

Slovak National Briefing

1. National briefing of the Slovak Armed Forces – delegate Lieutenant Colonel Ingrid Tomekova, Chief of Department improvement qualities of live, J-1.
2. The scope of my presentation is as follows:
 - firstly I will acquaint you with recent **history** (since 1993 to presence) of our armed forces,
 - in next part **REORGANISATION** I will mention the important steps,
 - after that **RECRUIMENT** I tell you a few words about conditions of selection procedure,
 - in the next step I will talk about **SERVICE**, it means about our new State Service Law,
 - And I will also tell you a few words about **WOMEN IN THE SAF**.
3. Everything begun in January 1st, 1993, when the Slovak Republic was established as independent state. Since that time the SAF have been changed significantly. In 2002 it has began reorganization of SAF so-called Model 2010. It is still running ongoing transition process. Next very important point of history of SAF was April 1st, 2004, when Slovakia has become the NATO member.
4. There has been created the „ Military Personnel Management System in the SAF „ which sets new directions of the personnel management. By establishing the Academy of the SAF and the National Defense Academy there was incorporated a new educational system as well as the system of the career development.
In September 1st, 2005, the new State Service Law took effect. The SSL includes principle of equal treatment.
Of course, I have to mention significant turning point of our reorganization – it is the day of end of conscript mandatory service.
5. Main source of applicants are students and graduates of civil university education and secondary education and women in age from 18 to 25 (30 for officer staff).
From 2003 the recruitment has been carried out by 8 recruitment centers and 2 personnel Selection centers. Physical ability, psychic ability, physical fitness, education and qualification preconditions fall into main conditions of selection procedure. Conditions for recruitment for women and men are the same. There is no gender discrimination. In 2005 there were conscripted 1537 applicants (including 237 women – it is 15,4 %).
6. The preparatory state service is the state service, during which the professional soldier is in preparation for the performance of temporary state service. Preparation is carried out in the function of: a) expectant by the training in military educational and training facilities in the duration from four weeks up to twelve weeks, b) cadet by the study at the military university and by training in the military educational and training facility in the province of the Ministry
7. The temporary state service is the state service, which the professional soldier performs after the termination of preparatory state service for
 - a) three to six years for the rank corps of crew and non-commissioned officers, or

b) time of annuity in the rank in which professional soldier can remain in the achieved rank of commissioned officers.

On the base of service evaluations of professional soldiers there is the assessment performance of their temporary state service for promotion, inclusion to the program of maintenance or dismissal from the service relationship. Women and men have equal work conditions. They receive the same right to learn, to train, to be employed, to get the same salary for the same job and to get promotion.

Special conditions of performance of state service for women include performance of pregnant professional woman soldier. Women have legitimate claim on 28 weeks maternity leave. This leave counts as active duty.

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8. You can see comparison of number of all soldiers (male + female) and female soldiers.

Proportion of women in the Armed Forces increases every year. Planned proportion is 8 – 10 % women in Military according to Model 2010.

Percentage of female soldiers included in SAF in 2004 was 6, 1 %, in 2005 it was 7, 7 %, and it means that number of female soldiers have risen by 1, 6 %.

9. Representation of female soldiers and all soldiers by the services. Servicewomen usually serve in Aviation, Meteorology, Military Lawyers, Personnel Management, Finance Corps, Administration. But now the most servicewomen occupy positions that were reserved just for men in the past. (f. e. Air Traffic Controller, Chief of shift in AOCC , Rifleperson, Platoon Commander, Chemist, Driver .)

10. Female soldiers are in all rank categories – enlisted, non commissioned officers, warrant officers and officers.

11. We can see the highest percentage of women in current ranks sergeant and warrant officer. Lieutenant colonel is the highest rank reached by women in SAF. We have no women in ranks of colonel and general ranks.