



UNIVERSITY OF DEFENCE
Brno – Czech Republic

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University of Defence with the headquarters in Brno is the only military institution of higher education in the Czech Republic responsible for forming military professionals for the Army of the Czech Republic and civilian experts for the national security system, defence and security industry and public administration.

University of Defence was established in 2004 by merging three existing institutions: the Military University of the Ground Forces Vyškov, Military Academy Brno and the Military Medical Academy Hradec Králové that formed a solid basis of its existence in the context of necessary training of military professionals for the Czech Republic's armed forces. Thus, it is possible to proudly say in the year marking ten years since its establishment the University has become a recognised member of the higher education community both in the Czech Republic and abroad. Its capabilities reaching today beyond the national borders make available its further successful development. The University of Defence is a relatively young educational and research and development institution. However, it draws upon a rich tradition of sound and meaningful experience.

The primary mission of the University of Defence is to spread literacy, to develop thinking and independent scientific research in the fields crucial for the Czech national security and to meet its alliance commitments. The area of responsibility is defined by University of Defence mission of educating, forming and training military professionals for the Army of the Czech Republic and of carrying out research for the Czech Ministry of Defence.

University of Defence consists of the following three faculties:

- ✓ Faculty of Economics and Management
- ✓ Faculty of Military Technology
- ✓ Faculty of Military Health Sciences

a university institute:

- ✓ NBC Defence Institute

and of the following three centres:

- ✓ Language Training Centre
- ✓ Physical Training and Sports Centre
- ✓ Centre of Security and Military Strategy Studies



University of Defence is responsible for the Bachelor's, Master's and doctoral degree studies at quite a high quality, for keeping the studies upgraded so that they reflect the dynamic changes in practical demands and the ever growing standards of the European advanced universities. The school houses more than 2,000 students in all types and forms of studies. The University of Defence education and formation process policy results in more intrinsically connected professional military training and the university's curriculum and accreditation. Thus, the graduates are expected to get a better preparation for their initial service positions in the Czech armed forces. All students are brought up to be self-reliant, creative, persistent, loyal and disciplined. The taught fields of human cognition prefer concentration on military applications. However, the students get comprehensive university education applicable in their military and civilian careers during the whole lives.

The students learn the practical military and leadership skills primarily in the military training courses of basic training, officer course and special military course held in extramural conditions. The formation of the students – Czech military professionals-to-be – therefore accents the personality of an officer – a leader, manager, economist, engineer or medical doctor, the learning of theoretical knowledge and practical skills and the ability of leading subordinated teams. Physical fitness, mental strength and language proficiency are important, too. University of Defence graduates are also trained in the engagement in multinational forces and in NATO operations.



Along with the accredited courses, the school is a centre of lifelong learning too. It offers the ultimate defence education in the form of Senior Officer Course and General Staff Course. The other forms of education for senior officers include command, staff and special courses. In addition, the University arranges variously oriented qualification and requalification courses for military professionals and civilians working for defence.

University of Defence academic staff members are involved in defence research projects, engineering scientific research projects, research plans and special research projects of the higher education institutions. They often win the projects of both national and international grant agencies and contribute to the NATO research institutions. The associate and full professors are on the list of a number of other international institutions engaged in research or standardisation. Parts of the research projects also involve students, particularly those of the doctoral degree programmes, but Master's as well, if applicable. Research and development efforts follow the Czech national laws and government conclusions concerning research and development especially in the areas of the University of Defence long-term interest reflected in the research plans of the faculties and institutes, in purpose-aimed research organised by the appropriate Czech military agencies, both external and internal projects within the declared programmes and also the demand of the Army of the Czech Republic, public administration or defence industry.

The research, development, innovation and expert effort results rank it among the leading research institutions in the Czech Republic. It holds the rights of carrying out habilitation procedures (associate professor) and professor appointment procedures. In the international military context, it is an acknowledged education institution propagating the idea of university education for military personnel, an idea that has been winning a rising support in the NATO member countries and other partner states. What may be considered that gives the University of Defence a strategic advantage in the competition is the unique and irreplaceable position in the field of defence and security education.



University of Defence maintains international relations with the teaching and military institutions of the advanced countries in the world while cooperation is mostly nourished with the military schools in the North Atlantic Alliance member countries and in the Visegrad Four member countries. The cooperation focuses on teaching activities, students research projects, joint multinational exercises, conferences or workshops etc. High priority in terms of research is given to the international cooperation with the scientific and research community in the NATO countries, accenting the research support in favour of building Alliance forces.



The University of Defence is going to develop in a military-profiled state higher education institution primarily nursing the doctoral degree programmes and in a unique centre of critical thinking, also in a school that forms and spreads literacy based on theoretically and methodologically supported analyses while respecting the written as well as unwritten ethical and moral rules and responsibility manifested in all the processes of education, learning and creativity. Beginning in the 2014/2015 academic year, the University of Defence gives priority to continuous five- or six-year Master's degree programmes oriented towards the education of key (commanding) and support personnel on the new adopted education strategy basis.