Corps' Framework Nations, on the cooperation between land and maritime components took place at Baltic Barracks on 13 and 14 November 2012.

Even though the official MNC NE founding documents provide for the cooperation with maritime components in the frame of a Maritime Liaison Cell, this cooperation was never fully developed. Along with the greater emphasis put on the idea of jointness of the three services – land, air and navy, Multinational Corps Northeast initiated the first meeting concerning the possible cooperation with the navies of the three Framework Nations, i.e. Denmark, Germany and Poland. *"The reason is to start cooperation between navies of the framework countries in order to ensure jointness; the Headquarters also requires the presence of the navies, and that is a good way to go,"* said Lieutenant Commander Tatiana Lebiedzinska from the Polish Navy Headquarters. *"Today's work was mainly to get to know each other because normally navies are not used to working with army components, especially with multinational corps, and vice versa. We had to see what are the capabilities, constraints and the possibilities for future cooperation,"* explained Commander (J.G.) André Schneider from the German Navy Headquarters.

It is still far too early to discuss whether the Maritime Liaison Cell would be activated or what other form of cooperation would be applied. However, the meeting allowed to establish first relations that will be developed in the future as all parties involved see the need to cooperate. "

We all agree on jointness, as I see it, it is just how do we do it the smartest way,"
said Commander Jan Günther Knudsen from the Danish Navy Headquarters.
"For now I think that the positive outcome is that we are talking together, we are sitting at one table, that first step has already been taken,"
underlined Lieutenant Commander Lebiedzinska.

After the presentation of tasks, capabilities and training calendars of all the parties taking part in the meeting, more detailed discussions on the concepts of cooperation took place. Nevertheless, the actual form of this cooperation will be subject to subsequent meetings of the navies and MNC NE, and more discussions held at the three navies' headquarters respectively and HQ MNC NE.

Photo by: Marian Cihon, SVK CIV