

Lieutenant General Karel Řehka

Chief of Defence – Czechia

Date of birth: 1 January 1975

Place of birth: Brno, Czech Republic

Education:

- **1989 - 1993**
Military Grammar School, Opava
- **1993 - 1997**
Military University of Ground Forces, Vyškov (reconnaissance branch)
- **1996**
Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, United Kingdom (Officers course)
- **1999**
Ranger Course, USA
- **2000 - 2001**
Distance studies, Military University of Ground Forces, Vyškov
(reconnaissance branch)
- **2002**
Joint Terminal Attack Controller course, United Kingdom
- **2003**
Senior officers course – brigade staff course (national defence
management – crisis management), Military Academy, Brno
- **2015 - 2016**
General Staff course, University of Defence Brno

Service career:

- **1997 - 1998**
Commander, special reconnaissance group, 6th Special Brigade
- **1998 - 2000**
Commander, special group, special forces company, 6th Special
Brigade
- **2000 - 2001**
Senior foreign liaison officer
- **2001 - 2003**
Chief, JTAC group, 32nd Tactical Air Force Base

- **2003**
Senior officer, special purpose centre, 6th Special Forces Group
- **2003 - 2005**
Commander, special purpose centre, 601st Special Forces Group
- **2005 - 2006**
Chief S5, 601st Special Forces Group
- **2006 - 2009**
Specialist officer 2 G3 SF, HQ ARRC, Rheindahlen, Germany
- **2009 - 2010**
Senior officer – specialist, Special Forces Directorate
- **2010 - 2014**
Commander, 601st Special Forces Group
- **2014 - 2017**
Director, MoD Special Forces Directorate
- **28 Oct 2016**
Promoted Brigadier General
- **2017 - 2020**
Deputy Commander, Multinational Division North East, Elblag, Poland
- **2020 - 2022**
Director of National Cyber and Information Security Agency
- **June 22, 2022**
Promoted Major General
- **July 1, 2022**
Chief of the General Staff of the Czech Armed Forces
- **8 May, 2023**
Promoted Lieutenant General

Deployments:

- **1999 - 2000**
Group commander, 6th Reconnaissance Company, KFOR, Kosovo
- **2004**
Deputy Commander of Czech Special Forces Contingent, Operation Enduring Freedom, Afghanistan
- **2006 - 2007**
Senior lead officer – specialist, ISAF, SOCCE, Afghanistan
- **2007 - 2008**
Senior lead officer – specialist, ISAF, SOCCE, Afghanistan
- **2011**
Commander, Czech Special Operations Task Force ISAF, Afghanistan

Decorations:

- Czech Armed Forces Honorary Badge of Merit, grade III
- Czech Armed Forces Service Medal, grade I
- Cross of Merit of the Minister of Defence of the Czech Republic, grade II
- US Army Commendation Medal
- NATO Non Article 5 Medal, ISAF
- Military Intelligence commemoration badge
- NATO 1999 – 2009 commemoration badge
- Medal of the Minister of Defence of the Czech Republic "For service abroad" - Afghanistan, grade I
- Czech Armed Forces medal, grade II
- Medal of the Minister of Defence of the Czech Republic "For service abroad" – Afghanistan, grade II
- Medal of the Minister of Defence of the Czech Republic "For service abroad" – Afghanistan, grade III
- Cross of Merit of the Minister of Defence of the Czech Republic, grade III
- Czech Armed Forces Medal, grade III
- Honorary commemorative badge "For service in peace operation in the Balkans"
- NATO Medal "In Service of Peace and Freedom"
- Cross of the Military Police

Language skills:

- English, Russian

Marital status:

- Married, two children