



16th NMIOTC ANNUAL CONFERENCE AGENDA

STEERING INTO THE FUTURE: THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON MARITIME SECURITY

Day 1 Wednesday, 4 June 2025		
TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKER
08:15 - 09:00	Registration – Welcome Coffee	
09:00 - 09:10	Opening Admin / Security Brief	Cdr Gianluca FINAMORE ITA (N) Training Support Director, NMIOTC
09:10 - 09:20	NMIOTC Welcome Address	Cdre Periklis PIYIS GRC (N) NMIOTC Commandant
09:20 - 09:30	Host Nation's Senior Representative Welcome address	Cdre Ioannis STRATOIANNIS GRC (N) Hellenic National Defense General Staff (HNDGS) Policy Director
09:30 - 10:10	Keynote Speakers' session	Professor James BERGERON Political Advisor to the Commander, NATO Allied Maritime Command & Honorary Professor of Strategic Studies, University of Plymouth Dr Harry T. CONWAY Chair, Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC), International Maritime Organization (IMO) & Alternate Permanent Representative of Liberia's Permanent Mission to IMO
10:10 - 10:20	Group Photo	
10:20 - 10:50	Coffee Break	

10:50 - 12:10	SESSION 1: Climate Change as a Threat Multiplier for Maritime Security and Future Operations	Moderator: Dr. Dionysia (Denia) KOLOKOTSA Professor, Technical University of Crete
	The Future Strikes Back: Climate Change, Future Operations, and the Role of Long-Term Strategic Analysis	Dr. Gergely NEMETH Defence Innovation Research Institute of Hungary, CEO
	Opportunities, challenges, and next steps: further operationalizing NATO's Climate Change and Security Action Plan	Mr. Paul RUSHTON Team Lead, Climate and Energy Security Section Innovation, NATO HQ
	From Seabed to Space: Maritime Security Threats in a Climate-Challenged and contested environment	Capt. Panagiotis TRIPONTIKAS GRC (N) ACOS N2, Allied Maritime Command
	Climate Change in the High North - Consequences for Defence and Security	Mr. Marius Nyquist PEDERSEN Researcher at Norwegian Defence Research Establishment (FFI)
12:10 - 13:00	Lunch break	
13:00 - 14:20	SESSION 2: Geopolitical perspective on Climate change	Moderator: Dr. Kostas IFANTIS Professor of International Relations Dept. of International, European and Area Studies, Panteion University of Social and Political Studies
	Consider NATO's Climate 'Raison d'agir'. Security Resilience & Business Continuity. The Global, Regional Geostrategic Framework of Security due to Climate Change	Dr. Marios-Panagiotis EFTHYMIPOULOS Associate Professor in International Security and Strategy Faculty
	Bridging Regions: Geopolitical Shifts and the Interconnection between the Mediterranean, Arctic, and Europe	Rear Admiral (LH) Daniil TRICĂ, ROU (N) Deputy Chief of Naval Forces Staff for Resources Romanian Navy HQ
	Climate Change as an Accelerator for Strategic Repositioning	Ms Paula BROEKMAN Researcher and consultant Public Safety and Security at Netherlands Organisation for Applied Scientific Research (TNO)
	Shaping the alliance's approach in the maritime domain from a holistic security and governance perspective	Major General (ret) Philippe BOUTINAUD, FRA (A) Senior Security and Strategy Advisor to the Director of DCAF, Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance
14:20 - 14:50	Coffee break	

14:50 - 16:10	SESSION 3: Climate Change and Maritime Security – Regional and National Policies	Moderator: Capt. Panagiotis TRIPONTIKAS ACOS N2, Allied Maritime Command
	Greek "Green" Armed Forces: The Transition to Climate Neutrality <i>Environmental - Energy and Climate Change Adaptation Policy (EECCAP), Climate Change Adaptation & Mitigation Roadmap</i>	Capt. Stergios PAPARIZOS GRC (AF) Hellenic Ministry of Defence, General Directorate of Finance, Planning and support, Department of Infrastructure and Environmental Protection
	The UK RN approach to identifying, assessing and managing climate related risks and impacts on strategy, operations and assets	Ms. Lisa HAMMOCK UK Navy Head of Climate Change and Sustainability
	Climate Change and Maritime security, the Italian Navy perspective	Capt. Francesco LOIERO ITA (N) Italian Navy General Staff
	Climate Change and Maritime Security: Conflict Catalysts in the Western Indian Ocean and Gulf of Guinea?	Dr. Francois VREÿ Professor Emeritus (Military Science), Stellenbosch University Dr. Michelle NEL Senior Lecturer-Mercantile and Public Law (Mil), Stellenbosch University Captain (ret) Mark BLAINE ZAF (N) Maritime Security Practitioner/Researcher, Stellenbosch University
20:00	Social Event at local restaurant in Chania Old City	

Day 2

Thursday, 5 June 2025

TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKER
08:30 – 09:00	Coffee - Networking	
09:00 -09:20	Keynote Speakers' session	Dr. Alison WESTON Senior Coordinator for Maritime Security, European External Action Service (EEAS)
09:20 – 10:40	SESSION 4: Social, Economic and Civil Future Implications	Moderator: Capt. (ret) Mark BLAINE ZAF (N) Maritime Security Practitioner/Researcher, Stellenbosch University
	Climate change and migration	Ms. Ourania STAVROPOULOU Permanent Secretary, Hellenic Ministry for Migration and Asylum
	Climate Change, Illicit Trade, and Terrorism: Unpacking the latest Threats and Challenges to Maritime Security	Dr. Christina SCHORI LIANG Head of Counterterrorism and Preventing Violent Extremism at the Geneva Centre for Security Policy in Geneva (GCSP), CHE
	Climate change, maritime crimes and anti-money laundering legislation	Dr. Iliana CHRISTODOULOU-VAROTSI Senior Legal Consultant & Maritime Industry Lead Trainer
	The Impact of Climate Change on Maritime Security – A Human Factors Perspective	Dr. Nikolaos VENTIKOS Associate Professor, Laboratory for Maritime Transport, National Technical University of Athens GRC
10:40 – 11:10	Coffee Break	
11:10 – 12:30	SESSION 5: Maritime Infrastructure Protection and Adaptation	Moderator: Rear Admiral (ret) Stathis KYRIAKIDIS GRC (N) Senior Strategic Analyst, Board Member of Strategy International Ltd.
	The impact of Climate Change on the Safety of Maritime Facilities	Lieutenant General Michail KLOUVAS GRC (A) Coordinator of the Construction Management and Natural Disaster Response Command / Army Reorganization Inspector for HNDGS

	Preparing for climate impact: Adapting military activities (Latest Report Update)	Ms. Yagmur TORUL YUREK SHAPE Support Directorate / JENG – energy security, environmental protection, infrastructure
	Strengthening Climate Resilience in European Ports: The Role of EU Legal Frameworks in Adapting to Climate Change	Dr. Ioanna KOUFAKI Policy Officer, European Commission (DG ENEST) Lecturer in Environmental Law, University of Athens
	Protecting Undersea Critical Infrastructure from climate change effects: Capabilities and limitations	Dr. Iosif PROGOULAKIS Department of Shipping, Trade and Transport, University of the Aegean
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch Break	
13:30 – 14:50	SESSION 6: Climate change innovations and risk mitigation	Moderator: Dr. Nikitas NIKITAKOS Professor, Department of Shipping, Trade and Transport, University of the Aegean
	Pathways through Permafrost: Balancing Arctic Shipping, Ocean Technology, and Environmental Stewardship	Dr. Dimitrios DALAKLIS Professor, (Safety & Security), World Maritime University (WMU)
	Naval Group Eco design approach	Mrs. Gaëlle ROUSSEAU Naval Group
	Analysis and Identification of Maritime Domain Climate Change Risks and Corresponding Adaptation Strategies	Dr. George NIKOLAKAKOS NATO Centre for Maritime Research and Experimentation (CMRE)
	Understanding Hydro climatic Change to Anticipate Tomorrow: From Observations to Adaptation in the Mediterranean.	Dr. Aristeidis KOUTROULIS Professor, Technical University of Crete
1450 - 1500	Coffee Break	
1500 - 1520	Final Wrap up	Dr. Dinos KERIGAN-KYROU Senior Advisor, NATO DEEP eAcademy Lt Col (ret.) Nollag CONNEELY IRL-A Director, Complete GRC Ltd
1520 - 1530	NMIOTC Farewell Address	Cdre Periklis PIYIS HN NMIOTC Commandant