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PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

Media Advisory

KFOR improves Freedom of Movement **Update No. 1, 011300B**

Since 08.40 a.m. this morning KFOR is conducting a roadblock removal operation in the vicinity of Rudare north from Mitrovica. This activity is to improve freedom of movement not only for KFOR but also for international organizations and for all people in Kosovo.

KFOR confirms 2 wounded soldiers during the removal operation of Rudare Roadblock this morning.

One wounded soldier has been evacuated. He is in a stable condition.

KFOR condemns this violent act strongly.

KFOR actions are always guided by the principle of using the least amount of force possible. However KFOR will respond in self-defense accordingly, if this is necessary.

KFOR will not allow the situation to further escalate and will use a proportional level of force to maintain a "Safe And Secure Environment" (SASE).

KFOR has established numerous vehicle check points and secured areas for safety reasons. This is connected with the roadblock removal and remains temporarily. After the roadblock is removed the vehicle check points and secured areas will be released according to the development of the overall security situation.

KFOR's mission is to contribute to a safe and secure environment (SASE) and freedom of movement (FOM) for all people in Kosovo. KFOR will continue to do so firmly, prudently and impartially, in full compliance with our mandate.

That is what our troops have been doing for the last 12 years at considerable risk to their own safety.

We urge all parties to avoid unilateral moves, inflammatory statements or violent acts.

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