

# Living and Working in Romania



# JOINT TASK FORCE-EAST

*Joint Task Force - East (JTF- East)* is a United States European Command initiative to strengthen relationships between the United States and our Eastern European allies.

Physically located in Romania and Bulgaria, JTF-East will include a small permanent headquarters consisting of approximately 100 personnel who will oversee rotations of U.S. Army brigade-sized units and U.S. Air Force Weapons Training Deployments.

The U.S. military forces will be involved in challenging, expeditionary training experiences with the Romanian armed forces and humanitarian projects.

JTF-East provides an excellent opportunity to increase interoperability between U.S. and Romanian forces, build and sustain multinational partnerships, and prepare for future coalition operations.

### WORKING CONDITIONS

#### Mihail Kogalniceanu Air Base

You will be working at the Mihail Kogalniceanu (MK) Air Base, Romania. MK Air Base is located in a region of Romania called Dobrogea, which is the land between the Danube River to the west and the Black Sea to the east. The base is located approximately 15 miles from downtown Constanta, Romania's largest port and second largest city.

Conditions on MK Air Base are austere, and accommodations for individuals with disabilities must be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. All tours to Romania are unaccompanied, with frequent TDY to Bulgaria. Civilians are allowed to ship 350 pounds of unaccompanied baggage. During training exercises, you may be required to work overtime and rotating shifts.

#### **Overseas Unaccompanied Tour**

Assignments in Romania are projected to last 18 months. Following completion of the overseas tour, you may be eligible to exercise return rights to your previous position or enroll in the Priority Placement Program (PPP). Through the PPP, you may be placed in a permanent DoD position in CONUS.



**Privately Owned Vehicles (POVs)** may be authorized in Romania. Transporting the POV to Romania is the responsibility of the owner.

# SUPPORT SERVICES

**Government-** Leased Housing is provided in the nearby city of Constanta at no cost. Apartments are fully furnished and air-conditioned. Employees will have private bedrooms and bathrooms but may be required to share common living areas. Note: Living Quarters Allowance (LQA) is not authorized.



**Dining Facility (DFAC)** on MK Air Base provides three hot meals a day at the standard DFAC rates for Army civilians.

Laundry services are available on MK Air Base at no cost.

**AAFES** operates a Shoppette and Barber Shop on MK Air Base. The Shoppette carries a limited selection of electronics, books, entertainment, hygiene items, snacks, and beverages. *Note: There are no Commissary or BX/PX facilities.* 

Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) provides a variety of quality of life

services. Gym facilities include a good selection of workout equipment. Other facilities house pool tables and Constanta, Romania R organizes trips, sports, entertainment nights, and holiday events.

Medical and Dental Care is available through host nation facilities on the economy.

Local public transportation is available for travel between Constanta and MK Air Base.

# **PAY ENTITLEMENTS**

**Post Hardship Differential** is an allowance paid to employees working in foreign areas when environmental conditions differ substantially from stateside conditions. It is calculated as a percentage of basic pay as determined by the U.S. Department of State. Currently, a post hardship differential of 15% is authorized to employees working in Romania.

**Separate Maintenance Allowance** (SMA) is an allowance to assist eligible employees who are living separately from family members at a foreign post where the environment is considered too dangerous or notably unhealthy to allow family members to reside. SMA is intended to assist in offsetting the additional expense incurred by an employee who must maintain a separate household for the family or a member of the family.

### **BENEFITS**

As an Army employee you receive a comprehensive compensation package to meet your work-life needs.

For more information on the benefits of being a Federal employee, please visit:

http://www.opm.gov/insure /health/new\_employees.asp

- Comprehensive health and life insurance
- Generous retirement programs
- Paid holidays, sick leave, and vacation time
- Paid employment-related training and education
- Possible student loan repayment
- Payment of licenses, certification, and academic degrees as applicable
- Bonuses, incentives, and awards as appropriate for the job

For information on employment opportunities in Romania, contact the Heidelberg Civilian Personnel Advisory Center (CPAC) DSN 370- 6986 or CIV 06221- 57- 6986 http://cpolrhp.belvoir.army.mil/eur

