

## MAJOR-GENERAL CONSTANTIN VESELINOV POPOV COMMANDER OF THE BULGARIAN AIR FORCE



Date and place of birth: 28 August 1961 in Sofia, Bulgaria

### **Military career:**

1984-1985 Junior Pilot in flight wing / air regiment – Graf Ignatievo  
1985-1986 Senior Pilot in third flight wing / air regiment - Graf Ignatievo  
1986-1987 Deputy Commander of flight wing / air regiment – Graf Ignatievo  
1987-1988 Commander of flight wing / air regiment – Graf Ignatievo  
1988-1990 Deputy Commander of squadron / air regiment – Graf Ignatievo  
1990-1992 Attendant in Rakovski Defense and Staff College - Sofia  
1992-1994 Commander of squadron / air regiment – Graf Ignatievo  
1994-1996 Deputy Wing Commander for combat training – Graf Ignatievo  
1996-1999 Commander of Air Force Base – Graf Ignatievo  
1999-2000 Chief of department “Flight safety” in Air Defence Corps - Sofia  
2000-2001 Master Degree in Strategic Studies, Air War College Maxwell – Alabama, USA  
2002-2005 Commander of Air Force Base – Graf Ignatievo  
2005-2006 Chief of Staff - NATO Joint Force Training Centre - Poland  
2006-2008 Deputy Chief of Staff Support - Air Component Command HQs – Izmir, Turkey  
2008-2009 Deputy Commander of Bulgarian Air Force  
2009 Chief of Bulgarian Air Force HQ  
2010-2011 Chief of Bulgarian Air Force  
01July 2011 Commander of the Bulgarian Air Force

### **Education:**

1979 High school - Sofia  
1979-1984 Air Force Academy - Dolna Mitropolia  
1990-1992 Rakovski Defense and Staff College - Sofia  
1999 English course in Canadian Forces Language School - Borden, Canada  
2000-2001 Air War College Maxwell – Alabama, USA  
2005 NATO School - Oberammergau, Germany  
2010 PhD in Organization and Management of the Armed Forces, Rakovski Defense and Staff College - Sofia  
2010 Member of Union of Scientists in Bulgaria

**Flight Experience:**

Flew L-29, MiG-15 MiG-17, MiG-21, MiG-29

More than 1200 flight hours

**Promotions:**

1984 Lieutenant

1987 1-st Lieutenant

1991 Captain

1996 Major

1999 Lieutenant Colonel

2002 Colonel

2005 Brigadier General

2008 Major General

**Awards and Decorations:**

All relative to the rank including

Sign of Honor "For devoted service under the Flags"

Sign of Honor "For contribution to the Ministry of Defence" Gold medal of Poland Armed Forces

US Air University International Honor Roll Inductee

**Languages:** English

**Marital Status:** Married with three children