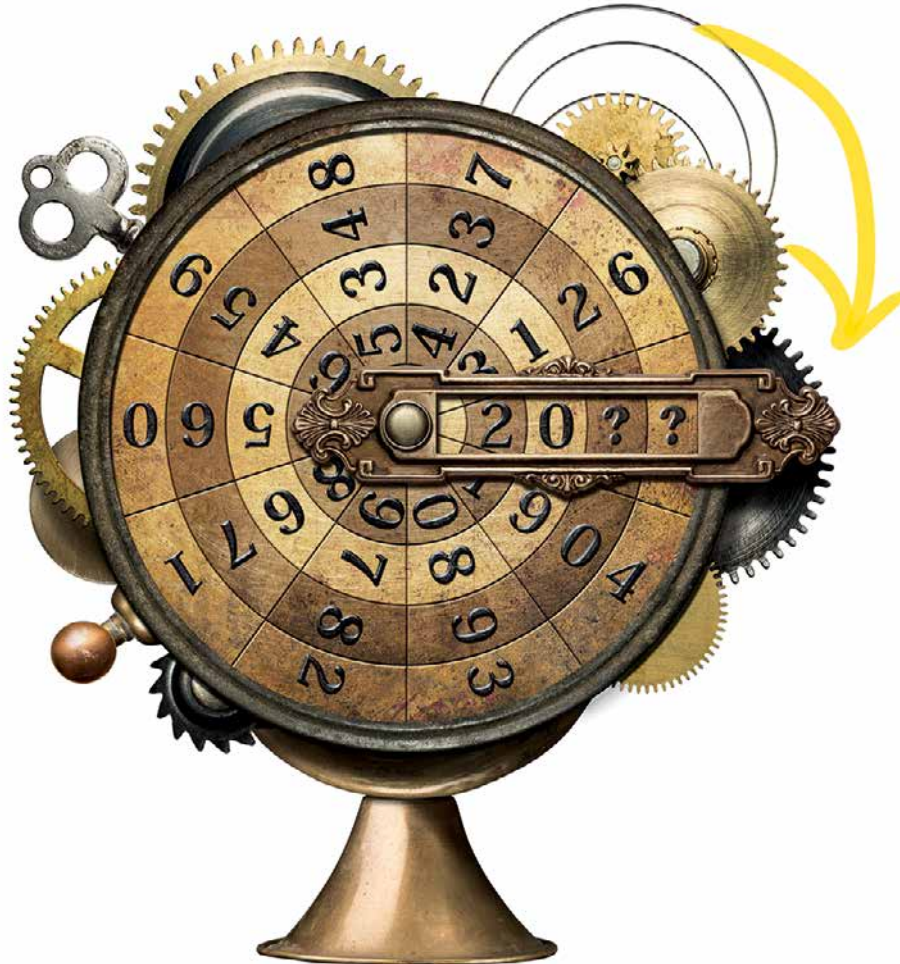


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ADAM DUDA



**THE ASSESSMENT OF THE 2013
– 2022 TECHNICAL
MODERNIZATION PLAN REALI-
ZATION. SUCCESS OR FAILURE?**



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THE ASSESSMENT OF THE 2013 – 2022 TECHNICAL MODERNIZATION PLAN REALIZATION. SUCCESS OR FAILURE?

Assessment of the Polish Armed Forces main modernization programs' realization.

(as of August 2017)

To meet the requirements of the Act of Polish Armed Forces Reconstruction and Technical Modernization and Financing (dated 25 May 2001) Polish Ministry of Defense (MoD) prepared Polish Armed Forces Development Program 2013 – 2022. A planning horizon of the Program matched the NATO 10-year defense planning cycle. One of the Program's derivatives is Polish Armed Forces Technical Modernization Plan 2013 – 2022. The Plan is a base to prepare two-year Polish Armed Forces Technical Modernization Plans (currently 2016 – 2017) and it allows to conduct procurement activities in the MoD. In accordance with this planning cycle the MoD should have already prepared a new



Development Program ... for 2017 – 2026 and, as a consequence, a new Technical Modernization Plan 2017 – 2026. However, probably as a result of the Strategic Defense Review conducted in 2016/2017, the new Development Program as well as derivative programs have not been produced and in such a way there is no a formal base to make finance obligations beyond a 2022 time frame.

The main part of the Technical Modernization Plan is a set of expenditures and tasks concerning multi-year operational programs which are the most important for the Polish Armed Forces modernization process and which are supposed to enable achieving assumed operational capabilities. At the time when the Polish Armed Forces Development Program was created, there were 14 operational programs set up. They were as follows:

1. Air defense system
2. Combat service support & VIP helicopters
3. Integrated systems of C4ISR
4. Armored and mechanized troops' modernization
5. Combating naval threats
6. Imagery & satellite reconnaissance
7. Individual soldier's equipment & armament - TYTAN
8. Artillery & rocket troops' modernization
9. Simulators & training equipment
10. Advanced Jet Training aircraft AJT
11. Transport aircrafts
12. Wheeled Armored Personnel Carriers ROSOMAK
13. Anti tank guided missiles SPIKE
14. Reconnaissance patrol.



Moreover, in 2016 the next (15.) operational program was established. It includes both cyber defense and national cryptology. The main focus of this report is to assess the progress of the main operational programs.

2017 is the fifth year of the multi-year program realization from the one hand and it indicates the half of its time frame horizon from the other. In such a way it gives a good opportunity to make an assessment of its achievements. The assessment is quite difficult because any quantity or quality indicators used can be at issue. To measure the effects of the process the evaluation indicators in every armament program will be used (procurement of the military equipment). The assessment of the whole operational program (military equipment procurement, training, task organization, and infrastructure) requires more data that are often not available in unrestricted information channels. The military equipment procurement process includes analytical – conceptual phase (defining requirements) and realization phase (acquisition procedure, contracting and delivery). An analyses of the above mentioned phases will let us assess the progress of the Technical Modernization Plan 2013 – 2022 execution. The analyses is based on unrestricted data published in the Polish Ministries' Council Resolution dated 23 June 2014 that updated the previous Resolution that created the multi-year program called "Priority Tasks in the Polish Armed Forces Technical Modernization within operational programs". Moreover, publicly available press materials were utilized for the progress estimation purposes as well as information presented by the MoD officials at parliamentary defense boards' meetings.

PROGRAMS

1. **Air defense system** – the goal of the program is to achieve the operational capability to ensure a protection of objects, administration – industrial centers, troops in operational assembly areas and during a joint defense operation in terms of both a national and allied operation. The



scope of the program assumes a procurement of medium range anti-aircraft and anti-missile systems WISŁA, short range anti-aircraft systems NAREW, self-propelled anti-aircraft rocket systems POPRAD, MANPADS GROM-PIORUN, short range rocket / artillery anti-aircraft systems PILICA, deployable radars SOŁA and BYSTRA. This is the biggest Polish Armed Forces modernization program and although it doesn't generate any controversies in terms of its implementation's range and directions, in 2015 – 2017 in the case of WISŁA system it caused substantial disagreements among the main political forces concerning a negotiation progress and it was even considered to abandon its realization in the government to government (G2G) format. Currently, WISŁA program is under negotiation with the U.S. government (within the Foreign Military Sale – FMS – program) what means that it is within the realization phase. Letter of Request (LoR) has been sent to the American side and it is planned to execute the program in two phases taking into consideration a progress in implementation of both a new C2 system and a new radar by the U.S. Army. To sign a contract in 2017 is not a realistic scenario. There are different reasons for such estimation among which a scale of the program as well as its elaboration and a necessity to negotiate and sign an offset contract, as an essential precondition, can be named. Because of the problems concerning the WISŁA program the NAREW program is still within its conceptual phase. IBCS (Integrated Battle Command System) planned to be implemented into the WISŁA system may compel to partly repeat its analytical - conceptual phase. The POPRAD program is being implemented and the contract assumes deliveries of the system in 2018 – 2021. A similar situation can be noticed in GROM-PIORUN, PILICA and SOŁA programs. They have been contracted in 2015 / 2016 and now they are within the production / delivery phase. R&D (Research & Development) is still ongoing in case of the modern radiolocation station BYSTRA.

To sum up the realization of this operational program it needs to be said that even though there is a significant advancement in some of the armament programs there are still the two key ones – WISŁA and NAREW – that don't promise to be combat ready in a 10-year time perspective since the Development Program establishment. It can be interpreted as a failure.

- 2. Combat service support, support & VIP helicopters** - the goal of the program is to achieve the operational capability for air mobility, close air support (CAS), rescue and transportation missions as well as for an efficient and effective cover against submarines. Within the program it is planned to acquire: multirole – transport helicopters, combat search and rescue (CSAR) helicopters, anti-submarine helicopters, attack helicopters KRUK and, VIP ones. As for today, only the VIP helicopters, which are deployed in the 1st Transportation Aviation Base in Warsaw, have been procured. The program to acquire 70 (because of the budgetary limitations the number decreased to 50) multirole helicopters that utilize a common platform, including CSAR, SOF (Special Operation Forces) and anti-submarine helicopters, was terminated in October 2016. It was an effect of not to sign an offset contract with the Airbus Helicopters and most probably it deprived Polish Armed Forces of a possibility to have new helicopters by the end of the decade. Nowadays, a new bidding procedure is under implementation to procure 8 SOF helicopters and 4 anti-submarine / CSAR ones (plus 4 additional as an option) as an urgent operational requirement. The contract is to be signed by the end of 2017 however, having in mind the necessity to negotiate and implement the offset contract, the timeframe is seriously jeopardized. The KRUK program to acquire attack helicopters is within an analytical – conceptual phase so, the perspective for contracting and deliveries seems to be far away.

To summarize, the cancellation of the procedure to acquire 50 helicopters of different purposes resulted in inability to start equipping Polish Armed Forces with new helicopters in 2017. The level of the new programs' progress indicates that it is not feasible to equip the troops with new types of helicopters, especially attack and transport ones, before 2022.

3. **Integrated systems of C4ISR** - the goal of the program is to achieve the operational capability for effective command and control of Polish Armed Forces within the whole spectrum of missions. The program is supposed to integrate all national automatic command and control (C2) systems as well as functional cyber systems (personnel, logistics, reconnaissance, defense resources management, crisis management, finance, etc.). The capability is to support requirements concerning C2 in both combined and national operations in times of war, crisis and peace. There are different systems to be acquired within the program. They are as follows:

- 1) C2 integrating recce, fires and logistics systems;
- 2) Command post mobile modules;
- 3) Transmission and cyber hardware;
- 4) C2 vehicles as well as battle management system (BMS) / blue force tracker (BFT) for subunits equipped with APC Rosomak;
- 5) Tactical data transmission systems – LINK 16 & LINK 22 standards;
- 6) Capability to combat identification friend or foe (FoF) with Mark

XIIA (mod 5) standard on identified air, naval and ground platforms.

The program includes several C4ISR projects with a substantial variation in the level of progress across it. Moreover, the program meets many obstacles from the manufacturing side due to the fact it is mostly implemented by the indigenous industry. The key in the whole program is to acquire the BMS that is seriously delayed but finally in the realization phase. However, the decision to task the Polish Armament Group to accomplish the program, whereas at least two private companies possess



more mature solutions, might affect the timing of the system's implementation in brigades equipped with APCs and, most probable, it won't be concluded by the end of the decade. The next project within the program, command post mobile modules after a long bidding procedure is finalized and a delivery to troops is ongoing. Other projects are under different levels of realization, from analytic – conceptual phase through bidding procedures up to production. Nevertheless, estimating the level of the whole program progress that means the integration of all national C2 systems, it is to be said that we are at the very beginning of the process.

- 4. Armored and mechanized troops' modernization** – operational capabilities' achievement of armored and mechanized units and subunits to conduct operations in a contemporary, volatile combat environment. The program's objective is, firstly, to replace obsolete tracked armored personnel vehicles APVs (BMP-1) and tanks from T-72 family with new APVs based on a universal, modular, tracked platform. The platform is planned to be a basis for the whole range of special vehicles. Moreover, the program includes Leopard 2A4 and A5 MBTs acquisition together with the supporting equipment as well as a modernization of owned Leopards 2A4. The National Research & Development Center started two projects to prepare prototypes of both a heavy platform named GEPARD and light one – BORSUK as a part of the program. However, limited research & development capabilities of Polish industry and research institutes as well as, unfortunately, lack of the MoD decision in terms of the tactical – technical requirements (issues of a weight and floating capability) resulted in a decision to abandon the so formulated GEPARD project. The BORSUK project is ongoing (to replace BMP) as an R&D financed mainly by the National Research & Development Center with HSW company partial participation as a main manufacturer. The project, even though some progress, encounters delays and a delivery schedule moves already out of



the 2022 planning perspective. Despite the first negative assessments it is to be pointed out that the scale of requirements and national ambitions seem to support the idea to continue the project. Moreover, HSW Company is able to utilize its knowledge and experience from the implementation of the Korean K9 chassis in the self propelled howitzer KRAB project. The modernization of the owned Leo 2A4 MBTs is within a manufacturing phase and should be completed by 2021. The Polish – German contract to acquire 105 x Leo 2A5, 14 x Leo 2A4 and supporting equipment is practically finalized. Even though the initial criticism this solution occurred to be a very efficient way to rapidly increase the capabilities of the armored troops with a relatively minimal finance effort. Facing difficulties to acquire a new tank it seems reasonable to seriously consider a purchase of a next batch of used MBTs from abroad and it is highly controversial to think about the owned T-72s' modernization.

To sum up the realization of the program, a success is a purchase of the next used Leopard 2 MBTs and a modernization of their previous versions. On the other hand, an attempt to acquire a Direct Support Vehicle GEPARD through the indigenous industry is a failure. It is especially difficult to accept the fact that 5 years were needed to conclude that it is unreasonable to elaborate the idea of a GEPARD project in place of a typical MBT (main battle tank) one. It was a standard mistake made in a phase of defining requirements. The initiated BORSUK and Leo modernization projects will ensure a practical progress in the armored troops' capabilities but only after 2022.

5. **Combating naval threats** – to achieve operational capabilities to combat surface, submerged and land targets as well as mine threat. Execution of the modernization plans included in the operational program allows to maintain combat capabilities of ships and submarines' fire



subsystem as well as anti-mine subsystem. Weapon systems to be acquired within the program are as follows:

- 1) New type submarines;
- 2) Modern minesweepers KORMORAN II;
- 3) Patrol boat ŚLAZAK;
- 4) Coastal defense vessels MIECZNIK;
- 5) Patrol boat with minesweeping capability CZAPLA;
- 6) Electronic reconnaissance vessel DELFIN;
- 7) Joint operations support vessel MARLIN;
- 8) Rescue vessel RATOWNIK;
- 9) Demagnetizing ship MAGNETO;
- 10) Coastal Navy rocket battalion;
- 11) NSM missiles for the coastal navy rocket battalion;
- 12) Tugboats HOLOWNIK.

The implementation of the second, in terms of value, operational program is the least advanced among all programs. Over 15-year period of time to accomplish the construction of GAWRON/ŚLAZAK vessel is the symbol of failure of subsequent governments on the political level and acquisition organizations and Polish shipbuilding industry. As for now the program is continued and there is a chance that the ship will enter service by the end of 2018. The biggest project of the program, new type submarines, is still within an analytical – conceptual phase and having in mind at least 6-year submarine build cycle as well as time necessary to complete a procurement process and sign the contract, the realistic time to have the submarine in service moves beyond the next planning perspective, further off 2026. The construction of the minesweeper KORMORAN II is being concluded and after sea trials it should soon enter into service in the Polish Navy. Gathered experience let hope that the process to build two additional KORMORANs included in the contract should move on efficiently and

without complications. The only condition is to sign the implementation contract for this project. Even though many controversies and litigation against the shipbuilder to sign a contract in 2017 to obtain six tugboats HOLOWNIK might be seen as a success. The second coastal rocket battalion, that is an important element of the Polish Navy fire system, is under production. Other Navy modernization projects are still within analytical – conceptual phases what means that there is no prospects to have the systems in service by 2022. The implementation of this program magnifies the influence of a 4-year election periods on the Polish Navy status. Every subsequent cabinet tries to elaborate its own and “unique” concept of Navy modernization.

Summarizing the realization of the program it is to be said that without radical decisions, consistent implementation of the plan and political consensus as far as the main Navy modernization directions are concerned there is no real chance to pull the Navy out of the technical collapse for the next 10 years.

6. **Imagery & satellite reconnaissance** – to achieve operational capabilities in terms of imagery recce from unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs). The key substance of the program on a tactical level is to increase the recce system capabilities in terms of areas of interest monitoring, detection, identification, precise positioning and targets acquisition as well as battle damage assessment and sea area and own troops rear zone monitoring. The program implementation on this level enables to utilize effectively modern artillery systems under procurement for the Army. In terms of the operational level, the implementation of the program is to increase reconnaissance capabilities to support deep operations and to enable rapid precise fires. The program includes acquisition of:

- 1) Micro UAVs;
- 2) Mini UAVs and mini vertical lift UAVs (WIZJER, WAŻKA);

- 3) Short range UAVs and short range vertical lift UAVs (ORLIK, ALBATROS);
- 4) Medium range UAVs (GRYF);
- 5) MALE class UAVs (ZEFIR).

Even though there is a general agreement concerning the importance of unmanned systems and their increasing significance in contemporary military conflicts the program has not entered the realization phase. In spring 2017 a procurement procedure to acquire micro UAVs, in which a private company presented the best offer, was cancelled. The reason to cancel the procedure was that the value of the best bid was over the MoD finance limit dedicated to this proceeding and in the same time the MoD did not utilize an option to increase its finance limit. Such a solution would ensure a chance to equip Polish Armed Forces with the systems even this year. A bidding procedure to purchase ORLIK and WIZJER class systems, initiated in 2015, was cancelled in 2016, just before its finalization, due to changes in commentary to the essential national security interest clause (the clause means the necessity to allocate the order in companies supervised by the state treasury). Such a clause excludes from the procedure private enterprises that have substantial competencies in such systems' construction.

Realization of GRYF and ZEFIR UAVs systems, although a decision to start it was made in 2015, is currently suspended and there is no further information either when or how they are to be implemented. In the case of ZEFIR program, due to the lack of competencies in Polish industry to construct such systems especially in the area of armament integration, the vehicles can't be produced indigenously. However, in the case of GRYF program, utilizing international cooperation the systems could be manufactured in Poland. As for today there is a next procurement procedure initiated to acquire ORLIK systems however, it is little

probability to conclude it by signing a contract by the end of the year. And the next procurement procedure to obtain WIZJER systems is scheduled for this year.

To summarize, the program to equip Polish Armed Forces with unmanned aerial systems has not started yet and time necessary to complete procurement procedures, signing contracts and manufacture the system, especially GRYF and ZEFIR classes, does not give hope for their implementation in troops before 2022.

- 7. Individual soldier's equipment & armament – TYTAN** – realization of this program is supposed to ensure optimized integration of modern armament systems and soldier's equipment together with professional readiness and combat management, to achieve superiority in the future combat and minimize casualties in all types of combat. The program has been being implemented since 2014 by a consortium that consist of several both private and state owned defense companies as well as research institutes. The initial plan assumed that prototype would be ready in 2017 and since 2018 delivery of several thousand systems to troops would have started. Unfortunately, in 2016 MoD made changes in personal radio requirements, an element which next to an integrator is the key of the whole system. It affected by a 2-year delay. Personal radio requirement changes included implementation of a new SCIP technology (Secure Communications Interoperability Protocol). That caused a necessity of a serious interference in a structure of the constructed radio and forced an elaboration of, practically speaking, a new radio. Sadly, such a decision delayed the implementation of the whole system whereas it was feasible to implement the system with the initial radio and other components as a "first version" to collect lessons learnt necessary for further improvements.

To conclude the progress in the program realization it is to be outlined that the system can be implemented since 2020. Having in mind a



scale of requirements it is to be said that changes in personal radio eliminated a prospect to conclude the process before 2022.

8. **Artillery & rocket troops' modernization** – the program rests on a procurement of artillery and rocket equipment to ensure fire support for infantry, mechanized and armored units and subunits. The program includes acquisition of:

- 1) 155mm artillery battalion modules REGINA with self propelled artillery pieces KRAB;
- 2) Multi-launch rocket system (MLRS) battalion modules HOMAR;
- 3) 120mm self propelled mortar fire modules APC-M120 RAK;
- 4) Radiolocation stations for artillery reconnaissance LIWIEC;
- 5) Automated Fire Control System TOPAZ for rocket launcher fire module WR-40 LANGUSTA;

The realization of the program is decisive for Polish Armed Forces' fire system capabilities. This program seems to be the most advanced one comparatively to all operational programs under implementation.

Deliveries of automated fire control systems TOPAZ for rocket launcher fire modules WR-40 LANGUSTA and radiolocation stations for artillery reconnaissance LIWIEC can be treated as completed. There are REGINA (KRAB) and RAK systems within a production and delivery phase. A contract to acquire 8 company size fire modules of self propelled mortars was signed in April 2016 and already in June this year the 17th MECHBDE was equipped with the first elements of the system. Next deliveries are scheduled in 2018 – 2019. However there are still a few components of the system, like artillery reconnaissance vehicle and artillery ammunition transport vehicle, that are under a quality tests and their delivery will be delayed crippling temporarily the system's capabilities to fulfill fire support missions. Deliveries of the first artillery battalion module REGINA with 24 pieces of self propelled artillery KRAB together with C2, recce and

logistics support elements will be concluded in 2017 as well. In the end of 2016 there was a contract signed to obtain next 3 battalion modules by 2022 and one after this date. After problems with indigenous chassis, a Korean K9 chassis was successfully implemented what, together with the transfer of technology (ToT), builds capabilities in Polish defense industry.

The most expected, in terms of deep strike capability, is to procure 3 battalion modules of multi-launch rocket system HOMAR. Since March 2015 there have been negotiations ongoing with the consortium led by the Polish Armament Group company (up to 2016 it was led by HSW company) which should have resulted in a contract signed however, due to the complexity level as well as expected transfer of technology, to conclude the process this year will be difficult although the determination of the MoD in this aspect is huge. However, even if the contract is signed by the end of 2017, the first delivery will be not sooner than in 3 years.

Summarizing, Artillery and Rocket Troops' modernization program is the most advanced one that in real terms increases Army strike capabilities and the level of its progress, even though many previous perturbations, should be assessed positively.

9. **Simulators and training equipment** – the goal of the program is to increase efficiency and professionalization of the training system. Within the scope of the program it is planned to obtain: battlefield tactical simulators, shooting simulators and training equipment, mission simulators for airplanes and helicopters as well as simulators for air force ground crews, NBC contamination simulators and training equipment, training equipment for mining systems, bridge layers and engineering devices, medical training systems, driving practice and parachute jump training equipment and simulators.

The program includes over 80 different projects. The level of progress among them varies. Most of air force simulators, like MIG-29, C-



295 and SW-4 helicopter flight simulators, have already been acquired. The ŚNIEŻNIK, special forces' laser battlefield imaginary and shooting simulators and aiming training systems (TCW CYKLOP-5S) are during delivery. Important from the Army perspective simulation systems such as: comprehensive system of a battlefield for a battalion training, shooting laser simulators for the Armored and Mechanized Troops' equipment, contemporary battlefield tactical simulator for the Armored and Mechanized Troops, are within a procurement process. The program is implemented quite consequently and the acquired equipment has improved quality and effectiveness of the training process in many areas.

10. Advanced Jet Training aircraft AJT – the goal of the program is to rebuild the existing air force training system as well as supplement air force equipment with systems and devices to realize training necessary for the air force personnel. The program includes a purchase of 8 M-346 aircrafts with training and logistics package. The contract was signed in 2014 as a result of the bidding procedure and initially the delivery of 2 first jets was scheduled for 2016 and the next 6 ones in 2017. Unfortunately, as a result of technical problems, the Italian manufacturer hasn't met the contract obligations and, as for now, the delivery of all 8 planes together with auxiliary equipment is scheduled by the end of November 2017. If there had not been this 1-year delay, the implementation of the program could have been a good example that it is possible to obtain a complex training system using the regulations of the Public Procurement Act.

11. Transport aircraft – the program to supplement transport capabilities of the Air Force and to attain own capability to conduct basic, advanced and tactical training of the transport aircrafts' crews. All ordered C-295 and M-28 transport aircrafts were obtained by 2013. This is the only operational program concluded up to this day.

12. **Wheeled Armored Personnel Carriers ROSOMAK** – the

implementation of this program is a continuation of motorized brigades' equipping with modern APCs ROSOMAK. The APCs are both the elements of combat modules and platforms to construct special versions dedicated for C2, recce, logistics support, medical and combat support. As a part of the program the next APCs are acquired to be fitted with indigenous unmanned turret integrated with ATGM SPIKE (anti tank guided missile) and many special versions like: maintenance reconnaissance vehicle, maintenance support vehicle, two types of recce vehicles (R1 and R2), contamination recce vehicle, C2 vehicles. The key element of the program is remotely controlled turret system integrated with ATGM SPIKE, which is still under development since 2013. The current schedule of the program indicates qualification tests by the end of 2018 and delivery since 2019. The most advanced is the project of maintenance recce vehicle that already is within production and delivery phase. The delivery of maintenance support vehicles should start in 2018. In case of R1 / R2 projects equipped with HITFIST-30 turret, the progress indicates that delivery could start in 2020 the earliest but delivery of versions with unmanned turret could start after 2022. Similar perspective concerns contamination recce version. In case of this project, R&D contract is being negotiated and procurement is planned after 2020. The rest of the projects are still within analytical – conceptual phase. There is still no contract to integrate HITFIST-30 turret with ATGMs SPIKE. Such a solution could decisively increase the anti tank fire capabilities.

To sum up the realization of the whole operational program it is to be stated that the implementation of APCs with HITFIST-30 turret was relatively smooth. However, the elaboration of special versions lasts too long especially, that there is already 15 years, what means a half of a



life cycle, since the APC was introduced into Polish Army and there is still lack of many required versions of the vehicle.

13. Anti tank guided missiles SPIKE – the goal of the program is to acquire ATGM systems to ensure operational capability to affect armored enemy targets out of range of his main anti tank means. Based on the contract signed in 2003, over 2000 missiles together with launchers and training equipment were delivered to Polish Armed Forces. The production assisted by ToT was moved to Poland, to MESKO Company, and currently the company is capable to manufacture the missiles except few elements which are imported. In 2015, there was a contract signed to deliver a thousand missiles SPIKE-LR (long range) with a delivery schedule in 2018 – 2021. The program is the next project that was implemented without any significant problems. The only issue that could be risen is the level of ToT achieved which still does not allow us to manufacture the missiles independently.

14. Reconnaissance patrol – the program includes procurement of new armament and systems as well as their integration to enable a comprehensive and coordinated approach to create capabilities to conduct reconnaissance activities by recce subunits. The program includes acquisition of:

- 1) Light armored recce carriers KLESZCZ;
- 2) Reconnaissance vehicles for long range reconnaissance patrol (LRRP) ŻMIJA;
- 3) Mobile unmanned recce vehicles TARANTULA;
- 4) Computer system to collect, analyze and distribute information from all ISTAR elements – SOWA;
- 5) Automated system to collect, compute and distribute reconnaissance information received from long range recce elements – PAJĄK.

The program, created relatively late, is within its initial phase and none of its projects is either under production or delivery. The elaboration of the recce carrier KLESZCZ is conducted as a National Research & Development Centre project by AMZ Kutno Company. The project is delayed by 2 years and it is to be expected that the current schedule to build two prototypes by 2020 is not feasible. The ŻMIJA project is at the bidding phase with deliveries scheduled in 2020 – 2022 (the contract is to be signed at the International Defense Industry Exhibition in Kielce). The contract for the delivery of the mobile unmanned recce vehicles TARANTULA was a failure. Although it was contracted in 2016, the manufacturer was unable to deliver products in accordance with military requirements and MoD had to break the contract. Next SOWA and PAJAŃK projects are still within their analytical – conceptual phases so, it is not to expect their deliveries before 2022.

Apart from the military equipment procured within the 14 operational programs there have been systems acquired to increase and supplement the operational capabilities. They are as follows:

- Missiles for F-16 jets: AGM-158A/B (JASSM, JASSM-ER), AIM-9X, AIM-120C and bombs;
- High mobility JELCZ trucks;
- 2 small airplanes for VIP transport;
- Armament and individual equipment for newly created Territorial Defense Troops.

Additionally, there was the contract signed to deliver 3 medium size airplanes for VIP transport. The contract includes delivery of one used plane still in 2017 and 2 new ones in 2020. Even though the contract was given to Boeing Company without the bidding,



what caused the extensive comments, the contract is valid and will be fulfilled.

The Technical Modernization Plan 2013 – 2022 is the first such a comprehensive plan where the initially planned spending was on the level of 130 billion Polish zloty, including 90 billion for Operational Programs. The practice verified these initial assumptions. Subsequently signed contracts and concluded analyses proved that most of the programs is highly underestimated from the finance perspective and delays in particular programs result in spending culmination in the next planning period. Moreover, in 2016 the newly appointed MoD leaders changed priorities and corrected the Technical Modernization Plan for 2017 – 2019 by inserting expenditures dedicated for Territorial Defense Troops and cyber security. In a natural way such a change limited financing of previously established programs. Not without an impact on the tempo of the Technical Modernization Plan implementation was the change of the cabinet including the MoD staff. The period of 2015 – 2017 is the next time of delays in realization of some programs especially these ones where the new leaders had another vision or doubts to continue them.

Yet another reason for the modernization tempo was how the MoD structure was prepared to implement such an elaborated and costly plan. In 2011 the Armament Inspectorate was created as a specialized organization responsible for military equipment acquisition for the Polish Armed Forces. However, the process to organize and get the institution ready was conducted simultaneously with procurement activities and now the system requires further evolutionary changes to build an Armament Agency, as an integrator of decision making processes of multiple MoD structures. Among required changes in the military equipment acquisition system there is a modification of regulations and procedures to eliminate problems identified in the process. The key change is a creation of law on



the parliament's level – an act – to describe military procurement as well as rules to build and maintain production and servicing capabilities in the indigenous industry.

Concluding, for a radical acceleration and effective implementation of the Technical Modernization Plan there is a necessity for further improvement of the military equipment acquisition system and meeting a few conditions. The conditions required are as follows:

- A stable financing (min. 2% GDP);
- An efficient system to generate realistic requirements;
- Industrial capabilities (indigenous or foreign);
- Efficient and effective procurement procedures;
- Specialized and effective procurement institution including an education system for military equipment procurement specialists;
- Political consensus concerning the main modernization directions;
- Determination and consistent implementation of the Technical Modernization Plan.



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