



# University of Defence Univerzita Obrany

Abbreviation in Czech: UO

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- History** ■ The University of Defence resumes the long tradition of higher education that has been provided to professional military officers since the foundation of the Czech Republic, and before that in Czechoslovakia built on the ruins of the old Austrian and Hungarian Monarchy at the end of the World War One in 1918.

The essential changes that occurred to the Czech nation in the early 1990s at the beginning of separate existence are markedly reflected in the theory and building-up process of the military forces, an integral part of which is inevitably the transformation in military higher education. The lengthy and intricate discussions that took place in the first years of the new millennium resulted in the decision of the Ministry of Defence in 2003 ordering the establishment of the University of Defence Brno by merging the three existing military universities, which were closed down. This was the basis for integrating the elements of the former schools, each of which formed one faculty of the new university.

By merging the Military University of the Ground Forces Vyškov, Military Academy Brno and Military Medical Academy Hradec Králové, Act 214/2004 passed on 2 April 2004 established a single military higher-education school named the University of Defence, based in Brno, as of 1 September 2004. This Act caused a vast transformation that concluded the operation of the predecessor military school and established the University of Defence as of 1 September 2004.

The University of Defence offers education in accredited Bachelor's, Master's and doctoral degree programmes of a military, military management, economic, engineering and medical nature that are comparable with programmes offered at civilian

universities. In addition the UoD is responsible for ultimate defence training for senior officers.

The school is also open to accept civilian and international students. Female students may study all programmes under the same conditions.

Pursuant to Act 111/1998 on higher education, the University of Defence is a state university.

## Structure of the Institution

- **The University of Defence consists of the following faculties:**
  - Faculty of Economics and Management in Brno
  - Faculty of Military Technology in Brno
  - Faculty of Military Health Sciences in Hradec Králové
  - Institute of Strategic and Defence Studies in Brno
  - Institute of NBC Defence in Vyškov

## Organization of Studies

- Education for military professionals and experts is based on the latest knowledge in military science, research and development at national and international levels, and internal research. The students learn military skills and form leadership abilities in military formation courses, elementary training, application courses and basic officer courses. The training of the students – future Czech military professionals – accentuates formation of the personality qualities of a commander – manager, military economist or medical doctor, his/her theoretical and practical qualifications, including physical fitness, mental resistance and language proficiency. Graduates from the University are ready to serve in units deployed abroad in overseas missions or NATO operations.

The school has changed profoundly and updated its curriculum plans to achieve the European Standard of developed universities through introducing the three-stage system of education pursuant to the Bologna declaration. Owing to the expected high interlinkage between the military and civilian scholastic systems, the University has adopted a credit system for its study programmes, so that previous education can be more easily recognised when changing branches, faculties or schools. The University of Defence is a member of the European Federation of National Engineering Associations (FEANI), whose graduate members from engineering degree programmes may apply for the title of European Engineer (EUR ING), recognised throughout the European Union. Recently the school has been awarded the Erasmus University Charter for the academic years 2008/2009 through 2013/2014.

### **The University of Defence organises higher education in the following forms:**

- Three-year Bachelor's degree programmes with the conferred title of "bakalář" (Bc.)
- Two-year Master's degree programmes with the conferred title of "inženýr" (Ing.)
- A five-year continuous Master's degree programmes in military pharmacy with the conferred title of "magistr" (Mgr.)
- A six-year Master's degree programme in military general medicine with the conferred title of "doktor medicíny" (MUDr.)
- A three-year or four-year doctor degree programme with the conferred title of "doktor" (Ph.D.).

## Basic Statistical Data in Academic Year 2007/2008

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| ■ <b>Total number of students</b>                     | <b>1309</b> |
| Number of students in Bachelor's degree programmes    | 737         |
| Number of students in Master's degree programmes      | 303         |
| Number of students in doctoral degree programmes      | 269         |
| Number of international students                      | 8           |
| Number of graduates from accredited degree programmes | 297         |
| Total number of academic staff                        | 546         |