



Benedikt Zimmer

State Secretary, German Federal
Ministry of Defence

High-Level Interview

**German – Netherlands bilateral cooperation – a
blueprint for European multinational partnerships**

Wednesday, 28th November 2018, 09:20 – 10:00h

Benedikt Zimmer was appointed State Secretary at the Federal Ministry of Defence (FMoD) in Berlin on 5 April 2018.

He is responsible for the Directorates-General "Equipment", "Cyber/ Information Technology" and " Planning".

Previous Assignments

State Secretary Zimmer joined the Bundeswehr as a soldier with Tank Battalion 54 in Hessisch Lichtenau on 1 July 1981. While serving as an armour officer, he held several command assignments in the armed forces, including as Commander of Tank Battalion 214, of Mechanized Infantry Brigade 41, and of Division SOUTH.

He completed two tours of duty in the Balkans as a member of the KFOR NATO mission.

In his staff assignments, he was employed in a wide range of areas, including personnel planning, mission and operations planning, as well as concepts and further development. Particularly worthy of mention in this respect are his assignments in the Army Staff and the Armed Forces Staff, as well as his assignment as Division Chief within the Directorate-General for Planning at the FMoD.

Before being appointed State Secretary, he served as Director-General for Equipment at the FMoD from 2014 to 2018.

Professional Career

Between 1982 and 1986, State Secretary Zimmer completed a course of studies in Electrical Engineering at Bundeswehr University Munich and received his degree as a Diplom-Ingenieur (graduate engineer). Besides general staff officers' training at Bundeswehr Command and Staff College (1994–1996), he has also completed British general staff officers' training at Joint Services Command and Staff College in Bracknell, United Kingdom (1998–1999).

Personal Data:

Year of birth: 1961

Place of birth: Soltau

State Secretary Zimmer is married and has two grown-up sons.