

## **NICK PICKARD**

### **UK Deputy Permanent Representative to NATO**



Nick Pickard arrived at NATO in July 2017. As the UK's Deputy Permanent Representative to NATO, he leads (under the UK Permanent Representative and Military Representative) the UK's Joint Delegation to NATO. This includes representing the UK on the North Atlantic Council and the Deputies Committee.

Prior to working at NATO Nick was Deputy Head of Mission, Political Counsellor and Consul-General at the British Embassy in Berlin since August 2013. He was responsible for all bilateral and consular relations with Germany including in foreign and security policy, migration, justice and home affairs; for crisis management, media, public diplomacy and political affairs; and for the administration of the UK's diplomatic network in Germany. In 2015 he led the planning for the four-day State Visit to Germany of Her Majesty the Queen, who appointed him Commander of the Royal Victorian Order.

Between 2008 and 2012 Nick was based in London as Head of international security policy in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. In this role he was responsible among other issues for NATO policy, European defence, nuclear deterrence, defence industrial policy, and disarmament and arms control. His team was also responsible for the UK's involvement in crisis management operations in Libya, Afghanistan and the Balkans, counter-piracy off the Horn of Africa, including UK leadership of the EU naval mission, and for wider European security initiatives including relations with Russia.

His background is in the Ministry of Defence, where he worked for 13 years until 2008, most recently on a large-scale change programme which restructured and refocused the way in which the Ministry works. Previously, he was specifically responsible for the UK's European defence strategy, and planned and delivered the UK's EU Presidency in 2005 which launched EU military, police and aid operations in the Balkans, Africa and Asia. He also delivered agreement across the 25 nations to a new comprehensive civil-military approach to crisis management.

Nick subsequently worked for the Royal Air Force, where he created a Business Partner team to manage and develop the 11000-strong civilian workforce. In earlier posts he has been responsible for delivering a new defence industrial policy, programming and scrutiny for Air equipment procurement projects, authoring public reports on Iraq and missile defence, and managing the collocation of the defence logistics headquarters.

Nick comes from the beautiful landscapes of the Lake District of north-west England, where he still enjoys walking the fells, and has also lived in Bristol, Cambridge and London as well as Berlin. He originally studied music and still occasionally directs, accompanies and sings in church choirs. He is married and has two sons.