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Commander KFOR gives lecture at Pristine University

On 1st of March 2011 at 11.00 hrs, at Pristina University, Commander KFOR, General Erhard Bühler, will deliver a lecture about “The German Army and Mission in Kosovo”.

This lecture is part of a seminar “Presentation of Germany” with which the University of Pristina introduces the political, economical and social system of the Federal Republic of Germany to its interested students, especially those who study the German language.

General Bühler will give an overview over the disastrous situation the German people was confronted after the Second World War in 1945 and the profound and rapid, nearly miraculous reconstruction of the economy, the new democratic parliamentary system and the liberal society of the German Federal Republic. It was soon integrated in the Western international systems, the different European institutions and of course into NATO since the 1950ies. In sharp contrast to that, the Eastern part of Germany stayed under rule and control of the Soviet Union.

The Armed Forces of the Federal Republic, the Bundeswehr, were from the very beginning in 1955 integrated in NATO. Relatively late and only after the German reunification in 1990 the Bundeswehr started to take part in international peace missions – after an intensive but fruitful democratic discussion about the implications and whether such operations could legally based on the German Constitution, the Grundgesetz.



The mission in Kosovo was the first in which German army units on the ground had the first real combat experiences. It is one of the longer commitments of the German Armed Forces and is a success story for the Bundeswehr. It is proud to have thus contributed to peace in the whole region, to security and stability on the Balkans. So Germany could return some of the international help which it received after the Second World War and mainly give an example, that even a long and demanding way could be worthwhile to proceed.

Media are kindly invited to attend the lecture in Pristina University.