



## Major General J.M. (Hans) Folmer

### Chief of Staff

Major General (MGEN) Hans Folmer was appointed Chief of Staff of the NATO Communications and Information Agency (NCI Agency) as of 3 March 2022. In his role, MGEN Folmer acts as the NCI Agency's senior military officer and provides oversight of day-to-day activities, while ensuring the efficient and effective operation of the Agency's functional support elements.

From summer 2018 until 2021, he served in NATO as Deputy Commander and Chief of Staff of the NATO CIS Group (NCISG) in Mons, Belgium. In this period, he was also appointed acting SHAPE Deputy Chief of Staff Cyberspace for an extended length of time.

In June 2015, he became the first Commander of the Netherlands Defence Cyber Command, having previously commanded the Cyber Task Force from 2011 to 2015. During that time, MGEN Folmer was responsible for the implementation of the cyber programme for the Armed Forces of the Netherlands.

From 2010 to 2011, MGEN Folmer was Chief Joint C4ISR (Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance) requirements at the Dutch Ministry of Defence, Directorate for Operational Policy, Requirements and Planning. Prior to this role, he was the Chief of the European Union's (EU's) Operations Centre and Watchkeeping Capability in Brussels, Belgium. MGEN Folmer also chaired the Brussels Joint Coordination Team for the EU Supporting Action for African Union's mission to Sudan (AMIS). From October 2006 until May 2007, he was the Military Assistant to the Commander, NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) Regional Command (South) in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

MGEN Folmer was the Commanding Officer of the bi-national CIS Battalion of the 1 (German/Netherlands) Corps from June 2004 until May 2007. With his battalion, he participated in NATO Response Force and won the General Fellgiebel prize for best German signal battalion. As liaison officer at Germany's Bundeswehr Operations Command, from 2002 until 2004, he was involved in the planning of operations in Afghanistan, in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM), Bosnia and the Persian Gulf.

He has held previous positions such as Assistant Chief of Staff G4 of the Netherlands Mechanized Division and Senior Policy Advisor at the Army Directorate of Materiel, as well as Senior Project Manager on IT systems, communications, IT Architecture and Command and Control Systems.

MGEN Folmer joined the Royal Military Academy in 1982. In 1986, he was commissioned as an artillery officer. He holds a Master's Degree in Electrical Engineering from the Delft University of Technology and a Master's Degree in Strategic Studies from the United States Army War College.

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