



## IMRE PORKOLÁB, PHD

**Ministerial Commissioner for Defence Innovation**  
Cabinet office of the Minister of Defence

DOB: 14 July 1972

Marital Status: married, one child



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## Professional Experience

**2022-**

MoD, Cabinet office of the  
Minister of Defence

**Director, Defence Innovation** - as Ministerial Commissioner building up the national defence innovation ecosystem, liaising with multiple governmental organisations, large defence companies, the academic and science sector and the international community.

**2021-2022**

MCC, A4LC, Director

**Director, Academy for Leading Change** - building up a unique innovation leadership education portfolio for the future leadership of Hungary. Also establishing a brand new Research Institute for Flow research.

**2018-2020**

Government Office of the  
Prime Minister

**Deputy National Armament Director, R&D and innovation** - overseeing defence industry and defence capability building, and directing national innovation projects between industry, academia and government sector.

**2015-2018**

The Pentagon

**Supreme Allied Commander Transformation's representative to the Pentagon** - liaison with the US Joint Staff, DoD, OSD, State Department and Think Tanks in the Washington DC area, aligning NATO capability development projects, monitoring US and Allied innovation ecosystem building. Promoted to Brigadier General.

**2011-2015**

NATO Allied Command  
Transformation

**National Liaison Representative at ACT** - representing the CHOD at the NATO Strategic Command, linking up the Hungarian Defense Forces with NATO capability building, force transformation training, and exercises.

**2009-2011**

34th Bercsényi László Special  
Forces Battalion

**Commanding Officer** - command of the Special Forces Battalion when it started the Afghanistan mission and completed seven full spectrum operational SOTU rotations in theatre. Promoted to Colonel.

**2008-2009**

Operation Enduring Freedom:  
Afghanistan

**Operational Tour: Chief of Partnering, J3, SOCEE** - facilitating the training, selection and logistics of all NATO SOF Afghan partners. At the same time (the first Hungarian SOTU deployment to Afghanistan) I was overseeing the preparation and later on taken command of the deployment.

**2007-2009**

Hungarian Defence Forces,  
Joint Force Command

**Chief of SOF department, G3, Joint Force Command** - directing the development of the Hungarian special forces capability at the operational level. Promoted to Lieutenant Colonel.

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**2004-2007**  
Hungarian Defence Staff, J3

**SOF capability program manager** - directing the development of the Hungarian special forces capability at the strategic level. Promoted to Major.

**2003-2004**  
Operation Iraqi Freedom: Iraq

**Operational Tour: Chief Analysis and Production, J2, Multinational Division South East** - intelligence analysis and foresight for the multinational division in Iraq.

**1998-2002**  
Ministry of Defence

**Military Assistant** to the Deputy State Secretary for International Affairs (1998-1999) /ADC to the Chief of Defense Staff (CHOD) (1999-2000). Organising, planning and harmonising the executive's agenda.

**1994-1998**  
25 Klapka György MI Brigade

**Various command and staff positions** in the Brigade, including platoon and company commander and S3 (operations).

## Education

**2020-**

University Professor at Debrecen University

**2018-**

Lecturer at National Public Service University Doctorate Education

**2016-2018**

NATO STO - *3 year research: Leadership Skills in Multinational Operations*

**2017-2018**

Stanford University - *Corporate Innovation*

**2015**

Harvard University, John F. Kennedy School of Government (US) — *Senior Executives in National and International Security*

**2005-2010**

Zrínyi Miklós National Defense University — *PhD*

**2005-2006**

Naval Postgraduate School (US) — *MS, Defence Analysis,*

**2002-2003**

Zrínyi Miklós National Defense University — *MA, Leadership*

**1997-2000**

University of Economics, BIGIS — *MA, International Relations*

**1993-1994**

Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst (UK) — *Commissioning Course 932*

**1990-1993**

Kossuth Lajos Military College — *BA, Military Engineering*

## Application related skills and qualifications

**Strategic liaison and networking** - ability to align various NATO capability building projects with multiple departments of strategic military, government, policy making, Think Tank, and scientific institutions while working at NATO Allied Command Transformation.

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**International innovation ecosystem building** - as SACT's representative, I have been exploring the US innovation ecosystem, actively engaging DIU, AFWERX, MD5 (now NSIN), SOFWERX, DEF, and other innovation entities. Also engaging with the Defence Innovation Board to communicate the board's efforts and vision toward Allied Command Transformation. I have been a leading participant in a SACT led initiative in creating a global NATO defence innovation network. As a member of the Command Team at Allied Command Transformation, I have assumed a prominent role in designing, and organising the internal (intrapreneurship) program for the NATO command, and I have also participated in the development of the NATO Innovation Strategy.

**National innovation ecosystem building** - as deputy NAD for Research Development and Innovation I have designed the Hungarian national defence innovation strategy, and supervised the execution of the defence innovation strategy. In this role I have been aligning civilian actors (academia, think tanks, and SMEs) to work with the defence sector, have been creating defence innovation outposts at prominent academic institutions, have been liaising between different governmental institutions to influence policy making, and focusing on dual-use disruptive technologies, and have been supporting the creation of Venture Capital funding to finance the defence innovation ecosystem. I was also driving the national policy development in emerging and disruptive technology, and participating in the strategic design of several cutting edge research projects (including the Artificial Intelligence Coalition, Zala-Zone autonomous Smart City, UGS/UAV projects, and Human Enhancement projects).

**Science and academia** - As the director of the Academy for Leading Change program I have been involved in designing and leading a leadership program and re-imagining education strategy. I have earned my PhD in 2010, and my academic background includes teaching (as an Associate Professor) at Virginia Wesleyan (US), a full professorship at one of the most prestigious Hungarian Universities (in Debrecen), and being a recognised speaker (multiple TED conferences, professional international events, university keynotes). I have published three books, and multiple book chapters, one of which is titled "Artificial Intelligence and Global Security: Future Trends, Threats and Considerations". I am the chief of the editorial board for multiple peer-reviewed academic journals. I was the scientific supervisor for the Hungarian Defence Forces' Modernisation Institute, have been the deputy President of the Hungarian Defence Science Board, an Associate Research Fellow at the Institute for Foreign Affairs and Trade, a member of the Innovation Methodologies for Defence Challenges (IMDC) organisation, and hold several other memberships at various scientific associations.