

## **CENTER FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AND DEFENSE RESEARCH BULGARIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES**

The Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (BAS) is the largest national research center of Bulgaria, incorporating 76 research institutes and laboratories. It is one of the leading national institutions in the field of fundamental and applied research and technology development, including for research and development for the needs of the country's security and defense.

Taking into account the exceptionally important role of national security and recognizing the importance of the preparation for NATO membership as one of the main national priorities, the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences looks for effective mechanisms to carry out national security and defense research and to support the implementation of the National action plan for NATO membership.

The Framework Agreement between the Ministry of Defense (MoD) and the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences signed in December 1999 proved to be an important driver for activating and intensifying interdepartmental collaboration in the field of research and technology applicable to Bulgarian national security and defense. As a result of this agreement, in 2000 for the first time in ten years, scientists and experts from the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences joined en masse various projects and scientific events (workshops, symposia) in the field of defense and dual-use research and technology.

Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, being a national research institution that concentrates the basic research potential of Bulgaria, took up the task of scientific support for formulation and implementation of national security and defense policy and planning. With this purpose, the Executive Board (EB) of BAS established the "Center for National Security and Defense Research" (CNSDR) as an organizational coordinating unit to the EB of BAS.

### **Objectives and tasks**

The principal objective of the CNSDR is to provide the necessary information, coordination and support to the BAS' units and individual scientists who take part in

research activities in the area of national security and defense, in order to enable them to get deeply involved in the applied tasks faced by Bulgarian armed forces, Ministry of Defense and the Ministry of Interior in the processes of modernization and rearmament.

**Principal tasks:**

- To provide duly and accurately the necessary and definite information from the users in different branches of armed forces and administrative units of MoD to scientific and research teams of BAS.
- To provide information for the NATO Research and Technology Organization (RTO) and to commence working on the adaptation of suitable lines of research in the units of BAS involved.
- To support the establishment of goal-oriented teams and to coordinate their work on significant and important projects related to the modernization of the Bulgarian armed forces (BAF).
- To set up and coordinate bi-lateral cooperation and the cooperation with international organizations operating in the field of research and technology for national security and defense.
- To prepare and maintain a national database for the competence of research units, teams and scientists in corresponding scientific fields of priority for the national security and defense.
- To analyze and summarize in a bulletin national and international studies, the results of which may be used in the interest of security and defense.
- To organize and carry out national and international scientific events on the problems of research and technology in the interest of defense.

**Organization and structure**

The Center is established as a two-layer organization consisting of:

**Management:**

Supervising body is the Management Board of BAS, through its Council of National Security and Safety (CNSS), in concordance with the Interdepartmental Expert Coordinating Council (IECC) – joint council between BAS and MoD.

**Staff:**

The staff includes coordinators in corresponding branches of the national security and defense research and the panels of RTO.

Executive units:

Research is conducted by program teams working on important and significant projects and consisting of scientists and engineers from various units of BAS where they have primary labor contact, but are functionally coordinated by the Center during the implementation of the project.

**For contacts:**

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