

Ludovic Poitou
Ministerial Coordinator for Maritime Security



Rear admiral Ludovic Poitou joined the French Navy in 1993. For nearly 30 years, he has served in the surface fleet and in operational headquarters.

During his first years in the navy, he completed fleet time on the patrol boat "Albatros" on which he conducted several surveillance patrols of the French Antarctic islands in the southern seas of the Indian Ocean. He also served on the frigate "Commandant Ducuing" as a gunnery officer.

Following the Principal Warfare Officer's course, he then moved on to appointments within the French Carrier Strike Group. As weapons officer of the Antisubmarine Destroyer "Jean de Vienne", he was deployed to protect the Aircraft carrier "Charles de Gaulle" for operation "Enduring Freedom" in November 2001. Then, as Air defence officer of the Anti-Air Destroyer "Cassard", he deployed in 2006 with the carrier to the Indian Ocean.

In July 2006, he was appointed as an exchange officer in the Royal Navy and joined the staff of Commander United Kingdom Maritime Forces as a planner for carrier deployments and national antiterrorism contingencies.

He assumed command in 2003 of the fast patrol boat "La Railleuse" in Tahiti on which he delivered humanitarian aid and assistance in the Tonga Islands badly hit by a hurricane. Later in 2008, he assumed command of the frigate « Commandant Birot » based in Toulon on which he was deployed within the United Nations maritime force off Lebanon for operation "Impartial behaviour" and for counterpiracy operations in the Indian ocean.

Selected for Staff Course in 2010, he then joined the naval headquarters in Paris, appointed as fleet operations officer for the French Navy.

Rear admiral Ludovic Poitou assumed command of LHD « Tonnerre » on the 4th July 2017. During this time, he was engaged with his crew in a great variety of operational activities from humanitarian aid in St Martin and Mozambique to bilateral FR-US amphibious deployment (Belleau Wood 100) in the Indian Ocean.

In 2020, he assumed command of the Agenor European naval force in Abu Dhabi to contribute to maritime security in the Strait of Hormuz (EMASOH).

In 2021, he joined the Directorate General for International Relations and Strategy as deputy director for International Security Affairs and was named Ministerial Coordinator for Maritime Security.