



Change at the helm of the Joint Task Force-Lebanon: the "Taurinense" Alpine Brigade leads the western sector

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In a solemn ceremony held at the "Millevoi" Base in Shama, Brigadier General Enrico Fontana was officially invested with command, succeeding Brigadier General Giovanni Brafa Musicoro at the helm of the Western Sector of the Joint Task Force-Lebanon (JTF-L SW), a crucial component of the UNIFIL operation in Lebanon. The event was attended by distinguished personalities, including the Italian Ambassador to Lebanon, Nicoletta Bombardiere, and Air Force General Nicola Lanza De Cristoforis, Deputy Commander of COVI, Brigadier General Chok Bahadur, Deputy Commander of UNIFIL, highlighting the importance of the Italian commitment to this peace mission.

The Italian commitment in UNIFIL

Italy plays a leading role in the JTF-L SW, with a contingent of over 3600 Blue Helmets from 17 of the 49 participating nations. The national contribution, with over 1000 units, represents a significant part of the UNIFIL forces, which overall count more than 10,000 military personnel engaged in southern Lebanon. Operation Leonte XXXIV saw the Granatieri di Sardegna Brigade complete its fourth mandate, testifying to the inexhaustible Italian dedication to maintaining peace and international security.

The UNIFIL Mission and the Contribution of the "Taurinense" Alpine Brigade

Since 2006, the year the UNIFIL mission began based on United Nations Security Council Resolution 1701, the main objective has been to monitor the cessation of hostilities between Lebanon and Israel, assist local institutions, and support the civilian population. The "Taurinense" Alpine Brigade of the Italian Army, with the start of Leonte XXXV, marks its third mandate in this context, highlighting the importance of the Italian contribution to regional stability.

A multinational mission

The multinational force structured in five Task Forces, including Ghanaian, Malaysian, Italian, South Korean, and an Irish-Polish contingent, represents the essence of international cooperation in the military field. The diversity of the nationalities involved reflects the global commitment to peace and security in a historically troubled region.

Activities and cooperation

With over 37,000 patrols conducted in the area of operations and a third of the operational activities carried out in collaboration with the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF), the Italian commitment extends well beyond military operations. The joint training activities have allowed for deep integration and an exchange of valuable knowledge and experiences between the Italian military and those of the 5th Lebanese Brigade, further strengthening the ties between the two countries.

The transition of command to the "Taurinense" Alpine Brigade symbolizes not only the continuity of the Italian commitment in Lebanon but also Italy's determination to actively contribute to international peace and security. At a time when global challenges require a

coordinated and supportive response, Italy once again demonstrates itself to be a reliable and committed pillar in the international community.