

Brigadier General Herman Ruys - Biography

Brigadier General Herman Ruys started his career in the Belgium Army at the age of 15. He studied in the Royal School of Cadets from 1977 to 1980. Then he attended the Belgium Royal Military Academy until 1985. He graduated with a Masters Degree in Military and Social Sciences.



Brigadier General Ruys' first assignment sent him to Germany where he fulfilled a variety of functions in an Infantry Regiment. In 1992 he became an Intelligence Officer at the brigade level. During this period he was deployed as Intelligence Officer in the vicinity of the besieged city of Sarajevo.

From 1994 until 1995 he followed one year at the General Staff College in Brussels where upon completion he fulfilled staff functions at the Corps level and Divisional level in the Operations Branch. During this period he was deployed as Assistant Chief Operations and then Chief Operations of the Multinational Division in Banja Luka (Bosnia).

From 2000 to 2002, Brigadier General Ruys followed the "Nationale Generalstabslehrgang" in the German General Staff College in Hamburg. After this course he became Intelligence Planning Officer in HQ Eurocorps (Strasbourg). During this period he prepared the NATO Response Force 6 (NRF 6) mission and was deployed to the Cape Verdian Islands where he acted as Deputy Chief of Staff (DCOS) in the Deployable Joint Task Force (DJTF). Also, during this period in HQ Eurocorps, he was deployed to Afghanistan for 7 months as Chief of the Joint Intelligence Cell in ISAF VI.

In 2007 he became Commander of the Belgian Infantry School and Belgian Representative in the NATO Training Group. In the same period he was deeply involved in the preparation and standby phase of a European Union Battle Group (EUBG) where he first acted as CJ3 and finally as DCOS Operations.

In 2010 he was assigned to the NATO Defense College in Rome. Afterward he was appointed as Director of Staff in the NATO HQ in Heidelberg. From January 2011 until February 2012, Brigadier General Ruys went to Afghanistan for a new operational tour as the Director of Staff in HQ ISAF and Belgian National Contingent Commander. From 2012 till 2015, he assumed command of the joint NCO school, garrisoned in Sint-Truiden (Belgium). From 25 June 2015 he is the Deputy Chief of Staff Support & Enabling at HQ Eurocorps.

Brigadier General RUYS is fluent in Dutch, German, English and French. He practices a variety of sports with a passion for jogging. He is married to Gabriele and he has three adult children.