

## Developing initial Saber Strike agreements

Written by AG

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**From 10 to 14 February 2013 representatives of the Headquarters Multinational Corps Northeast (HQ MNC NE) and the Command Support Brigade (CSB) participated in the Main Planning Conference (MPC) for the exercise Saber Strike 2013 (SbS13), organised in Riga, Latvia.**

Following the exercise preparation process, the Main Planning Conference for the Saber Strike 13 exercise aimed at further development of all organisational, administrative and conceptual matters took place in Riga, the capital of Latvia. Among all invited organisations and entities, also a delegation from the Szczecin Corps and CSB were present.

The event executed primarily in a form of syndicate work enabled to refine, further specify and confirm all the requirements in the areas such as exercise concept, scenario, manning, timeline, structure, set-up and locations, broadly understood logistics, support and many, many others.

Presence of representatives of the Baltic States, the US Army Europe as well as of the MNC NE soldiers was the best opportunity to clarify all necessary issues and to make mutual agreements and arrangements for the upcoming weeks and next preparation steps.

The event created also a unique occasion to talk face to face to counter partners and to

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establish working-level relationships, facilitating smooth continuation of the preparations to the exercise itself.



At the conclusion of the conference the syndicates' results were presented so that all the information was made available to other groups and possible discrepancies were taken care of.

The next step on the way to Saber Strike 13 will be the Final Planning Conference foreseen for the second half of April.

*The Saber Strike 13 exercise is a USA-led, multilateral exercise conducted with the NATO Baltic partners: Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania, MNC NE and other partner nations in June 2013. The overarching exercise concept supports NATO and coalition interoperability with a focus on preparation of troops for ongoing and future operations.*

*Photo by LTC Wojciech Wiśniewski, POL A*