

LtCol Dirk DUBOIS¹

Chairman of the Implementation Group from 2013-2015



At the age of 18, Dirk Dubois joined the Belgian Army in 1981. He graduated from the Royal Military Academy after 4.5 years with a master's degree in Social and Military Sciences. He spent the first part of his career in operational units as a field artillery officer and as an instructor and staff officer at the Belgian Artillery School.

During this part of his career, he was deployed abroad on several occasions. During one of his operational deployments, he served as a liaison officer with UN, EU and

local civilian authorities. He learnt at first-hand how civilian and military efforts can supplement each other to achieve a better result than if they each operate independently.

In 2004, Dirk Dubois started the second phase of his career when he joined the Belgian Defence Headquarters and became a member of the team responsible for the follow-up of the strategic management objectives for Belgian defence.

When this team was reorganised in 2007, he seized the opportunity to apply for a position as training manager of the European Security and Defence College. He occupied this post until 2012, when he returned to the Belgian Defence Headquarters in the Directorate-General for Education as head of the division responsible for external relations in the field of education, both on the national side and with relevant partner countries. This post allowed him to take up the job of chairperson of the Implementation Group for the European initiative for the exchange of young officers, inspired by Erasmus in the summer of 2013.

In 2014 he applied for the position of head of the European Security and Defence College and was appointed to that post by the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy on April 1st 2015.

Dirk lives in Antwerp together with his wife Sabine, who teaches biology at high-school level and is an assistant at the University of Antwerp's professional training for future teachers. They have two daughters.

¹ Bibliography according to the ESDC homepage: URL: http://eeas.europa.eu/csdp/structures-instruments-agencies/european-security-defence-college/news/2014/20150116_en.htm. [14-5-16].