

## **Major General Ireneusz Nowak**

Inspector, Air Force, Poland

Major General Ireneusz Nowak born on 6 December 1972 in Końskie, Poland, is the Inspector of the Polish Air Force, overseeing four air wings, two aviation brigades, two specialized aviation units (Military Air Traffic Service Office and Hydrometeorological Service), and the training and operational activities of the Radar Brigade. He also serves as the Plenipotentiary of the Minister of National Defence for the acquisition and implementation of fifth-generation multi-role aircraft for the Polish Armed Forces.

With over 3,410 flight hours, he has extensive experience in military aviation operations. He holds a PhD in Social Sciences, Management and Quality Sciences from WSB University, Poland (2023), with a dissertation on “*Non-Commissioned Officers Competence Model in a Future Operational Environment.*”

His education includes post-graduate studies at the Air War College Senior Development Education, Maxwell, USA (2017), an Advanced Course of Spatial Disorientation (2016), F-16 High AOA Departure & Deep Stall Familiarization Course, Edwards, USA (2013), Advanced Crew Resources Management Course (2012), Pilot Instructor Training Advanced (2012), Tactical Leadership Program, Albacete, Spain (2010), post-graduate studies in Military Management (2009), F-16 Aircraft Course, Tucson, USA (2007), NATO Specialized English Training, Budapest, Hungary (2005), and Air and Air Defense Faculty studies at the National Defense University of Warsaw (2002). He began his military career as a Pilot in the 11th Fighter Aviation Regiment, Wrocław (1995-1997), later serving as Flight Commander (1997-2002), Chief of Training at the 10th Fighter Squadron, Łask (2002-2005), and completing T-38 SUPT / IFF, F-16 IQT training in the USA (2005-2007). He commanded the 10th Fighter Squadron (2007-2011), served as Operations Group Commander of the 32nd Tactical Air Base (2011-2014), and later as its Commander (2014-2016).

After completing the Air War College in the USA (2016-2017), he became Deputy Commander (2017-2019) and then Commander (2019-2022) of the 2nd Tactical Air Wing, Poznań. He subsequently served as Deputy Inspector of the Polish Air Force (2022-2023) before assuming his current role. Throughout his career, he has risen through the ranks, being promoted to Second Lieutenant (1995), Lieutenant (1998), Captain (2002), Major (2007), Lieutenant Colonel (2010), Colonel (2013), Brigadier General (2019), and Major General (2023).

His numerous decorations include the Silver Medal of the Armed Forces In the Service of the Fatherland (2009), Gold Medal of Merit for National Defense (2015), Silver Cross of Merit (2017), Silver Medal for Long Service (2021), Air Force Cross of Merit (2023), Meritorious Military Pilot (2023), and Pro Patria Medal (2023).

With an impressive career spanning nearly three decades, Major General Nowak continues to play a pivotal role in shaping the future of the Polish Air Force, particularly in modernizing its aerial capabilities and training the next generation of pilots.