November 4th: the Minister's Message Strengthens the Soldiers' Oath

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November 4th, National Unity and Armed Forces Day, represents one of the highest moments of Italian collective memory. It is the day when Italy pauses to pay tribute to those who have served and serve the Homeland with dedication, courage, and responsibility; to those who, with their commitment, weave every day that network of security, cohesion, and trust that allows our Republic to live in peace.

In his **Message for November 4th, 2025**, Defense Minister Guido Crosetto wanted to remind that **Defense is “the force that unites”**:

> *“To serve means to put oneself at the service of others, of the community, of the Homeland, aware that each one's contribution intertwines with that of others, forming the solid fabric that protects our Republic.”*

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Words that resonate in perfect continuity with those spoken a few days earlier in **Ascoli Piceno** , on the occasion of the oath of the one-year fixed-term volunteers (VP1).
In front of the young people who wore the uniform for the first time, the Minister reminded that the oath “is not a formal act, but a life choice”, and that “by swearing allegiance to the Republic you have made a choice: that of changing your status. This gives you not only power but, more importantly, a great responsibility.”

Two distinct moments, one single message: **serving the Homeland is an act of unity and trust**.
The words addressed to the young soldiers – “democracies delegate their defense to the Armed Forces... not to overpower, but to protect” – intertwine with the deep meaning of November 4th, a day that celebrates the value of those who defend freedom and peace even in the most complex times.

The Minister wanted to emphasize that **Defense unites territories, generations, and institutions**, building bridges between past and present, between the memory of the Fallen and the new generations who choose to serve. “Being the force that unites”, he said, “means being there where there is need, supporting communities, ensuring security and assistance with competence and dedication.”

In his message, Crosetto also extended his thanks to the **families of the military**, “the silent pillar of service”, recognizing in them an essential part of national cohesion.

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> *“Today I am here to say thank you, also on behalf of those who will never say it to you: of those who, perhaps, do not understand the meaning of your uniform, but who – when they are afraid – will seek precisely that uniform. And you will be there.”*

November 4th is not just a date to remember, but a commitment to renew every day: that of defending peace, preserving memory, serving with honor.
The Italian Armed Forces, at home and in the world, represent the **force that unites the Country**, the one that protects, supports, and inspires.
An Italy that believes in solidarity, responsibility, and unity.

Long live the Armed Forces. Long live the Republic. Long live Italy.

Messaggio MoDDownload