

In Krakow the NATO Special Operations Senior Leaders' Conference. Present the Paratrooper Acquirer Colonel Luigi Pulli

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From April 9 to 11, 2024, in Krakow, Poland, the NATO Special Operations Senior Leaders' Conference took place. For Italy, in addition to the presence of the Commander of COFS (Joint Command for Special Forces Operations), **Admiral Paolo Pezzutti**, we highlight the presence of **Colonel Paratrooper Acquirer Luigi Pulli**, former Head of Special Operations Section at the Army General Staff and Commander of the 185° RRAO Folgore (2021-2023), now **Deputy COS for doctrine, training, and concept development of the SOFCOM (Special Operation Command) NATO**.



Colonel Luigi Pulli in his role as Commander of the 185° RRAO (2021-2023)

The biennial event saw the participation of high-level representatives from over 32 allied and partner nations of the Atlantic Alliance.

The meeting serves as a platform to promote dialogue and collaboration between Special Operations Forces (SOF) commanders and senior enlisted leaders.

During the conference, topics were addressed to strengthen NATO's deterrence and defense capabilities, including the implementation of Regional Plans in support of the Concept for Deterrence and Defense of the Euro-Atlantic area, the refinement of command and control strategies, the optimization of force generation dynamics, and the enhancement of national contributions to the goals of the Atlantic Alliance.

Maj. Gen. Sławomir Drumowicz, Commander of the Polish Special Forces, co-host of the conference, emphasized the importance of collective action in responding to evolving security challenges.

His words were echoed in the statements of **Gen. C.A. Antonio Fletcher**, Commander of the Allied Special Operations Forces Command, who highlighted the importance of proactive deterrence measures.

The conference emphasized the indispensable role of Special Operations Forces in preserving regional stability and deterring potential threats. Participants engaged in intense exchanges, sharing insights and best practices to improve interoperability and readiness through NATO's Special Operations Force entity.



Gen. C.A. Antonio Fletcher, Commander of the Allied Special Operations Forces Command during the opening speech.

With ever-evolving geopolitical dynamics, the NATO Special Operations community remains committed to enhancing readiness and resilience to protect the Euro-Atlantic region.

The outcomes of the conference will shape future strategies and initiatives aimed at strengthening NATO's deterrence and defense posture, ensuring readiness for large-scale operations to protect every border of the Alliance's territory in an uncertain world.

These semi-annual meetings of SOF Commanders and Senior Enlisted Leaders contribute to promoting SOF efforts, fostering interoperability among Allies and Partners, and strengthening the collaborative spirit of the NATO Special Operations community.

Special forces represent a fundamental pillar within the Atlantic Alliance, making a crucial contribution to collective security and the execution of effective operations on an international scale.

Their versatility is evident in both asymmetric and symmetric conflicts, often acting as a vanguard and facilitating the action of conventional units, or preventing conflicts through sophisticated intelligence operations. Today more than ever, with war on Europe's doorstep, interoperability among various NATO special forces units is of crucial importance for the security of the European continent.