

Rear Admiral Phillip Wilcocks, former senior British Royal Navy officer, Advisory Board Member, **iOra**

Joining the Royal Navy in 1971, Philip Wilcocks graduated from the University of Wales qualified as a naval architect in 1976 and assumed his first command of the Fishery Protection minesweeper STUBBINGTON in 1978. Qualifying as a Principal Warfare Officer in 1981, he served in the frigate AMBUSCADE, which included the Falklands conflict in 1982. Following his promotion to Commander, he assumed command of the destroyer GLOUCESTER in 1990. The 'Fighting G' fought in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm when his ship destroyed 7 enemy warships and a Silkworm missile targeted against the battleship USS MISSOURI. He was subsequently awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for gallantry and sustained leadership under fire. In 1998, he assumed command of LIVERPOOL as Captain 3rd Destroyer Squadron.

While Director of Naval Operations, in 2000 he was the Crisis Director for UK Operations in support of the UN in Sierra Leone. In 2001, he formed and then commanded the Royal Navy's largest training establishment (the Maritime Warfare School). On promotion to Rear Admiral in 2004, he became Deputy Commander of Joint Operations at the UK's Permanent Joint HQ; as well as operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, he was the Crisis Director for the UK response to the 2005 Tsunami disaster. Following a short tour as Flag Officer Scotland, Northern England and Northern Ireland and Flag Officer Reserves, he became Chief of Staff to Commander-in-Chief, Fleet assuming responsibility for generating current and future UK maritime capabilities. As Rear Admiral Surface Ships he was also head of the UK Surface Navy.

He became a Companion of the Order of the Bath in 2007 for sustained leadership throughout his naval career. Retiring from the Navy in 2009, he is now Owner/Director of CEMPA providing advice on senior leadership and future strategic context, sits on the Boards of 5 SME companies including iORA (4 as Chairman) and is heavily engaged in local voluntary organisations in Herefordshire and beyond. An active proponent of UK maritime issues, he is a Freeman of the City of Glasgow and became a Deputy Lieutenant for the County of Herefordshire in 2013.