

Hall of Fame honors go to Italy's Chief of General Staff Lt. Gen. Claudio Graziano, class of 1997



Photos by Megan Clugh

Lt. Gen. Claudio Graziano holds the Certificate of Honor after being inducted into the International Fellows Hall of Fame, Mar. 22, 2012, Bliss Hall

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Office

Lt. Gen. Claudio Graziano, Chief of the General Staff Italy becomes the 38th International Hall of Fame Inductee

"Throughout his career, Gen. Graziano has been at the forefront of change, strategic transformation and leadership," said Maj. Gen. Gregg Martin, in honoring a new member of the IHOF.

Today, the Chief of General Staff Italy, Lt. Gen. Claudio Graziano started his military career as leader of a mountain troop rifle platoon, Susa battalion, in Pinerolo, near Turin in 1976.

His career journey covers a variety of operational command and staff appointments leading to military attache to the Italian Embassy in Washington, D.C. in 2001; commanding general "Taurinense" mountain troops brigade in Turin in 2004; deputy chief of staff for operations to the Italian Joint Operations Headquarters in 2006; UNIFIL Head of Mission and Force commander from 2007-2010; and appointed Chief of Cabinet of the Minister Defence.

Graziano holds a degree in Strategic Military Studies and two Master Degrees, one in Human Sciences and one in Strategic Military Sciences. He recently graduated in Diplomatic Sciences at the University of Trieste.

"It is very important for the International Fellows and for our American friends," said Graziano, who noted

with pleasure that the IF program will have doubled in size, from 40 in 1997 to 80 in the next class. "We are all teachers of each other—we are learning from each other."

"This was one of the most important years of my life, probably changed my career completely," said Lt. Gen. Graziano. "Because after that, I came back with different ideas and different opinions," he said. "And maybe I was even selected by the Secretary General to be force commander of UNIFIL because I had the opportunity to attend this course."

In addressing the students, Graziano said, "The running of multinational forces, the ability to negotiate, and the ability to deal with the media for your future career are going to be as much important as to be a good fighter and everything comes under a single definition of a modern leader or a strategic leader and the leadership that I am sure you are learning in this place."

"It was really a fantastic year something that made me become Chief of the Army," said Lt. Gen. Graziano.



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International Fellows Hall of Fame, Mar. 22, 2012