

Sound of freedom over the Peloponnese



Iniochos 2019

The Israeli Air Force participated with six F-16D's, all part of the 109FS at Ramat David AB

The *Iniochos 2019* Exercise was conducted at Andravida AB in the north west of Greece from 1 to 12 April 2019. Marked as the largest exercise in the Mediterranean area, *Iniochos 2019* attracted several foreign countries to join the *Elliniko Polemiki Aeroporia* (Hellenic Air Force) in an exercise which was organised by the Air Tactics Centre at Andravida. This year's edition witnessed the participation of

air forces from Israel, United States, Italy and the United Arab Emirates. Apart from these countries, there were nations such as Canada, France, Germany, Jordan and Kazakhstan who registered their presence as observers to the *Iniochos 2019*.

The *Iniochos exercise* was held for the first time in the late 1980s as a small scale tactical exercise. The focus was to provide realistic training for defence

personnel in planning and execution of Combined Air Operations (CAMA) in a realistic environment to test and evaluate operational plans and tactics. Through the years, this concept became a success and the Hellenic Air Force made the decision to make this an annual event.

Exercise Iniochos 2019 was divided into four phases: Phase 1 (Exercise Preparation 4-15 March), Phase 2 (Force Deployment 26-28 March), Phase 3 (Execution Phase 1-12 April) and Phase 4 which was Force Redeployment (on 12 April). All the missions of *Iniochos 2019* were supervised by FWS, right from planning to debrief. Some of the missions included Air Operations versus Integrated Air Defence Systems; Reconnaissance missions; Combat Search and Rescue missions; Time Sensitive Target Missions; Dynamic Targeting / Strike Coordination and Reconnaissance / Close Air Support; High Value Airborne Asset / Protect – Attack; Slow Mover Protection; Offensive Counter Air / Airfield Attack; Air interdiction on special targets (bridges, power stations, vehicles) and Anti-Surface Warfare.



A Mirage 2000EG coming in for landing: two single seat and two twin seat Mirages came from 332 Mira at Tanagra