

INTERVIEW WITH HON BRIGADIER GENERAL DANY VAN DE VEN

Synthesis of the interview

Regarding the duality of Mars & Mercury, Dany Van de Ven strongly believes, as does Alexander Dewulf, that this duality is not exclusive, but complementary and whose results of cooperation serve the community. Having been seconded to the United States brought him a taste for the international world as well as the conviction of the importance of the Mars & Mercury cooperation.

Also, Dany is a staunch defender that "high-level" Mercurians should join the ranks of Mars & Mercury.

Indeed, the "Marsians", due to lack of time and availability, tend to join the ranks of Mars & Mercury only at their retirement. Also, the number of reservists is constantly decreasing. It is therefore necessary to target "Mercurians", academics of specific industrial segments that are of interest to the "Marsians", namely aero, space, ICT, security technologies and defense, cyber defense, CBRN ...

How can Mars & Mercury Europe be better developed and how to act on the interaction of its members?

It is the question of making Mars & Mercury better known, by participating in exhibitions like EuroSatory, Bourget, DSEI, by making contacts with military staffs, military academies to present Mars & Mercury to the different levels of studies and by contacting ASERA (Association of the European Session for Armament Officials).

How can Mars & Mercury Europe add value ?

By developing specific subjects, for example in the area of human resources to give ideas to the chiefs of defense. By offering support to the EU on specific defense issues, thereby contributing to the Europeanization of defense. By working more at European level, including the National Circles in their fieldwork.