



Brigadier General Wilfred Rietdijk
Deputy Director Organisation and Information,
Ministry of Defence, the Netherlands

Panel B5

Digitization of land-based operations

Wednesday, 28th November 2018, 11:45 – 13:15h

As a native of Europe's largest harbor city Rotterdam, BG Wilfred Simon Rietdijk graduated from the Royal Military Academy in Breda in August 1988 and was commissioned in the Royal Artillery.

After fulfilling several artillery command positions in Germany and the Netherlands, he was selected for the Netherlands Advanced Command and Staff College in 1997. After graduating, he served both as Logistic (G4) and Operations Officer (G3) at 41 Mechanised Brigade in Seedorf, Germany. He then was selected to join the German Advanced and Staff College, die Führungsakademie, in Hamburg

Back in Holland, BG Rietdijk continued his carrier as tutor of the national masterclass at the National Defense Academy, commander of 14 Artillery Battalion and Deputy Chief Operations of the Joint Operational Staff in The Hague. In 2010 he joined the International Fellows Program at the United States Army War College in Carlisle, where he was elected the International Fellows President.

During his 33 year carrier BG Rietdijk obtained a master degree in Strategic Studies and has served in several missions in Africa. During his last mission he commanded the Dutch Provincial Reconstruction Team in the ISAF mission in South Afghanistan, a function SG NATO rewarded him with the NATO Meritorious Service medal for. BG Rietdijk is a regular speaker on a wide variety of topics, including counterinsurgency, national security and hybrid warfare.

After serving a four year commanders term as Commandant Land Training Centre, BG Rietdijk joined the Principal Policy Directorate at the Ministry of Defense in October 2014. In June 2017 he was promoted to Brigadier General and became deputy principal Director of Information and Administration. He and his partner Karin have 5 children in the age of 9 till 15. In his spare time, he enjoys hobbies like travelling, sailing, volleyball and reading.