



José Luis Ortiz-Cañavate Levenfeld

**Major General
Spanish Air Force**

European Air Transport Command

General José Luis Ortiz-Cañavate Levenfeld was born in Madrid on 19 July 1962. He graduated from the Spanish Air Force Academy in 1986 and from the Fighter Pilot School in 1987.

His first assignment was the 21st Wing (Morón AFB) flying Northrop F-5, where he was promoted to Captain. In 1991 he was posted to the 14th Wing (Albacete AFB) and flew with the Mirage F-1.

In 1994 he was assigned to the 23rd Wing, Fighter Pilot School, as instructor of F-5.

In 1998 he was promoted to Major and was assigned to the Plans Division of the Air Force Staff. Between June 1999 and July 2001, he was appointed to the Tactical Leadership Programme in Florennes (Belgium) as instructor.

From 2001 until 2006 he was assigned to the 14th Wing (Albacete AFB) becoming Flight Squadron Commander and Support Squadron Commander respectively.

In 2006 he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and was assigned to the Operations Division of the Air Force Staff until 2008, when he was posted to the Ministry of Defence, Defence Policy Directorate.

In 2010 he was selected as counsellor in the Permanent Representation of Spain in the North Atlantic Council until 2013, he returned to Spain as Plans Officer in the Joint Operations Command. In 2014, he was promoted to Colonel and was posted once more to the Air Force Staff.

In July 2016 he was appointed Commander of Gando Air Force Base and 46th Wing for two years. Thereafter, he was briefly posted back in the Air Force Staff, this time as Plans Section Head, until his promotion to Brigadier General in 2019, when he was appointed Logistic Division Chief.

In June 2020, he took the command of Zaragoza Air Force Base and one year later was appointed Commander of the Air Mobility Command. The 29th of March 2022 he was promoted to Major General and continued as Head of the Air Mobility Command.

Since February 2023 he was selected by the Air and Space Chief as his advisor.

In May 2023 he was appointed Chief of the Air Surveillance and Control System of the Air Combat Command.

General Ortiz-Cañavate Levenfeld has more than 2.800 flying hours with fighter aircraft participating in many Multinational Operations and exercises. He has been awarded with several international decorations, including the NATO Medal, the European Security and Defence Medal and the Brazilian Santos Dumont Medal. He also has been awarded with national civilian and military decorations, such as the San Hermenegildo's Order Grand Cross, Grand Cross, four Air Merit Crosses, and one Police Merit Cross amongst other.

José Luis is married to Reyes and has three children.