



Government House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

16 August 2023

Honorary Appointment - General Division - December 2023

The Governor-General is pleased to announce the following appointment in the
Order of Australia:

HONORARY MEMBER (AM) IN THE GENERAL DIVISION

General Elrick IRASTORZA (Retd), Castries, France

For significant service to the relationship between Australia and France, during the ANZAC Centenary Commemorative period in France (2014-2018).

By His Excellency's command

Paul Singer MVO

Official Secretary to the Governor-General

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IN THE GENERAL DIVISION OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA**

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For significant service to the relationship between Australia and France, during the ANZAC Centenary Commemorative period in France (2014-2018).

General Elrick Irastorza was Australia's principal interlocutor for the ANZAC Centenary Commemorative period in France from 2014-2018. During this time he displayed strong leadership, commitment and knowledge of Australians' service and sacrifice, ensuring the commemorations were positive, dignified and enhanced French-Australia relations.

General Irastorza was instrumental in the appropriate recognition of the entire Allied Forces' campaign in France. Importantly, with regards to Australia, he facilitated Australian ceremonial contingents' participation in at least 12 events, including securing Australia's position as the 'Nation of Honour' with New Zealand in the 2016 Bastille Day parade.

In addition, the Australian Remembrance Trail through France and Belgium and the establishment of the Sir John Monash Centre at Villers Brettoneux would not have achieved the same level of success without General Irastorza's engagement and sustained interest.

Through facilitating commemorations, General Irastorza's actions led to a greater understanding of Australia's contributions to the First World War within the French community, particularly recognition of our role in defending France on the Western Front during the war.

General Irastorza was Head of the French Army 2008-2011.

General Irastorza's championing of the relationship between Australia and France, with his dedication to Australia's successful ANZAC Centenary Commemorations and World War One, is worthy of recognition with an appointment as an Honorary Member in the General Division of the Order of Australia (AM).