

CURRICULUM VITAE



Colonel (ret.) Mihai ȘTIR, ROU AF

Professional background

Colonel Mihai ȘTIR graduated the Romanian Air Force Military Academy in 1984, as a ground controller. His first assignment was at the 93rd Fighter Aviation Airbase Giarmata, in Western Romania, where he served since 1995, initially as a navigator in the Command Center and then as a staff officer in the Base HQ. At Giarmata, Mihai has been promoted as 2nd lieutenant (1988) and then as captain (1993).

In July 1995, he was promoted as officer for aviation allocation in the Operations Center of the 2nd Air Division, Timișoara, where he received in 1998 his rank of major. Two years later (2000), still as a major, Mihai became a master controller in the Division Operation Center, with the important task to lead and supervise the activities performed by the Center operational duty shift related to the Division allocated airspace security and the subsequent Air Policing missions over half of Romania.

Once graduating, in 2004, the courses of the National Defense University in Bucharest, during which he was promoted as lieutenant-colonel (2003), he was appointed in the Operational Center for Military Command, being involved in overflight diplomatic clearances processing and air regulations development.

In 2006, shortly after Romania's accession in NATO, Mihai has been selected to deploy to Germany for a three years tour in the Joint Air Power Competence Center/ JAPCC, the first NATO Center of Excellence. There he was the first Romanian staff member and also acted as the senior national representative. In JAPCC, Mihai was involved, as a Subject Matter Expert/ SME, in projects related to the NATO Air Power transformation, namely Air Force C2 structures modernization or unmanned/ autonomous technologies integration, to mention a few.

After completion of its tour in Germany (2009), Mihai have been promoted as colonel and appointed to the Operations Directorate in the Romanian General Staff, where he fulfilled various positions since 2016, from staff officer level to division head. From there, in 2013, he deployed to USA, and worked for one year at the United States Central Command/ USCENTCOM, in Tampa, Fl. At USCENTCOM, again as the senior national representative, it has coordinated multiple support activities on behalf of the Romanian contingents in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Colonel Știr accomplished (2016-2019) a second assignment in the USA, at Norfolk VA, in the Allied Command Transformation/ ACT, as the Romanian Chief of Defense representative. From ACT, he performed liaison, consultancy and representation duties on behalf of the Romanian military authorities. Notably, in 2018, Mihai has been elected for one year as the Dean of the National Liaison Representatives/ NLRs to ACT, a group of 34 officers and generals from NATO and partner countries.

After his repatriation in 2009, he fulfilled the Strategies and Plans Branch Head position in the Strategic planning directorate, in the Romanian Defense Staff. Mihai and his team were closely involved in few major projects for the Romanian military at that time, such as the revision, in an interagency format, of the National Defense Plan, the development, at the Supreme National Defense Council request, of a Strategic Defense Review and the production of a national iteration of the NATO Crisis Response Manual, for the first time in an interagency approach.

Since August 2021 to his retirement from the Romanian military in late Mai 2022, Colonel Stir was the Deputy Chief of Staff for Planning/ DCOS Plans in the Romanian Joint Force Command/ ROU JFC, a one star position from which he coordinated multiple projects related to ROU JFC full operating capability (FOC) achievement. Amongst those, can be mentioned preparation & conduct of multiple personnel training programs, evaluation and conceptualization of HQ internal processes, strengthening ROU JFC cooperation with allied and partner entities, development of FOC required documentation, in compliance with the NATO standards, and so on.

Education and training

Mihai has a solid education built in both civilian and military educational institutions consolidated by a vast operational experience gained in his 45 years long carrier in the Romanian military.

Besides the basic officer training completed in 1984, he graduated also (1992) the courses of the Economic Sciences Faculty from the West University in Timisoara, awarding an economist license. Also, following the graduation of the National Defense University "CAROL the 1st", he deepened his military art and science knowledge through doctoral studies, being awarded in 2008 with a PhD diploma for the thesis titled "Post-conflict Air Operations", a timely operational analysis in the aftermath of Romanian Armed Forces participation in missions in Iraq, Afghanistan and the Balkans.

Mihai has attended numerous training activities in Romania and abroad, such as conferences, seminars, working groups, SME workshops, national and multinational exercises, in multiple formats and at all levels.

As a sign of appreciation, during his career, he was awarded with orders and medals:

- Honorific Sign "In the service of the Armed Forces of Romania", for 15 years of duty (1999);
- Honorific Sign "In the service of the Armed Forces of Romania", for 20 years of duty (2004);
- The Emblem of Honor of the Romanian General Staff (2007);
- Honorific Sign "In the service of the Armed Forces of Romania", for 25 years of duty (2009);
- The Emblem of Merit "In the service of the Armed Forces of Romania", 2nd class (2015);
- The Emblem of Merit "In the service of the Armed Forces of Romania", 1st class (2022);
- The Emblem of Merit of the Romanian Joint Force Command (2022).

Mihai is married to Laura and they have two daughters.