After 80 Years Germany Breaks the Delay: Panzerbrigade 45 Will Defend Lithuania

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Germany has made a historic and decisive turn: after 80 years, it has decided to break the delay and take a leading role in the defense of NATO countries. The first permanent deployment of troops abroad since World War II has been formalized with the creation of the 45th Armored Brigade (Panzerbrigade 45), which will be stationed in Lithuania. A move that marks the end of an era of containment and the beginning of a new, determined, and inevitable commitment against any external threat, particularly the Russian one.

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The Decisive Role of Panzerbrigade 45:

- **Activation Ceremony**: On May 22, 2025, the activation ceremony of the 45th Armored Brigade, held in Vilnius, marked the beginning of a new era for Germany. Chancellor Friedrich Merz and Defense Minister Boris Pistorius firmly announced Berlin's commitment to defend Europe. Germany will not back down: the defense of NATO countries is now an absolute priority, and its commitment will be total and unconditional.
- **Composition and Objectives of the Brigade**: The brigade, composed of 4,800 soldiers and 200 civilians, will be fully operational by 2027, ready to respond forcefully to any aggression. Its purpose is clear: to act as a deterrent against Russia's expansionist ambitions in Europe. Lithuania, whose security is now directly linked to that of Germany, will be defended by any necessary means.
- **Strategic Position**: The brigade's base is located in Rudninkai, in southeastern Lithuania, just 30 km from the Belarusian border. This position ensures a rapid and effective response to any attempt to destabilize the region. The security of NATO countries is no longer an option: it is an unyielding commitment.

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Germany's Commitment:

- **Strong Political Decision**: The decision to establish a permanent deployment abroad, after 80 years of caution, is a clear statement of intent. Germany has chosen not to stand by while Russia threatens its allies. The defense of NATO is now an absolute priority.
- **Merz's Vision**: Chancellor Merz declared without hesitation that "the protection of Vilnius is the protection of Berlin." Germany is ready to take command, ready to stand united with NATO to defend every corner of Europe against any threat. NATO's collective security is no longer negotiable. Merz reiterated the need for a strong and determined military force, because “strength deters aggressors, while weakness invites aggression.”

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The New Era for the Bundeswehr:

- **Renewed Commitment to Defense**: Defense Minister Boris Pistorius has pushed for this transformation since 2023, and now Germany is ready to keep its word. With the creation of the 45th Armored Brigade, Berlin has taken command of NATO's collective defense, breaking with the past of caution. The Bundeswehr is preparing to become the strongest conventional army in Europe, an essential deterrent for anyone who dares to threaten peace in Europe.

Conclusion:

Germany has broken the delay. After 80 years of containment, it is now ready to defend NATO countries against any threat, particularly the Russian one. With the 45th Armored Brigade in Lithuania, Germany has taken an undisputed leading position. The security of all NATO countries is now the security of Germany. There are no more excuses: Europe is ready to respond forcefully, and Germany is at the center of this response.

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