

Rear Admiral Giacinto OTTAVIANI
President of the Center for Higher Defense Studies – Rome (Italy)

Rear Admiral Giacinto OTTAVIANI he was born on 19 July 1964 in San Benedetto del Tronto (Ascoli Piceno). He joined the NAVY in 1983 attending the Naval Academy in Livorno until 1987.

After the internship practice onboard cruiser Vittorio VENETO, he served as Navigator and Telecommunications Officer onboard Italian frigate EURO, taking part to the Persian Gulf war from July to December 1988, ensuring the maritime security and the protection of freedom of navigation in the context of the Iran-Iraq war.

Specialized in Telecommunications and Operational Combat Information, he served as Telecommunications Officer and Crypto Custodian onboard destroyer ARDITO from 1991 to 1994.

In 1994, as Lieutenant, he assumed command of Patrol Boat CASSIOPEA, conducting numerous patrol operations in the Sicily strait. From 1995 to 2000 he served in “Plans and Operations” Department of the Italian Navy General Staff.

After the attendance of the national course for senior officer, he was appointed Deputy Commander of the Italian ship AVIERE. In this position he took part in two distinct "Active Endeavor" operations to combat illegal trafficking and international terrorism as part of the Alliance’s security cooperation program launched after the 9/11 terrorist attacks against the United States in 2001.

In 2004, he was appointed as Commanding Officer of the Italian frigate ESPERO and took part in other two phases of Operation “Active Endeavor”.

From 2005, he served at the Italian Navy Staff within the Organization and Personnel Division. In 2007, he was promoted Captain and appointed as Head of the Organization Office.

In 2009, he was appointed Commanding Officer of the destroyer ANDREA DORIA. During his mandate was completed the delivery of the unit to the Italian Navy. Later the ship was employed in the South America and the Gulf of Guinea in the Operation “Tucano”.

From 2010 to 2013, he was appointed Chief of the Organization and Personnel Office of the Defense General Staff - HR Division.

At the end of Strategic Course at the Institute for the Higher Defense Studies in Rome, he was promoted Commodore. From 2014, he served as Head of Officers Employment Department at Navy Personnel Division (MARIPERS) and member of the commission for the promotion of the Navy Officers.

From January 2016 was nominated Deputy Chief of the Organization and Personnel Division of the Defense General Staff. In September, he came back to the Navy General Staff as Chief of the HR Division.

Since July 2018, promoted Rear Admiral (OF-6), he was designated as Head of the HR Division at the Defense General Staff.

From 26 June 2021, Rear Admiral OTTAVIANI is the President of Center for Higher Defense Studies in Rome.

Rear Admiral Ottaviani holds an MBA from the Boston University and three degrees: Physics, Maritime and Naval Science and Political Science.

He is married with Mrs. Sylvie and they have two children, Anna and Antonio.

