

**JOINT STATEMENT OF THE MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF ROMANIA,
THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND AND THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY**

BUCHAREST, 23 April 2021

We, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Romania, Bogdan Aurescu, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland, Zbigniew Rau, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey, Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu, met on 23 April 2021, in Bucharest, to discuss the preparations for the 2021 NATO Summit and the regional security developments.

We also assessed the collaboration in the Trilateral format and expressed satisfaction on the progress achieved following the previous ministerial meetings, despite the difficulties encountered due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

We exchanged views on the NATO Foreign Ministers Meeting of March 2021 and stressed the importance of the Ministerial Statement adopted on this occasion. We also expressed support for the NATO 2030 reflection process under the leadership of the Secretary General. We underscored the enduring transatlantic bond between Europe and North America and shared democratic values as the foundation of the Alliance.

During the Trilateral debates, we have exchanged opinions on the security situation along NATO's Eastern flank, discussed the worrisome military activity in the Eastern neighborhood, including recently in and around Ukraine. We reiterated our call for the full implementation of the Minsk agreements and for strict compliance with the ceasefire regime. We have also pointed to the wider threats and challenges that the Alliance faces as well as the employment of hybrid tactics by various state and non-state actors all of which negatively affect the stability and security of our region.

We agreed that further strengthening NATO's deterrence and defence posture and Alliance's political dimension, reinforcing resilience and supporting the "Open Door" policy, as well as the Eastern partners and those in the Western Balkans, remain important. We underlined NATO's constant interest in a meaningful dialogue with its partners, as this relationship remains mutually beneficial.

Against this background, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine and Georgia were invited today to Bucharest for an informal exchange with us.

On this occasion, we have reassured our counterparts from Georgia and Ukraine on our countries' undiminished commitment to offer support and assistance. We reaffirmed our support for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia and Ukraine within the internationally recognized borders and for the Euro-Atlantic aspirations of both countries.

We agreed to continue the coordination in the Trilateral format in order to further contribute to consolidating NATO and supporting the partners, while developing projects and initiatives with this aim.

Bogdan Aurescu

Zbigniew Rau

Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu

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