

17-18 NOVEMBER 2026 – CROWNE PLAZA AIRPORT HOTEL – DUBLIN, IRELAND

FOURTH PHASE OF THE CONSULTATION FORUM FOR SUSTAINABLE ENERGY IN THE DEFENCE AND SECURITY SECTOR (CF SEDSS IV

PROGRAMME

FOURTH CF SEDSS IV CONFERENCE (17-18 NOVEMBER 2026)

The European Defence Agency (EDA) is organising the 4th CF SEDSS IV Conference on 17-18 November 2026, under the auspices of the *Irish Presidency of the Council of the European Union (EU)* and hosted by the *Department of Defence of Ireland / Irish Defence Forces*.

MONDAY, 16 NOVEMBER 2026 (4th CONFERENCE - DAY 0)

18h30 – 20h00	Conference registration (hotel lobby)
19h30 – 21h30	Buffet dinner (hotel restaurant) – networking

TUESDAY, 17 NOVEMBER 2026 (4th CONFERENCE - DAY 1)

08h45 – 09h15	Conference registration (conference area)
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09h15 – 10h00 **1. OPENING PLENARY SESSION**

Introduction **Michał Wierciński**, Deputy Director of Research, Technology, and Innovation / Head of Unit EU-funded Defence Research, European Defence Agency

Welcome addresses **Anders Sjöborg**, Deputy Chief Executive, European Defence Agency - TBC
Lt Gen Rossa Mulcahy, Chief of Staff, Irish Defence Forces

Keynote speech **John Gibbons**, Environmental Journalist
Group photo

10h00 – 10h30	Coffee break – networking
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10h30 – 11h30 **2. PLENARY SESSION**

Setting the scene, **Maja Kuzel**, CF SEDSS IV Project Manager, European Defence Agency

- 2.1. EU energy policy framework, **Monika Zsigri**, Head of Unit, DG ENER, European Commission
- 2.2. EU's policy framework on climate, defence, and security, **Joseph Freeley**, Policy Officer, European External Action Service
- 2.3. Defence energy-related policy and projects in Ireland, **Col Damien McEvoy**, Director of Engineering, Irish Defence Forces
- 2.4. EU energy challenges, **Thierry Bros**, Professor, Sciences Po
- 2.5. CF SEDSS IV work plan and updates, **Maja Kuzel**, CF SEDSS IV Project Manager and **Shana Leclercq**, CF SEDSS IV Deputy Project Manager, EDA

Discussion

Administrative points – **Aline Blanchard**, CF SEDSS IV Project Assistant

11h45 – 12h30 **3. PARALLEL SESSIONS - WORKING GROUPS (see next pages)**

12h30 – 14h00 Lunch break - networking

14h00 – 15h30 **3. PARALLEL SESSIONS - WORKING GROUPS (see next pages)**

15h30 – 16h00 Coffee break - networking

16h00 – 17h30 **4. PARALLEL SESSIONS - WORKING GROUPS (see next pages)**

17h30 End of the first day

17h35 – 18h00 **EU MoDs national contact points (NCPs) meeting**

19h30 – 22h00 **Networking dinner hosted by the Irish Presidency of the Council of the EU / Department of Defence of Ireland / Irish Defence Forces**

WEDNESDAY, 18 NOVEMBER 2026 (4th CONFERENCE - DAY 2)09h00 – 10h30 **5. PARALLEL SESSIONS - WORKING GROUPS (see next pages)**

10h30 – 11h00 Coffee break - networking

11h00 – 12h30 **6. PARALLEL SESSIONS - WORKING GROUPS (see next pages)**

12h30 – 14h00 Lunch break - networking

14h00 – 15h30 **7. PARALLEL SESSIONS - WORKING GROUPS (see next pages)**

15h30 – 16h00 Coffee break - networking

16h00 – 17h15 **8. CLOSING PLENARY SESSION****Moderator: Maja Kuzel**, CF SEDSS IV Project Manager, European Defence Agency**Working groups presentation: outcome and way ahead**WG1: **Andrej Bohinc**, WG2: **Jim Burke**, WG3: **Ioannis Chatzalexandris** and TWG: **Xander Beks****CF SEDSS Phase IV way ahead****CF SEDSS IV project management team: Maja Kuzel, Shana Leclercq and Aline Blanchard**, European Defence Agency**Next events****Concluding remarks****Michał Wierciński**, Deputy Director of Research, Technology, and Innovation / Head of Unit EU-funded Defence Research, European Defence Agency17h15 End of 4th conference

4th CF SEDSS IV CONFERENCE, DAY 1
TUESDAY, 17 NOVEMBER 2026

3. PARALLEL SESSION – WORKING GROUPS (11H45-12H30)

WG1 Energy Efficiency and Buildings Performance	WG2 Renewable Energy Sources	WG3 Protection of Critical Energy Infrastructure	WG Transversal
Team leader: Andrej Bohinc (SI) Moderator: Marios Theodorakopoulos (EL), Patryk Kierzkowski (PL) EDA: Aline Blanchard	Team leader: Jim Burke (IE) Moderators: Mathieu Bervas (FR), Eoghan Carton (IE) EDA: Shana Leclercq	Team leader: Ioannis Chatzalexandris (EDA) Moderators: Alexandru Georgescu (RO), Nektarios Nasikas (EL), Tina Andoljsek (SI) DG ENER: Julia-Sandrine Blanken	Team leader: Xander Beks (NL) Deputy team leader: Giorgos Demetriou (CY) Moderators: - Policy and Management Observatory: Damien McEvoy (IE), Gintaras Labutis (LT), - Technology, Research and Innovation Hub: Robert Sipec (SI), Linda Oukacine (FR) CINEA
1. OPENING REMARKS Tour de Table WG1 Agenda and objectives 1.1 CF SEDSS WG1 Phase IV – State of play and work plan 1.2 DELIVERABLES Roundtable Discussion - Key takeaways from pre-circulated materials and exploration of 2 nd cycle project ideas	1. OPENING REMARKS Tour de Table WG2 Agenda and objectives 1.1 CF SEDSS WG2 Phase IV – State of play and work plan	1. OPENING REMARKS Tour de Table WG3 Agenda and objectives 1.1 CF SEDSS WG3 Phase IV – State of play and work plan	1. OPENING REMARKS Tour de Table TWG Agenda and objectives 1.1 CF SEDSS TWG Phase IV – Policy brief Sibylla van de Voorde , EDA 1.2 Defence Energy Security Roadmap Emma Moll , NL MoD 1.3 Analysis of national defence energy strategies Linda Oukacine , FR MoD

LUNCH – NETWORKING (12H30-14H00)

4. PARALLEL SESSION – WORKING GROUPS (14H00-15H30)

WG1 Energy Efficiency and Buildings Performance	WG2 Renewable Energy Sources	WG3 Protection of Critical Energy Infrastructure	WG Transversal
2. NATIONAL BEST PRACTICES 2.1. National best practices TBC, IT MoD 2.2 National best practices TBC, ES MoD 2.3 National best practices Stergios Paparizos, EL MoD 2.4 Renovation of naval base heritage buildings to an A-rated energy standard Donal McCann, IE MoD 2.5 Technical guidelines to the German Armed Forces for renovation of brownfield buildings Udo Hoffmann, Schneider Electric	2. DELIVERABLES 2.1. Reminder of the final 1st deliverables cycle Jim Burke (IE) 2.1. Guidance Document inputs Shana Leclercq, EDA 2.2. Update on the Tabletop Exercise	2. DELIVERABLES 2.1. EU legislation update on CEI TBC, DG ENER-DG HOME 2.2. Update on 1st deliverables cycle and new 2nd cycle topics 2.2.1. Data centres at the energy-digital nexus: critical loads, resilience obligations and local energy integrations Carlos Paulino, Equinix 2.2.2. AI as critical infrastructure: why this matters for defence and how it can be protected Isidoros Monogioudis, EDA 2.2.3 AI sovereignty in the protection of defence energy infrastructure Luca Sambucci, Noctive Security	2. DELIVERABLES 2.1. Looking back at the previous fora and harvest inputs 2.1.1 Project ideas – open space TWG Team Leaders

COFFEE BREAK – NETWORKING (15H30-16H00)

5. PARALLEL SESSION – WORKING GROUPS (16H00-17H30)

3. PRESENTATIONS	3.NATIONAL GOOD PRACTICES / FUEL POLICIES	3. DELIVERABLES	3. DELIVERABLES
3.1. Engineered living materials for adaptive and self-sustaining defence Anna Sandak, Innorenew CoE		3.1 Selected study topics 3.2. Guidance Document inputs	3.1. Working Session – Guidance Document TWG Team Leader

3.2. Bullet-resistant wood-based panels for enhancing the resilience of multi-story buildings used as carbon sinks Andreja Kutnar, Innorenew CoE 3.3 Zero energy habitable modules – Antarctica Jesus Montero Escuder, ARPA	3.1 Integrated batteries, wind and PV: functionality, operational resilience and peak shaving – Norway Magnus Sparrevik, Norwegian MOD 3.2. Role of biomass in decarbonising military installations - Finland TBC, Finnish MoD 3.3 Biomass plants for heating military installations – France TBC	3.2.1 Geopolitical and macrofinancial risks for the protection of CEI Roxana Andrei, CEI-ISCTE 3.2.2 Hybrid multi-hazard resilience for critical energy infrastructure (HEDRS) Petre Min, CNCAN 3.2.3 Energy infrastructure: an operator's perspective Constantinos Chatzifotis, MOH	4. PRESENTATIONS 4.1 Introduction on hydrogen demonstration Damien McEvoy, IE MoD
End of day 1			
4th CF SEDSS IV CONFERENCE DAY 2 WEDNESDAY, 18 NOVEMBER 2026			
6. PARALLEL SESSION – WORKING GROUPS (09H00-10H30)			
WG1 Energy Efficiency and Buildings Performance	WG2 Renewable Energy Sources	WG3 Protection of Critical Energy Infrastructure	WG Transversal
4. DELIVERABLES 4.1 WORKSHOP – Guidance Document and open discussion Patryk Kierzkowski, PL MoD	3.4 Decarbonisation as part of defence infrastructure master planning – Ireland Eamon McCarney, Taylor McCarney Architects Ian Carroll, IN2 4. PRESENTATIONS 4.1 Lessons from Ukraine for European homeland resilience Walburga Hemetsberger, Solar Power Europe	4. MODERATED PANEL DEBATE pt.1 <i>Protecting critical energy infrastructure in an era of state-level threats: who is responsible, who pays and who decides?</i> 4.1. Setting the scene (welcome, introduction, objectives, scenario) Ioannis Chatzalexandris, EDA 4.2. Opening statements Moderator, panel experts, TBC	4.2 Use of hydrogen for drones Taras Wankewycz, H3dynamics 4.3 RES and scope 3 emissions Simen Kirkhorn, Forsvarsbygg 4.3 Potential of MMR – ensuring resilience through the deployment of micro modular reactors Janez Kokalj, Jožef Stefan Institute, Reactor Engineering Division

	4.2 How to optimise an energy system for secure supply in times of crisis Gianfranco Guidati, ETH Zurich		4.5 Key outcomes: inputs for deliverables and future work
COFFEE BREAK - NETWORKING (10H30-11H00)			
7. PARALLEL SESSION – WORKING GROUPS (11H00-12H30)			
WG1 Energy Efficiency and Buildings Performance	WG2 Renewable Energy Sources	WG3 Protection of Critical Energy Infrastructure	WG Transversal
5. PRESENTATIONS 5.1 Energy management systems (EnMS) and climate neutrality: challenges and opportunities in military installations Ioanna Tagara, EL MoD 5.2 Tallaght District heating scheme – heat source: Data centre waste heat John O'Shea, Codema – Dublin Energy Agency 5.3 Energy security studies – interlinking electricity and heating – geothermal energy and storage Magnus Sparrevik, FORSVARBYGG – Norwegian Defence Estates Agency	4.3 Procurement that builds European strategic autonomy: “Secure, resilient, trusted” components for defence energy Walburga Hemetsberger, Solar Power Europe 5. PROJECT IDEAS 5.1. Review of the topics under consideration and choice of the 4 topics for the 2nd deliverables cycle All 5.2 Discussion on topics proposed for consideration for 2nd cycle information sheets All	5. MODERATED PANEL DEBATE pt.2 5.1 Moderated exchange 5.2 Face-off session 5.3 Audience discussion 5.4 Closing statements Team Leader, moderators, panel experts, audience, TBC 6. TTX discussions: scope and concept for PCEI Alexandru Georgescu, ICI 7. Key outcomes, recommendations and follow-up actions	5. PRESENTATIONS 5.1 How to optimise an energy system for secure supply in times of crisis Prof. Dr. Gianfranco Guidati, ETH 5.2 The role and future trends of energy resilience in military infrastructure resilience (MIRC) - <i>World Café method-based discussion</i> Dr Gintaras Labutis, Military Academy of Lithuania. 5.3 Key outcomes: inputs for deliverables and future work
LUNCH BREAK – NETWORKING (12H30-14H00)			
8. PARALLEL SESSION – WORKING GROUPS (14H00-15H30)			

WG1 Energy Efficiency and Buildings Performance	WG2 Renewable Energy Sources	WG3 Protection of Critical Energy Infrastructure	WG Transversal
6. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION - CLOSING REMARKS: OUTCOMES FOR THE PLENARY SESSION AND WAY FORWARD	<i>CONTINUATION ON PROJECT IDEAS</i> 6. SUMMARY - CLOSING REMARKS: OUTCOMES FOR THE PLENARY SESSION	6. SUMMARY - CLOSING REMARKS: OUTCOMES FOR THE PLENARY SESSION	6. SUMMARY - CLOSING REMARKS: OUTCOMES FOR THE PLENARY SESSION 6.1 Update on 1st deliverables cycle and new 2nd cycle topics, way forward
COFFEE BREAK – NETWORKING (15H30-16H00)			