

# FAREWELL FROM GEN. CHIEF

## JAIME DOMÍNGUEZ BUJ

It is time to hand over the Command of the Army to a new Chief of Staff, General Francisco Javier Varela Salas. I want to **thank all members of the Army**, military and civilian, for their **consistent support** throughout these four years and eight months of working together, and I want to congratulate them for **all we have achieved together**, despite the particularly difficult economic circumstances.

Aware of this difficulty, in my Handover speech I focused on our aim to “protect our critical capabilities to defend our Homeland, acting in a way that leaves the difficulties behind. Our Army is in the best position to restore the potential it may have lost.”

So, thanks to the effort, the commitment and the initiative of all and each one of the men and women that make up the army, **together** we have **achieved this and much more:**

- We have achieved the **realisation of the new Army structure**, which has adapted our Force to new risks and threats, and has optimised our Army and made our Force Support more efficient.
- With your advice and suggestions, we have managed to **design and apply a Personnel Action Plan** that defines career development for Officials, NCOs and Soldiers that tries to combine the needs of the Institution and your legitimate aspirations.
- And, thanks to your daily hard work and effort, we have also managed to **optimise** the limited economic resources available, **investing in the instruction and training of our units**, the essence of our armies, and in **teaching**, which is fundamental for our future.

For this reason, and because of the constant **support** you have given me, I want to thank all the men and women who have been in my command.

- Thank you because all would not have been possible without your **daily efforts, knowledge and your moral values.**
- Thank you because, day after day, you have demonstrated that, **together, we are unstoppable**, and **that for us nothing is impossible.**
- Finally, thank you because being in charge of this command has been **the greatest honour anyone can ever have.**

Let me also say thank you to your **families**, who share in the sacrifices that service to Spain entails.

And I will close by reminding our **colleagues** deployed outside of National Territory to safeguard Spain and Spanish people, saying a prayer for those who gave their lives for Spain. We will never forget you!

My **last order**: support your **new Chief of Army Staff** like you have always supported me.

**Thank you all for everything and go forward Spain, forever Spain!**

With best wishes,

Your General,

Jaime Domínguez Buj