



MINISTERO DELLA DIFESA



Sustainable security: Defense and Terna sign agreement

Rome, 17 June 2019 - The Italian Ministry of Defence and Terna, Rete Elettrica Nazionale Società per Azioni, have signed a collaboration agreement to promote studies and research in the energy security sector. The Undersecretary for Defence, Angelo Tofalo and Luigi Ferraris, CEO of Terna, operator of the Italian national high-voltage and extra-high-voltage electricity transmission grid.

The collaboration stems from the need to support the ongoing energy transition that will make it necessary to adapt national electricity distribution and transmission grids and the use of renewable energy sources. The main aim is to improve the resilience of the Italian national electricity transmission system through the creation of electrical trading centres such as smart cities, amongst other things.

In this sector, collaboration will focus on prototypical experimentation with Smart Military Districts, energy districts in which to maximize energy efficiency, procurement from environmentally sustainable sources, self-consumption and sources that allow energy flows to be managed in real time via secure channels, in order to consolidate the combination of the energy security - cyber security paradigms.

Undersecretary Tofalo stated that “the energy sector assumes an increasingly central role in the economic development of the country, to support the implementation of a sustainable growth model and the security of the Italian system. In this context, the virtuous approach of the Ministry of Defence can and should be an example for the other sectors of the Public Administration to follow in terms of the ‘national security strategy’”.

The agreement will facilitate the implementation of pilot projects aiming to increase Italian national energy security and resilience, the energy efficiency of military sites and reduce expenditure on energy provision.

“The Ministry of Defence,” Tofalo adds, “intends to continue its contribution to increasing energy resilience of the country with a view to achieving a synergistic relationship with critical national infrastructures, participating in the energy transition to optimise consumption, leading to financial savings and a reduction in climate-changing gas emissions”.

“This agreement is an important step for Terna and the Italian system in terms of energy security”, said Luigi Ferraris, CEO of Terna, “as a facilitating factor for Italian national security. Its the first phase of an closer collaboration between strategic institutions and businesses for the creation of a “Sustainable Security” model”.

On the same date, General Francesco Noto, Director of the Progetto Energia Department, signed a letter of intent with Terna, which will allow the Ministry of Defence to participate in the European “OSMOSE - Optimal System Mix of Flexibility Solutions for European Electricity” initiative, in which some Defence infrastructures may be evaluated as resources to contribute to the robustness of the Italian national electricity system.