



Strengthening Defence

The role of innovation and emerging and disruptive technologies

08h15 Registration

09h05 *Welcome address*

RAdm Mário Simões Marques
President AFCEA Portugal

VAdm Nobre de Sousa
2nd Operational Commander of the Armed Forces

09h15 *Opening speeches*

Dr. Ana Isabel Xavier
Secretary of State for National Defence

09h20 *Keynote speech*

The global geopolitical and strategic situation

CAPT(N) João Fonseca Ribeiro

Security & Defence Observatory, SEDES Association

The panellist will present an analysis and assessment of the current global geopolitical landscape and its implications for strategic decision-making in the EU. The objective is to inform the audience about the geopolitical environment and its relevance to strategic considerations in defence and security.

1

09h40 *Panel session*

The roadmap for the next-generation capabilities in defence: the end-users' perspectives

Moderator: BGen Rui Romão (Instituto Universitário Militar)

LtCdr Tiago Monteiro (Navy)

Col Pedro Cruz (Army)

Col Carlos Batalha (Air Force)

Panellists will provide directions about the planned capability developments, aligned with the internal capability development plans, national and EU financing cycles.

10h20 *Keynote speech*

The role of the European Defence Agency in the development of technology for the capabilities of the EU Armed Forces

LtCol Mário Martinho

Research, Technology & Innovation Directorate, EDA

The panellist will brief the audience on the role of the EDA in research, technology and innovation as key areas contributing to delivering European defence capabilities effectively. The objective is to provide the European defence R&T priorities, cooperation opportunities and funding instruments.

2

10h40 *Coffee break, visit to boots & networking*

11h00 *Keynote speech*

Empowering the national defence industry base: developing defence capabilities through strategic collaboration and technological innovation

Dr. Miguel Pinto

Head of Knowledge Valorization, idD Portugal Defence

The panellist will present insights and perspectives on the critical role played by the national industry in advancing defence capabilities. The presentation may cover topics, e.g., the importance of national industry, strategic collaboration between industry and end-users, technological innovation and the EDTs, policy and regulatory frameworks, global competitiveness.

11h20 Debate session

Presentations and debate showcasing use cases and applications of EDTs in warfare domains

Moderator: RAdm Cancela Roque (EMGFA)

Eng. Nuno Ruivo
INDRA - Sistemas Portugal

Eng. Fernando Rio Maior
Hewlett Packard Enterprise Portugal

Eng. João Manso
Redshift Consulting

Eng. Pedro Costa
EID - Defence Communication Systems

The panellists will showcase their products and approaches for integrating Emergent and Disruptive Technologies into defence systems. The presentation will offer insights, concrete use cases, and recommendations to evidence the role of the national industry in developing defence capabilities through strategic collaboration and innovation.

12h00 Keynote speech

Strengthening EU Defence: achieving collective success through collaborative efforts

MGen Erich Staudacher
General Manager of AFCEA Europe

The panellist will provide insights and perspectives on the strategies, initiatives, and measures aimed at enhancing the defence capabilities of the EU and NATO through collaborative endeavours. The presentation will cover relevant topics, e.g., cooperation, opportunities, best practices/success stories, future direction, benefits, and implications.

3

12h30 Lunch & networking

13h30 Tour to the exhibition

14h00 Keynote speech

The leading role of NATO in fostering innovation and technology development for defence

Dr. Wojtek Strupczewski
NATO Innovation Fund

The panellist will present NATO initiatives, such as the Defence Innovation Accelerator for the North Atlantic (DIANA), which works with leading researchers and entrepreneurs across the Alliance, helping them develop technologies to keep NATO populations safe and secure.

14h20 Debate session

Success stories in dual use application projects

Moderator: Dr. António Brás Monteiro (EUDIS DG-DEFIS)

Dr. Wilson Antunes
Army UMLDBQ

Eng. Marco Manso
Particle Summary

Dr. Jorge Duque
IAPMEI

Dr. Catarina Bastos
DEIMOS Engenharia

The panellist will provide their experience in developing successful consortia, applications and projects that leverage dual-use technologies and capabilities - those with both civilian and military applications. The session will debate their experience in collaborative efforts where innovative solutions are being developed for civilian and security & defence end-users.

4

15h00 Keynote speech

The European Defence Fund

CAPT(N) Luís Arsénio
Directorate for National Defence Resources, Portuguese MoD

Presentation of the EDF 2024 calls for proposals. Balance of the Portuguese participation in the previous calls, since 2021. Diverse guidance tailored for the Portuguese industry concerning the European Defence Fund programme.

15h20 Coffee break, visit to boots & networking

15h40 Debate session

Success stories from the European Defence Fund

Moderator: Prof José Borges (AFCEA, CINAMIL)

Eng. Gilda Santos
CITEVE

Eng. Matteo Merialdo
STARION

Eng. José Neves
AED

Maj Aires Carqueijo
AMIDA Project/PESCO

Success stories from Armed Forces, Industry and Academia.

16h20 Keynote speech

The Horizon Europe Work Programme Cluster 3: Civil security for society

Giannis Skiadaresis
DG HOME, European Commission

The Commission will present insights on the challenges arising from persistent security threats, including cybercrime, as well as natural and man-made disasters. In particular, the presentation will emphasize the opportunities for both academia and industry promoted by Cluster 3.

5

16h40 Debate Session

The Portuguese participation in the Horizon Programme – Cluster 3

Moderator: Dr. Ana Sutcliffe (ANI)

Dr. Luísa Proença
Criminal Police (PJ)

Eng. António Gaspar
INESC TEC

Commissioner Sílvio Pires
Public Security Police (PSP)

Dr. Vítor Reis
Firefighters National School (ENB)

The panellists will present and discuss their experiences taking part in the Horizon Europe Programme – Cluster 3: Civil Security for Society.



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17h20 Closing session

RAdm Mário Simões Marques
President AFCEA Portugal

End of conference

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