Maritime Security Conference
(12-13 November 2015, Nicosia, Cyprus)

The Challenges, Benefits and Opportunities of the European Union Maritime Security Strategy

The conference is co-organised by the

Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Cyprus, &
the European Defence Agency

Draft Agenda

Wednesday, 11th November

1900-2000 Cocktail Reception at the Hilton Hotel (Nicosia)
Hosted by the CY Ministry of Defence

Thursday, 12 November

0830-0900 Registration

0900-0910 Welcome & Introduction
  • Christoforos Fokaides, Minister of Defence, Cyprus

0910-0930 Welcome and Keynote Speech

“The impact of the EU Maritime Security Strategy” (tbc)
Panel 1:

Europe's Sea-lines of Communication – Open and Free or under threat? The impacts of the EU Maritime Security Strategy.

In this first panel the importance of Sea-lines of Communication and Europe's strategic dependency upon these conduits will be addressed. In particular, the panel will assess the current level of ‘openness’ and will identify the sources of threat – those currently existing and those on the horizon, that could have an impact on Europe’s primary maritime routes. Of significance, will be the threats to Europe's maritime infrastructure and the preparatory actions required to ensure the safety of strategic maritime assets. It is within this context that the panel will assess a number of specific geographical areas that have the potential to impact considerably on Europe’s maritime security. Finally, the panel will investigate the European Naval response and the impact that the EU Maritime Security Strategy can play in keeping open Europe’s Sea Lines of Communication.

Chair: VAdm (rtd) Ferdinando San felice de Monteforte (former IT MlRep to the EUMC)

Speakers:
- Jorge Domecq, Chief Executive of European Defence Agency
- Admiral Yves Joly, Commander in Chief of the French Navy – Mediterranean
- Rear Admiral Ossama Mounir Rabie, Chief of Egyptian Navy (tbc)
- Rear Admiral Alexandru Mirșu, Chief of the Romanian Naval Forces Staff

Coffee Break
Panel 2: Shifting from Navies to Coast Guards? Tasks, Duties, Responsibilities. Sea Blindness vs. Maritime Awareness.

The recent downturn and fluctuations in European economies has seen a corresponding decline in defence expenditure. European Navies, as a result, are now operating within the confines of reduced resource envelopes. A significant challenge for Navies is to be relevant to the taxpayer and this has seen a shift from traditional high intensity activities to more constabulary or coast guard roles. The panel will address the effectiveness of Naval Forces for these roles and the potential consequences in terms of loss of capabilities, in meeting the requirements of the EU Maritime Security Strategy. Finally, what effect could this have on the culture of Europe’s Navies and what policies and capabilities should be prioritised for the future?

Chair: Vice Admiral José Luis Urcelay Verdugo (ES MilRep)

Speakers:
- Vice Admiral Mark Mellett, Chief of Irish Defence
- Admiral Giuseppe De Giorgi, Chief of the Italian Navy
- VAdm Andreas Krause, Chief of the German Navy (tbc)
- Georgios Vourekas, FRONTEX Head of Sea Border Sector

1330-1445 Lunch (Hosted)

1445-1630 Academic Session
- Welcome: Christos Malikkides, Permanent Secretary MoD, CY
- Moderator - Introduction: Professor Dr. Demos Petropoulos, Cyprus University of Technology.
- Keynote Speech: “Maritime Repositories of European Cultural Heritage and European Civilization”.
  Prof Dr. Juergen Elvert, University of Cologne and University of Aarhus.
- Discussion

- End of day 1 -
Panel 3:
The Future for Europe at Sea – Surveillance, Governance and Protection.

Operating in challenging maritime environments has consistently created a drive for innovation and change. The sea is a wealthy but complex environment and is only accessible with high levels of technology. It has thus created a culture of development and change. Prosperity at sea is linked to the level of innovation. To fully unlock the potential of the oceans, considerable investment and an environment that fosters innovation and cooperation is required. The panel will explore the technological developments that can be expected in the near future and what role cooperation can play in ensuring that we maximise these benefits. Finally, the panel will address the critical role of surveillance and information sharing in policing the oceans.

Chair: Dr. Stephan Lechner, Director of the Institute for the Protection and Security of the Citizen in DG, Joint Research Center

Speakers:
- Franz Lamplmair (Adviser Maritime Policy Mediterranean and Black Sea, European Commission)
- Dr. Markus Martinstetter MBDA, DE (Laser Weapons)
- Dr. Michał Wierciński [Polish Armaments Group (PGZ)]
- Captain (N) Constantinos Fitiris, Commander of CY JRCC

Panel 4:
Round table discussion:

*The European Maritime Security Strategy – A vehicle for Civilian Military Cooperation?*

Chair: Peter Round

Participants:
- Ambassador Mr. Pantias Eliades, Political Director, CY Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. Alain Hoffman (chair of the Presidency Group working on the EU Maritime Security Strategy)
● General Michail Kostarakos, Chairman European Union Military Committee
● Rear Admiral Juergen Ehle, Senior Advisor to the DE PSC Ambassador

1245-1315  Wrap-up of the Conference, Conclusions
●  Prof. Dr. Sven Biscop, Egmont Institute, Brussels

1315-1330  Farewell and close down
●  Christoforos Fokaides, Minister of Defence, Cyprus

1330-1445  Lunch (Hosted)

- End of the Conference -

Venue:

Filoxenia Conference Center, Nicosia, Cyprus
http://www.fcc.com.cy/

Accommodation:

The Hilton Hotel, Nicosia, Cyprus

Points of Contacts:

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