

Lieutenant General (Ret'd) David Leakey

Director General (Ret'd)

EU Military Staff

Lieutenant General David Leakey was born in 1952, educated at Cambridge University where he read Law, and at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst. He has commanded forces and operations in a number of theatres, notably in the Balkans. He has also held senior defence, security and international appointments in the UK Ministry of Defence and in Brussels, most recently as the Director General of the EU Military Staff. He was commissioned into the Royal Tank Regiment in 1971, and has served in UK, Cyprus, Northern Ireland, Germany, the Balkans and on a variety of operations. After attending the Army Staff College at Camberley in 1984 his subsequent appointments were as Chief of Staff 7th Armoured Brigade (Germany), Military Assistant to the Chief of the Defence Staff and Commanding Officer of the 2nd Royal Tank Regiment. In 1993 he was Colonel Military Operations 3 in the MOD with responsibility for Operations Planning and Policy covering Europe, and specifically the Former Yugoslavia. During this appointment in 1995 he attended the Higher Command and Staff Course at Camberley and, later that year, was the UK Military Representative in Dayton at the Bosnia peace negotiations. Whilst commanding 20 Armoured Brigade based in Germany in 1996/7, he deployed as part of the NATO (IFOR and SFOR) operation in Bosnia. He was Director of Military Operations in the Ministry of Defence 1997-1999 and subsequently attended the Royal College of Defence Studies before assuming the post of Chief of Staff Northern Ireland in 2001. He left Northern Ireland on promotion to Major General to take up the appointment of Director General Army Training and Recruiting from 2002 to 2004. He commanded the European Force (EUFOR) responsible for stability and security in Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2004/5. From 2007 to 2010 he was Director General of the European Union Military Staff. He is now active in a number of international, commercial, security and academic enterprises.