

Brussels, 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2025

**Joint Statement by the Minister of Defence of the Republic of Estonia,  
Mr Hanno Pevkur, and the Minister of Defence of the Republic of Italy,  
Mr Guido Crosetto**

Following the Russia's brutal war of aggression against Ukraine, we agree that it is vital to continue standing in unity and solidarity. We reaffirm that NATO remains the unique, essential, and indispensable transatlantic forum to consult, coordinate, and act on all matters related to our individual and collective security.

We are committed to taking further steps to strengthen our deterrence and defence, increasing the readiness of our forces and investing more into capabilities needed to deter any threats.

We highlight the importance of strengthening NATO's Integrated Air and Missile Defence posture. In the framework of the NATO Integrated Air and Missile Defence rotational model Italy has confirmed its commitment to deploy SAMP/T surface-based long-range air and missile defence system to Estonia this year, synergizing the asset with Italy's responsibility for NATO's enhanced Air Policing mission in the country.

Deployment of Air Defence assets to Estonia furthers the long-standing defence cooperation between Estonia and Italy within NATO framework and enhances readiness, responsiveness, deployability, integration and interoperability of our forces. The deployment of SAMP/T to Ämari Airbase is a sign of the indivisibility of Allied security and underlines the Alliance resolve to safeguard Allied territory, populations and forces from air and missile threats, through a robust air and missile defense.

We highlight how the deployment of SAMP/T is a practical demonstration of the Alliance's unity, solidarity and cohesion and contributes to NATO's enduring determination to safeguard the freedom and security of Allies and its key purpose to ensure our collective defence, based on a 360-degree approach.

Estonia and Italy continue to stand together for peace, security and stability in the Euro-Atlantic area and this step is another proof of the excellent level of cooperation between the two countries.