

Lieutenant General Pasquale Preziosa

Commander, Italian Air Force



Lieutenant General Pasquale PREZIOSA was born in Bisceglie near Bari on 21 March 1953.

Lt. Gen. Preziosa attended the Air Academy between 1971 and 1972, where he qualified as military pilot on several different aircraft, including the MB-326 and the F-104 Starfighter.

During his career, he spent a significant amount of time as combat pilot in Gioia del Colle AFB near Bari, where he also served as Squadron and Group Commander, Chief Air Operations and Wing Commander.

In the current rank, he was also Air Force Schools and 3rd Air Region Commander.

Lt. Gen. Preziosa attended the Air Staff, Advanced Air Staff and Flight Safety Awareness Courses at the Air Staff College in Florence, Italy.

He was also selected to attend qualification courses abroad, notably the Tornado Aircraft Instructor Course at Cottesmore AFB, UK, (1983) and the Defense Resources Management Course (DRMC) at the Defense Resources Management Institute, a branch of the Naval Postgraduate School, based in Monterey, California (1993).

Later in his career, he attended the Institute for Higher Defence Studies at the Centre for Higher Defence Studies in Rome, Italy (1998-1999).

Lt. Gen. Preziosa has a wide experience in diplomatic, policy and international matters as he served in several staff and diplomatic positions, the Deputy and Head of Force and Budget Planning Department at the Air Force Staff, the Senior National Representative within the Enduring Freedom Response Cell in Tampa, Florida, and the Defence and Defence Cooperation Attaché at the Italian Embassy in Washington, DC being some examples.

Lt. Gen. Preziosa advanced to the current rank on 22 June 2009 and took office as Chief of the Cabinet of the Minister of Defence on 6 December 2011, till 24 February 2013. He has been appointed Air Force Chief of Staff since the 25 February 2013.

Lt. Gen. Preziosa is a military pilot with more than 2300 flying hours mainly on Tornado aircrafts during air operations in Bosnia.

Lt. Gen. PREZIOSA holds Postgraduate degrees in Diplomatic Sciences and Aeronautic Sciences.

He and his wife Elisabetta – who he married in 1978 – have two daughters, Stefania and Roberta.