

Curriculum Vitae of the CY Chief of the National Guard

Lieutenant General Demokritos ZERVAKIS



Lt. Gen. Demokritos Zervakis prior to his appointment as Chief of the Cypriot National Guard, was, for two years the Commander of the 1st Army/EU OHQ, Hellenic Army. Lt. Gen. Zervakis was born in 1961, in Mochos Heraklion, Crete. He graduated from the Hellenic Military Academy (Evelpidon) in 1983 and was commissioned as Second Lieutenant in the Artillery.

He has successfully attended the Basic and Advanced Courses of the Hellenic Artillery School along with various other military schools including the Basic Parachutist Course. He is also a graduate of the Hellenic Army War College, the Hellenic National Defence College, the U.S. Artillery Basic Course and the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College.

He holds an International and European Studies Degree (Panteion University GREECE) and a Master of Arts Degree in Strategic Studies (HULL University, UK) (Professor Colin Gray) being a member of the IISS from 1997 to 2014. Additionally, he has a Computer Analysis and Programming certificate from the Hellenic Center of Productivity (ELKEPA).

His service record includes assignments as a battery Commander, Battalion Executive Officer and Deputy Battalion Commander in various Artillery units and as a instructor and staff officer at the Research and Development Department of the Hellenic Artillery School.

He has commanded the 194 MLRS (as his first Commander achieving operational capability) and the 156 Self Propelled 155mm PzH units. He has also served from 1993 to 1994, in the UNIKOM mission in Kuwait-Iraq as a Military Observer and Personnel Staff Officer.

Serving as a staff officer in the Hellenic Military Representation to the EUMC, from 2002 to 2005, he was a member of the one-year Hellenic Presidency in CSDP. During that period, he was the staff officer on Concept Development and Operations, working among other on EU Common ESDP Training, Rapid Response (Battlegroups) and Capability Development.

He served from 2007 to 2009, as Director of the Chief of the Hellenic Army General Staff Office and from 2010 to 2012, as Director of the Defence Policy Directorate of the Hellenic National Defence General Staff.

From 2012 to 2014, he commanded the 96th National Guard Brigade Level Command (CHIOS).

From 2014 to 2016 he assumed, as Major General, for 2 years the duties of Chief of Staff of the National Guard General Staff of the Republic of Cyprus.

This was followed by his posting as Director, of the Artillery Directorate of the Hellenic Army General Staff.

From 2017 and for 2 years, upon decision of the Governmental Council for Foreign and Defense Affairs, he was the Commanding General of the 1st Hellenic Army/EU-OHQ. In 2018, he was appointed by the EU and served as Operational Commander during the EU Hybrid Exercise Multilayer 18 (Parallel and Coordinated Exercise)

Lieutenant General Demokritos Zervakis, has been awarded with all the Hellenic commendations and medals provided for his duties, including Grand Commander of the Order of Honour, Grand Commander of the Order of the Phoenix and the Medal of 1st Class Military Merit. He has also been awarded with the United Nations Medal, the medal of the National Guard of the Republic of Cyprus, as well as the Silver Medal for National Defense of the Defense Ministry and the Medal of the Order of the National Merit, of the French Republic.

He speaks English and French.

Lieutenant General Demokritos Zervakis is married and has two daughters.