

**INFORMATION SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY (IST)
SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

CALL FOR PAPERS

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MILITARY
COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS (ICMCIS)**

**to be held in
Bath, United Kingdom
12-13 May 2026**



**DEADLINE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF PAPERS:
19 December 2025**

The conference is Public Release, and open to NATO Nations, NATO Bodies, Australia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Switzerland and Ukraine under the Science & Technology Enhanced Partnership (STEP), as well as to Mediterranean Dialogue nations, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ireland, New Zealand and Singapore.

IST STC Executive Officer, Ágata Swiatkiewicz
IST STC Executive Assistant, Armelle Dutruc
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A. INTRODUCTION

The International Conference on Military Communication and Information Systems (ICMCIS) will take place on **12 and 13 May 2026, in Bath, United Kingdom**, in conjunction with the 57th NATO Science & Technology Organization (STO) Information Systems Technology (IST) Scientific and Technical Committee (STC) Business Meeting. ICMCIS 2026 is organised by the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory, part of the UK Ministry of Defence.

Authors are invited to submit papers that address military challenges related to the topics listed in section D of this Call for Papers and in the format specified in section E. All papers will be peer reviewed by at least three reviewers. It is anticipated that ICMCIS 2026 will obtain support from the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), as it has since 2012, **for the publication of accepted full papers in IEEE Xplore**. For selected papers that fail to meet the criteria for full papers, and are thus rejected from IEEE publication the opportunity for participation in a poster session may be offered. Posters will be published in the IST-224 Meeting Proceedings.

Authors of the selected papers will need to provide final versions of the papers, alongside presentations, with the changes requested, by the dates noted in Section H and in accordance with the detailed instructions (see section E and F).

Attendance at and contribution to the event will require registration (section G).

All ICMCIS sessions will be **PUBLIC RELEASE**.

Note: The Meeting Proceedings published will be Public Release

B. BACKGROUND

The ICMCIS is the largest scientific conference in Europe on military Communication and Information Systems (CIS). It provides a forum for exchanging ideas and knowledge on the development and implementation of advanced Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Cyber, and Intelligence (C5I) military systems (see section C for details).

The ICMCIS strives for high scientific quality papers with triple peer reviews and IEEE technical sponsorship. The IEEE is the world's largest technical professional organization dedicated to advancing technology for the benefit of humanity. Its journals are the preferred publication route for many universities to gain higher recognition, and citations of their high-quality research.



C. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of ICMCIS are:

- To provide a forum to identify and gain input on and resolution of issues associated with NATO Policy and focus for NATO collaborative research as through the STO Programme of Work;
- To provide an overview of current NATO C5I activities as well as wider state-of-the-art research, pertaining to both the development and effective employment of CIS solutions;
- To provide a forum for sharing ideas and knowledge on the development and implementation of advanced information and communications technologies for defence and military systems.

D. TOPICS

ICMCIS covers relevant scientific topics and technologies for defence C5I, to include military information exchange, processing, storage and security. The conference is organized in three tracks. We especially encourage papers on emerging and disruptive technologies. Submitted research papers should address high quality research in one (or more) of the following topics (but not limited to):

Track 1: Intelligent Military Information Systems

- AI/ML for C2 Decision Support, Intelligence and Situational Awareness
- Synthetic Data Generation, Testing Evaluation, Verification and Validation of AI
- Solutions for Responsible AI
- Service Orchestration, Tactical Cloud, Edge/Fog Computing
- Big Data Analytics and Artificial Intelligence
- Military Internet of Things (IoT)
- Human-Machine Teaming (hybrid systems, uncrewed systems)
- Interoperability Solutions for Heterogeneous Systems and Multi-Domain Operations
- Multimodal and XR-based Human-Machine Interfaces
- Federative DS/SA systems (e.g. agentic AI, federative learning, swarms, etc)
- Quantum technologies

Track 2: Military Communication & Networks

- AI/ML for Communication and Networking
- Routing, Integrated Network Architecture and System-of-systems
- Networking Protocols and Performance
- Simulation/Emulation Tools and Scenarios for Experimentation



- Resilient Tactical Networks
- Network Orchestration and Management
- Waveforms and Signal Processing
- Non-EM Communications: Quantum, Non-RF (e.g., Optical), Acoustic
- 5G and beyond technology for defense
- Wireless Terrestrial and Satellite Transmission (including Antenna Technology), Space

Track 3: Cyber Security & Information Assurance

- Advanced Persistent Threat Detection/Mitigation, Emerging vulnerabilities
- Counter / Adversarial AI
- Cyber agents
- Cryptography and Key Management
- Multi-Level Security
- Cyber and Electromagnetic Activity (CEMA) Countermeasures
- Data-Centric Security, Zero-Trust Architectures and enabling techniques
- Quantum-safe crypto and migration
- Information Assurance & Digital Trust

E. Papers

ICMCIS is open for scientific papers at PUBLIC RELEASE level, to be submitted in the [IEEE - Manuscript Templates for Conference Proceedings](#), with the addition of the following in the abstract:

“This paper was originally presented at the International Conference on Military Communication and Information Systems (ICMCIS), organized by the Information Systems Technology (IST) Scientific and Technical Committee, IST-224-RSY – the ICMCIS, held in Bath, United Kingdom, 12-13 May 2026”.

Length: 6 pages minimum, 8 pages maximum (excluding references) for the whole paper.

Content:

- Introduction/relevance to the Conference topics and theme
- Rationale to military application
- Related work
- Description of methods employed, and results obtained
- Conclusions

Authors' names, affiliation, and emails must be included with the paper. Submissions without name(s), affiliation and emails of author(s) will not be considered.



Papers should be submitted via: <https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=icmcis2026> by **19 December 2025**. If applicable, authors shall indicate early career scientist major contributions (age < 37yr at time of presentation) in their bio. This is necessary to identify early career scientists, as there will be one best paper award and one early career scientist award issued at the conference.

F. Paper acceptance / PUBLICATION CLEARANCE

All papers will be peer reviewed in accordance with IEEE review guidelines and checked for plagiarism. Papers with an unacceptably high similarity score will be rejected immediately and not undergo review. Following the peer-review process, the selection of papers will be based on the following evaluation criteria: **military relevance and significance, scientific value, novelty, literary quality (construction / readability / legibility)** leading to an overall assessment. All authors will be notified whether or not their papers have been selected with a constructive feedback summary from the evaluation. When applicable, authors should update their paper based on the review recommendations before submitting the camera-ready copy. Only papers that meet the criteria and associated quality will be accepted. For papers that fail to meet the criteria for full papers, and are thus rejected from IEEE publication, the committee may offer the authors the opportunity for a poster session and subsequent publication in the IST-224-RSY meeting proceedings. Note that all papers going into the IST-224-RSY meeting proceedings must be reformatted using the CSO template to allow for publication by the CSO.

All authors will be informed of the Programme Committee's decision regarding the paper **by 27 February 2026**. Authors will have the opportunity to revise their papers based on the comments received and should submit their final paper by **28 March 2026**.

Authors of accepted papers will be requested to provide the following until **28 March 2026**:

- Final paper in accordance with peer review comments.
- STO Publication Release Form and IEEE copyright transfer;

Presentations should be provided no later than **28 April 2026**:

- Presentation (20-25 min + 5 min Q&A);
- Biography (<100 words) for all presenters.

The Meeting Proceedings, with an abstract of the conference papers, presentations, and posters, will be published on the NATO STO website, upon verification of the content and of the administrative requirements. Accepted full papers will be submitted to IEEE Xplore.

Only papers for which a valid, completed and signed STO Publication Release Form has been submitted are eligible for presentation during ICMCIS and publication in the NATO meeting proceedings. Authors of papers selected for publication in IEEE Xplore will need to transfer copyright



to IEEE as well. The Release Forms and IEEE form will be made available with the notification of acceptance.

Presentations, Papers and Publication Release Forms from U.S. authors or authors affiliated to U.S. entities must be sent ONLY to NATO S&T Organization U.S. National Coordinator (osd.pentagon.ousd-atl.mbx.usnatcor@mail.mil) – further information in Annex A.

G. REGISTRATION AND FEES

All authors and participants must register for the event. Registrations will open on 17 February and close 13 April 2026.

Applicable fees will be indicated on the ICMCIS website (<https://www.icmcis.eu/>). Registration will be complete and valid upon payment confirmation.

NOTE: Authors submitting papers / posters and other attendees must ensure their own financial support for participation in the ICMCIS.

H. Preliminary TIMELINES

19 December	2025	Papers due electronically
17 February	2026	Online registration open for visitors and authors
27 February	2026	Notification of Acceptance
28 March	2026	Camera-ready final paper and forms due electronically
13 April	2026	Registration to ICMCIS closed
28 April	2026	Presentation and bio due electronically
12-13 May	2026	ICMCIS



I. PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

Questions on technical aspects of the scientific programme shall be addressed to the Co-Chairs and/or the Track leads listed below.

Conference Co-Chairs

Mr Simon BAKER (host nation 2026) spbaker@dstl.gov.uk DSTL	Dr Frank Trethan JOHNSEN frank-trethan.johnsen@ffi.no FFI
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Track leads

Track 1 Intelligent Military Information Systems

Dr Michael GERZ michael.gerz@fkie.fraunhofer.de Fraunhofer FKIE	Prof Tomas KRILAVICIUS tomas.krilavicius@vdu.lt VDU
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Track 2 Military Communication & Networks

Dr Miodrag DJURICA Miodrag.djurica@tno.nl TNO	Dr Latasha SOLOMON latasha.i.solomon.civ@army.mil DEVCOM ARL
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Track 3 Cyber Security & Information Assurance

Dr Martin STRAND martin.strand@ffi.no FFI	Olwen L. WORTHINGTON (host nation 2026) OLWORTHINGTON@mail.dstl.gov.uk DSTL
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Members of the Programme Committee

Mr Antoine SMALLEGANGE
Dr Peter LENK
Dr Erik AXELL
Dr Mariann HAUGE
Dr Mari-Anne MEISTER
Maj Uula-Petteri PUROJARVI

Dr Michael STREET
Prof Jerzy LOPATKA
Dr Marek SUCHANSKI
Dr Sabine TORNOW
Prof Marek AMANOWICZ
Prof Bob MADAHAR (TER Author)



J. Additional information / Points of Contact

Questions on the administrative aspects of this event and requests for further information on STO activities should be addressed to the IST STC Executive Office via IST@cs0.nato.int. Additional information regarding instructions to Authors, templates, payment instructions, updates on the event, can be found on the website.

The General Information Package (GIP) with travel, accommodation and administrative details will be made available by the NATO STO CSO upon validation of the registration for the event.

ANNEX A

SPECIAL NOTICE TO U.S. AUTHORS AND NON-U.S. CITIZENS AFFILIATED WITH U.S. ORGANISATIONS (Ref.: NATO IST-224 RSY, Bath, United Kingdom, 12-13 May 2026)

Papers from the U.S. must be sent ONLY to the following POC:

NATO STO U.S. National Coordinator
OASD(R&E)/International Technology Programs
4800 Mark Center Drive
Suite 17D08
Alexandria, VA 22350-3600
Tel: +1 (571) 372 6539 / 6538

Email: osd.pentagon.ousd-atl.mbx.usnatcor@mail.mil

All U.S. Authors must submit timely one electronic copy to this POC. The POC will forward all U.S. papers as required by the Technical Programme Committee.

In addition to their paper, all U.S. authors must provide:

- A) A certification (Can be signed by the author) that there are no proprietary or copyright limitations.**
- B) Internal documentation from their local public affairs or foreign disclosure office (Or equivalent) that clearly shows:**
 - Title of the paper or presentation
 - Level of clearance (i.e., approved for public release)
 - Name, title, and organization of the approval authority



C) Full details of authors

Note that only complete packages (papers + items listed above) will be accepted by the U.S. POC. After review and approval, the U.S. POC will forward all U.S. papers to the IST STC Executive Office, who will send them to the Programme Committee. U.S. authors are encouraged to address questions and concerns to the POC as early as possible. Delays in meeting deadlines will impact the timely submission of your paper.