



## General Claudio Graziano

General Claudio Graziano attended the Military Academy and the School of Applied Military Studies from 1972 to 1976. He received his commission as infantry officer in 1974.

In 1976 he got his first assignment as Leader of a mountain troops Rifle Platoon, Susa Battalion, in Pinerolo near Turin.

In 1977 he became Deputy Commander, Anti-tank Company, "Taurinense" mountain troops Brigade.

As such, he has taken part to several international exercises in Denmark and Norway within the NATO Allied Mobile Force (Land Element) AMF(L).

In 1980, Gen. Graziano was reassigned to the "Trentina" Brigade in Monguelfo, near Bolzano, where he commanded a Mortar Company and then a Rifle Company, both within the "Trento" mountain troops Battalion.

From 1983 to 1986, he was Commander, Cadet Company and then Commander, Headquarters Company at the mountain troops School in Aosta.

In 1987, following his promotion to Major, Graziano was reassigned to the Army General Staff in Rome, where he served for two years as Staff Officer in the Systems Development Section under the Chief, Logistic Division.

In 1990, after being promoted to Lieutenant Colonel, Graziano served at the Office of the Chief of the General Staff as Military Assistant to the CGS.

In June 1992, he was appointed Commanding Officer, "Susa" mountain troops Battalion in Pinerolo and later deployed with his battalion on operation UNOMOZ in Mozambique.

At the end of 1993, he was appointed Head, Admin & Coord Section of the Chief of the General Staff.

Promoted to Colonel in 1996, Graziano was posted to Cuneo to become Commanding Officer, 2nd mountain troops Regiment. He deployed in Norway with the AMF(L) once again for exercises in arctic environments. In 1998, following his reassignment to the Army General Staff, he became Chief Plans and Policy Office.

In September 2001, he was assigned to the Italian Embassy in Washington DC as Military Attaché.

On 1 January 2002, he was promoted to Brigadier General.

Once he came back from the United States in August 2004, he has become Commanding General, "Taurinense" mountain troops Brigade in Turin, a position he has held until February 2006.

Across this period, he deployed to Afghanistan as Commander, Kabul Multinational Brigade (KMNB) within ISAF VIII from July 2005 to February 2006.

He was promoted to Major General on 1 January 2006 and assigned to the Italian Joint Operations Headquarters (JOHQ) in March 2006, where he served as Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations.

As such, he was responsible for planning, deployment and employment of all operational missions and tasks of Italian military contingents in Italy and abroad.

On 19 January 2007 the Secretary General of the United Nations appointed him UNIFIL Head of Mission and Force Commander.

He has led the UN mission for three years, from 2 February 2007 to 29 January 2010.

Following his promotion to Lieutenant General on 1 January 2010, he was appointed Chief of Cabinet of the Minister of Defence on 9 February 2010.

On 14 October 2011 he was appointed Chief of Staff of the Italian Army, the appointment becoming effective on 6 December 2011.

On 24 December 2014 he was appointed Chief of the Italian Defence General Staff, the appointment becoming effective on 28 February 2015. The same day he was promoted to General.

As Chief of Defense he reports directly to the Minister of Defense, acting as his highest technical-military advisor.

He is responsible for planning, arrangement and employment of the Armed Force as a whole.

He prepares the general financial and joint operations planning, as well as all technical financial programs.

He stands above all the Chiefs of the Armed Forces and, with regard to technical-operational matters, the Defense Secretary General.

He presides the Armed Forces Chiefs of Staff Committee and is also a permanent member of the Supreme Defense Council.

General Graziano is a Mountain Warfare and skiing instructor and holds Airborne and Ranger badges.

He attended both the Basic and the Advanced Command and Staff courses at the Italian Army Staff College.

He is also a graduate of the United States Army War College in Carlisle.

General Graziano holds a degree in Strategic Military Studies and two Master Degrees, one in Human Sciences from the Catholic University in Rome and one in Strategic Military Sciences.

Most recently he graduated in Diplomatic Sciences at the University of Trieste.

General Claudio Graziano is married to Mrs. Marisa Lanucara.

### Military education

- 1972 - 1974 Military Academy
- 1974 - 1976 School of Applied Military Studies
- 1987 - 1988 Command and Staff College (Capt. level)
- 1990 - 1991 Command and General Staff College (Maj./LTC level)
- 1996 - 1997 U.S. Army War College

### Military career

- 1976 - 1977 Mountain troops Rifle Platoon - Leader
- 1977 - 1980 Mountain troops Anti-Tank Company - Deputy Commander
- 1980 - 1983 Mountain troops Mortar / mountain troops Rifle Companies - Commander
- 1983 - 1987 Mountain troops Cadet Company - mountain troops Headquarters Company - Commander
- 1987 - 1990 Army General Staff - Procurement Division – Plans Office - Staff Officer
- 1990 - 1992 Army General Staff - Office of the Chief of the General Staff - Head of Section
- 1992 - 1993 Air Mobile mountain troops Battalion - Commanding Officer
- 1993 - 1996 Army General Staff - Chief of the General Staff – Admin & Coord Office - Head of Section
- 1997 - 1998 2nd mountain troops Regiment - Commanding Officer
- 1998 - 2001 Army General Staff – Force and Expenditure Planning Division – Plans & Policy Office - Head of Office

- 2001 - 2004 Italian Military Attaché to the United States
- 2004 - 2006 mountain troops Brigade - Commanding General
- 2006 - 01/2007 Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations - IT JOHQ
- 01/2007 - 01/2010 UNIFIL Head of Mission/Force Commander
- 02/2010 - 12/2011 Chief of Cabinet of the Minister of Defence
- 12/2011 - Chief of Staff of the Italian Army

**Assignments abroad**

- 1992 - 1993 UNOMOZ – Beira Corridor (Mozambique) – Commanding Officer, Italian Battalion
- 2005 - 2006 Kabul Multi-National Brigade - Commanding General
- 01/2007-01/2010 UNIFIL Head of Mission/Force Commander

**Career development**

- 1974 2nd Lieutenant
- 1976 1st Lieutenant
- 1980 Captain
- 1988 Major
- 1990 Lieutenant Colonel
- 1995 Colonel
- 2002 Brigadier General
- 2006 Major General
- 2010 Lieutenant General
- 2015 General

**Awards and decorations**

- Military Order of Italy - Grand Officer
- Order of Merit of the Italian Republic - Grand Officer
- Mauritian Medal for 50 years of Military Service
- Army Meritorious Service Silver Cross
- Army Extended Command Medal of Merit (15 years)
- Long Service Golden Cross
- UN Mission In Mozambique Commemorative Medal
- UN Mission In Lebanon Commemorative Medal
- Italian Peacekeeping Commemorative Medal
- NATO ISAF Mission Commemorative Medal
- Italian Medal for Peace Operation in Afghanistan
- Portuguese Army 1st Class Medal "D. Alfonso Henriques"
- US Legion of Merit (degree of Commander)
- French Legion d'Honneur - Officer
- French Defence Golden Medal
- National Order of the Cedar Medal - Commander (Lebanese)
- Golden Medal of Polish Armed Forces
- Meritorious Service Medal (German)
- Meritorious Service Medal (Norwegian)
- Golden Medal of merit of Italian Red Cross

**Interests:** History, travelling, reading, sports.