Italian-Hungarian Partnership: Medal of Merit for Colonel Bruschi

Published on 15/05/2026

Pristina (Kosovo) – An important recognition has sealed the close cooperation between the Italian and Hungarian armed forces within the NATO mission **KFOR** (Kosovo Force). Colonel **Mauro Bruschi**, DCOS OPS of KFOR, has been awarded the **Partnership Medal of Merit** (*Partnership Medal of Merit*).

The prestigious honor was presented in Pristina by Colonel **Gábor Hangya**, the senior Hungarian national representative at KFOR, as a testament to the deep spirit of camaraderie and collaboration that unites the two contingents.

Recognition of Extraordinary Dedication

Colonel Bruschi received the honor for supporting Hungarian soldiers serving in Kosovo well beyond the normal duties of office. As highlighted during the ceremony, his active cooperation and constant positive and friendly attitude have made a fundamental contribution to the success of the Hungarian contingent's operations.

> *"His availability and spirit of cooperation have greatly facilitated the task of our military, strengthening the strategic bond between our countries."*

An Excellence Profile: Colonel Bruschi's Career

This recognition rewards an officer with strong operational capabilities and solid international experience. Colonel Bruschi is indeed a **Target Acquirer**, a highly specialized qualification within the Italian Armed Forces.

Throughout his prestigious career, he has held top-level positions, including Commander of the **185th Paratrooper Artillery Regiment "Folgore"** and, subsequently, the delicate role of Chief of Staff of the **COMFOSE** (Army Special Forces Command). This elite professional background is proving crucial in managing the complex operational dynamics in the Balkan theater.

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What is the Partnership Medal of Merit?

This decoration represents an exclusive honor in the Hungarian military landscape:

- **Who awards it:** It is directly awarded by the Chief of Defense Staff of Hungary.
- **Who it is intended for:** Foreign military personnel who have distinguished themselves for exceptional activities in the performance of joint tasks.

- **An exclusive award:** By law, the honor can be granted to a maximum of **50 people per year** worldwide.

This recognition of Colonel Bruschi only confirms the excellence of Italian leadership in international operational theaters and the value of synergy among NATO allied countries.