
RUMEN RADEV: PROTECTING THE REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA'S AIR SPACE IS BULGARIA'S NATIONAL DUTY AND RESPONSIBILITY

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The meeting of the state and government leaders of the NATO member states in London provides Bulgaria the opportunity to strengthen its position as a factor of stability in Southeastern Europe and defend its national interest. This is what President Rumen Radev told journalists today before leaving for the NATO summit in London. The top-level forum in the British capital will commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Alliance, the presidential press office reported.

Bulgaria should not miss the historical opportunity to protect the Republic of North Macedonia's air space, the Head of State said. In his words, while the talks in this direction were postponed by the Bulgarian side for the bright future, when we will have a squadron of new aircraft, Greece signed an agreement on this mission. The current opportunities have given us the chance to fully perform this task without any extra expenditure because the Graf Ignatievo Air Base has been tasked this mission, Rumen Radev said.

The President recalled his meetings with Prime Ministers Kyriakos Mitsotakis and Zoran Zaev in the past months, at which an agreement was reached for holding a meeting between Bulgaria's Defense Minister and Chief of Defense with their counterparts from Greece and the Republic of North Macedonia for including Bulgaria in the protection of the air space of our southeastern neighbor. This not only serves our national interest, but it is also our duty to the fraternal Republic of North Macedonia and is an expression of responsibility, the Head of State further said.

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