



## PRESS RELEASE

### P88 CHEMICAL FIELD EXERCISE

**April 1-3, 2025 | Tirana, Albania**

A three-day Chemical Emergency Response Field Exercise (ChemEx) successfully commenced today in Tirana as part of the EU CBRN CoE Project 88, "Strengthening CBRN Medical Preparedness and Response Capabilities in SEE Countries."

The event is organized by the Science and Technology Center in Ukraine (STCU) and hosted by the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Albania, bringing together medical professionals and first responders from nine South Eastern and Eastern European countries.

The opening remarks were delivered by:

- **Entela Ramosaço**, the Deputy Minister of Health and Social Protection of Albania
- **André RIZZO**, the Head of European Integration, Political, Press and Information Section, EU Delegation to Albania
- **Dr. Skender BRATAJ**, the Director of the National Center of Emergency Medicine of Albania

Funded by the European Union, the exercise aims to enhance regional preparedness and response capabilities for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) emergencies. Participants engage in realistic emergency scenarios, refining their skills in medical triage, contamination management, and inter-agency coordination.

#### Key Highlights of the Exercise:

- ✓ **Complex Chemical Emergency Simulation**
  - Management of multiple casualties and potential environmental contamination
  - Establishing site control and handling contaminated patients
  - On-scene life-saving actions, decontamination, and emergency medical response
- ✓ **Medical Response & Forensic Coordination**
  - Practical demonstration of CBRN medical triage, decontamination, and patient management
  - Administration of antidotes and medical care for potentially contaminated bystanders
  - Operating within a crime scene without compromising forensic evidence
- ✓ **Inter-Agency Coordination & Crisis Communication**
  - Protection of emergency responders in contaminated environments
  - Minimization of cross-contamination beyond the hot zone
  - Effective collaboration with emergency teams, media, and public information management

This exercise plays a crucial role in assessing and strengthening CBRN emergency response capabilities across South Eastern and Eastern Europe. The dedication and professionalism of all participants highlight the importance of international cooperation in building resilience against CBRN threats.

By fostering stronger regional coordination and preparedness, this initiative represents a significant step forward in enhancing public safety and security across the region.