Mak π 100 Ceremony of the Officer Cadets of the 205th Course "Fierezza"

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Modena, May 23, 2025 – Today in Modena, at the Novi Sad Park, the traditional Mak π 100 ceremony took place, marking one hundred days until the conclusion of the two-year study period for the Officer Cadets of the 205th Course "Fierezza" of the Military Academy of the Army. The event was attended by the President of the Republic, Sergio Mattarella, and the Minister of Defense, Guido Crosetto, who emphasized the significance of this symbolic moment, fundamental for the training path of the officers of the Italian Armed Forces.

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The Meaning of "Mak π 100"

The term “Mak π 100” has its roots in a Piedmontese dialect expression dating back to 1840, when the phrase «Mach pi tre ani!» («Only more than three years!») was pronounced on the occasion of the reduction of the training path from four to three years. Over time, this playful exclamation has evolved into a symbol of the countdown to the appointment as an officer, becoming today a moment full of meaning for all Officer Cadets who are about to complete their training path.

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The Ceremony

Minister Crosetto emphasized the importance of the “passing of the baton” as a symbol of continuity between generations of soldiers, representing a deep connection with the historical traditions of the Armed Forces. The Minister invited the Officer Cadets to always be an example for their future soldiers, their families, and the Country, reminding them that commanding does not mean exercising power, but showing the way, especially in difficult times.

The intervention of the Minister of Defense was received with great attention by those present, including numerous high-ranking officers such as General Luciano Portolano, Chief of Defense Staff, and General Carmine Masiello, Chief of Army Staff, as well as numerous civil, military, and religious authorities.

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The Challenge of the Future

The Military Academy of Modena, guardian of a centuries-old tradition, represents the starting point for a career that will lead the Cadets to lead the Italian armed forces in an increasingly dynamic and unpredictable world. Minister Crosetto encouraged the Cadets to hold firm to their values, even in the face of challenges posed by technological evolution and geopolitical changes. He reiterated that, although advanced technologies are fundamental for military operations, what truly makes the difference for the defense of the Nation are the conscience and ethics of the officers.

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A Crucial Transition

Today, the Officer Cadets of the 205th Course "Fierezza" experienced a symbolic moment that brings them closer to their future role as commanders and leaders of the Italian Armed Forces. The Mak π 100 ceremony marks not only an important milestone in their training path but also represents the value of tradition and continuity that permeates the Military Academy, offering the Cadets a legacy to carry forward with pride and responsibility.