



## KEES MATTHIJSSSEN

Kees Matthijssen is a retired Dutch Lieutenant General. From his unique mission experiences as a responsible commander, he can speak about various elements of leadership.

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### Categorie

Safety & Quality, Leadership, Motivation & Inspiration

### Type

Keynote speaker

### Inzetbaarheid

Keynote speaker

### Talen

English, Dutch

### Afkomstig van

The Netherlands

## Biografie

Lieutenant General ret. Kees Matthijssen has had a unique career. In his almost 43 years of military service, in addition to many other positions, he was commanding officer four times at various levels during operational deployments. He led a company in Srebrenica (1995), a battalion in Iraq (2004), the Task Force in Uruzgan (2008-2009) and the force of the United Nations Mission in Mali (2022-2023). He received a royal honour for this. He recorded special leadership experiences from his missions in his book "Commander in four missions" (only available in Dutch).

"Leadership is there to enable people to bring out the best in themselves. Leadership is who you are. Authenticity is an important foundation."

## Bio Lieutenant General ret. Kees Matthijssen

Lieutenant general ret. Kees Matthijssen has served in the Dutch Armed Forces for almost 43 years before retiring in October 2023. He has fulfilled many positions in the Army Staff and Defence Staff, but also many in the operational domain including four deployments in a commander's position. In his last posting he served as Force Commander for the UN Mission MINUSMA in Mali from January 2022 - January 2023. Furthermore, was company commander in Bosnia and Herzegovina (1995), battalion commander in Iraq (2004) and brigade commander in Afghanistan (2008-2009). He was also part of the Netherlands Liaison Team to UN Central Command in early 2002, Military Advisor in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2013-2014), the Deputy Army Commander and he served in NATO's Joint Force Command Brunssum as Deputy Chief of Staff Plans. He holds a Master's degree of Strategic Studies (MSS) obtained at the US Army War College in 2010. He was awarded the French 'Legion of Honour' and the German 'Bundeswehr Cross of Honour' for his outstanding cooperation with both nations. For his exceptional state of service, he received a royal honour and became an Officer in the Order of Oranje Nassau with swords.