



MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENCE
"NICOLAE BĂLCESCU" LAND FORCES
ACADEMY - SIBIU, ROMANIA



Funded by
the European Union

Sibiu, 2026

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Dear Commandants,

"Nicolae Bălcescu" Land Forces Academy of Sibiu is honored to invite your institution to participate in the **Mountain Challenge Competition 2026**, which will take place between **19–23 October 2026** in the **Făgăraș Mountains**, Romania.

The Mountain Challenge Competition is an international military competition designed to test and develop cadets' physical endurance, mental resilience, leadership abilities, teamwork, and mountain warfare skills in a demanding operational environment. The event also aims to strengthen international cooperation among military academies and promote the professional image of participating institutions.

Participating teams shall consist of **five cadets and one instructor/referee**. Each participating country may register **one team**. The instructor/referee will support the evaluation process of a team from another participating nation.

The competition tasks will challenge participants in tactical movement, navigation, survival techniques, casualty evacuation, leadership, and team coordination. Activities will be conducted in mountainous terrain and under realistic military training conditions.

The Land Forces Academy will provide accommodation, meals, local transportation related to the competition, and part of the required equipment for the duration of the event. Sending institutions are responsible for international travel expenses to and from Sibiu. No participation fee is required.

The activity is planned to be organized as a **Blended Intensive Programme (BIP)** and participants may be awarded **3 ECTS credits**.

All participants are kindly requested to possess valid medical insurance. Participants from EU member states are encouraged to bring their European Health Insurance Card.

The registration deadline is **11th of September 2026**. Registration forms should be sent to international.relations@armyacademy.ro.

Further details regarding the competition program, equipment requirements, administrative arrangements, and evaluation criteria are enclosed.

We look forward to welcoming your team to Sibiu and sharing an unforgettable challenge in the heart of the Făgăraș Mountains.

Sincerely,

Colonel Dumitru TODOSIUC

Commandant (Rector) of "Nicolae Bălcescu" Land Forces Academy of Sibiu





“Nicolae Bălcescu” Land Forces Academy of Sibiu



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PRACTICAL INFORMATION

1.	Dates, Location, Participants The Mountain Challenge Competition will take place between 19–23 October 2026 in Făgăraș Mountains, Romania. The competition is organized by “Nicolae Bălcescu” Land Forces Academy of Sibiu and aims to develop physical endurance, mental resilience, leadership, teamwork, fieldcraft, and mountain warfare skills. Each participating country may register one team consisting of: • 5 cadets (gender balance is highly encouraged); • 1 instructor/referee (who will support the evaluation of a team from another participating country). The activity will be organized as a Blended Intensive Programme (BIP) and will award 3 ECTS credits. (BIP ID - 2025-1-RO01-KA131-HED-000315261-2) Mandatory Online Component of the BIP (05–16 October 2026) As part of the Blended Intensive Programme (BIP), all participants will complete a mandatory online component during the two weeks preceding the physical mobility. Participants will receive Moodle accounts on the Land Forces Academy's e-learning platform, where they will have access to learning materials, practical assignments, and communication tools. The online component will include: • introductory sessions presenting the competition objectives, programme, and organizational aspects; • online lectures and learning resources on mountain safety, navigation, fieldcraft, leadership, and teamwork; • virtual meetings with the organizing team and participating institutions; • team-building and networking activities among the international participants; • a preliminary assessment to evaluate participants' preparation before the start of the residential phase. Detailed information regarding the Moodle platform, online meeting schedule, and assessment requirements will be communicated to all participants after the registration deadline. The successful completion of both the online and the physical components is required for the award of 3 ECTS credits.
2.	Accommodation and meals Accommodation and meals will be provided free of charge by “Nicolae Bălcescu” Land Forces Academy for the entire duration of the competition. Participants will be accommodated in military facilities provided by the organizers.
3.	Costs No participation fee is required. Accommodation, meals, local transportation related to the competition, and part of the necessary training equipment will be provided by the organizers. Participating institutions are responsible for international travel expenses to and from Sibiu, Romania.
4.	Transportation Participants are requested to arrange their own transportation to Sibiu.



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5.	Uniform/dress code
	Please see attached Equipment requirements annex (Annex 1).
6.	Registration
	Please use the attached registration form and send it to the POC - Assoc.prof. Isabela-Anda DRAGOMIR, PhD, at the e-mail address: international.relations@armyacademy.ro . Deadline for registration is 11th of September 2026.
7.	POC
	Assoc.prof. Isabela-Anda DRAGOMIR, PhD Course director: Col. Cristian TANASA “Nicolae Bălcescu” Land Forces Academy of Sibiu 3-5 Revolutiei Street, Sibiu, Romania, 550170 Tel: +40 269 432 990/int. 1317 (office) E-mail: international.relations@armyacademy.ro



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Annex 1 - Necessary equipment

1.	INDIVIDUAL
	Combat uniform appropriate to terrain and weather Military boots suitable for mountain movement Helmet (ballistic or training) Load-bearing equipment/ backpack Individual first aid kit (IFAK) Gloves and eye protection Personal hydration system
2.	TEAM
	Topographic map of the area Compass (and/or GPS if authorized) Stretcher or casualty evacuation device MEDEVAC kit Whistle or signalling devices Ropes, carabiners, slings (for slope or rope tasks) Notebook and pen (for orders/ reporting) Small ISR drone operator and mini-drone system (provided by the organizers) Tablet/monitor for real-time drone video feed (provided by the organizers)

Equipment provided by the LFA, Sibiu

	Individual weapon -AIRSOFT AIRSOFT ammunition Chemical protection training kit Rappelling equipment Smoke grenades Small ISR drone operator and mini-drone system (provided by the organizers) Tablet/monitor for real-time drone video feed (provided by the organizers) Topographic map of the area Sleeping bag
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Registration Form



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Data protection:
Your data will be used for necessary internal administrative procedures only.
They will not be published in any case!

Remarks: - Please fill in the yellow fields only or mark with an X - Fill in 1 form for 1 person - Send this application form to: international.relations@armyacademy.ro		I want to participate in the:					
		BIP MOUNTAIN CHALLENGE COMPETITION 19 – 23 October 2026*					
Gender	Rank	Family name / Surname	First name / Given name				
Date of birth	Nationality	Passport (ID) number*	Passport validity until				
Branch of Service (if available)	Sending institution	I want to participate as					
		Officer	N.C.O. Cadet				
		☐	☐ ☐				
My phone number (if available)		My e-mail address					
Postal address							
Arrival date in Sibiu	Arrival time in Sibiu (if possible)	By plane	By train	By car	By bus	Need local transport to the LFA location	
		☐	☐	☐	☐	Yes ☐	No ☐
Departure date from Sibiu	Departure time from Sibiu (if possible)	By plane	By train	By car	By bus	Need local transport from the LFA location	
		☐	☐	☐	☐	Yes ☐	No ☐
Need for accommodation in LFA campus							
Yes ☐				No ☐			
Special dietary or food requirements due to medical or religious reasons		If yes, please specify food you cannot eat		Additional remarks (Need for special equipment, special travel arrangements)			
No	Yes						
☐	☐						

* Deadline for submitting the Registration form: 11th of September 2026



Registration Form



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* Please enclose the photo of your Passport/ID on the next page of this registration form:

Please integrate a copy of your passport / ID hereinafter: