

CYBERSPACE SECURITY COOPERATION CONFERENCE
"SECURING EURO-ATLANTIC CYBERSPACE LANDSCAPE"

25th MAY 2023

OPENING WORDS

Mr. Vasco HILÁRIO

Director-General

Directorate-General of National Defence Resources



Vasco Hilário was born on November 01, 1962, in Monte da Velha, Almeida, Portugal.

He graduated in Law (Major in Legal Sciences), and has a post-graduate degree in Logistics and Legislation Sciences. He also has an Advanced Course in Public Management.

He began public functions in the Directorate-General for Personnel and Military Recruitment of the Ministry of National Defence in February 1998.

He was appointed as a Legal Advisor to the Deputy Minister of National Defence (2000-2001) and Assistant to the Minister of National Defence (2001-2002).

In 2004, he was Director of Litigation and Audit Services of the Department of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat-General of the Ministry of National Defence and between 2003 and 2005 Head of Division of Professional Studies and Salary Policy of the Directorate-General of Personnel and Military Recruitment of the Ministry of National Defence.

He was Assistant and Chief of Staff of the Deputy Minister for Public Administration (2005-2009).

He performed duties as a Counsellor in the following Councils: Economic and Social Council (2014-2019), General and the Supervisory Council of the Institute for Disease Protection and Assistance, IP (2017-2021), and in the Council of Management of the Salary Guarantee Fund (2015-2019).

Vasco Hilário was a Guest lecturer at Europeia University and is a trainer of the Directorate-General for the Qualifications of Public Servants.

He took over the duties of Deputy Director-General of the Directorate-General for Administration and Public Employment, from 2009 to 2018, and of Director-General of the same Directorate-General from 2018 to 2021.

In February 24, 2021, Mr. Vasco Hilário was appointed Director-General of the Directorate-General of National Defence Resources and, inherently, the National Armaments Director of the Ministry of National Defence.

PANEL 1 - PESCO Cyber Cluster “Deepen Defence Cooperation”

Mr. Alessandro CIGNONI

European Defence Agency
Capability, Armament and Planning Directorate
Head of Information Superiority Unit



Alessandro Cignoni joined the Italian Navy in 1993. He is a Navy Officer with more than 20 years of active duty serving on board Military Ships and ashore. He participated in national and NATO operations and was part of several multinational Research and Development projects and programmes. After a two-year experience in the NATO Modelling & Simulation Centre of Excellence, he moved as International Civilian Staff in the NATO Science and Technology Organization in 2014. In 2016 he joined EDA as Project Officer Communication and Information Systems. In 2018 he was appointed Head of Unit PESCO in EDA and, finally, in 2021 he was appointed Head of Unit Information Superiority in EDA. He is responsible of Capability Development for Space, Cyber, and C4ISTAR.

Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas AU

German Cyber and Information Service



Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas Au, staff officer within the Project Office of the PESCO Project Cyber and Information Domain Coordination Centre and responsible for national project planning, is a member of the German Cyber and Information Service. He is specialized for Operational Communication, in particular Information Operations and Psychological Operations. With this regard, he was deployed three times to Afghanistan (ISAF) and served at the Allied Joint Force Command in Naples. Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas Au holds a degree Magister Artium in historical science. He is married to Veronica, and they have two sons.

Lieutenant-Colonel Ioannis LIONAS

Hellenic Armed Forces
Cyber Security SME



Hellenic Air Force Lt Colonel (OF-4) Ioannis Lionas is a Cybersecurity SME for the Hellenic Armed Forces. He studied Telecommunications and Electronics Engineering in the Hellenic Air Force (HAF) Academy, graduated in 2002 and started his career in HAF as an Avionics Engineer.

He has a strong Information Technology background with a M.Sc. degree in Signal Processing and Communications Systems from University of Patras, a M.Sc degree in Networks and Communication Systems from National and Kapodistrian University of Athens and various industry recognized certifications. Since 2014, he has been tasked with cybersecurity duties and currently serves in the Cyber Defence Directorate of the Hellenic National Defence General Staff. He is a member of the PESCO CTISP (Cyber Threats & Incident Response Information Sharing Platform) Project Management Team.

Mr. Ander ALLAS

Estonian Ministry of Defence Advisor



Ander Allas works at the Estonian Ministry of Defence by designation as an Innovation Adviser and Estonian European Defence Fund Programme Manager.

Ms. Rugilė KATINAITĖ

Lithuania MoD

Cyber Security Advisor



Rugilė Katinaityė is a Cyber Security Advisor in the Ministry of National Defence of the Republic of Lithuania. She has previously worked as an Analyst in the International Relations and Operations Group responsible for the support to Ukraine as well as deepening cooperation with Eastern partnership (EaP) partners. Rugilė graduated from Vilnius University – degree of political science and international relations. She is a volunteer in the Lithuanian Armed Forces. Also, she finished Junior Officer Command Training in the Military Academy of Lithuania. Rugilė is an alumni of the international mentorship programme Womengotech, currently member of the organization Women4Cyber.

Lieutenant-Colonel Oscar CALZAS del Pino

Plans Division of the Spanish Joint Staff



LTC Oscar Calzas is currently assigned in the Force Planning Section, Plans Division of the ES Joint Staff, where works with EU capability development planning and projects. Since the summer of 2021 is the Project Coordinator of the PESCO project EUMILCOM. Has a long background related to AIR C2. Other previous assignments are Military Assistant in the Cabinet of the Air Chief of Staff, Operations Chief in Torrejon CRC and Project Officer for the implementation of the ACCS Torrejón ARS.

Jorge MAESTRE Vidal

Specialist in Cyber Defence -INDRA



Jorge MAESTRE Vidal is PhD. in Computer Science, and Senior Specialist in cyber defense and the digitalization of the military sector at Indra, being part of its Digital Labs division. He is former member of the Department of Software Engineering and Artificial Intelligence (DISIA) of the Faculty of Computer Science and Engineering at the Complutense University of Madrid (UCM), Spain. In 2016 he was Visiting Research at Instituto de Telecomunicações (IT), Aveiro, Portugal. He is the Technical Coordinator of the Indra's solutions for Cyber Situational Awareness acquisition for supporting military decision-making, leading the related technical activities conducted on National and International innovation programmes.

Colonel Paulo Jorge BRANCO

Portuguese MoD – Resources Directorate

Cyberdefence and CIS SME



Colonel Paulo Jorge Branco was born in Abrantes, Portugal on 8 March 1971. He graduated from Portuguese Army Academy, in June 1994, with a Master of Science degree in Military Sciences – Signals Specialization, and from Instituto Superior Técnico (IST), reputed school of Engineering, Science and Technology in Portugal, where he got a high degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering in June 1997.

Is currently assigned at Portuguese MoD, General-Resources Directorate, Planning and Program Division, and he is also the Coordinator for the Cyber PESCO Project - Cyber Academia and Innovation Hub (CAIH).

In 2021 he headed the Army's Cyber Defence and Information Security Department, under its Communications and Information Systems Directorate.

In 2019 he was posted to the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE), to represent Portugal in the Secretariat of the Federated Mission Networking initiative, having assisted the coordinator of the Multinational CIS Security Management Authority working group.

In 2018 and 2019 he was responsible for leading the Cyber Defence area of the largest NATO interoperability exercise - CWIX (Coalition Warrior Interoperability Exercise) under Allied Command Transformation (ACT) as Cyber Focus Area Lead.

From 2014 to 2018 he was a graduate of the Master of Science program in Cyber Security at the National Defence University in Washington D.C.

In 2014 he was posted to the Armed Forces General Staff to lead the team that designed and developed the initial national Cyber Defence capability, having subsequently held the position of Deputy Chief of the national Cyber Defence Centre.

In 2015 he was appointed national representative to the European Defence Agency (EDA) for the Cyber Defence discipline in the Project Team Cyber Defence working group.

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PANEL 2 – EDF and EDIDP Cyber Awarded Projects

“Collaborative Cyber Defence Research and Development projects”

Mrs. Getter OPER

EU Commission, DG Defence Industries and Space
(DG DEFIS)



Mrs. Getter Oper is working in DG DEFIS (Defence industry and space) as policy officer since June 2019. She is mainly coordinating cyber defence policy and cybersecurity files in DG DEFIS defence industry directorate. She is also in charge of the European Defence Fund cyber category content and agenda setting. Her other responsibilities involve also topics such as defence innovation, strategic communication and SMEs participation promotion.

Prior to the secondment to the European Commission, Mrs. Oper served as the Chief Scientific Officer and R&D director in the Estonian Ministry of Defence. She has more than 12 years' experience with various European funding instruments and R&D programmes. Since 2016, she has been actively involved as Estonian representative to the European Defence Fund and its' pre-cursor programmes (PADR and EDIDP) preparations and negotiations.

Ms. Catarina BASTOS

Deimos Engenharia
Account Manager for Defence



Catarina Bastos graduated in Physics/Applied Mathematics - Astronomy by the Faculty of Sciences in University of Oporto in 2005. She completed the PhD degree in Physics with the thesis: “Phase Space Noncommutativity: Formalism and Applications” by Instituto Superior Técnico (IST) in Lisbon in 2010. During her PhD and Pos-Doc work in Instituto Plasmas e Fusão Nuclear (IPFN) she became expert in models using quantum mechanics to explain different physical aspects of the universe. She had published 28 papers: 20 in international peer review journals and 8 in conference proceedings. In February 2017 she started her adventure in Deimos Engenharia, in the GNSS Business Unit. She worked in several ESA projects related with precise orbital determination. In 2019 she became Project Manager in GNSS for the development of a space GNSS receiver, G3STAR. In 2021 she has become a Bid and Project Manager in Secure Quantum Communications projects in Deimos, leading a pioneer project for the European Defence, DISCRETION, where an SDN enabled by QKD shall be developed jointly with Spain, Austria and Italy. She is also co-coordinating through Deimos the national road map in quantum networks that shall be implemented in Portugal with the National Security Office, the Portuguese Defence and several research institutes and companies. In 2022 she has been assigned the Account Manager for Defence projects in Deimos Engenharia.

Colonel Dr. Nikolai STOIANOV

Bulgarian Defence Institute

Deputy Director



Col. Assoc. Prof. Dr Nikolai Stoianov (male) is deputy director of the Bulgarian Defence Institute. He is well experienced in the development of information systems with the different designation, many of which are already brought into use in the Bulgarian Armed Forces. He is specialized in the sphere of Information Security and as such is involved in the European Projects on the EDF "ACTING", FP7 "INDECT", "HOMER", H2020 "GaP", "ROBORDER", "CAMELOT", EDA "SPIDER" and "PYTHIA", and NATO SPS "CyRADARS. He is was a member of the external advisory group of FP7 project "PANOPTESSEC".

Nikolai Stoianov is Principal NATO STB member for Bulgaria, vice-chair of NATO STO IST Panel. Besides, and he is member of "Future concepts and tools for Cyber Defence", "Cyber Defence Situational Awareness", "Defence Implications of Cloud Computing at Tactical Edge", "Cyber Attack Detection, Forensics and Attribution for Assessment of Mission Impact", "Visual Analytics (Cyber Security)", "Intelligent Autonomous Agents for Cyber Defence and Resilience", and Research Lecture Series Director on "Cyber Security Science and Engineering". Dr Stoianov has more than 80 published papers in national and international scientific conferences and journals, he is author and co-author of four books in the field in information security.

The project managing experience of Dr Stoianov consists of: Project coordinator for Bulgaria of EDA „Predictive methodology for Technology Intelligence Analysis“(PYTIA) Project, 2018-2019; ECHO: European network of Cybersecurity centres and competence Hub for innovation and Operations, H2020 -2019-2023 where he is WP leader and Scientific and Technical coordinator; SOLOMON "Strategy Oriented analysis Of the Market fOrces in EU defence", EDA Project, Preparatory Action on Defence Research programme, PADR-STF-2018 (Strategic Technology Foresight) call, and PADR-STF-02-2018 topic, 2018-2021, Project coordinator for Bulgaria of "Mediterranean practitioners' network & capacity building for an effective response to emerging security challenges" (MEDEA) Project H2020, 2018-2023; Project coordinator of the national project "Military Messaging System X.400" from 2007-2010. WP6 leader of FP7 HOMER project (2013-2016); WP2 leader of EDA SPIDER project (2016-2017), WP4 leader of EDA PYTHIA project, 2018-2019, Project coordinator of NATO SPS CyRADARS project (2018-2020);, External Advisory Board member of FP7 Project PANOPTESSEC (2013-2016); Lecture series director for NATO STO research lecture series on "Cyber Security Science and Engineering" (2016-2019).

Mr. Miguel PINTO

idD - Portugal Defence

Director for Knowledge Valorization



Miguel Correia Pinto has worked in both the public and private sectors, in the areas of innovation, project management and corporate and political communication. His academic background is in Economics and Management.

He held the position of Director for Knowledge Valorization at idD – Portugal Defence, S.A. (2021-2023), promoting partnerships between the National Defence ecosystem, the European Union, NATO and industry and the National Scientific and Technological System.

He was Advisor in the Office of the Secretary of State for Innovation and Administrative Modernization (2020-2021); Communication and Press Advisor at the Office of the Minister of Finance and President of the Eurogroup (2017-2020); Director of Communication and also Business and Innovation Manager at CEiiA – Center for Engineering and Product Development (2013-2017); Business Director at Prio.E Electric Mobility Solutions / Martifer Group (2012-2013); and Project Manager at INTELI, a think-tank focused on innovation policies in the areas of mobility, energy and regional development (2002-2012). At the beginning of his career, embedded in the French consulting firm BIPE, Miguel completed his master's dissertation focused on the automotive industry (Paris, 2002-2003), and interned at the Marketing Department of Barnices Valentine / Grupo CIN (Barcelona, 1999-2000).

Miguel graduated in Economics from ISEG-UL (1999) and holds a Master's Degree in Economics and Science and Technology Management from ISEG-UL (2004), holds an MBA – The Lisbon International MBA, from NOVA SBE and Católica Lisbon in collaboration with MIT Sloan, with a dissertation on the banking sector developed at CGD (2010). He concluded the teaching part of his PhD programme and obtained the Diploma of Advanced Studies in “Public Policy” at ISCTE-IUL (2021).

PANEL 3 - EU Cyber Defence Policy

“Strengthening the European Cyberspace Security through Policies and Cooperation”

Mr. Alessandro CIGNONI

European Defence Agency

Head of Information Superiority Unit



Alessandro Cignoni joined the Italian Navy in 1993. He is a Navy Officer with more than 20 years of active duty serving on board Military Ships and ashore. He participated in national and NATO operations and was part of several multinational Research and Development projects and programmes. After a two-year experience in the NATO Modelling & Simulation Centre of Excellence, he moved as International Civilian Staff in the NATO Science and Technology Organization in 2014. In 2016 he joined EDA as Project Officer Communication and Information Systems. In 2018 he was appointed Head of Unit PESCO in EDA and, finally, in 2021 he was appointed Head of Unit Information Superiority in EDA. He is responsible of Capability Development for Space, Cyber, and C4ISTAR.

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Ms. Christiane KIRKETERP DE VIRON

EU Commission, DG for Communications
Networks, Content and Technology (DG CONNECT)
Head of Cybersecurity and Digital Privacy policies
Unit



Christiane Kirketerp de Viron has been the Head of Unit for Cybersecurity and Digital Privacy policies in the European Commission’s DG CONNECT since July 2022. Prior to this she was Member of Cabinet for the European Commissioner for Budget and Administration, Johannes Hahn, where parts of her responsibilities concerned the digital transformation of the European Commission as well as the cybersecurity of EU Institutions, Bodies and Agencies. During the Juncker Commission, Christiane served as Member of Cabinet for the European Commissioner for Research Innovation and Science, Carlos Moedas.

Mr. Maxime ROCLORE

European Defence Agency
Policy Officer



Maxime Roclore is Policy Officer in the European Defence Agency Chief Executive Policy Office since May 2019.

He advises the Chief Executive and Deputy Chief Executive in his areas of responsibilities.

As part of his duties, he coordinates EDA contribution to cyber defence policy at EU level, liaising with operational experts on these matters within the Agency as well as with the European External Action Service and Commission (DG CNECT, DG DEFIS). He was involved in the drafting of the 2020 EU cybersecurity strategy as well as of the 2022 EU Policy on Cyber Defence, and is involved in their implementation.

He also coordinates EDA cooperation with third parties, including the Agency’s contribution to the EU-NATO Joint Declaration implementation, liaising with EEAS, Commission’s Secretary General and NATO.

Previously, he worked in the French Ministry for the Armed Forces in Paris, and in Brussels as Defense advisor in the French Representation to NATO.

Mr. Yoei VAN HAAFTEN

European External Action Service (EEAS)
Cyber Defence Policy Officer



Mr. Yoei VAN HAAFTEN is a Cyber Defence Policy Officer at the European External Action Service. Here is he working on the further development of the EU Cyber Defence posture, mainly by implementing the EU Policy on Cyber Defence, working closely together with relevant EU and NATO stakeholders and Member States. Before this current position, he worked as a senior cyber policy adviser at the Netherlands Ministry of Defence for several years.

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PANEL 4 - EU-NATO Cooperation "Joint Declaration 2023 and way-ahead"

Colonel Christian WAGNER

EU Military Staff / EEAS / CIS&CD Directorate
Head of Division CIS&CD Policy & Requirements



Colonel Christian Wagner graduated from the Austrian Military Academy in 1989. He started his military career as an Electronic Warfare Officer in the Austrian Air Operations Centre, followed by the function of G6 of the 3rd Mechanized Infantry Brigade/AAF. He was then assigned as Senior Officer Specialist for CIS Security & Cyber Defence in the ICT Planning Division of the Ministry of Defence, where he also served as Deputy Director. In May 2020, he took up his post at the EUMS, where he is Head of Policy and Requirements in the CIS&CD Directorate and Deputy Director.

Internationally, he was a national representative in the EDA NEC and CD project teams and in the NATO C3B Capability Panel for Information Assurance and Cyber Defence for more than 10 years. In 2016, he joined EUNAVOR MED Operation SOPHIA and served as DACOS CJ6 at OHQ Rome. From 2017, he took on the role of AUT representative in the NATO FMN Multinational CIS Security Management Authority (MCSMA) Working Group and in 2018, he became the Chair for more than a year.

Mr. João FARINHA

NCI Academy
Cyber Training Branch Head



João Farinha is the Cyber Training Branch Head at the NATO Communications and Information Academy (NCI Academy) in Oeiras, Portugal. Before joining the NCI Academy in 2021, Farinha worked in the private sector, leading the Offensive Security and Digital Forensics departments at one of the largest European pure-player managed cyber security service providers. He and his team regularly tested the networks and applications for some of Portugal's largest companies, and helped respond to large-scale computer security incidents. In this role, he also delivered training on different cyber security-related topics, including senior leadership awareness, incident response, penetration testing and forensic analysis. He was a regular contributor and subject matter expert on cyber security for several media outlets in Portugal and an invited speaker at national and international conferences and events. Farinha graduated in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science from the Air Force Academy, and served in the Portuguese Air Force as an Officer for more than 20 years. Here he dedicated a large part of his career to cyberspace operations and incident response activities. He feels as comfortable behind the command line of an analyst workstation, as he does leading a department of technical staff.

Mr. David ANTUNES

European Defence Agency (EDA)
Cyber Defence Programme Manager



Lieutenant-Colonel David Antunes joined the Portuguese Armed Forces (Army, Signal Branch) in 1994. He began his career in the Rapid Reaction Brigade, Special Forces and was deployed in several missions in the Balkans, Asia and Africa along with his military life. He was a professor at the Portuguese General Staff College, Military University Institute (Lisbon) teaching Tactics, Electromagnetic Warfare and Cyber Defence.

He earns two Master's degrees (Electrical Engineering; Security & Defence), many IT and cyber-related certifications from NATO and the Industry and he is pursuing a PhD in "cyber Deception for predictive cyber intelligence" at the Universitat Politecnica de Valencia, Spain.

Until his appointment at the European Defence Agency, he served as Chief of the Information Warfare section and Chief of the Cyber Defence Department of the Portuguese Army.

He is an enthusiast of open-source, martial arts and motorcycles.

Lieutenant-Colonel Matthieu DEMENOIS

Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre Of Excellence (CCDCOE)
Education & Training Branch Head



Lieutenant-colonel Matthieu DEMENOIS is a French Air force officer who has spent most of his career in IT and Cyberdefence operations.

After 10 years in various IT units in the French Air Force, he was posted to NATO from 2011 to 2014, as the director of the NATO Communications and Information Agency (NCIA) Control Centre, responsible for Network&Service monitoring and Incident response management.

He worked from 2014 to 2019 at the French National Cybersecurity Agency (ANSSI, Agence Nationale pour la Securite des Systemes d'Information) as an operations coordinator and later as the head of the Cyber Threat Intelligence unit.

In 2019, he was posted to the Air Force Cyber Operations Centre, responsible for Cyber incident management affecting Air Forces services, organizing Cyber exercises and integrating cyber operations into Air operations.

Since August 2022, LTC DEMENOIS is the NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre Of Excellence, responsible for overseeing the development and coordination of cyberspace operations Education & Training solutions for NATO and its allies.

CLOSING SESSION

Her excellency the Portuguese Minister of Defence, Professor (Ph.D.) Helena Carreiras