



OPERATION EUNAVFOR MED IRINI

Irini: the flagship ITS San Giorgio joins the Operation

Press release 05/2020

#Irini #irini4peace #EUDefence #EUNAVFORMED #CSDP

#ItalianNavy #Italy #SanGiorgioFlagship

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Rome, 17 July 2020

Rome – The Italian ship, ITS San Giorgio, has joined Operation EUNAVFOR MED IRINI as its flagship. From the vessel, the Force Commander, Italian Rear Admiral Ettore Socci, commands the naval and air assets deployed in the area of operation. The San Giorgio joins the Greek frigate Spetsai and the aircraft from France, Germany, Greece, Luxembourg and Poland already active in the Area of Operation. On the flagship a Role 1 medical facility is available.

From the middle of October the Force Commander as well as the flagship will be provided by Greece.

ITS San Giorgio is fitted with an EH 101 helo and embarks a San Marco Navy Brigade team able to carry out boardings up to “non-compliant”.

Italy is also providing the Operation with an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) in direct support as well as Augusta, Pantelleria and Sigonella’s military logistic and operational bases.

A P72 Maritime Patrol Aircraft (MPRA), an Air Early Warning (AEW) aircraft and a Submarine in associated support will be available occasionally.

In total, about 20 countries of the European Union are participating, with staff or assets, in Operation Irini, which also counts on the support of satellite images provided by the European Union Satellite Centre (SatCen).

“With the entry of the flagship, EUNAVFOR MED IRINI could soon be able to reach the Full Operation Capability – says the Operation Commander, Admiral Fabio Agostini – Irini was born in full Covid-19 pandemic, a circumstance that has not facilitated the force generation. Despite this, the mission, which actually started only two months ago, has already produced results in terms of collection of information and deterrent effect on both arms trafficking and oil smuggling sectors. The information collected on illicit activities has been reported to the United Nation Panel of Expert for Libya with which there is a consolidated, growing and fruitful cooperation.”

EU Naval Force Med
Media and Public
Information Office

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More Information on	www.operationirini.eu



OPERATION EUNAVFOR MED IRINI

CLICK AND DOWNLOAD IMAGES

Admiral Agostini, OpCommander

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/a6hqg1em6su14ya/AAAJfg0zhWXL8uZndpZV1snu?dl=0>

New photos and videos <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/a3cybiotu4pbzf3/AACOuqiDjWURo-Nd2gcfL7E8a?dl=0>

NOTES

Operation Irini (named after the Greek word for "peace") was planned in a very short timeframe and launched on 31 March, following a decision by the Council of the European Union. The main task is the implementation of the arms embargo on Libya under the relevant UN Security Council resolutions. The Operation has also secondary tasks including monitoring illegal oil trafficking from Libya, contributing to countering human trafficking and smuggling activities (through air monitoring) and contributing to the training of the Libyan Coast Guard and Navy.

For more information on the Operation <https://www.operationirini.eu/about-us/#mission>

For more information on the assets www.operationirini.eu/media_category/assets

Operation Commander and Force Commander

The Operation Commander is Rear Admiral Fabio Agostini. He represents the EU military strategic level of the Operation and exercises his duties from the headquarters located in the Joint Operational HQ in Rome.

The Force Commander is the Commander of the assets (naval and aerial) deployed in the Area of Operation. He is appointed by the Council upon Operation Commander proposal and EU Military Committee endorsement. The Force Commander acts under the authority of the Operation Commander. In the office of the Force Commander, Italy and Greece will alternate on a half-yearly basis.

See the biography of Operation Commander, Admiral Fabio Agostini

www.operationirini.eu/about-us/roles/fabio-agostini

What is the flagship?

The flagship is the naval unit on which the Force Commander is embarked with his Force Headquarters. The flagship will alternate along with the Force Commander. The Greek Force Commander will then be deployed on a Hellenic Navy unit.

SatCen

The European Union Satellite Centre supports the decision making and actions of the European Union in the field of Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), in particular Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP), including European Union crisis management missions and operations, by providing products and services resulting from the exploitation of relevant space assets and collateral data, including satellite imagery and aerial imagery, and related services. SatCen is a

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decentralised agency of the European Union working under the supervision of the Political and Security Committee and the operational direction of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy.



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