

The Ministry of National Defense promises an arms race for PLN 500 billion

The army extended the horizon of modernization planning to 15 years. The Minister of National Defense Mariusz Blaszczak signed a plan of changes and investments modernizing the army until 2035. Expenses in the years 2021-35 are to exceed 0.5 trillion zlotys - the document provides.

The head of the Ministry of National Defense promised that in 2025 expenditure on modernization will amount to PLN 24 billion, while in 2050 it will increase by PLN 50 billion. In total, all these years, the Ministry of National Defense plans to spend over PLN 0.5 trillion.

- The new plan provides for modernization expenses tailored to the expectations of Polish Army soldiers. It is as much as PLN 524 billion for new armaments and equipment for those who guard our security - he said.

Min. Blaszczak explained that extending the planning process from 10 to 15 years would improve spending. This will allow to maintain the growing dynamics of projects related to the modernization of the army.

Patriots, Lobsters and Ravens

The Minister during the Thursday ceremony, in the 1st Armored Brigade in Wesola, boasted of achievements.

He mentioned, among others purchase of the Patriot missile system (2 batteries), HIMARS launcher (1 squadron), or ordering helicopters from the plants in Mielec and Świdnik.

- After acquiring rotorcraft for Special Forces and the Navy, we will implement the "Raven" program. Thanks to it, we will obtain modern impact helicopters for land forces - informed Blaszczak.

The head of the Ministry of National Defense reminded that in July this year President Andrzej Duda signed a document on determining the main directions of development of the Polish Armed Forces and preparations for the defense of the state for 2021-2035

The Council of Ministers approved the detailed directions for the reconstruction and technical modernization of the army during this period.

Harpy with battle drones

Minister Blaszczak emphasized that the priority program implemented by the Ministry of National Defense remains "Harpia", i.e. the purchase of 32 fifth-generation F-35A aircraft, which will revolutionize air defense and take combat aviation to a new, higher level.

The "Harpi Szpon" program is a new program that complements the "Harpy" program and strengthens the impact of new fighters.

- Poland will strive for participation in the "loyal wingman" program regarding the development and development of an unmanned aerial vehicle in stealth technology, i.e. not detectable by radars. Such a drone will learn how to behave an airplane pilot at the training stage. The purpose of this training will be joint performance of reconnaissance or combat tasks. Under the control of the pilot, the drone will be able to strike the well-protected objects of the enemy, for example in the depths of his grouping, without exposing the pilot to danger.

The use of these systems, which are a combination of manned and unmanned aerial platforms, will also increase the possibility of destruction by carrying various types of guided missiles or bombs - the head of the Ministry of Defense informed.

The Plan for Technical Modernization also includes funds for the purchase of additional F-16 aircraft for the Polish Army.

Of the novelties mentioned by the minister, one should also mention the Observer Program.

- Modern battlefield is based primarily on information. That is why we have prepared a program for the comprehensive development of capabilities for multi-level and integrated satellite and image recognition. Under the new "Observer" program, the Armed Forces will acquire satellites, microsattellites, reconnaissance aircraft and a whole range of drones. The effects of their work will be collected and analyzed in the image recognition center and used by soldiers during operations - said the head of the Ministry of National Defense.

Navy modernization plans

The latest Technical Modernization Plan includes "Miecznik" and "Orka" programs, for which a bridging solution is planned, which will allow the acquisition of two submarines in the near future and ensure the continuity of training of submarines.

The Polish Army will also acquire 6 light rocket ships in Polish shipyards as part of the "Murena" program.

Orders for domestic industry

The minister assured that he remembered the Polish arms industry. Therefore, the Ministry of Defense is consistently increasing orders for equipment produced by domestic plants included in the Polish Armaments Group.

Błaszczak recalled the contracts concluded with PGZ companies. I am talking above all about deliveries of Rak self-propelled mortars or Crab cannon-howitzers. The final straight is also a research and development program related to the construction of new Borsuk infantry fighting vehicles.

It is planned to acquire new generation tanks under the "Wolf" program.

One of the programs targeted at the Polish defense industry is also the Ottokar Brzoza program. It envisages obtaining several dozen tank destroyers for the anti-tank regiment.

Sapper works and unmanned combat systems

The new plan also includes contracting modern engineering facilities to support the work of sappers. They will ensure the detection, removal and neutralization of munitions and remote explosive devices.

The robots are entirely developed by Polish engineers and manufactured in our defense industry.

- We also remember about innovative technologies. As part of the "Pea" program, we will buy air tanks with sub-munitions that automatically respond to detected objects. It is armament that allows you to fight large groups of the enemy, such as mechanized and armored units, as well as planes and helicopters on the landing pads.

The "Gladius" program, in turn, assumes the acquisition of unmanned search and impact systems, the so-called "circulating ammunition" - announced the head of the Ministry of National Defense.

cybersecurity

The Polish Army will continue to develop the cyber.mil program. The initiative aims to create a package of national tools and software that will use the latest Polish cryptographic technologies. The system is to be an effective defense of Polish cyberspace.

- Prospects for the development of the Polish armed forces are good. Prospects when it comes to the security of our country are also very good - assured Błaszczyk.

The minister emphasized that this assessment results from the implementation of three elements. Increasing the size of the Polish army, equipping it with the most modern equipment, and from close relations between Poland and the USA.