PRESS RELEASE

November 19th, 2026

FNSS–CSG CFL-120 KARPAT Medium Tank Completes First Live-Fire Demonstration in Slovakia

Danube Defence Systems' flagship CFL-120 KARPAT drives off-road and engages targets at the Záhorie Military Testing Ground

The CFL-120 KARPAT Medium Tank, the flagship product of Danube Defence Systems, the joint venture between FNSS Savunma Sistemleri A.Ş. and the CSG Group, has successfully completed a dynamic live-fire demonstration witnessed by potential users at the Záhorie Military Testing Area in Slovakia.

Following its premiere at IDEB 2026 in Bratislava, the tank was shown driving off-road and engaging targets on the range for the first time. The CFL-120 KARPAT couples the FNSS KAPLAN tracked platform with the HITFACT MkII turret system developed by Leonardo, which carries a 120 mm gun. Both the turret and the platform are already in service with different armies worldwide. The programme combines FNSS's technological expertise in armoured vehicle design with the manufacturing and industrial capabilities of the CSG Group in Slovakia.

The CFL-120 KARPAT platform represents a unique response to the emerging requirements of modern warfare. Its purpose-built design provides the lowest silhouette and highest power-to-weight ratio in its class., with weight and mobility performance optimised. The vehicle's latest-technology power pack is combined with advanced electronically controlled systems, an Auxiliary Power Unit (APU) and a heavy-duty suspension. These features ensure reliable and continuous power during expeditionary manoeuvres on the battlefield, in both day and night operations. Moreover, the CFL-120 KARPAT's advanced mobility system improves user ergonomics and extends the life cycle of all mission equipment.

In accordance with the conventional tank concept, the CFL-120 KARPAT's power pack is positioned at the rear of the platform, which increases mobility through higher acceleration, especially on soft soil and rough terrain. This design allows the driver to operate the tank with the highest level of situational awareness without the need to open the top hatch. The design architecture provides a superior level of battlefield survivability, incorporating advanced ballistic and best-in-class mine protection systems. Other front-engine "tank-like" systems converted from armoured personnel carriers or AFVs cannot offer these combined capabilities to users.

The KARPAT represents a modern class of medium tank. It offers main battle tank-level 120 mm firepower together with high mobility, transportability and a reduced logistics burden. It is designed for armed forces seeking to modernise cavalry, armoured infantry and fire support capabilities without the procurement and sustainment costs associated with full-weight main battle tank fleets.

Production of the vehicle is planned to be localised in Slovakia at MSM Land Systems in Trenčín, creating opportunities for Slovak suppliers to join an international supply chain.

The KARPAT is ready for serial production. First deliveries in the standard configuration can be made within 19 to 20 months with initial operational capability achievable within 26 months.

Beyond the medium tank, Danube Defence Systems will offer armoured personnel carrier and infantry fighting vehicle variants within the KARPAT family, as well as additional FNSS wheeled and tracked vehicles to be produced in Europe. The full FNSS weapon system portfolio will also be available through Danube Defence Systems.