



**NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANISATION
NATO MARITIME INTERDICTION OPERATIONAL
TRAINING CENTRE
NMIOTC
SOUDA BAY
GREECE**



5000 NSC-74/ser: NU:63

TO: See Distribution

SUBJECT: **15th ANNIVERSARY NMIOTC ANNUAL CONFERENCE - JOINING INSTRUCTIONS**

DATE: 24 May 2024

REFERENCE: a. NMIOTC 3000 NSC-74/ser.:NU 127, dated 06 Nov 2023
(15th Anniversary NMIOTC Annual Conference 2024 – Initial Calling Notice)
b. NMIOTC 3000 NSC-74/ser: NU 12, dated 09 Feb 2024
(15th Anniversary NMIOTC Annual Conference 2024 – Calling Letter)

1. Introduction. As per references, NMIOTC has announced its 15th Anniversary Annual Conference 2024, which is going to take place at the premises of the Centre, in Souda Bay, Crete – Greece on **Tuesday 4th** and **Wednesday 5th of June 2024**.

2. Theme. *“Risks and Challenges in a Dynamic Maritime Domain; Strategy Adaptations, Technology Innovations and the Operational Landscape of the Future”*.

3. Aim of the event. The upcoming 15th NMIOTC Annual Conference 2024 aims at providing opportunities for discussions and exchange of ideas, among the international community of interest, on emerging Risks and Challenges in the Maritime Domain that require strategic and technological adaptations. Security risks, environmental degradation, climate change, technological innovations, and economic competition are all key areas of concern that can affect the theatre of operations. To address these challenges, Nations must continue to foster international cooperation and develop new strategies to enhance their Maritime capabilities. Additionally, there will be analysis and discussions on which of the available tools in the toolbox of Maritime Stakeholders are considered the most efficient and effective to mitigate emerging security Risks and Challenges in the Maritime Domain. The conference will be held under the *“Chatham House Rule”*.

4. Participants. Registration is open to all interested participants. Speakers from Military Organizations, Law Enforcement Agencies, Academia, Judiciary and Ministerial Authorities, Private Sector and Defence Industry can present their views on the topic, while the audience will be comprised of military and civilian personnel involved or interested in energy security and counter terrorism in maritime domain issues. We anticipate for participation from NATO, Partner Nations, International Organizations, Non – Governmental Organizations, Non – NATO countries and the broader Maritime Community of Interest, as well. The ideally diverse audience should represent Armed Forces, Law Enforcement Experts, and representatives from

Ministries of Defence, Interior and Foreign Affairs, specialized magistrates and officials from the relevant organizations. Please feel free to disseminate this invitation to persons that you deem relevant and interested to attend.

5. Administrative Details. Administrative requirements, arrangements and information are provided in enclosure 1.

6. Remarks. Additional details and information will be updated regularly on the NMIOTC web page <https://nmiotc.nato.int/transformation/conferences/annual-conference/>.

7. Points of Contact. For further information or clarifications, please contact:

Lead Conference Planner:
Cdr Gianluca FINAMORE ITA (N), OF-4
NMIOTC Director of Training Support
Tel +30 28210 85713
Email: finamoreg@nmiotc.nato.int

Officer of Primary Responsibility (OPR):
Cpt Georgios CHAIDEMENAKIS GRC (N),
OF-4, Staff Officer of Transformation & Experimentation Section
Tel +30 28210 85716
Email: chaidemenakisg@nmiotc.nato.int

Website and registration POC:
Cdr Konstantinos PAPANASTASIS GRC (N),
OF-4, Section head of Students' Admin Affairs
Tel +30 28210 85710
Email: studentadmin@nmiotc.nato.int

8. Thanking you in advance for your support and contribution to the 15th Anniversary NMIOTC Annual Conference 2024, we look forward to an interesting and fruitful event, and to welcoming you to the picturesque and historical city of Chania, Crete – Greece.



Efstathios Kyriakidis
Commodore GRC (N)
Commandant NMIOTC

ENCLOSURES:

1. Administrative Details
2. Draft Agenda

15th NMIOTC Annual Conference Administrative Details

1. **Schedule.** The conference will be held over two days, from Tuesday 4th to Wednesday 5th of June 2024. It is advised to consider Monday 3rd of June (or earlier) and Thursday 6th of June (or later) as travel days.

2. **Accommodation:** Participants are responsible to arrange their own accommodation as there is no accommodation facilities on the Centre's premises. NMIOTC can provide guidance / assistance, if requested. Hotels near Chania city centre are highly recommended for transportation purposes. The list of recommended hotels in Chania offering special prices (for participants who book directly with each hotel by e-mail, using the code "NMIOTC") and including breakfast and internet connection, is as follows:

a. THE CHANIA 5* hotel <https://www.thechaniahotel.com/>, E-mail: reservations@thechaniahotel.com, Tel: (+30) 28210 90002.

b. AKALI 4* hotel www.akali-hotel.gr. (promotional code "NMIOTC" via hotel's online booking platform) E-mail: info@akali-hotel.gr Tel: (+30) 28210 92872.

c. KYDON 4* hotel <https://kydonhotel.com/en> (promotional code "NMIOTC" via hotel's online booking platform) E-mail: info@kydonhotel.com, Tel.: (+30) 28210 52280.

d. SAMARIA 4* hotel www.samariahhotel.gr (promotional code "NMIOTC" via hotel's online booking platform) E-mail: reservations@samariahhotel.gr, Tel.: (+30) 28210 38600.

e. ARKADI 3* hotel www.arkadi-hotel.gr, E-mail: info@arkadi-hotel.gr, Tel: (+30) 28210 90181.

f. KRITI 3* hotel, www.kriti-hotel.gr, E-mail: info@kriti-hotel.gr, Tel. (+30) 28210 51881.

g. PORTO VENEZIANO 3* hotel www.portoveneziano.gr, E-mail: hotel@portoveneziano.gr, Tel: (+30) 28210 27100

3. **Transportation.**

a. Participants are responsible for their own transportation from/to the Airport during arrival and departure day. Participants should plan to fly to Chania International Airport (airport code: CHQ). NMIOTC will provide transportation from specific **pick up points** in Chania city centre to NMIOTC's premises and vice-versa on a daily basis throughout the event. Pick-up points are as follows:

Pick up points	Place	Time
1st pick-up point	<u>AKALI Hotel</u>	07:20
2nd pick-up point	<u>SAMARIA Hotel</u>	07:30
3rd pick-up point	<u>KYDON Hotel</u>	07:40
4th pick up point	<u>KRITI Hotel</u>	07:50

NOTE. Participants staying in **ARKADI** and **PORTO VENEZIANO** Hotels are kindly requested to use the SAMARIA and KRITI bus stops, respectively.

Fifty-seat buses (civilian type), marked with the label **NMIOTC** on the windshield, will pass by the pick-up points at the scheduled time.

b. Transportation means from **Chania Airport** to **Chania city** centre are available as follows:

(1) Bus: The bus stop is outside the terminal and the ticket costs 2,50€, For further information and detailed timetables check <https://www.e-ktel.com/en>

(2) Taxi from the airport directly to Chania city center, 24 hours/day, 25,00€ (approx).

c. Additionally, there are several rental car agencies at the airport. The agencies that have offered to make special prices for NMIOTC guests are as follows:

(1) Gelasakis Car Rental: www.rentacar-chania.gr, E-mail: cars@stc.gr, URL: tel.: +30 28210 89065.

(2) Spa Tours & Cars Enterprises: www.spatours.gr, E-mail: info@spatours.gr, URL: tel.: +30 28210 57444.

Participants, who intend to rent a car, should make a booking with the preferred car rental agency by e-mail, referring to NMIOTC. Participants using their own transportation means, are advised to be at NMIOTC daily ***no later than 08:30*** (plan for a 30 minute drive from the city centre). The destination in Google maps is "NATO Maritime Interdiction Operational Training Centre" or "NMIOTC Main Gate". NMIOTC main building is 2,5 km from the main gate.

4. Attire. The attire for the Conference will be Summer Service Uniform or Business Casual (jacket & tie) for the military personnel and business casual for the civilians. In addition, the attire for the ***official reception*** will be business casual.

5. Classification: The conference has no classification marking and all contents will be releasable to public. The conference will be held under the "***Chatham House Rule***"

6. Conference fee. The Conference fee is **180€** for each attendee to cover Conference and administrative expenses. For moderators and panellists the conference will be free of charge. The possible methods of payment are reported in the following table:

A.BEFORE THE EVENT	INFORMATION	REMARKS
1. By Bank Deposit	NATIONAL BANK OF GREECE, NMIOTC BANK ACCOUNT 494/540010-48 SWIFT BIC: ETHN GRAA IBAN: GR3801104940000049454001048	Bank deposits should be completed not later than 2 working days before the start date of the event , bank charges are not covered by NMIOTC. The receipt should be sent by email to kleinakisd@nmiotc.nato.int and cc masourakii@nmiotc.nato.int
2. By Debit/Credit Card	Upon notification from the participant, the direct link for credit/debit card payment will be sent to the designated-by the participant-email address.	The participant should send an email to kleinakisd@nmiotc.nato.int and cc masourakii@nmiotc.nato.int for receiving the link for the credit/debit card payment
B. ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE EVENT	INFORMATION	REMARKS
3. By Debit/Credit card	A valid credit/debit card should be presented on the first day of the event.	The fee is always paid in euros [the credit/debit card may provide the option to pay in another currency (other than euro) and therefore the 'euro' currency option must be chosen].
4. By Cash	-	The fee is always paid in euros.

In any case, an appropriate proof of payment will be given to all participants.

7. Social program. The 15th Anniversary Official Reception will be held at SAPEL Hall (<https://www.sapel.gr/en/>) on the evening of **Tue 4th of June**.

8. Spouses program: The Spouses program will not take place. Those participants who intend to be accompanied by their partner in the official reception are kindly asked to provide this info during the registration process on the first day of the Conference. An additional fee of **30€** will be required.

9. Visa Requirements. Participants or their national authorities are responsible for visa arrangements. Participants are advised to contact the proper diplomatic authorities for up to date information, well in advance. It is the individual's responsibility to obtain his/her visa and to have the proper travel and medical documentation. Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs website (www.mfa.gr) provides relevant visa information requirements. NMIOTC will provide a Visa Support Letter, if requested.

10. Security Instructions: The Conference has No Classification Marking. However, NMIOTC applies security regulations according to NATO standards.

11. Badging process: A welcome package that includes security badge and all the necessary information will be delivered to the participants upon their arrival to NMIOTC, during the in processing. The badge shall be carried and visible throughout the conference. There is an access control to enter [Marathi Gate](#) and NMIOTC building. You will be required to carry your passport or your national identification card during your check in the first day of the conference.

12. Medical service: Participants are required to have a valid health insurance according to their respective national standards. Participants from the EU Member States are advised to possess a valid European Health Insurance Card. NMIOTC ensures first aid during the event, providing emergency transportation to the Naval Hospital of Crete if needed. The Naval Hospital of Crete can provide diagnosis, first aid and treatment, while the Prefectural Hospital of Chania can provide further diagnosis or specialist treatment if required. NMIOTC do not cover participant's expenses for additional medical treatments and the settlement of medical bills is a patient/national responsibility.

13. Greece travel measures. The current protocol can be found in the official website <https://travel.gov.gr/#/>

15th ANNIVERSARY NMIOTC ANNUAL CONFERENCE 4 – 5 June 2024

DRAFT AGENDA

**Risks and Challenges in a Dynamic Maritime Domain: Strategy adaptation,
 Technology innovations and the Operational Landscape of the future**

Tuesday 4 June 24		
TIME (EEST)	TOPIC	SPEAKER
08:10	Registration – in processing	
09:00	Admin / Safety Brief	Cdr Konstantinos PAPANASTASIS GRC (N) Head Student Admin Affairs
09:10	NMIOTC Welcome Address Host Nation Senior Representative Welcome address	Cdre Efstathios KYRIAKIDIS GRC (N) NMIOTC Commandant Vice Admiral Christos SASIAKOS GRC (N), Deputy Chief of the Hellenic National Defence General Staff
09:20	Honorary Guest Remarks Address	Admiral (ret.) Panagiotis CHINOFOTIS GRC (N) Honorable Chief of the Hellenic National Defence General Staff
09:25	Keynote Speaker	Vice Admiral Michael Utley CB OBE GBR (N) Commander of NATO's Allied Maritime Command
09:45	Group Photo - Coffee Break	

10:10	SESSION 1: Academic regional perspective	Moderator: Dr. Marios-Panagiotis EFTHYMIOPOULOS Associate Professor in International Security and Strategy
	A holistic approach to strategic security: The current and future landscapes from Caucasus and Southeast Med to the Middle East and Gulf Region. Maritime Security dimensions at risk?	Dr. Marios - Panagiotis EFTHYMIOPOULOS Associate Professor in International Security and Strategy
	TBC	Prof. James BERGERON Allied Maritime Command, Political Advisor to Commander
	Maritime Security Threats off Africa: Converging Maritime Threats and Vulnerabilities in the Northwestern Indian Ocean	Prof. Francois VREÿ PhD Capt. (ret) Mark BLAINE RSA (N) SIGLA, Stellenbosch University
	Cognitive Dominance, influence and disinformation strategies	Dr Christina SCHORI LIANG Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP)
12:00	Lunch Break	
13:00	SESSION 2: Current and future challenges in the Operational landscape	Moderator: CDRE Konstantinos PITYKAKIS Commander of GRMARFOR HQ
	Outline of EUNAVFOR Operation Aspides	Rear Admiral Vasileios GRYPARIS GRC (N) EUNAVFOR Op. Aspides, OPERATION COMMANDER
	Train as you fight reinvented. Synthetic environment Exploitation to enhance NATO IAMD capabilities	B. General Nikolaos MAKRYGIANNIS GRC (AF) Integrated Air and Missile Defence COE, Director
	The Italian Navy's approach in Maritime Security Operations for better leveraging coordination and cooperation efforts at sea.	Rear Admiral Fabrizio RUTTERI ITA (N) Italian Navy General Staff, Deputy Chief of Plans and Policy Division
	Navigating Future Challenges: a Multi-Domain approach to Maritime Security and Technological Innovation	Rear Admiral Ignacio CUARTERO ESP (N) European Union Military Staff (EUMS), Director of Concepts and Capabilities
14:40	Coffee Break	

	SESSION 3: new threats and opportunities in the maritime environment	Moderator: Cdre (Ret) Ioannis KAKAVAS MSSE GRC (N) EFA Ventures, Business Development Manager, Industrial Participation
15:00	Threats and challenges in a rapid changing maritime environment. Hellenic Navy perspective	Cdr Theodore BAZINIS GRC (N) Plans and Policy Division, Hellenic Navy General Staff
	Current operational picture and how this is impacting the future Bulgarian fleet	Capt. Petar DIMITROV BGR (N) Bulgarian Navy Command, Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations
	Drone attacks against ships: Security assessment and mitigation	Dr. Iosif PROGOULAKIS Department of Shipping, Trade and Transport University of the Aegean, Chios, Greece Prof. Nikitas NIKITAKOS Sharjah Maritime Academy, UAE
16:20	End of Day 1 – Bus to Chania city center	
20:00	Social Event: Official Reception at SAPEL Hall, Agia Marina	

5 June 24		
TIME (EEST)	TOPIC	SPEAKER
08:30	Coffee - Networking	
09:00	Keynote Speakers	Radm (UH) Placido TORRESI ITA (N) OF-7 NATO Allied Command Transformation, Deputy Chief of Staff Joint Force Development Dr. Alison WESTON Deputy to the Director in the SDP Directorate and Head of Division for Maritime Security, EEAS
09:40	SESSION 4: Solutions, capabilities and technology innovation for the new operational landscape	Moderator: Dr. Dinos A. KERIGAN-KYROU NATO Defence Education Enhancement Programme
	Enhancing Maritime Security Adopting an Integrated Intelligence Strategy in the Shipping Sector	Dr. Anastasios-Nikolaos KANELLOPOULOS Athens University of Economics and Business,
	New EU Capability Development Priorities and the implementation Roadmaps	Mr. Jürgen SCRABACK European Defense Agency, EU Maritime Domain Capability Development, Head of Unit
	Underwater Security HORIZON EUROPE Project	Capt. (Ret.) Ioannis ANDROULAKIS GRC (N) MANiBUS Ltd., Managing Director
	Operational Experimentation in Maritime SOF Environment	Lt Col. Petros TSIRIGOTIS GRC (A) NATO Special Operation HQ, Maritime Development Division, Education and Training Branch Head
11:20	Coffee Break	

11:40 <i>(Remote Panel from "Sofitel Athens Airport Hotel")</i>	SESSION 5 (remote): Challenges in the Maritime Domain (Part I): Practitioners views	Moderator: Prof. Dimitrios DALAKLIS World Maritime University
	Unmanned and Unbound: How Drones are Redefining the Maritime Sector and Reshaping Naval Operations	Prof. Dimitrios DALAKLIS As. Prof. Aspasia Pastra World Maritime University
	Consequences of the Red Sea Crisis for the Global Commerce - The role of PMSC's	Vice Admiral (ret) Ioannis PAVLOPOULOS GRC (N), Hon. Commander in Chief of the Hellenic Fleet and Former MilRep of Greece to the NATO and EU
	Creating Sustainable Maritime Operations	Dr. Konstantinos GALANIS Ret. Cdr. [Eng.] GRC (N)
	Digital Risk Management	Mr. Nikos GEORGOPOULOS Diaplous Land Services, General Manager
13:20	Lunch Break	
14:20	SESSION 6: Challenges in the Maritime Domain (Part II)	Moderator: Capt. Spyridon ALEXIOU GRC (N) Athens Multinational Sealift Coordination Centre
	The Geopolitical risk of landlocked fragile states to Maritime Security: West and East African dilemma's	Prof Michelle NEL Mr Andries FOKKENS SIGLA, Stellenbosch University
	Challenges of CMI Protection – the Baltic Context	CDR Rafał MIĘTKIEWICZ PhD POL (N) Polish Naval Academy, Assistant Professor
	The freedom of navigation under siege: The issue of foreign military activities in the EEZ	Mr. Rogiers Frederik HENDRIK Gent University
	The Implications of Climate Change for the Maritime Security at a Glance	Capt. Panagiotis TRIPONTIKAS GRC (N) MARCOM/ACOS/N2
16:00	Final Wrap up	Dr. Dinos A. KERIGAN-KYROU NATO Defence Education Enhancement Programme
16:20	NMIOTC Farewell Address	Cdre Efstathios KYRIAKIDIS GRC (N) NMIOTC Commandant
16:30	End of conference – Bus to CHQ airport and Chania city Center	

