From 22 to 24 September 2009, a 3-person delegation from the Romanian General Staff visited Headquarters Multinational Corps Northeast (HQ MNC NE) to discuss possible affiliation of some Romanian troops to the Corps.

Just one year ago, Romania joined Multinational Corps Northeast and sent the two first officers to serve in the Headquarters. Currently, Romania's plan is to affiliate some of its troops to MNC NE or other NATO formation. *"It is a good opportunity to work together and to increase the interoperability"* , explained Colonel Bumbacea, Head of the Delegation from the Romanian General Staff. As he said, during these preliminary discussions, options and conditions for cooperation were raised.

"It has been the first meeting between representatives of the Romanian General Staff and the Headquarters", said Lieutenant Colonel Lothar Hoffmann, Branch Chief Policy from G5 Division of the Headquarters. In a 3-day programme, the Romanian delegation took part in several sessions. Some topics have been discussed in syndicate groups, e.g. legal aspects of affiliating the troops or joint training and exercise events. Since it is just the beginning of the process, it is not known yet if and what kind of troops Romania might affiliate to MNC NE. What is certain, all findings from this meeting will thoroughly be discussed.

The next meeting is planned for June 2010 and it might bring more tangible results. Colonel Bumbacea hopes that final decisions and arrangements from the Romanian side would be made by the end of 2010.