



**COUNTER-IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICES
CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE**

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Accredited COE

S296/2026

TO: See DISTRIBUTION LIST

SUBJECT: Calling Letter for Attack the Networks Operational Course (ATNOC 26.1) – from 11 May to 22 May 2026, Hoyo de Manzanares, Madrid (ESP).

DATE: 10 DECEMBER 2025

REFERENCES:

- A. Bi-SC Directive 075-007 March 2025.
- B. AJP 3.15 (C) (NATO C-IED Doctrine for Countering IEDs), 8 Feb 2018.
- C. STANAG 2294 (ACIEDP-01, Edition A, Version 1, “NATO C-IED Training Requirements”), April 2013.
- D. C-IED COE POW 2026.
- E. Save the Date Letter for Attack the Networks Operational Course (ATNOC 26.1) dated 25 November 2025.

1. NATO Nations, Australia, Austria, Ireland, New Zealand and Switzerland are kindly informed that the first iteration of the ATNOC in 2026, at the C-IED Centre of Excellence in Spain, will be conducted **from 11 May to 22 May 2026**.

Course Code (ETOC): IED-ED-22069

2. The aim of the ATNOC is to provide Attack the Networks (AtN) related situational awareness with a multidisciplinary and cross-functional understanding of C-IED. Emphasis lays on knowledge and skills to integrate and synchronize the C-IED approach across other headquarters (HQ) processes and disciplines. In four learning blocks composed of understanding the threat environment, human networks, engagement and assessment, the students will learn how to identify and analyze human networks through knowledge and understanding of the situation, to derive recommendations with lethal and non-lethal ways and for the use of military and non-military capabilities to engage all kinds of networks and to assess on the engagement effects in order to mitigate the IED threat in an operational environment.
3. Desired Training Audience for the ATNOC is military staff and Law Enforcement (and Intelligence Agencies) from NATO (and Partner nations), specifically J2, J3, J5, C-IED Staff Officers and Senior Staff Assistants from upper tactical (Component Commands) and operational level commands, or civilian equivalent posts. Officers (OF-3 and above, civilian equivalent) and Senior NCO (OR-8 and above, civilian equivalent) should be from NCS, NFS, NATO nations, Australia, New Zealand, Austria, Ireland and Switzerland and partner nations, having background in Intelligence, Operations, Plans, Targeting, C-IED, CIMIC and/or Information Activities.

NATO UNCLASSIFIED RELEASABLE TO
Australia, Austria, Ireland, New Zealand and Switzerland

4. The course has in total 24 seats for attendees. The number of seats per nation will be prioritized according to requested operational needs. Law Enforcement personnel will be granted priority over 6 seats. The authority for prioritization is the C-IED COE. The minimum number of attendees on the course will be 18 students.
5. The deadline for application for the ATNOC 26.1 is **09 March 2026**. Applications after the deadline will not be accepted.
6. If nations request more than one participant for the course, they are kindly asked to prioritize their attendees.
7. The applicants will receive the confirmation/regret mail from C-IED COE not later than **16 March 2026**. Selected participants can purchase the flight tickets after this mail. No travel arrangements should be made prior to receiving the confirmation of participation.
8. Should you have any questions, please contact the C-IED COE Point of Contacts (both):
 - Course Director:
OF-4 Luis BERMEJO (ESP-A)
E-mail: atnoc@ciedcoe.org
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 - Course Assistant:
OR-8 Ian FOREMAN (CAN-A)
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Christopher P. Bartos
Colonel, US Army
C-IED COE Deputy-Director

Disclaimer: The information contained in this document about the subject at issue only represents the point of view of NATO accredited C-IED COE, according to our knowledge and expertise. It does not reflect NATO's or national policies or positions, nor does it represent NATO in any way.

ANNEXES:

- A. Course details.
- B. Admin instructions.

DISTRIBUTION LIST

ACTION / TO:

ATNOC COURSE DISTRIBUTION LIST

INFO / CC:

ANNEX A:
COURSE DETAILS

1. Training Audience

a. Fields and levels of expertise:

NATO Intelligence, Operations, Plans, Counter Terrorism, Targeting, CIMIC, InfoOps, EOD and C-IED Staff Officers and Senior Staff Assistants from upper tactical (Component Commands) and operational level commands and personnel of Law Enforcement and Intelligence Agencies. Attendance to the C-IED Staff Officer Course (CSOC), also conducted at the C-IED COE, is a good preparation for the ATNOC and is highly recommended, especially for participants outside the C-IED environment (including Law Enforcement and Intelligence Agencies).

b. Military/civilian Ranks:

Officers (OF-3 and above) and Senior NCO (OR-8 and above) from NATO nations and Partner nations (mainly NCS and NFS), or equivalent ranks of Law Enforcement and Intelligence Agencies.

c. Language proficiency

An adequate understanding of written and spoken English is required. In accordance with STANAG 6001, a level of 3.2.3.2. (or civilian level equivalent) is recommended for students to attend this course.

2. Tentative Agenda

The ATNOC is a two-week course, including theoretical knowledge and tools, which are provided as a basis for the practical exercises. The theoretical content consists of an introduction to the AtN process itself and to widen the students' perspective for the broad fields of overlapping processes, disciplines and other AtN related activities on the operational level. The practical exercise follows in a real scenario in which students will be required, in syndicates, to undertake staff functions (Ops, Plans, Targeting and Intelligence...) within the operational HQ, going through the AtN process in order to facilitate, manage and lead the C-IED/AtN effort.

a. Distance learning

Several information and documents will be made available to the students with sufficient advance notice: NATO approach, Operational Planning Process, Scenario and References.

b. Residential/classroom course

MAY 2026

1 st week				
MONDAY 11	TUESDAY 12	WEDNESDAY 13	THURSDAY 14	FRIDAY 15
Admin tasks	1st step of the AtN process (framework)	Practical exercise (I)	2nd step of the AtN process (human networks)	2nd step of the AtN process (human networks)
Introduction and generalities				Practical exercise (II)
2 nd week				
MONDAY 18	TUESDAY 19	WEDNESDAY 20	THURSDAY 21	FRIDAY 22
Practical exercise (II)	3rd step of the AtN process (engagement)	Practical exercise (III)	4th step of the AtN process (assessment) Practical exercise (IV)	Supplementary content Admin tasks

3. Distance learning & Coordinating Instructions

Distance learning:

The ATNOC requires basic knowledge of C-IED and NATO doctrines at tactical but also operational level. In general, we recommend attending the CSOC before participating in the ATNOC. All attendees, with and without experience in C-IED (including those who participated in the CSOC), are requested to read all available documents before the face-to-face phase, in order to get up to speed with basic knowledge of C-IED.

To this end, this information will be sent and will be accessible to students once their participation has been confirmed.

ANNEX B:
ADMIN INSTRUCTIONS

1. Application for the course

Candidates wishing to apply for this course should follow the guidance below:

- a. Click [here](#) and select “**ATNOC Course**”

<https://www.ciedcoe.org/>

- b. Fill in all the additional information required and submit the form.
- c. In case you have trouble getting access to the webpage, contact the C-IED COE Course Assistant requesting an electronic version of the Personnel Application Form (PAF). Once completed, send it back digitally to the C-IED COE Course Assistant.
- d. Final seat allocation will be made by the C-IED COE.

2. Dress code

Duty uniform or battle dress uniform (BDU) or civilian equivalent (no sports clothes).

3. Security Classification

- a. The overall classification of the course will be “**NATO UNCLASSIFIED RELEASABLE TO AUT, AUS, IRL, NZL, CHE**”.
- b. The PSC (Personnel Security Clearance) is mandatory.
- c. Once you have been selected to attend the Course, you must send your NATO clearance to the course assistant **NLT 14 days before** the start of the event. It is highly recommended to bring a hard copy of the PSC as well.
- d. **The course cannot be attended without Personal Security Clearance.**

4. CIS

- a. A briefing on the use of non C-IED COE equipment will be provided on entry.
- b. Students are not allowed to use their own laptops, CD/DVD-ROMs or flash disks at Classified Areas (Class I & Class II), according to C-IED COE regulations.

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- c. During the course, each student will be provided with a laptop.
- d. Mobile phones are not permitted inside the briefing and syndicate rooms.

5. Course fee

There will be no course fee.

6. Real Life Support

Specific coordination (room reservations at the COE lodge, meals at base mess...) will be sent in the confirmation/regret mail. However, all services/needs will be carried out during the course request.

More information about accommodation and facilities can be checked at <https://www.ciedcoe.org> or by contacting the Course Assistant/CD.