



Walter Huhn, Brigadier General
Senior Military Adviser
Crisis Management and Planning Directorate
European External Action Service

POSTAL ADDRESS Rue de la Loi 175
B - 1040 Brussels, Belgium

PHONE +32 (0) 2 281 6665

FAX +32 (0) 2 281 7436

E-Mail walter.huhn@eeas.europa.eu



BIOGRAPHY

Brigadier General Walter Huhn

Brigadier General Walter Huhn was born in Walsrode, Germany, on 14 May 1958. After graduation from Secondary School he joined the German Airforce on 1 July 1976. Following officer training he studied, from 1978 to 1981, Electrical Engineering at the Helmut-Schmidt-University in Hamburg and obtained a Diploma (masters degree). He was commissioned in 1981. After being trained as a Tactical Radar Control Officer, he served from 1981 to 1989 in different positions in Tactical Air Control Battalion 34, Schleswig.

From 1989 to 1991 he attended the 34th Air Force Command and General Staff Course at the Führungsakademie in Hamburg. Following graduation he was appointed commander of 121st Tactical Air Control Unit in Goch for two years (1991 – 1993). He then served in the German Air Force Command in Cologne as staff officer responsible for national and NATO air defence issues (1993 - 1994).

This was followed by a tour in the Armed Forces Staff of the Federal Ministry of Defence (FMOD), Bonn, in the Branch responsible for EU/WEU political and military affairs (1994 – 1996). During this appointment he prepared the German input to and attended the WEU Ministerial and Chief of Defence (CHOD) meetings in The Hague, Lisbon, Madrid and Birmingham.

From 1996 to 1999 he served as staff officer for NATO Internal and External Adaptation at Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) in Mons, Belgium, in the Policy Branch, with a particular focus on the review of the NATO Military Command Structure, the implementation of the Combined Joint Task Forces (CJTF) Concept and the creation of a European Security and Defence Identity (ESDI) within NATO structures, in cooperation with the WEU.

He then joined the Secretariat of the Commission “Common Security and Future of the Bundeswehr” (1999 – 2000). The Commission, chaired by the Former Head of State, Federal President Richard von Weizsäcker, investigated into the future role and

mission of the German Armed Forces and submitted its final report to the Federal Chancellor and the Federal Minister of Defense in May 2000.

From 2000 to 2001 he commanded Tactical Air Control Battalion 24, Freising, being responsible for the conduct of air surveillance and control in southern Germany. He then became Branch Chief Long Term Conceptual Objectives and International Affairs, German Air Force Conceptual Development and Inspections Division (2001 – 2003). In this position he was responsible for the development of Long Term Objectives and Capabilities for the German Air Force and for the architecture of Air Force Capability Analysis and Capability Management.

From 2003 to 2006, including Germany's membership in the UN Security Council, he served as First Counsellor and Military Adviser at the Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany to the United Nations, New York.

This was followed by a three year tour as Head of Crisis Management Branch (International Situation, Crises & Conflicts, Terrorism, Bundeswehr commitments) in the Policy Planning and Advisory Staff to the Federal Minister of Defence (2006 – 2009). His main emphasis laid on the NATO ISAF mission in Afghanistan and the German contribution to it. In this capacity he, inter alia, prepared a German initiative within NATO to better establish an overall NATO strategy defining NATO's contribution to a comprehensive approach in Afghanistan, in the run up to the Bucharest summit in 2008.

From 2009 to 2011, Brigadier General Huhn acted as Deputy Director of the Policy Planning and Advisory Staff to the Federal Minister of Defence. During that time, inter alia, Defence Policy Guidelines were developed, which form the basis for the ongoing restructuring of the Bundeswehr.

Brigadier General Huhn took over his current position as Senior Military Adviser in the Crisis Management and Planning Directorate, European External Action Service, Brussels, on 3 October 2011.

Brigadier General Huhn is married to Elisabeth, (née) van Eycken. They have four daughters. Sporting interests include skiing, snowboarding, cycling and marathons.