

Brigadier General Mircea GOLOGAN

Director, Strategic Planning, Defense Staff, Romania



BG Gologan was born in Bucharest on 29 December 1967. He attended the Land Forces Academy in Sibiu between September 1987 and July 1990 and graduated as top of his class.

As 2nd Lieutenant, he was assigned as the 1st INF Platoon Leader in the 1st INF COY / 1st INF BN / 1st MECH Regiment / 1st MECH Division / 1st Army.

He was promoted to 1st Lieutenant in October 1992 and appointed in the Office of the Chief of Staff of the Army. Between December 1993 and March 1996, he served as staff officer (PSY OPS and Cultural Affairs) in the Training and Exercises Division, Land Forces Headquarters.

After graduating the Advanced Course in 1994, he was promoted to Captain in 1995 and, in March 1996, assumed the command of the 2nd INF Coy / 13th INF BN / 1st MECH BDE. He commanded that Coy until March 1998 when, after graduating the Staff College, was assigned as the Battalion S2 in the same unit. Between March and October 1999 he was the PSY OPS officer / S 3 of the 1st MECH BDE.

In May 2001 he was promoted to Major. He attended the Command and General Staff College between October 1999 and July 2001. He graduated the High Military Studies Academy as top of the class and was appointed as the Deputy Commanding Officer of the 2nd INF BN / 1st MECH BDE.

Following the certification of the 2nd INF BN on February 2002 as SACEUR Strategic Reserve FORCE for SFOR and KFOR JOA (while ROU was not yet a NATO member), in September, deployed with his unit in SFOR AOR for Operational Rehearsal "Dynamic Response 2002".

BG Gologan was the acting commanding officer of the 2nd INF BN between October 2001 – January 2002 and October 2002 – May 2003. During his command, he prepared the battalion for deployment in KFOR AOR for Operational Rehearsal "Dynamic Response 2003".

Between May 2003 and April 2005, was appointed as Chief of Operations and Training of the 1st MECH BDE. During his tenure as BDE S3, was deployed for 1 year and 3 months to Kabul, Afghanistan as the Commanding Officer of the first ever-Romanian Military Assistance Mission, a component of the CJTF Phoenix. His unit contributed to the fielding of the 3rd Afghan National Army Brigade (Rapid Reaction Force), especially the 3rd Armor Battalion (T 62) and 2nd MECH Battalion (BMP).

In May 2005, was appointed as a staff officer in the Joint Operations / OPS Directorate of the General Staff. He was promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel in April 2006. He graduated the Advanced Joint Operations Staff Officer Course at the National Defense University in July 2006 and, in May 2007, was assigned as senior staff officer in the Combat Readiness Evaluation / OPS Directorate / General Staff.

BG Gologan earned his *Cum Laudae Ph.D.* degree in June 2007, with a thesis on the Falklands War.

Between July 2007 and July 2010, he was posted at NATO Headquarters, International Military Staff (IMS), in Brussels, as the secretary of the Military Committee Working Group on Cooperation and Regional Security (MCWG COOP). During his tenure at NATO HQ he dealt with regional security matters and contributed to various committees and working groups, such as: the NATO Terrorism Task Force, Defense Against Terrorism Program of Work, Political Military Steering Committee, NATO HQ Comprehensive Approach Task Force, NATO HQ CMX Task Force, NATO Crisis Response System, Civil Emergency Planning, Defense Group on Proliferation etc. As an IMS member, attended several short courses in NATO Defense College - Rome and NATO School - Oberammergau.

Upon his return from NATO HQ Brussels, was briefly assigned to Training and Doctrine Directorate / General Staff, as head of the Multinational Exercises, then, in September 2010, returned to OPS Directorate / General Staff, as head of Land Operations.

He was promoted to Colonel in January 2011. In October 2010 and March 2011, deployed to Afghanistan to conduct Periodic Mission Review. Between May and December 2012 was deployed again to Afghanistan to serve as Senior National Representative of the Romanian contingent, the 6th largest contingent in ISAF. In 2013, for a brief period, he was acting Branch Head, Joint Operations in the General Staff.

From July 2013 to July 2016 he was posted again in Brussels, at NATO HQ, as Branch Head, Capability Development in the Command Group of Supreme Allied Commander Transformation.

In 2016, he graduated the High Level Course at European Security and Defense College in Brussels and in February 2017 was appointed as Deputy Director for Strategic Planning in the General Staff, assignment held until August when he was appointed as 81st MECH BDE commander. He was promoted to Brigadier General on 1st December 2018.

Since 30th September, BG Gologan is Director for Strategic Planning in the Defense Staff.

Additionally to his military education, BG Gologan earned in 1998 a MA degree in Economics, from the Finance, Banks and Accounting Faculty, Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest.

BG Gologan was awarded with the United States Bronze Star Medal, Army Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, and NATO Non-Article 5 medals.

BG Gologan is married with Elena.