ORDER OF THE DAY OF THE INCOMING CHIEF OF HAGS OF 25 JANUARY 2023

Officers, NCOs, Soldiers, Members of the National Guard, and Civilian Personnel of the Hellenic Army.

Following a Government Council for Foreign Affairs and Defence (KYSEA) decision, as of today, I assume the duties of the Chief of the Hellenic Army General Staff.

It is an utmost honour for me to assume those duties, which have been previously assumed by excellent Officers. To those Officers, I extend my warm thanks for their valuable services towards our country. I would like to express my gratitude to the outgoing Chief of HAGS, General Charalampos Lalousis. Chief, I wish for you to be healthy and strong. We thank you.

Overwhelmed with pride, I respectfully bow to the War Flags of our Formations and Units, and pay tribute to those having gloriously died and been killed in action, both in war and in peace. I undertake to faithfully adhere to the law and the regulations, and to concurrently demand the faithful adherence thereto by all Army members without exceptions. I undertake to continue the work performed by my worthy predecessors, by being a just, objective, and meritocratic commander.

Over the years, the Hellenic Army has constituted the foundation upon which the existence, development, and prosperity of our nation has been built, and is thereby still supported. Being completely aware of the unimaginable magnitude of the historical heritage spanning numerous centuries, I promise to work with even more zeal.

In this effort of mine, I will be assisted by the most important asset of the Hellenic Army, that is its personnel, who – on a daily basis – exhibit and prove their love of country, their passion, their pride, and most of all, their high morale. Our personnel is our deterring power, day or night.

The absolute devotion to the sacred mission, which consists in defending the National Independence, the

Territorial Integrity, and the Sovereign Rights of our country, has decisively affected the successful facing of all actual threats. We have so far proved our capacity to adapt to diverse modern challenges, as well as our ability to adopt modern technologies, doctrines, and tactics, as the spearhead of deterrence and as a powerful tool of national foreign policy.

We remain, as we have always been, a part of Greek society, which surrounds us with love and trust. We reciprocate those feelings, by being ready to provide our assistance to society, when and where required, under any circumstances. We reciprocate those feelings, by being well trained, agile, well equipped, organized and available at the country's borderline, thus decisively supporting the State's requirements, providing a safe environment.

As of today, I call upon all of you to try even harder in order to multiply our decisiveness, to leverage our infinite capacity to face any challenge, in any form this may come. The country's security is a dynamic process, leaving no room for complacency. We must keep on pushing as we have so done over the past years, and advance even farther, adapting both to challenges and to requirements.

Our steady presence in every part of Greek land, combined with our ongoing, hard, and modern training, will preserve the high level of our operational readiness. The conduct of nation-scale exercises, apart from being the pinnacle of our joint training and efficiency, must become a means of promotion of our strategic, deterring message to be conveyed to all audiences.

Our participation in international exercises, as well as the presence of our personnel in missions or different activities abroad, must be a substantial factor impacting our being accepted by our allies, our credibility, and our ability to attract new partnerships, which operate as force multipliers.

We may be experiencing times of geopolitical instability and unique revisionism, but we must not forget that we are citizens/ soldiers of a country, which constitutes a long-standing beacon of the law-abiding, democratic State, a pillar of stability, and the cornerstone of Europe. The quintessence of our mission is to provide security to society, whereby our deterrence power, which the state utilizes to draw the strength to stand next to its allies, as a guarantor of security and peace in the areas of geopolitical interest, as a valuable ally, and a powerful opponent.

I firmly believe that with God's help, with decisiveness, and readiness, we will continue improving all those parametres, which enhance our Combat and Deterring Power, thus being our own centre of gravity, in peace, in crises, and if so required, in wartime, because:

We know

We want

We can

With these thoughts, I invite you to hail:

Long live our Nation

Long live the Army

Lieutenant General Aggelos Choudeloudis

Chief