



**Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Bulgaria,  
Defense staff**

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**LIEUTENANT GENERAL  
IAVOR ANTONOV MATEEV**

***Military Representative of Bulgaria to  
the European Union and NATO***

Date and place of birth: 05 Dec 1967, Sofia

**MILITARY CAREER**

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| 2025        | Military Representative of Bulgaria to the European Union and NATO                  |
| 2019 - 2024 | Commander, JSOCOM   |
| 2015 - 2019 | 68th Special Operations Brigade Commander   |
| 2010 - 2015 | Chief of Joint Facilities Department, MOD   |
| 2009 - 2010 | Chief of Joint Facilities Office, MOD   |
| 2007 - 2009 | Deputy Chief of "SIGINT&EW" Sector at Intelligence Branch,<br>Land Forces Staff     |
| 2006 - 2007 | Student at National Defense University – Washington, USA                            |
| 2006        | Chief of SOF Training Sector at SOF Branch – Land Forces Staff                      |
| 2003 - 2006 | Chief of Intelligence Sector - SOF Command  |
| 2002 - 2003 | Assistant – Chief of SOF Training Branch - SOF Command                              |
| 2000 - 2001 | Assistant – Chief of Operations Branch - SOF Command                                |
| 1999 - 2000 | Senior Assistant – Chief of Intelligence Branch – unit 26790 – Sofia                |
| 1998 - 1999 | Senior Assistant – Chief of Operations Sector – unit 32010 – Dobroslavtsi           |
| 1996 - 1998 | Student at Defense and Staff College "G.S.Rakovski                                  |
| 1994 - 1996 | Chief of Service "Airborne&Combat Search and Rescue Training" –<br>AFB Dobroslavtsi |
| 1992 - 1994 | SOF Company Commander - unit 26 850 – Gornya banya                                  |
| 1989 - 1992 | SOF Task Unit Commander - unit 26 850 – Gornya banya                                |

**EDUCATION**

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| 2006 - 2007 | National Defense University, College of International Security Affairs –<br>Washington DC, USA - master degree of Strategic Security Studies |
| 1996 - 1998 | War and Staff College "G.S. Rakovski" - Sofia - master degree of Intelligence  |
| 1985 - 1989 | Military University "Vasil Levski" - Veliko Tarnovo - bachelor degree  |
| 1981 - 1985 | High school - Varshetz   |

## **QUALIFICATION**

1994 Paratrooper – master I class

## **COURSES**

2006 NATO Combined Joint SOF Component Command – NATO School  
Oberammergau, Germany  
2003 NATO CIMIC – Bosnia and Herzegovina  
2002 UN Military Observers - Germany  
2001 Interoperability - War and Staff College “G.S. Rakovski” - Sofia  
1994 Search and Rescue - Greece

## **PROMOTIONS**

2025 Lieutenant  
2019 Major General  
2015 Brigadier General  
2009 Colonel  
2003 Lieutenant Colonel  
1999 Major  
1996 Captain  
1992 Senior Lieutenant  
1989 Lieutenant

## **MISSIONS**

2003 Action Officer Political Assessment and Liaison Officer to EUPM/SBS and  
NGOs, Operations Branch, SFOR HQ, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina  
2002 Action Officer and Liaison Officer to State Border service, CIMIC SFOR  
HQ, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

## **MEDALS AND AWARDS**

A jubilee medal “75 years since the beginning of the Second World War”

“An Honorary badge of the Ministry of Defense” - first degree

A jubilee medal “100 years since the beginning of the First World War”

A medal of the Bulgarian armed forces, for faithful service under the military flags – first degree.

Two NATO medals for participation in NATO operations in Former Yugoslavia

US Army Commendation Medal for meritorious service

Tangible rewards, moral incentives and honorary diplomas

Ecclesiastical Order "St. Apostle Erm" - 1st degree for Meritorious Service to the Bulgarian Orthodox Church and the Holy Metropolis of Plovdiv

## **LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY**

English STANAG-6001 3-3-3-3

Russian

Serbo-Croatian

MG Mateev has a married with three kids and two granddaughters.