

## **General Christos Vaitsis**

General Christos Vaitsis was assigned as Chief of the Hellenic Air Force General Staff from 27/2/2015 to 16/1/2017.

### **Education**

He was born in Larissa. He joined the Hellenic Air Force Academy in 1976 and graduated in 1980 as a 2nd Lieutenant.

He graduated from:

- Tactical Weapons School
- Instructors School
- Air War College /Junior Officers
- National Defence College
- Canadian Forces Command and Staff College (C.F.C.S.C)
- Flight Safety School (University of Southern California USA)
- Royal College of Defence Studies (RCDS) of London, United Kingdom.

He has a Master of Arts in International Studies King's College University of London, United Kingdom.

He speaks English.

### **Assignments**

- February 2015 – January 2017: Chief of the Hellenic Air Force General Staff (HAFGS)
- March 2013 - February 2015: Chief of Hellenic Tactical Air Force and Commander of the Combined Air Operations Centre 7 (till June 21<sup>st</sup> , 2013)
- July 2012 - March 2013: Commander of the Hellenic Air Force Support Command
- November 2011 - July 2012: Deputy Chief of the Hellenic Tactical Air Force (HTAF)
- March 2010 - November 2011: Director of the Hellenic National Defence General Staff (HNDGS) Strategy and Policy (D) Branch
- August 2009 - March 2010: Director of HNDGS Chief's Staff Executive Office
- August 2008 – August 2009: Director of HAFGS Military Staff Directorate (B1)
- July 2007 - August 2008: Commander of 110 Combat Wing (CW)
- February 2007 - July 2007: HAFGS Spokesman
- December 2006 - February 2007: Director of HTAF Standardization - Evaluation Directorate (B3)

- October 2004 - October 2005: Director of HTAF Chief's Staff Executive Office
- July 2003 - October 2004: Director of the HTAF Operations and Plans Directorate (A1)
- August 2000 - July 2003: Supervisor of the Military Education in the Hellenic Air Force Academy
- July 1998 - August 2000: Air Attaché in Bonn, Germany
- June 1996 - July 1998: Commander of 110CW/348 Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron
- July 1993 - June 1996: HTAF Operations and Plans staff officer (A1)
- December 1991 – July 1992: HTAF Education staff officer (B1)
- August 1990 – November 1991: 110 CW/ 337 Squadron's Flight Commander
- June 1980 - August 1990: 110 CW/ 337 Squadron in F-4E Aircraft

### **Flight Experience**

He has more than 3600 flight hours.

He has flown with T-41, T-37 B/C, T-2E, T-33A/B, F-4E and RF-4E aircraft.

### **Promotions**

- 2nd Lieutenant : 27/05/1980
- 1st Lieutenant : 07/06/1983
- Captain : 30/06/1986
- Major : 30/06/1991
- Lieutenant Colonel: 05/07/1995
- Colonel : 26/03/2002
- Brigadier General : 03/03/2008
- Major General : 02/03/2010
- Lieutenant General: 25/07/2012
- General : 16/01/2017

### **Medals-Decorations**

- Grand Commander of the Order Of Honor
- Grand Commander of the Order of the Phoenix
- Medal of Military Merit 1<sup>st</sup> Class
- Commendation Medal "Chief of General Staff"
- Commendation Medal "Star of Merit and Honor"
- Commendation Medal "Cross of Merit and Honor"
- Air Force Formation Command Medal 1<sup>st</sup> Class
- Air Force Meritorious Command Medal 1<sup>st</sup> Class

- Staff Officer Service Commendation Medal 1<sup>st</sup> Class
- Médaille de la Défense Nationale (France)
- Ordre National du Mérite (France)