

Slovak Major General Pavel Macko takes command of Joint Force Training Centre - ACT

Written by ACT PAO

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After two years of serving as the Commander of the Joint Force Training Centre in Bydgoszcz Danish Major General Ib Johannes Bager passed the command to Slovak Major General Pavel Macko. General Mieczysław Bieniek, Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Transformation, hosted the Change of Command ceremony that recently took place at the JFTC.



In his welcome words to the JFTC new Commander the Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Transformation expressed his certainty that the JFTC will remain in very capable hands. “This level of experience and perspective will be an invaluable asset, and I am confident you will find it very easy to engage on all issues from day one of your work at the JFTC. I look forward to working with you General Macko” – said General Bieniek.

After the speeches of General Bieniek and Major General Bager the official Change of Command ceremony took place. General Bieniek received the JFTC colours from Major General Bager and handed the flag over to Major General Macko. It was a symbol of handing over the command of the Joint Force Training Centre.

At the end of the ceremony, on behalf of the Polish Minister of Defence, General Mieczysław Cieniuch decorated Major General Bager with the Gold Medal of the Polish Armed Forces - the highest medal the Polish Forces give to foreign citizens. Major General Bager was honoured with this medal “in acknowledgement of services in the field of cooperation between

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multinational units, whose members include the Polish Armed Forces units”.



After the formal part of the ceremony, both, the outgoing and the new JFTC Commanders invited their guests to a reception. Major General Bager prepared a small surprise for all participants of the event. He changed the outfit, took his guitar, joined the JFTC Band “The Friendziks ” and sang a few songs for his wife, the JFTC staff and all the guests.