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

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MADRID (SPAIN)
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Accredited COE

S053-2026

TO: See DISTRIBUTION LIST

SUBJECT: Calling Letter for C-IED COE Annual Conference 2026
(CIEDAC26)

DATE: 24 February 2026

REFERENCES: A. C-IED COE Programme of Work (PoW) 2026
B. Save the Date Letter for the C-IED COE Annual Conference
2026 (Dated 07 October 2025)

1. The C-IED COE is pleased to invite you to the **C-IED COE Annual Conference 2026 (CIEDAC26) on Counter-IED, Technical Exploitation (TE) and Battlefield Evidence (BE)**, which will take place from 15 to 18 (Monday to Thursday) June 2026, at ILUNION Valencia 4 Hotel in Valencia, Spain.
2. This conference unites military, law enforcement, industry and academic experts to tackle NATO's evolving challenges. It fosters collaboration on emerging threats, shares insights and identifies capability gaps and solutions. Building on past success, it continues to connect the Counter-IED and Technical Exploitation/Battlefield Evidence communities. Day one will open with group discussions and an Icebreaker, followed by targeted sessions on days two and three, enabling participants to engage across key disciplines.
3. The theme of CIEDAC26 is ***“The Evolution of Counter-IED Operations, Battlefield Evidence and Technical Exploitation”***.
4. The security classification of CIEDAC26 is **“UNCLASSIFIED”** and the attendance will be in-person.

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5. The **main topics** for CIEDAC26 will focus on:
 - C-IED in Multi-domain Operations (MDO): **What does the future of C-IED in military operations look like?** Explore the role and integration of C-IED across the full spectrum of military operations, from low-intensity conflicts to high-end warfare in MDO.
 - Advancing NATO's TE and BE capabilities: Promote and **expand NATO's TE/BE initiatives** among Alliance members, Partner Nations, industry stakeholders and law enforcement agencies.
 - Information and Intelligence Sharing: Facilitate the exchange of **threat updates** related to ongoing conflicts, emerging technologies and developments in C-IED and TE/BE training, education and equipping.
 - Community Insights: Bring together subject-matter experts to share operational experiences, recent developments and **evolving requirements across C-IED, TE and BE** capabilities.
 - Innovation and Enablers: Establish relationships with Industry and Academia to support NATO's defence planning priorities for **technology, equipment, experimentation and concepts**.
 - Interagency collaboration in C-IED/TE/BE: Understand **human network dynamics** and potential solutions through the collaboration within the joint/interagency environment. Discuss synergetic cross-boundary efforts and comprehensively reinforce capabilities against the effects by adversary human networks.
6. The event will feature a series of panels consisting of presentations, followed by discussions to encourage interaction among delegates. Attendees will also have the opportunity to receive firsthand information from companies about current and future proposals aimed at enhancing C-IED/TE/BE capabilities.
7. The **C-IED COE welcomes speakers** who can advance the discussion and awareness of the above main topics. We kindly ask for a short abstract and biography from those wishing to present on the main topics no later than 09 April 2026. The C-IED COE has set aside funding to support potential speakers with travel and accommodation. Please contact the event organisers at the following e-mail if you are interested in speaking: CIEDAC@ciedcoe.org .

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8. The **importance of industry** in this event cannot be understated. The C-IED COE is proud to offer booth spaces at no cost to industry partners and speaking opportunities at the CIEDAC 2026. Space and time is limited and will be offered to industry partners that can best support the aim of the conference. Please contact the event organizers at the following e-mail if you are interested in receiving an “exhibition form”: CIEDAC@ciedcoe.org .
9. On the morning of 18 June, there will be a special break-out seminar to discuss the latest insights, methodologies and best practices in the field of **Document and Media Exploitation (DOMEX)**. This event will be in-person and online. The seminar will foster collaboration among professionals in the DOMEX field, encouraging the sharing of experiences and strategies to improve operational effectiveness. Please annotate during the online registration if you plan to attend in-person. For more information please email domex@ciedcoe.org .
10. **A tentative agenda** and **administrative information** are enclosed as Annex A & B to this letter. The final agenda with specific presentations and speakers will be posted on the CIEDAC26 section within the C-IED COE official website at <https://www.ciedcoe.org/index.php/events/ciedac>, no later than 4 May 2026. Additional administrative information will be sent to approved participants.
11. Registration to the CIEDAC26 will be available through the NATO C-IED COE official website at <https://www.ciedcoe.org/index.php/events/ciedac> or the **QR Code** in Annex B until 14 May 2026. Please register with an official work e-mail address. You will receive a confirmation e-mail no later than 10 days after your registration. Please await the approval and confirmation of your participation before finalizing your travel arrangements.
12. Should you have any **questions**, please contact CIEDAC@ciedcoe.org .

Yours sincerely,

Javier SANZ Maldonado
Colonel, ESP Army
C-IED COE Director

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NATO HQ DI (C-IED Activities)
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SACT CIED JFD
SACT MA DCOS JFD MPD
SACT MPD SENF FIN OFFICER
SACT NLR ALL DISTRO LIST
SACT PARTNER NLR ALL DISTRO LIST
SHAPE OPI DCOS (J2X/COI)
SHAPE OPI DCOS (J3/SPOPS/JP/C-IED)
SHAPE POC for COEs
SHAPE POC for COEs (Action Officer)
SHAPE NMR
JALLC
JFC Brunssum (J3/J35/OPSP/C-IED) JFC
JFC Brunssum Registry
JFC Naples (J3/J35/C-IED)
JFC Naples Registry
JFC Norfolk Registry
JFC Norfolk Force Protection (C-IED)
FRA MININT (Direction Générale de la sécurité civile et de la gestion de crise)
COE Command & Control C2
COE Confined Swallow Waters CSW
COE Counter Intelligence CI
COE Cooperative Cyber Defence CCD
COE Defence Against Terrorism DAT
COE Explosive Ordnance Disposal EOD
COE Human Intelligence HUMINT
COE Joint Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear Defence JCBRND
COE Military Engineering MILENG
COE Naval Mine Warfare NMW
COE Stability Policy SP
COE Strategic Communications STRATCOM
COE MARSEC
CAF - Joint Counter Explosive Threat TF (JCET TF)
CAF ARMED FORCES TACTICS SCHOOL C-IED
CAF NAVY EOD
DEU BKA
DEU FEDERAL POLICE POC
DEU NAVY MINE CLEARING
DEU WTD 81
DEU Zentrum Counter-IED
ESP CITCO
ESP CNI

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ESP CNP
ESP GUARDIA CIVIL
EU DG-HOME
European Centre for Manual Neutralisation Capabilities ECMAN
EUROPOL – EUROPEAN COUNTER TERRORISM CENTRE
EDA
EEAS
FRA CFT POC (Land Command Forces HQ)
FRA Pôle Interarmées MUNEX (PIAM)
GBR Army 29EODSGp-GSU – Intel
GBR Army HQ/DEODS
GBR MoD - DI CA - LAND IED 1
GBR MoD / Counter-Terrorism and Security Division
GBR MoD C-IED Force Protection and CIED WG
GBR MoD Executive Officer & SO1 FP/CIED Policy
GBR MoD DSTL
GBR MoIA Metropolitan Police SO15
HQ 1st GNC, DEU
HQ Allied Air Command
HQ Allied Land Command
HQ LC Land Command CIED
HQ Allied Maritime Command
HQ ARRC, GBR
HQ EUROCORPS
HQ NATO MND-C
HQ NATO MND-E
HQ NATO MND-N
HQ NATO MND-NE
HQ NATO MND-SE
HQ NATO Rapid Deployable Corps (HQ NRDC ESP)
HQ NATO Rapid Deployable Corps GRC (NRDC GRC)
HQ NATO Rapid Deployable Corps ITA (HQ NRDC ITA)
HQ NATO Rapid Deployable Corps TUR (HQ NRDC TUR)
HQ NRDC ESP - G3 OPS Protection
Hybrid CoE
International Bomb Data Centre Working Group IBDCWG
JDEAL
INTERPOL
IRL EOD School Director (MoD)
ITA C-IED COE
ITA COMSUBIN
NATO C-UAS WG
NATO Communications and Information Agency NCIA
NATO Intelligence Fusion Centre NIFC
NATO Joint Force Training Centre JFTC
NATO Joint Support and Enabling Command (JSEC) / CIED Branch
NATO Joint Warfare Centre JWC
NATO Maritime Interdiction Operations Training Centre (NMIOTC)
NATO School Oberammergau

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NATO Special Forces HQ NSHQ
NATO Science & Technology Organization STO
NATO Technical Exploitation Group NTEG
NATO-Ukraine Joint Analysis, Training, and Education Centre (JATEC)
NLD DEC CIED
PGS / SPP (Protection and Guard Service)
PRT Joint Staff POC
ROU POC
TUR ARMY
TUR GENDARMERIE
TUR NAVY
TUR POC
UN United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operation UNDPKO
UN United Nations Department of Peace Operation UNDPO
UN United Nations Mine Action Service UNMAS
UN United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre UNCCT
USA AFRICOM
USAPACOM
USA ATF
USA DTRA
USA Defence Intelligence Agency DIA
USA EUCOM
USA National Security Agency NSA
USA JOINT PROGRAM OFFICE US (USJPO)
USAREUR
USCENTCOM
USA FBI
USA FBI LABORATORY CUANTICO
USA FBI TEDAC
USNSWC - United States Naval Special Warfare Command
World Custom Organization WCO

Australia, Austria, Ireland, New Zealand, and Switzerland
COE C-IED Military Attache/Embassy POC

CIED COE SNRs for distribution to:

CIED COE Sponsoring Nations Ministries of Defence C-IED related bodies.
CIED COE Sponsoring Nations Ministry of Internal Affairs/Homeland Security

Info:

COE C-IED STEERING COMMITTEE
COE C-IED QA

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ANNEX A

TENTATIVE AGENDA

MONDAY 15 JUNE 2026	
TIME	ACTIVITY
14:45-16:45	IN-PROCESSING
16:45-17:00	ADMINISTRATIVE & SECURITY
17:00-17:30	INTRODUCTION TO C-IED COE INTRODUCTION TO CIEDAC26
17:30-18:45	OPENING CEREMONY
19:00-21:00	ICE BREAKER (HOSTED)
TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY 16-17 JUNE 2026	
TIME	ACTIVITY
07:30-08:00	IN-PROCESSING (FOR LATE ARRIVALS)
08:00-08:15	ADMINISTRATIVE & SECURITY (FOR LATE ARRIVALS)
08:15-09:45	SPEAKERS
09:45-10:00	GROUP PICTURE
10:00-10:30	COFFEE BREAK & EXPO

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10:30-11:15	SPEAKERS
11:15-12:00	PANEL discussion
12:00-12:30	COFFEE BREAK & EXPO
12:30-14:00	SPEAKERS
14:00-15:30	LUNCH & EXPO
15:30-16:15	SPEAKERS
16:15-17:00	PANEL discussion
THURSDAY 18 JUNE 2026	
TIME	ACTIVITY
08:30-10:00	SPEAKERS
08:30-13:00	DOMEX Seminar
10:00-10:30	COFFEE BREAK & EXPO
10:30-11:15	SPEAKERS
11:15-12:00	PANEL discussion
12:00-12:30	COFFEE BREAK & EXPO
12:30-13:30	SPEAKERS
13:30-14:00	CONFERENCE CLOSURE
JUST AFTER CLOSURE	EVENT FEEDBACK ANALYSIS

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ANNEX B
ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS

1. Conference Location

Hotel ILUNION Valencia 4

Carrer de la Vall d'Aiora, 1, Benicalap, 46015 València, Valencia, Spain

Website: <https://www.ilunionhotels.com/en/hotels/ilunion-valencia-4>

Phone number: +34 963 997 400

2. Registration

To sign up to the CIEDAC26, please fill in the **online pre-registration** form that you can find on the C-IED COE official website (<https://www.ciedcoe.org/index.php/events/ciedac>). Online registration will be open until 14 May 2026. You can also use the registration QR code below:



3. Accommodation

Attendees will be responsible for arranging their accommodation.

Valencia has a wide range of hotels to choose from. Hotel ILUNION Valencia 4 has agreed to a limited discount for a number of rooms during the week of the CIEDAC (limited availability). Those that register early and receive confirmation will receive the discount code. Please understand the discounted rooms are limited and will run out.

There are a number of excellent hotels and accommodation options within the vicinity of the conference location. Please contact event organizers if you have any questions: CIEDAC@ciedcoe.org.

4. Transportation

Attendees will be responsible for arranging their transportation. Valencia is well connected by plane, train and highway. More details will be provided with the confirmation e-mail.

5. In-processing

In-processing will be at Hotel ILUNION Valencia 4 on 15 June 2026 between 14.45-16.45 at the main entrance of the conference rooms. Participants are required to present a copy of the registration form and ID card/passport at the main entrance of the facility.

Those attendees who arrive later on Monday will have the chance to do the in-processing on the following days, from 07.30 to 08.00 (Tuesday) or 08:00 to 08:30 (rest of days).

6. Meals

Coffee and substantial snacks will be provided by the organization throughout the event. Attendees are responsible for arranging their own lunch.

The conference hotel has an onsite restaurant, and there are many additional dining options within a short walking distance. Each day includes a 90-minute lunch- break to give you plenty of time.

In previous years, many participants discovered that the break-time drinks and snacks were so plentiful that a full lunch became... optional.

7. Fee

None. Thanks to the support of the Defence Against Terrorism Programme of Work, there will be no participation or exhibition fees for attendees or industry partners, including those wishing to host a booth.

8. Social activities

An Ice Breaker is planned for the evening of 15 June at the conference location, Hotel ILUNION Valencia 4. More details will be provided during the in-processing on 15 June. During registration at the website mentioned above, it is important to annotate if you will be attending the ice breaker.

“Are you going to attend the “Ice Breaker” in the evening of 15 June?”

9. Dress code

Business attire (jacket and tie for men and formal attire for women).

If an attendee wishes to wear their service uniform (military/law enforcement), it is also allowed.

For the Ice Breaker session, smart business casual. For men, trousers and a collared shirt; equivalent for women. For all, no shorts, no t-shirts and closed-toe shoes only.

In case of any questions or concerns, you can **contact** us at: CIEDAC@ciedcoe.org