



**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, 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” – 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 – 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 - Varshtet

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.