

Captain Octavian Tarabuta, Rector, Mircea Cel Bătrân Naval Academy, Romania

Captain Octavian Tarabuta (born on May 27th 1966) is a graduate of the Technical Military Academy of Bucharest, in the field of Naval Artillery, Missiles and Underwater Weapons. In 1990, having received the Underwater Weapons MSc degree, he chose his assignment as a second technical officer on board Romanian Navy's flagship, the frigate *Marasesti*.

In March 1991 he was assigned to the "Mircea cel Batran" Naval Academy as a teaching assistant in the department of naval weapons and tactics. Since then he has been continuing the teaching and research activity in the field of underwater weapons, passing through the educational hierarchy up to the current position of associate professor. The topics taught are related to the technical study and tactical employment of torpedoes, sea mines, rockets and mine countermeasures. He is a certified instructor for the Sting Ray torpedo simulator and the Proteus CIC simulator.

In 2009 Captain Octavian Tarabuta completed his doctoral studies with a thesis on the dynamics of underwater vehicles and was elected in the same year as director of the Naval Academy's department of Electrotechnics, Communications and Naval Weapons. In 2010 he became an associate professor and continued to chair the department until 2013. At the end of that year Captain Tarabuta was appointed as a vice-rector for international programs and relations. From 2008 through 2016 he also coordinated three European-funded projects in the field of maritime education and training, led by the "Mircea cel Batran" Naval Academy: *Ronomar* – with partners from Norway, *Marine* and *Decomar* – with European naval academies and maritime universities from the Black Sea and Baltic Sea area.

On August 15th 2016, Captain Octavian Tarabuta was confirmed as a Rector of the "Mircea cel Batran" Naval Academy, as a follow-up of his election to this position on June 28th 2016.