Defence iQ

LAND WARFARE EUROPE

SUPPORTED BY

LITHUANIAN LAND FORCE

THE LEADING CONFERENCE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE LITHUANIAN LAND FORCES AT THE EPICENTRE OF NATO'S EASTERN FLANK, DRIVING INTEGRATED CAPABILITY AND REGIONAL DETERRENCE.

"The conference was an excellent opportunity to have insights of Allies' current and planned structures and to have better understanding of their capability development considerations."

– Land Analyst, NATO HQ

9-10 DECEMBER 2025
LITHUANIAN EXHIBITION AND CONGRESS CENTER LITEXPO
VILNIUS, LITHUANIA

ADVANCING FIRES AND ARMOUR CAPABILITIES FOR NATO'S EASTERN DEFENCE

TWO STAR PARTNERS

AS Systems · ARQUIMEA · ECHODYNE · LOCKHEED MARTIN · Otokar · QUANTUM SYSTEMS

ONE STAR PARTNERS

AURIGA · em&e group · Helsing · nfl tech · NORTHROP GRUMMAN · RSI Europe MILITARY IOT · SATCUBE · UDS · VAISALA · VHT VAN HALTEREN TECHNOLOGIES

DAY ONE, TUESDAY 09 DECEMBER 2025

STRATEGIC INSIGHTS INTO DETERRENCE ALONG THE EASTERN FLANK

0730	**REGISTRATION AND REFRESHMENTS**
0825	**DEFENCE iQ OPENING REMARKS** **Anna Baker,** Conference Producer, **Defence iQ**
0830	**CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS** **Lieutenant General (Ret.) Sir Nick Borton,** Former Commander, **NATO ARRC**
	BOLSTERING TERRITORIAL DEFENCE THROUGH INVESTMENT IN ADVANCED LAND FORCES
0835	**WELCOME ADDRESS FROM CHIEF OF DEFENCE** **General Raimundas Vaiksnoras,** Chief of Defence of the Republic of Lithuania, **Lithuanian Armed Forces**
0840	**WELCOME ADDRESS FROM CHIEF OF ARMY** **Brigadier General Nerijus Stankevičius,** Commander, **Lithuanian Land Forces**
0845	**HOST NATION KEYNOTE ADDRESS: LITHUANIAN 1 DIVISION - NEW STEP IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF LTU LAND FORCES** • Establishment of 1st Division: Integrating effectively with NATO divisions, ensuring seamless cooperation and interoperability • What Lithuania is learning and how we are adapting • Training priorities and planning for future battlespace **Brigadier General Aurelijus Alasauskas,** Commander of 1st Division, **Lithuanian Armed Forces**
0900	**DIGITAL TWIN ARCHITECTURE: THE NEXT STEP IN LAND WARFARE SIMULATION** • Otokar company profile in brief • Modular turret design and integration • Digital twin technology and new approaches to turret design **Mr. Zafer Uysal,** Military Vehicles Sales Technical Evaluation Director, **Otokar**
0930	**LITHUANIAN INNOVATION PRIORITIES FOR LAND FORCE DEVELOPMENT** • Aligning procurement initiatives with strategic objectives, including acquiring advanced military hardware such as tanks, armoured vehicles and air defence systems • Integrating MDO into national defence strategies

- Streamlining processes in Lithuania to ensure effective integration of new technologies and equipment, at pace and scale

Lieutenant Colonel Arunas Gajauskas, Lithuania Defence Material Agency

1000 **INDUSTRY LEADERS PANEL: BUILDING SUSTAINABLE DEFENCE INDUSTRIAL BASE**

With a rapidly evolving threat environment, industry must work collaboratively and persistently with military customers to prioritise R&D investments and provide rapid advancements in technology that can be applied to existing and new platforms and weapon systems. There are, however, still challenges to overcome regarding supply chain resilience, contracting mechanisms, and capacity issues before forces can take full advantage of this progress. During this session, industry leaders will come together to discuss these challenges and the ways in which they can support operations with cutting edge capabilities.

Discussion points:

- How can industry adapt R&D priorities to meet the specific operational needs of Eastern Europe and the Baltic states, given the proximity to high-intensity threats?
- What strategies can mitigate reliance on vulnerable global supply chains for critical defence components in the Baltic region?
- How can contracting mechanisms be modernised to accelerate delivery of cutting-edge capabilities to frontline forces without sacrificing accountability?
- What investments in workforce skills are essential to sustain long-term defence production capacity in Europe?
- How can emerging technologies like AI, robotics, and autonomous systems be rapidly integrated into existing land platforms to strengthen deterrence?
- Given the increased desires for faster and cheaper defence products, what are some of the pitfalls associated with this procurement strategy?

Moderated by: Lieutenant General (Ret.) Sir Nick Borton, Former Commander, **NATO ARRC**

Panellists:

Dale Butler, International Business Development HIMARS, MLRS, GMLRS, ATACMS, PrSM Tactical, **Lockheed Martin**

Eben Frankenberg, CEO, **Echodyne**

Pranciškus Vaišvila, Industry Development Manager, **Innovation Agency Lithuania**

Dr. Michael Santaspirt, Deputy Chief of Staff, G2, & Chief Futures Officer, **US Army Combat Capabilities Development Command Armaments Center**

1045 MORNING COFFEE AND NETWORKING BREAK

PREPARING FOR MULTI-DOMAIN OPERATIONS AND LESSONS FROM MODERN WARFARE IN UKRAINE

1115 **EFFECTIVE COUNTER-UAS STRATEGIES**

- The engagement economics of counter-UAS
- Remote Weapon Stations (RWS) as effective C-UAS platforms
- Creative counter-UAS strategies

Eben Frankenberg, CEO**, Echodyne**

1145 **THE STRENGTHENING OF NATO'S EASTERN FLANK TO ENHANCE ITS DETERRENCE CAPABILITIES**

- Supporting NATO's efforts to ensure credible deterrence and collective defence across the eastern flank
- Improving operational readiness and coordination among allied land forces
- planning and execution of large-scale reinforcement and sustainment operations

Brigadier Mark Comer, Deputy Chief of Staff (DCOS) PLANS, **JSEC**

1215 **MOSAIC UXS: ONE UNIFIED FRAMEWORK FOR MULTI-LAYER BATTLEFIELD OPERATIONS**

- Integrated System-of-Systems: No single tool is sufficient - MOSAIC UXS connects diverse effectors, sensors, and subsystems into one cohesive operational environment
- Mission-Centric Planning: Enables commanders to plan missions and dynamically employ all available tools for optimal battlefield effect
- Future-Proof Ecosystem: Designed for seamless integrations to support the transition toward fully unmanned and autonomous operations

Donatas Sirgedas, Company Executive – Lithuania & Estonia, **Quantum Systems**

1245 **MND-NE ROLE IN STRENGTHENING NATO'S FORWARD DEFENCE POSTURE**

- Enhancing interoperability
- Ensuring readiness on the Alliance's eastern flank

Major General Jarosław Gorowski, Commander**, Multinational Division North-East NATO**

1315 LUNCH AND NETWORKING BREAK

STREAM A: FIRES
Location: Main Conference Room

IMPORTANCE OF PRECISION ARTILLERY IN MODERN WARFARE

Moderated by: Lieutenant General (Retd) Sir Nick Borton, Former Commander, **NATO Allied Rapid Reaction Corps**

1415 **SLOVENIAN APPROACH TO ENHANCING MULTI-DOMAIN READINESS**

- Current priorities in integrating emerging technologies and capabilities across different operating environments
- Modernisation efforts of the Slovenian Armed Forces

Colonel Jernej Peternelj, Chief of the Capability Development Division, **Slovenian Armed Forces**

1445 **INDUSTRY INSIGHTS: ARQUIMEA**

Jesus Samnchez Loureiro, Business Development and Sales Director, **ARQUIMEA**

STREAM B: ARMOURED MANOUVRE
Location: Stream Room 1.2

ARMOURED INTEROPERABILITY: ENHANCING COOPERATION WITH ALLIES AND PARTNERS

PANEL – IN – THE – ROUND SESSION: HOW CAN THE LITHUANIAN LAND FORCES DEFEND AGAINST A TWO-FRONT CONVENTIONAL THREAT?

Join us in this session to tackle a real-time challenge posed by our session Chair. Audience members are invited to contribute insights, gain real-time feedback and solutions to help drive the issue forward.

Moderated by:

Air Vice Marshal (Ret.) Bruce Hedley, Former Director of Joint Warfare**, UK Ministry of Defence**

1515	**AFTERNOON TEA AND NETWORKING BREAK**	**Panellist: Brigadier General Nerijus Stankevičius,** Commander, **Lithuanian Land Forces**
		1545 **AFTERNOON TEA AND NETWORKING BREAK**
	STREAM A: FIRES ***Location: Stream Room 1.2*** **COUNTERING AERIAL THREATS AND ENSURING RAPID RESPONSE CAPABILITIES**	**STREAM B: ARMOURED MANOUVRE** ***Location: Main Conference Room*** **MODERNISING FOR MANEOUVRE: ALIGNING PLATFORMS WITH FUTURE THREATS** **Moderated by: Lieutenant General (Retd) Tony Aguto,** Former Commander, **SAG-U**
1615	**PANEL- IN – THE – ROUND SESSION** Join us in this session to tackle a real-time challenge posed by our session Chair. Audience members are invited to contribute insights, gain real-time feedback and solutions to help drive the issue forward **Moderated by:** **Air Vice Marshal (Ret.) Bruce Hedley,** Former Director of Joint Warfare, **UK Ministry of Defence** **Panellist:** **Colonel Chris Hill,** Director Global Tactical Edge Acquisition Directorate, **US Army**	**REINFORCING READINESS IN RESPONSE TO MODERN THREATS** • Operational planning, execution and command of combined arms • Valuable lessons from Ukraine • Demonstrating innovation, adaptability and resilience **Major General Brian Nissen,** Deputy Commander Multinational Corps Northeast, **NATO**
1645		**FIRESIDE CHAT: STRENGTHENING NATO'S EASTERN FLANK: MODERNISATION AND READINESS** Join us for an in-depth discussion on land force readiness, focusing on: • Integrating new technologies for decision-making and data management • Enhancing deterrence, and regional resilience • Advancing Baltic security strategies and accelerating defence capability development **Moderated by:** **Lieutenant General (Retd) Tony Aguto,** Former Commander, **SAG-U** **Panellists:** **Nele Loorents,** Research Fellow, **International Centre for Defence and Security** **Brigadier (Ret'd)** Janis Kažociņš**, Distinguished Fellow, Center for Geopolitical Studies Riga**

1715		**UAS/C-UAS LETHALITY ENABLERS FOR ARMOR** • Accelerating US drone dominance • Lethal UAS and Picatinny Common Lethality Integration Kit • C-UAS approach **Dr. Michael Santaspirt,** Deputy Chief of Staff, G2, and the Chief Futures Officer, **US Army Combat Capabilities Development Command Armaments Center**
1745	**CHAIRMAN'S CLOSING REMARKS** **Lieutenant General (Retd) Tony Aguto, Former Commander, SAG-U**	
1750	**END OF CONFERENCE DAY ONE**	

DAY TWO, WEDNESDAY 10 DECEMBER 2025

MAINTAINING THE OPERATIONAL EDGE THROUGH INNOVATION, TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION AND DOCTRINE

0730	**REGISTRATION AND REFRESHMENTS**
0850	**CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS** **Lieutenant General (Ret.) Sir Nick Borton,** Former Commander, **NATO ARRC**
	ENHANCED ISR CAPABILITIES FOR THE MODERN BATTLESPACE
0900	**INTEGRATING HEAVY ARMOUR INTO GERMANY'S FORWARD DEFENCE POSTURE AND MULTINATIONAL BATTLEGROUPS** • Enhancing deterrence along NATO's eastern flank and working with LLF • Future priorities and plans of Brigade **Brigadier General Christoph Huber,** Commander of the 45th Armoured Brigade, **Bundeswehr**
0930	**LONG RANGE PRECISION FIRES: THE CHANGING LANDSCAPE** • Layered Offense requirements to address the emerging threats • Reliable precision fires solutions for dynamic targeting • Robust kill chains to support critical operational requirements in a multi-domain environment • Interoperability: The ability to seamlessly "plug and play" into NATO / European architectures **Thomas H. Stanton,** Director, International Business Development, **Lockheed Martin – Missiles and Fire Control**
1000	**NSPA CURRENT AND FUTURE CAPABILITIES IN THE LAND WARFARE DOMAIN** • Aggregating demand across the Alliance to achieve economies of scale and accelerate NATO capabilities • Developing and procuring key capabilities for the land warfare domain such as C-UAS, Fires, Air Defence and Mobility • Introducing innovation in the sustainment area **David Colliquet,** Deputy Director of Life Cycle Management, **NSPA** **Lieutenant Colonel (Ret'd) Andrew Plater,** Programme Manager for Air and Land Combat Systems, **NSPA**
1030	**INSIGHTS INTO THE SOLUTION CAPABILITIES OF AEI SYSTEMS** • Countering the evolving drone threat • The World's most compact 30 mm RCWS • Lightweight, ITAR-Free medium-calibre solutions for European Defence Forces • Enhancing armoured mobility • C-UAS, anti-vehicle, anti-personnel **Cahit Utku Aral,** General Manager, **AEI Systems**

1100	MORNING COFFEE AND NETWORKING BREAK	
	STREAM A: FIRES **Moderated by: Lieutenant General (Retd) Sir Nick Borton,** Former Commander, **NATO Allied Rapid Reaction Corps** **Location: Main Conference Room**	**STREAM B: ARMOURED MANOUVRE** **Moderated by: Lieutenant General (Retd) Tony Aguto,** Former Commander, **SAG-U** **Location: Stream Room 1.2**
1130	**LITHUANIA'S & APPROACH TO MUNITIONS DEVELOPMENT** • Advance production through partnerships with industry • Build a resilient defence industrial base via foreign investment and regional collaboration **Mr. Matas Radavicius, Lithuanian Defence Material Agency**	**THE INTEGRATION OF ROBOTIC SYSTEMS AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE INTO MILITARY OPERATIONS** • The Czech Republic's modernisation priorities regarding unmanned systems **Colonel Jan Mazal, Ph.D.,** Head of the Department of Military Robotics, **Czech University of Defence**
1200	**SUPPORTING READINESS AND DETTERENCE: MNB-LVA** • Approaches to rapid force integration and standardisation across multinational formations • Strengthening interoperability and aligning multinational training • objectives with capability development **Colonel Kris Reeves,** Commander, **Multinational Brigade Latvia, NATO**	**FROM CONCEPT TO COMBAT: ACCELERATING LAND CAPABILITY DEVELOPMENT THROUGH INNOVATION** • How are emerging technologies and data-driven planning reshaping land warfare doctrine and long-term defence policy in Finland • Insights into the development and deployment of next-generation systems • Lessons identified from mobility development and Arctic mobility **Colonel, D,Sc (Tech) Rainer Peltoniemi,** Plans and Policy Division, **Finnish Defence Command**
1230	**FIRESIDE CHAT: THE EVOLVING ROLE OF ARTILLERY IN CONTEMPORARY OPERATIONS** This discussion will examine how recent combat experience has shifted the balance between volume and accuracy of fire and the ability to move and survive under constant surveillance. **Questions:** • How have recent conflicts changed expectations of artillery? • What are the main capability gaps in artillery forces, and what are your priorities to address them? • How does integration with joint systems feature in training, doctrine, and cooperation with allies? **Moderated by: Lieutenant General (Ret.) Sir Nick Borton,** Former Commander, **NATO ARRC** **Panellists:** **Lieutenant General Adam Joks,** Commander, 2 Polish Corps - Land Component Command, **Polish Army**	**INSIGHTS IN THE US ARMY V CORPS** • The Eastern Flank Deterrence Line (EFDL) is a complementary framework to NATO's existing plans, focusing on deterrence by denial through persistent sensors, unmanned zones, prepositioned sustainment, combat-credible forces, and all-domain command and control. • V Corps contribution to EFDL aims to counter adversarial mass and momentum during the first 72 hours of large-scale combat operations (LSCO). • V Corps will counter adversarial mass and momentum through the integration of advanced technologies, cross-domain effects, and innovative tactics. **Brigadier General John Mountford,** Deputy Commanding, General – Readiness, **US Army V Corps**

	Colonel Georgios Nellas, Commander of the Hellenic Artillery School, **Hellenic Army**	
1300	**LUNCH AND NETWORKING BREAK**	
	STREAM A: FIRES **ENHANCING MOBILITY AND FIREPOWER**	**STREAM B: ARMOURED MANOUVRE** **COUNTERING AERIAL THREATS AND ENSURING RAPID RESPONSE CAPABILITIES**
1400	**THE FINNISH ARMY'S EFFORTS TO MODERNISE LAND CAPABILITIES** • Integrating new technologies to enhance defence operations • Current and future activities to enhance collective defence **Brigadier General Sami-Antti Takamaa,** Deputy Chief of Staff, Army Operations, **Finnish Army**	**THE MBT MODERNISATION SUCCESS & INTERATING C-UAS SYSTEMS** • Outcomes from modernisation of legacy Soviet tanks now on the field • Lessons Learnt from Ukraine War: Integrating anti drone systems to armoured vehicles. • Feedback from the field after ALTAY Tank **Emre İLHAN, Tank Directorate, SSB**
1430	**INTEGRATING AIR SURVEILLANCE AND GROUND DEFENCE IN THE BALTIC: LESSONS FROM LATVIA** • Building a centralised command and control (C2) system to coordinate air defence sensors and missile systems effectively • Current priorities & challenges **Colonel Viesturs Masulis,** Commander, **Latvian Air Force**	**HDFs PRIORITIES FOR COMBAT READINESS** • Priorities for the 1st Armoured Brigade, supporting Hungary's force • modernisation and enhancing C-UAS capabilities • How the evolving threat scenario is impacting doctrine and operational strategies • Building combined-arms synchronisation **Brigadier General Istvan Toth,** Commander of the 1st Klapka György Armoured Brigade, **Hungarian Defence Force**
1500	**AFTERNOON TEA AND NETWORKING BREAK**	
	COLLABORATIVE PROCUREMENT FOR STRATEGIC ADVANTAGE	
1530	**UPDATE ON THE BOXER PROGRAMME: ENABLING JOINT CAPABILITY DEVELOPMENT** • Strengthening multinational cooperation through shared platforms and logistics • Update on ongoing R&D into advanced variants **Matthew West,** BOXER Programme Division Deputy Technical Section Leader, **OCCAR-EA**	
1600	**CHAIRMAN'S CLOSING REMARKS** **Lieutenant General (Retd) Tony Aguto,** Former Commander, **SAG-U**	