



## Chief of the German Air Force

Lieutenant General  
Ingo Gerhartz

- Date and place of birth: 9 December 1965, Cochem
- Marital status: married, 2 children
- Academic studies: Master in Aeronautical Science

As **Chief of the German Air Force**, Lieutenant General Ingo Gerhartz leads almost **30,000 servicemen and women**.

In addition to numerous leadership assignments and positions in the Federal Ministry of Defense, his military career is characterized by assignments in which he played a decisive role in the further development of the German Air Force. When he took over command of the German Air Force in May 2018, he successfully concentrated his efforts on **improving operational readiness**. He also focused on multinational cooperation and interoperability and set the course for **rapid and consistent modernization** of the German Air Force with decisions such as for the F-35 as the successor of the Tornado, the weaponization of drones, the next generation of helicopters and an evolution of missile defense.

After completing his flying training on the Eurofighter weapon system in February 2020, he is actively engaged in flight service as a pilot. Lieutenant General Gerhartz has logged a total of **over 2,500 flight hours on four aircraft types**: F-4F, MIG-29, Tornado and Eurofighter. As Air Wing Commander in the Afghanistan mission, Lieutenant General Gerhartz flew more than 50 ISAF sorties on the Tornado aircraft.

Lieutenant General Gerhartz has also devoted himself with great personal commitment to fostering the **German-Israeli friendship**. The flyover of the Dachau Concentration Camp Memorial in 2020 and a joint formation flight over the Knesset in Israel in 2021 by German and Israeli aircraft are visible signs of reconciliation and trustful cooperation.



**KOMMANDO LUFTWAFFE**

General-Steinhoff-Kaserne

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14089 Berlin

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## MILITARY DEVELOPMENT

- July 1985      Joined the German Air Force as a conscript, Budel/NLD
- 1986 – 1987    Officer training, Fürstenfeldbruck
- 1987 – 1990    Jet pilot training and weapon system training,  
Fürstenfeldbruck, Sheppard AFB (TX) and George AFB (CA)
- 1990 – 1998    F-4E/F PHANTOM II Fighter Pilot in “combat ready” status  
and Operations Staff Officer, 71 Fighter Wing “Richthofen”,  
Wittmund
- 1998 – 2000    43rd National General Staff Course,  
Bundeswehr Command and Staff College, Hamburg
- 2000 – 2003    Commander, Flying Group (battalion level),  
73 Fighter Wing “Steinhoff”, Laage / weapon system:  
MiG-29
- 2003 – 2005    FMoD, Assistant Branch Chief Policy and Planning for  
Airborne Weapon Systems, Bonn (military representative  
for EUROFIGHTER)
- 2005 – 2007    FMoD Executive Group, ISAF and Air Force Spokesperson,  
Berlin
- 2008 – 2010    Commander (regiment level), 31 Fighter Bomber Wing  
“Boelcke”, Nörvenich / weapon systems: TORNADO IDS and  
EUROFIGHTER
- 2010 – 2012    Branch Chief Airborne Systems, German Air Force  
Command, Cologne
- 2012 - 2013    FMoD, Policy Branch Chief Air Force Airborne Weapon  
Systems, Chairman of the Helicopter Capability Transfer  
Working Group German Air Force Headquarters,  
Berlin-Gatow
- 2013 – 2014    Assistant Chief of Staff Planning and Concepts,  
German Air Force Headquarters, Berlin-Gatow



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## MILITARY DEVELOPMENT

2014 – 2015	FMoD Executive Group, Deputy Spokesperson of FMoD, Berlin
2015 – 2017	FMoD, Executive Officer to the Chief of Defense, Berlin
2017 – 2018	FMoD, Deputy Director for Strategy and Operations, Berlin
As of May 2018	Chief of the German Air Force, Berlin-Gatow

## DEPLOYMENTS

February 2009 – October 2009	ISAF Mission: Air Wing Commander and Base Commander, Camp Marmal/AFG (more than 50 ISAF sorties on RECCE TORNADO)
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## DECORATIONS

08/2002	Silver Cross of Honor of the Bundeswehr
03/2009	Bronze Bundeswehr Foreign Duty Medal (ISAF AFG)
10/2009	NATO Non-Article 5 Service Medal
12/2016	Gold Cross of Honor of the Bundeswehr
08/2021	Officer of the Legion of Honor of the French Republic
10/2021	Chief of Staff Medal of Appreciation, Israel
02/2022	Medaglia D'Argento Al Merito Aeronautico, Italy
05/2022	Ernst-Cramer-Medal, German-Israeli-Society
08/2022	Grand Cross of Aeronautical Merit, Spain
09/2022	Czech and Slovak Transatlantic Award (CSTA)

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## PROMOTIONS

07/1989	Second Lieutenant
07/1991	First Lieutenant
10/1994	Captain
10/1998	Major
02/2002	Lieutenant Colonel
09/2008	Colonel
10/2015	Brigadier General
10/2017	Major General
06/2018	Lieutenant General

## WEAPON SYSTEMS FLOWN AND FLYING HOURS

P-149D, T-37, T-38, F-4E, **F-4F**, **MiG-29**, **TORNADO**, **EUROFIGHTER**  
(more than 2,500 flying hours).

Airborne with Alpha Jet, GRIPEN, Mirage 2000, F-15, F-16 and F-18