

The Politics of Special Forces Podcast Show Notes

Episode 4

Summary

In this episode we have a fascinating discussion on the evolution of Belgian Special Operations Forces. In this episode, we pull out several key take aways to include the importance of having and maintaining a national, integrated SOF capability, as well as the idea that SOF never works alone, both in terms of working with other SOF units from around the world as well as within a national, joint context.

About the Guest

Colonel Tom Bilo is currently serving as the Commander of the Belgian Special Operations Regiment. He has spent most of his career working within the Special Operations Forces community, having commanded at the platoon, company, and battalion levels as well as in the schools and staff as an instructor and member of the general staff. A former deputy director of Belgian Special Operations Command, COL Bilo is slated to become the next director of the Belgian Special Operations Command in the Fall of 2021.

Further Reading

Bérubé, R.J. Beyond Afghanistan: “Maintaining and Improving the Ability to Generate Special Operations Forces for Future NATO Operations”. (unpublished Master’s thesis, Canadian Forces College, 2011), online at <https://www.cfc.forces.gc.ca/259/290/297/286/berube.pdf>

Bilo, Tom. “BELSOF: Quo Vadis?” *KCIS Policy Insights* 1 no.6 (July 2021), online at <https://www.thekcis.org/publications/insights>

Audio credits

From Storyblocks (<https://www.storyblocks.com/>) and the song is called “A Taste of Victory” by Valentina Griбанova. Produced with Apple’s GarageBand by the hosts.