



Brig Gen Gerard Buckley

Ireland's Military Representative to the EUMC

Brig Gen Buckley was commissioned into the Artillery Corps in 1983, thereafter he has held a broad range of appointments within the Corps. Brig Gen Buckley has also held appointments at Brigade and Defence Forces Headquarters (DFHQ) Levels, gaining a breadth of experience in operations, strategic planning, logistics and financial spheres. Most recently he has served as the Defence Forces Director of Combat Support and ISTAR with additional responsibility for the Reserve Defence Forces. Previously he served as the Director of Joint Logistics, supporting Defence Force operations, across all services, at home and overseas. This appointment was preceded by a number of years as the Defence Forces J8 (Finance).

Brig Gen Buckley has extensive experience in the arena of international relations. This service commenced as a Staff Officer in DFHQ European Security Branch at the advent of the EU Common Security and Defence Policy. This was followed by a 3 year posting as the Assistant Military Representative to the EU Military Committee in Brussels. Thereafter he served as an advisor to the CHOD on European Security matters, while also working on multinational capability development with the European Defence Agency and EU Headline Goal Task Force.

He holds a primary degree from the National University of Ireland in Galway, and a master's degree from the National University of Ireland in Maynooth. Brig Gen Buckley is a graduate of the National Command and Staff College. He holds a certificate in Strategic leadership, a Defence Force senior leadership initiative.

Brig Gen Buckley has extensive overseas experience, operating across a broad spectrum of security environments with a range of security actors. These deployments include conflict prevention and peacekeeping with the United Nations, crisis management with NATO, post conflict resolution with OSCE and security sector reform with the EU. These experiences include three tours of duty in UNIFIL, initially within Irish Batt and most recently, a year as Chief of Special Staff to the Head of Mission and Force Commander, while also holding the post of Senior Irish Officer UNIFIL. He has also served as an UN Military Observer in UNPREDEP in Northern Macedonia, with OSCE Mission HQ in BiH, ISAF HQ J35 Branch in Kabul, and a year as Mission Chief of Staff of EU Training Mission Somalia, while it transitioned into Mogadishu.

Married to Emer, they have a daughter, Moya who is studying in Dublin. He enjoys a wide range of sports, which include golf and gaelic football.