

Welcome Speech to the RPAS Conference

On behalf of the Chief of the Hellenic Air Force, I warmly welcome you to our Conference, for which I hope to turn out itself one more important step further, en route to a common European perception on Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems. By gathering some of the most distinguished experts from Military and Civil European Agencies, Academia and Industries, we intent to present the current and future developments on the field, to exchange opinions with a highly motivated audience and also to give emphasis on laying the ground for future cooperations and partnerships. Our goal is to shape a common vision on the role of RPAS in the future Europe, thus promoting integration and collaboration.

Moreover, it is absolutely critical to put extra weight on Research and Technology, bearing in mind that due to economical restraints, dual use systems, platforms and applications are a monodrome for the policies to be followed in the future, serving both the Military and Civil Sector. Operational exploitation of current and future RPAS systems, their integration in Single European Sky and legal matters arising because of the newly-arrived trends, are objects of concern for the European Union and therefore will be thoroughly analyzed.

The Hellenic Air Force is strongly supporting innovative technological efforts and extended operational usage of RPAS within the framework of its responsibilities and mission. Furthermore, HAF shows always a great interest in future programmes and is prepared to share knowledge and experiences with its European allies, taking under consideration the target to present cost-effective, productive, advanced solutions for everyone.

Bearing this in mind, I wish you a productive Conference and hope to enjoy your time in Greece.