BATTLEFIELD ReDEFiNED 2026

Modern Technologies with dual-use potential for Enhancing Security, Defence and Space Resilience

PROGRAMME

DAY 1 – Thursday, 26th February 2026

08:00 - 08:30 | Registration - Welcome Coffee

Event Moderator: **Karina Iskandarova**, C.D Multimedia Services

08:30 - 8:45 | Opening and Welcoming Speeches

- **Paraskevi Polydorou,** Director C.D Multimedia Services
- **Stavros Stavrou**, President, Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCCI)
- **Dr Tasos Kounoudes**, President, Cyprus Association of Research and Innovation Enterprises (CARIE)
- **Ekaterini Kavvada**, Director for Secure and Connected Space, DG DEFIS, European Commission

08:45 - 08:55 | Presidential Keynote Address: "An Autonomous Union. Open to the World."

- **Nikos Christodoulides**, H.E., the President of the Republic of Cyprus, Presidency of the Council of the European Union

08:55 - 09:00 | Cyprus Defence Industry Award Ceremony

- Presentation of the **Cyprus Defence Industry Award** to H.E. **Nikos Christodoulides**, President of the Republic of Cyprus

09:00 - 09:15 | Signing Ceremony of a Strategic Partnership

- **Hellas Sat**, **French Space Agency** (CNES), **Thales Alenia Space**, and **Safran Data Systems** - Signing of a framework operation agreement to develop an onboard optical communications system for the future Hellas Sat 5 satellite.

09:15 - 10:00 | VIP Official Visit

- Exhibition Tour & Coffee Break

SESSION I. Strengthening the EU's Defence Industrial Readiness

Context: This session examines how Europe builds defence industrial readiness in practice. It brings together EU institutions, national authorities, innovation actors and industry to explore how policy, technology and industrial participation translate into credible defence and dual-use capabilities, with Cyprus as a concrete national example.

10:00 - 10:10 | Keynote speech: "Cyprus' Defence Industrial Readiness: From Strategy to Capability Deployment"

- **Dr Panagiotis Hadjipavlis, Col AF (Ret.)**, Armaments and Defence Capabilities Development Director, Ministry of Defence (MoD), Republic of Cyprus

10:10 - 10:55 | High-Level Panel Discussion: "Building a Credible Defence and Dual-Use Industrial and Technological Base"

- Moderator: **Moritz Haller**, Head of Office, Brussels, NAVIGATE
- Panellists:
  - **Dr Panagiotis Hadjipavlis**, Col AF (Ret.), Armaments and Defence Capabilities Development Director, MoD, Republic of Cyprus
  - **Dr Niklas Nováky**, Policy Officer, Chief Executive's Policy Office at European Defence Agency (EDA)
  - **Dr Tasos Kounoudes**, President, Cyprus Association of Research and Innovation Enterprises (CARIE)
  - **Athanasios Gkegkas**, Key Expert on the TSI project «Supporting a National Defence Industry Strategy for the Republic of Cyprus»

Moderated discussion & Q&A

10:55 11:00 | Presentation: "Strengthening the Local Defence Industry through Reform and Cooperation"

- **George Stavrou,** Head of the Defence Industry Development Department, Ministry of Defence (MoD), Republic of Cyprus

11:00 - 11:05 | Presentation: "A European perspective on the Technical Support Instrument project benefiting the Republic of Cyprus"

- **Judit Rozsa**, Director in charge of the Technical Support Instrument (TSI), SG REFORM

11:05 - 11:15 | Presentation: "A European expertise partnership to support the Cyprus Defence industry"

- **Xavier Cousquer**, Director of Peace, Security and Stability Department, Expertise France
- **Athanasios Gkegkas**, Key Expert on the TSI project «Supporting a National Defence Industry Strategy for the Republic of Cyprus»

SESSION II. Force Multipliers and Future Battlefields

Context: This session examines how the character of warfare is evolving under the pressure of hybrid threats, cyber operations and growing reliance on space-enabled services. Drawing on lessons from recent conflicts and operational experience, it highlights how these domains act as force multipliers, expose new vulnerabilities and shape Europe's future defence preparedness and resilience.

11:15 - 12:00 | **High-Level Panel Discussion: "Hybrid Threats and Space as Contested Domains: Lessons from Ukraine"**

- Moderator: **Dr. Giorgos Dimitriou**, Advisor to the Cyprus MoD - Presidency of the Council of the EU
- Panellists:
  - **Ambassador Sergii Nizhynskyi**, Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ukraine to the Republic of Cyprus
  - **Ekaterini Kavvada**, Director for Secure and Connected Space, DG DEFIS, European Commission
  - **Despina Panayiotou Theodosiou**, CEO Tototheo Global
  - **Konstantinos Geroulis**, Chief Commercial Officer at HELLAS SAT

  Moderated discussion & Q&A

12:00 - 13:00 | **Cocktail Buffet & Networking in the Exhibition Area**

SESSION III: Digital and Electronic Force Multipliers for the Modern Battlefield

Context: This session examines the digital and electronic capabilities that underpin information superiority in modern operations. It highlights command and control, interoperability, secure communications, electronic warfare and AI-enabled decision-making as critical enablers across multi-domain environments.

13:00 - 14:30 | **Industry Showcases**

- Moderator: **Karina Iskandarova**, C.D Multimedia Services
- Seven Presenters (Slot length: 10-12 minutes each)

14:30 - 15:00 | **Networking Coffee Break & Exhibition Visit**

SESSION IV: Operating in Contested Environments: Platforms and Protection for a Changing Battlefield

Context: This session examines deployable defence and dual-use capabilities that ensure survivability, mobility and operational effectiveness. It brings together land platforms, protected mobility, soldier systems, unmanned assets and system integration solutions that support forces in contested operational settings.

15:00 - 16:45 | **Industry Showcases**

- Moderator: **Colonel Robert Šipec**, Head of Armament Division at the Slovenian MoD, Deputy National Armament Director
- Seven Presenters (Slot length: 10-12 minutes each)

16:45 - 17:00 | **Day 1 Strategic Takeaways**

17:00 - 18:30 | **B2B / B2G Matchmaking & Networking / Exhibition Visit**

End Day 1

DAY 2- Friday, 27th February 2026

08:00 - 08:30 | Registration for new visitors - Welcome coffee

Event Moderator: **Karina Iskandarova**, C.D Multimedia Services

SESSION V: Financing and Absorbing Europe's Defence Transformation
Context: Scaling defence and dual-use innovation depends not only on the availability of EU financing instruments but also on industry's capacity to absorb capital, integrate advanced technologies, and deploy capabilities at scale. This session examines how EU-level financial tools, commercial banks and large industrial actors interact to bridge the gap between innovation, industrial readiness and sustained production of defence and dual-use capabilities.

08:30 - 08:45 | Keynote speech: "European Defence Financing Instruments: From Innovation to Scale"

- **Aimilia Pistrika, PhD**, Head of the European Investment Bank (EIB) Group office in Cyprus

08:45 - 09:45 | High-Level Panel Discussion "From Prototype to Production: Financing, Absorption and Industrial Scale-Up"

- Moderator: **Moritz Haller**, Head of Office, Brussels, NAVIGATE
- Panellists:
  - **Antreas Antreou**, Deputy Secretary General of the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCCI)
  - **Anastasios Rozolis**, President, Hellenic Manufacturers of Defense Materiel Association (SEKPY)
  - **Nikolaos Papatsas** Vice President Hellenic Aerospace Security & Defense Industries Group (HASDIG)
  - **Jean-Marie Dumon**, Deputy Director, Head of Defence and Security, GICAN, French Maritime Industry Association
  - **Konstantinos Chatzifotis,** EU Affairs Manager, MOTOR OIL

Moderated discussion & Q&A

09:45 - 10:15 | Networking Coffee Break & Exhibition Visit

SESSION VI: From Innovation to Deployment

Context: This session examines how innovation is translated into deployable and scalable defence and dual-use capabilities. It highlights industrial delivery, software platforms, applied R&D, advanced materials and research-to-market pathways that support long-term defence readiness.

10:15 - 12:15 | **Industry Showcases**

- Moderator: **Colonel Robert Šipec,** Head of Armament Division at the Slovenian MoD, Deputy National Armament Director
- Eight Presenters (Slot length:10- 12 minutes each)

12:15 - 12:30 | **Final Wrap-Up & Closing Remarks**

- **Dr Tasos Kounoudes**, President, Cyprus Association of Research and Innovation Enterprises (CARIE)
- **Clara DELPHIN-SCHUBERT,** Defence industrial programming coordination, DG DEFIS

12:30 - 14:00 | **Networking Buffet & Exhibition Visit**

End of Conference