



NATO Forward Land Forces: The Italian Contingent Achieves Full Operational Capability in Latvia

Published on 05/05/2026

The Italian contingent deployed in **Ādaži**, Latvia, as part of the **NATO Forward Land Forces (FLF) multinational Battle Group**, has officially reached and validated its **Full Operational Capability (FOC)**. This milestone, achieved at the end of the exercise "**Oak Resolve 25**", marks a crucial step for deterrence in the Baltic region and confirms the operational excellence of our Armed Forces in an international context.

The Exercise "Oak Resolve 25": The Field Test

The Task Group Baltic completed the second phase of the training cycle through a week of intense operations. The activity was conducted under the control of the **Multinational Brigade Latvia** led by Canada, with the objective of verifying the integrated combat readiness of the Battle Group.

The Numbers and the Scenario

- **Personnel:** About 1,500 soldiers from various Alliance nations.
- **Duration:** Seven consecutive days of operations.
- **Scenario:** *High-intensity warfighting*, characterized by challenging environmental conditions that tested the physical and logistical resilience of the units.
- **Phases:** The contingent faced opposing forces (**OPFOR**) in a complex maneuver, transitioning from an initial phase of absorbing the adversary's effort (static and dynamic defense) to a phase of decisive counterattack.

"The integration between NATO forces is real and ensures a ready, coordinated, and credible response, encapsulated by the motto: NATO Stands As One."

The Italian Component: Armored and Logistical Excellence

The Italian contribution is primarily drawn from the **132nd Armored Brigade "Ariete"** of the Italian Army. The validation confirmed not only the maneuver capability of the combat units but also the efficiency of the **Combat Service Support** assets.

The national logistical support ensured operational continuity despite harsh temperatures and rugged terrain, providing a constant flow of supplies, vehicle maintenance, and material support. This self-sustaining capability in hostile environments was deemed essential for achieving full operational capability.

[caption id="attachment_18289" align="alignnone" width="1024"]



NATO Forward Land Forces: The Italian Contingent Achieves Full Operational Capability in Latvia[/caption]

Strategic and Geopolitical Significance

The mission in Latvia is not just a military commitment but a clear political signal. The integration of Italian capabilities within the framework of the Forward Land Forces addresses three primary objectives:

1. **Deterrence and Defense:** Strengthening the security of the Alliance's eastern flank against potential external threats.
2. **Transatlantic Solidarity:** Demonstrating Italy's concrete commitment to the Baltic allies, stabilizing a region of vital geopolitical importance.
3. **Interoperability:** Refining standardized technical-tactical procedures that allow soldiers from different nationalities to operate as a single cohesive force.

Future Prospects: A Model of Cooperation

The success achieved in Ādaži lays the groundwork for Italy's future role in multinational missions. The validation of the FOC is not an endpoint but a guarantee of readiness for emerging challenges.

Italy thus confirms itself as a **key contributor** to European collective security. The experience gained by the "Ariete" Brigade and other units of the Task Group Baltic will serve as a model for

future rotations and for the evolution of NATO's presence in Europe, maintaining very high standards of training and multicultural integration among the Alliance's armed forces.

News link: <https://www.difesa.it/operazionimilitari/op-intern-corso/lettonia-operazione-enhanced-forward-presence-baltic-guardian/notizie-teatro/lettonia-full-operational-capability-per-contingente-italiano/66618.html>