

Iohannis: Balanced, long-term consolidation of NATO's deterrence and defence posture on Eastern Flank needs to be accelerated

The balanced, long-term consolidation of NATO's defense and deterrence posture must be accelerated, President Klaus Iohannis said on Tuesday at the Cotroceni Presidential Palace in a joint conference with Belgian Prime Minister Alexander De Croo.

"In terms of security, we have emphasized the need for the rapid implementation of the recent decisions made at the Alliance's Extraordinary Summit, especially the creation of the Battlegroup in Romania. The balanced, long-term consolidation of NATO's defense and deterrence posture across the entire Eastern Flank in response to Russia's aggression must be accelerated. It is clear that we need a united, coherent and stronger defense on the Eastern Flank in order to have a more effective deterrence, especially at the Black Sea," said the head of state.

President Iohannis stressed the need for a new NATO Strategic Concept, which must "reaffirm collective defense as a fundamental priority task of the Alliance and explicitly state that Russia is the main threat to NATO security."