Tajikistan showcased its military capabilities on March 12, 2025, with the debut of the Chinese-made HQ-17AE air defense system during an Armed Forces anniversary parade. The event, which celebrated the country's military achievements, underscored Tajikistan's commitment to modernizing its defense infrastructure.

The HQ-17AE system, developed by China, is designed to provide advanced air defense capabilities against various aerial threats. Its introduction into the Tajik military arsenal reflects ongoing efforts to enhance national security and defense preparedness, particularly given the regional security challenges faced by the country.

Defense analysts note that the acquisition of modern military hardware such as the HQ-17AE signals Tajikistan's intent to strengthen its defense posture amid evolving geopolitical dynamics in Central Asia. The system is expected to enhance the country's ability to respond to potential air threats and contribute to regional stability.

The parade served not only as a platform to demonstrate military hardware but also as an opportunity for the Tajik government to reiterate its commitment to strengthening national sovereignty and security. As Tajikistan continues to navigate complex security challenges, collaborations with international partners, such as China, play a crucial role in advancing its defense capabilities.