



Croatian Chief of Defense

Admiral Robert HRANJ

Admiral Robert Hranj was born on September 5, 1962, in Varaždin, Croatia. In 1991, he has graduated from the Maritime Faculty of the Military Academy, and as a Navy Lieutenant, he was given command of the missile patrol craft Šibenik. He performed this duty until 1993.

From 1994 to 1998 he was serving as Croatian Defense Attaché to the USA, and after his returning to Croatia, he was appointed Chief of Section for Bilateral Cooperation in the International Military Cooperation Directorate of the Ministry of Defense, where he stayed until 2001.

From 2001 to 2003, he was Head of the NATO/PfP Office. In 2003 he went to Newport (USA) to attend the Naval War College. After he graduated, in 2004, and upon returning to Croatia, he assumed command over "Petar Krešimir IV" Training and Education Command of the Croatian Navy and remained on this duty until 2006.

Then he performed the duty of Chief of NATO/PfP Division in the Defense Policy Directorate of the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Croatia. From 2009 to 2012, he was Deputy Military Representative to NATO in the Croatian Military Mission to NATO and EU in Brussels. From 2012 until 2015 he was Commander of the Croatian Navy.

He was Director of the General Staff from March 1, 2015 until February 29, 2020. He was appointed Croatian Chief of Defense on March 1, 2020.

He was promoted to Lieutenant Commander in 1992, to Commander in 1993, to Captain of the Navy in 2000, to Rear Admiral (LH) in 2011, to Rear Admiral (UH) in 2014, to Vice Admiral in 2018 and to Admiral in 2020.

He is bearer of the following decorations of the Republic of Croatia: Homeland War Memorial Medal, Homeland Gratitude Memorial for 5 and 10 years of meritorious service, Order of Croatian Three-Strand, Order of Croatian Trefoil, US decoration Legion of Merit, as well as the Order of Duke Trpimir with Neck Ribbon and Morning Star.

He is married and father of two children.