



**Rear Admiral Luca Conti**  
Deputy Capability Director,  
Defence General Staff, Italy

**Panel B3**

**Capability Development – how to harmonize the efforts in the EU, in NATO and in the Nations?**

Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> November 2019, 11:45 – 13:15 h

R.A. Luca Conti was born in Lovere (ITALY) on July 7th, 1968.

In 1987, after high school studies in Industrial Technology, he joined the Italian Naval Academy where he graduated in 1991.

Once selected for pilot training, in February 1992 he moved to the United States where he attended basic, advanced and operational flight training with the U.S. Navy and U.S. Marine Corps. He became a 'Naval Aviator' in March 1994.

On his return to Italy, in 1996, he was assigned to GRUPAER, the Italian Navy AV-8B training and operational squadron.

Between 1998 and 1999, he attended the 'Naval Command School' and the 'Maritime War College'. Later, in summer 1999, with the rank of Lieutenant, he was appointed as 'Commander' of ITS LIBRA, a patrol boat primarily tasked in patrolling duties in South Med.

Upon his return to the operational flight squadron in September 2000, he firstly acted as Chief of Ops Branch, then, with the rank of LCdr, as 'Squadron Executive Officer'.

In October 2004, he was appointed Squadron Commanding Officer, serving in that position till February 2008.

As a Naval Aviator, R.A. Conti took part in all training and operational missions which involved the Italian Navy aircraft carrier 'GARIBALDI'.

In 2008 he attended the 112th 'Nato Defence College' course in Rome.

On September 2008, he assumed Command of ITS SCIROCCO, a Multipurpose Frigate.

Thereafter he moved to Augusta Naval Base appointed as Commander of the '2nd Patrol Boat Squadron' and as teacher for the Naval Command School.

From September 2010 till December 2013 he worked for the 'Fleet Air Arm' (COMFORAER) as Chief Of Staff of the Admiral.

Promoted Captain on July 1st 2011.

On February 2014 he assumed command of Aircraft Carrier CAVOUR.

On October 2015, he left command moving to Rome.

During the two years spent within the Italian Navy General Staff in Rome, he worked as assistant Chief of the Navy and subsequently, while assigned to the Navy Plans and Policy Department, he attended the Senior Officer 'High Defence Studies School' in Rome (IASD).

Promoted Rear Admiral on July 1st 2017.

Since August 2017 he works within the Plans and Policy Department of the Defence General Staff acting as Deputy Commander for Nato, EU and National Capability Development branch.