



Chief of the Defence Staff of Spain

GENERAL FERNANDO ALEJANDRE

General Fernando Alejandre was born in Madrid, Spain, in 1956. He received his commission from the Spanish Military Academy in 1979 to the Corps of Engineers. As a junior officer, General Alejandre was a Sapper Platoon Leader in the Airborne Brigade – the same Brigade in which he would go on to Command a Combat Engineer Company as Captain. After graduating from the Army Staff College, he stayed on to be a tactical instructor from 1994 to 1995. From there, he was selected as Assistant Military Attaché to the Embassy of Spain in Washington, D.C.

Having been promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and returning to Spain, he served as Chief of Staff for the Engineer Brigade, and three years later as an operational planner at the Army Headquarters Operations Center. In 2003, he became Chief G-3 at the Rapid Reaction Division HQ in Madrid. As a Colonel, he commanded the 12th Engineer Regiment in Zaragoza before being selected to serve as the military advisor to the Minister of Foreign Affairs in Madrid.

Selected for Brigadier General in 2010, he assumed the duties of Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations at Army HQ. Promoted to Major General he assumed the duties of Deputy Chief of Staff, Support (later Resources) at SHAPE in September 2012.

As Lieutenant General, he assumed the duties of Deputy Commander, Joint Forces Command Brunssum on 16 October 2015.

His operational background includes a deployment to Iraq in 1991, a tour as Chief Engineer for the Spanish Task Force in Bosnia during 1994 and, in 2003, he was the JOC Director at HQ KFOR in Film City, Pristina.

He has been alumnus of the NATO Defense College and was graduated with honors in the US Army Engineer School. He is the recipient of several Spanish and NATO decorations, and the US Army Meritorious Service Medal.

He assumed the role of Chief of the Defence Staff on 24 March 17.

He is married and has three sons and, since December 2014, a grandson. He is very proud of his long family tradition of service in the Spanish Army, a service continued by his two eldest sons who are Infantry Captains.