

European Union Naval Force – Mediterranean Operation SOPHIA Deputy Operation Commander

Rear Admiral (FR Navy) Gilles HUMEAU – Biography



RADM Humeau was born in Paris, the 27th of October 1962 and joined the French Naval Academy in 1982.

He is married and father of four children.

After a first assignment in New Caledonia on board the patrol boat “La Dieppoise ” in 1985, he went to flight school and served until 2005 in all the assault and recognition’s squadrons embarked.

He mainly flew on Etendard and Super- Etendard to reach a total of 2550 hours of flight and 510 deck-landings, among which 75 by night. He is also a nuclear pilot and officer of nuclear prevention.

Promoted commander in 1999, he assumed command of the Super-Etendard recognition squadron 16F.

Four years later, promoted to the rank of captain, he commanded the Carrier Strike Group and the training center, instruction and preparation of missions (CEIPM) of Landivisiau from 2003 until 2005.

He also combined a career on surface units. From 1991 to 1992, he was department head and instructor on board the helicopter carrier "Jeanne d’ Arc". In 2001 he assumed command of the supply ship "Somme" and, from 2005 till 2008, on board the amphibious ship “Mistral”, first as executive officer then as commanding officer.

At the staff level, after following the Joint Defense College in Paris in 2000, he was in charge of the naval programs at the joint headquarters from 2008 until 2011. Then, he joined the navy headquarters to lead the operations center until 2014.

During one year, he participated to the new joint team to the Air Force Chief of Staff dedicated to the aviation equipments maintenance.

He was designated as deputy to general secretary of the sea on July 1st, 2015.

RADM Humeau participated in various operations during the numerous deployments of the aircraft carriers at sea Adriatic between 1993 and 1999. He was also a liaison officer with the multinational brigade in Bosnia and Herzegovina in July, 1995. In 2001-2002, he was committed during six months in the operation "Enduring Freedom" off Pakistan. In 2006, he led the massive evacuation of Lebanon, during the operation “Balliste”.

RADM Humeau followed in 2010-2011 the cycle of the high European studies at the “Ecole Nationale d’Administration”.

Officer of the Legion of Honor since 2007, he was also awarded the “Croix de guerre” and the “croix de la valeur militaire”.

EU Naval Force Med
operation SOPHIA
Media and Public
Information Office

Address
Media Centre

Via di Centocelle, 301 – 00175 Rome (Italy)
Phone: +39 06 4691 9449 , +39 06 46919451, +39 06 46919454
Mobile: + 39 334 6891930, +39 333 5275221, +39 344 3891015, +39 345 4386260
Email:spokesperson@euohq.difesa.it ; eunavformed.pi@gmail.com

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