

Brigadier-General Claudiu O. DOBOCAN
Deputy Commander,
Romanian Special Operations Forces Command

Brigadier-General Claudiu O. DOBOCAN serves as deputy commander of the Romanian Special Operations Command as of April 2020, after serving for two years as Director of the Command and Acting Deputy.

Some of his joint assignments include, most notably: (1) the commander position of the Special Operations Component Command (2019 to present day); (2) exchange officer to U.S. Special Operations Command in Tampa, Florida (2015-2017); (3) Director Special Operations Element, Regional Command-East, Afghanistan (2012-2013); and (4) Head, Exercise Branch, NATO SOF Headquarters, Belgium (2008-2011).

BG DOBOCAN is a graduate of the Army Academy, Promotion of 1995 (Infantry), serving his junior officer career in Airborne and Special Mission Battalions, in various command and staff positions at the tactical level. He later held the position of SOF Advisor to the Army Chief of Staff (2005 to 2008), with significant contributions to the development of the Army SOF, force generation and deployment of Romanian SOF to Afghanistan.

Between 2008 and 2011, LTC DOBOCAN (at that time) served for three years with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) SOF Coordination Cell / NATO SOF Headquarters (NSHQ) in Mons, Belgium where he led the development of NATO-wide SOF standards and the writing of key NATO policy and doctrine.

After the NATO posting (2011-2015), he held various key positions in the J2 and J3 with the Romanian Special Operations Component, significantly contributing to the planning, design and the development of the Romanian SOF capabilities and posture. Immediately after, he served for two years as Exchange Officer with the United States Special Operations Command, Tampa-Florida, USA.

Between 2017 and 2018, COL. DOBOCAN (at the time) and a small, select staff conceptualized, framed and established the new Romanian SOFCOM, a brand-new Joint SOF School and they operationalized the key tenets of the Romanian SOF Transformation Initiative.

As educational *bona-fide*, BG Dobocan also holds a Bachelor's Degree (with distinction) in Management from the Army Academy (Sibiu, Romania), a Master of Science Degree (with distinction) in Special Operations, from the Naval Postgraduate School (Monterey, California, USA) and he is also the honor graduate of the NATO Defence College (135th Class, Rome, Italy.)

His list of decorations includes: "The Ministry of Defense Emblem of Honor" (Romania), "The Defense Staff Emblem of Honor", "The Defense Intelligence Emblem of Honor" (Romania), "In Service of the Country—XV, XX and XXV-years" (Romania), "Joint Service Commendation Medal" (USA), the "NATO Non-article 5 Medal" and the Defense Meritorious Service Medal (USA).