

## I am a great fan of the Corps

Written by AG

Thursday, 06 September 2012 12:43

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**Commandant of the Baltic Defence College, Brigadier General Meelis Kiili, Estonian Army, assisted by Lieutenant Colonel Ugis Romanovs, Latvian Army, and Sergeant Major Viljar Hallik, Estonian Army, paid a visit to Headquarters Multinational Corps Northeast (HQ MNC NE) on 5 and 6 September 2012.**

The main purpose of the visit was to strengthen the cooperation between Baltic Defence Collage located in Tartu, Estonia, and Multinational Corps Northeast as well as to exchange most recent information about current developments in the two organisations.

*“The impressions are good,” said Brigadier General Meelis Kiili about his visit to HQ MNC NE. “It is not my first visit to the Multinational Corps Northeast; today I am here in international capacity representing Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania but I have been here also in my national capacity,”*

he explained. In fact, the Estonian guest already paid a visit to the Headquarters as the Acting Chief of Estonian Land Forces in 2006.

*“What I appreciate is that the Corps has a regional touch and it is really close to our aims back at home. I am a great fan of the Corps and an advocate for the Corps in all three Baltic States,”* General Kiili also said.

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The relations between Baltic Defence College and Multinational Corps Northeast got intensified in 2011 and throughout 2012 resulting in a number of visits and the beginning of cooperation during training events, the example of which can be the participation of MNC NE representatives in Baltic Defence Collage exercise – Collaborative Effort II in 2012.

*“The cooperation is good if it is based on mutual interest,”* said General Kiili adding that many areas of mutual interest have been identified creating a favourable win-win situation.

*“The cooperation is also good when it is based on rationality,”*

he added and emphasised that the best example of cooperation are common training events, such as upcoming Crystal Eagle 13 organised by MNC NE or in-house exercises conducted by the Baltic Defence College.

*“It is the best synergetic way to combine our expertise,”*

he explained.

*“Our students as well as faculty will participate in your exercises; we also asked for your staff members to be part of our exercises, giving expertise and handing on the feedback from your missions and lessons learned. At the same time the Baltic Defence College has achieved the excellence in teaching of the Comprehensive Operation Planning Directive (COPD). We are offering a short intensive course to your personnel in COPD,”*

General Kiili also said.

*Photo by: SGT Maksymilian Halec, POL A* □