



Click below to jump to the agenda for each day:

[TUE - 24 OCT](#) | [WED - 25 OCT](#) | [THU - 26 OCT](#)

All times listed are in Central European Standard Time. Event timing, location, and speakers are subject to change.

## Tuesday, October 24

### Government Only Sessions:

● Open Symposium ● SESSION FOR MILITARY & GOVERNMENT ATTENDEES ONLY

13:00 - 13:05



#### Welcome Remarks

Mr. Stu BRADIN, President & CEO - Global SOF Foundation

13:05 - 13:25



#### Opening Remarks

Lieutenant General Karel ŘEHKA, Chief of Defense - Czech Republic



13:25 - 13:55

## Czech SOF Relevancy to the Future

Mr. Tomáš POJAR, National Security Advisor - Czech Republic

13:55 - 14:55

## Keynote Speech: Open Source Intelligence for Global Due Diligence: Tailored for a Military Perspective

In an era of global operations and multi-national partnerships, effective due diligence is critical for both financial decision-making and national security. Ms. Hetherington will explain how to employ Open Source Intelligence (OSINT) methodologies to access valuable information from global corporate databases, country-specific social media platforms, and other online resources. She brings to bear over two decades of experience, having trained over 180,000 corporate security professionals, attorneys, accountants, auditors, military intelligence professionals, and federal, state, and local agencies in online intelligence practices.

Ms. Cynthia Hetherington, Founder & CEO - Hetherington Group

14:55 - 15:15

## Coffee Break

15:15 - 15:45

## FLOW DRILL "SOF Operations in Denied Spaces"

Based on a "flow drill" in which tactical teams train through a sequence of actions that simulate real-world scenarios, this session requires audience participation. Dr. Yoho will set the objectives and then quickly ask attendees a series of questions similar to how operators might move quickly (i.e., "flow") through doorways, hallways, and rooms together to accomplish the overall task of "clearing" a space. This interactive session will focus on how SOF can best operate in denied spaces.

Dr. Keenan YOHO, Vice President & Board Member - Global SOF Foundation

15:45 - 16:30

## Clandestine SOF Activities

Mr. Ivo KRAMOLIŠ, Commercial Director - NTT DATA Business Solutions

Mr. Bohumil KARTOUS, Spokesperson - Čestí elfové

Mr. Martin OCKNECHT - Czech NGO

Colonel Tomas SKACEL, Special Operational Forces Deputy Director - Czech Republic

Mr. Miroslav ZÁMEČNÍK, National Economic Council (NERV) member - Czech Republic

16:30 - 17:00



### **Keynote Speech**

Mr. František ŠULC, First Deputy Minister of Defense - Czech Republic

17:00 - 17:05



### **Closing Remarks**

17:00 - 18:30



### **Welcome Reception in Exhibit Hall**

## **Open Sessions:**

15:00 - 17:00

### **B2B Speed Networking**

Meet other Symposium attendees, learn about their capabilities, and "break the ice" on your week by participating in our B2B Speed Networking opportunity!

This event is open to all Symposium Attendees for FREE, however you must complete the separate Intake Form by 18 OCT 2023.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

17:00 - 18:30

### **Welcome Reception in the Exhibition Hall**

 Exhibition Hall

Don't miss the Welcome Reception, open to ALL GSOF Symposium Europe Attendees!

This event is THE way to kick-off the week, meet friends new and old, and get a first look at the Exhibition Hall.

Want to bring a Spouse or Friend? They can [register via the registration link](#) and select "Receptions Only" to attend all three networking receptions over the course of the week.

## Wednesday, October 25

● Open Symposium

08:30 - 09:00 ●

### Morning Coffee

09:00 - 09:15 ●

### Welcome Remarks

Mr. Matt Karres, Director of SOCOM Programs - L3Harris

09:15 - 10:00 ●

### Opening Keynote

President Petr PAVEL (Invited), President - Czech Republic

10:00 - 11:00 ●

### Fortifying Special Forces Operations with Intelligence and Cyber Capabilities

The fifth SOF truth states "most special operations require non-SOF support". The integration of intelligence into the SOF community and SOF's ability to collect, analyze, and action their own intelligence has progressively improved in the last 20 years resulting in an organic ability for forward deployed Special Operations Task Forces to Find, Fix, Finish, Exploit, Analyze, and Disseminate (F3EAD). The cyber domain requires a similar integration of experts in the SOF formation. The requirement for cyber specialists operating within SOF possessing the capability to operate in the cyber domain to gather intelligence, disrupt and target enemy systems and communications, support Unconventional Warfare, counter our adversaries Irregular/Unconventional Warfare, and provide force protection to our personnel, systems, and allies is, and will be, paramount to SOF in the current and future operational environment. This panel of experts will discuss these very important themes.

Dr. Keenan YOHO, Vice President & Board Member - Global SOF Foundation

Lieutenant General Antonio FLETCHER, Commander - Allied Special Operations Forces Command

Brigadier General Michal KOUDELKA, Head of Security Information Service (BIS) - Czech Republic

Mr. Joe TRAGAKIS, Director, J6 - U.S. Special Operations Command

11:00 - 11:30

## Networking Break

11:30 - 12:30

## Legislation as a Pathway to National Security Reform

Depending on the governmental structure of a given nation, the legislative assembly can wield significant influence on national security institutions. SOF is often used prior to hostilities and often in direct support to intelligence agencies executing tactical operations of strategic importance. Many nations lack the authority to maximize their SOF especially with the rise in "Irregular Warfare", and policymakers are changing legal restrictions to SOF support of intelligence operations. This panel will explore best practices for drafting and passing effective national security legislation to support SOF. The U.S. case study is an interesting and well known example. In the United States the creation of USSOCOM and the position of an Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low Intensity Conflict (ASD/SOLIC) was a result of the 1983 Goldwater-Nichols Department of Defense Reorganization Act in 1987. USSOCOM continued to evolve via subsequent National Defense Authorization Acts, continuously refining the role, responsibilities, and capability of USSOCOM as well as improving its interoperability with the other military services.

**This session is closed to media**

Dr. Rob De WIJK, Founder - The Hague Centre for Strategic Studies

Mr. Stu BRADIN, President & CEO - Global SOF Foundation

Colonel Otakar FOLTÝN, Deputy Chief, Presidential Military Office - Czech Republic

The Right Honourable Alec SHELBRooke, Chairman of the Defense and Security Committee - NATO

12:30 - 13:45

## Networking Lunch

13:45 - 14:15

## **SOF Slam: Innovation at NATO**

NATO has launched two new innovation projects in recent years. One is the Defence Innovation Accelerator for the North Atlantic (DIANA), which leverages a network of more than 10 affiliated accelerator sites and nearly 90 test centers to bring end users together with start-ups, scientific researchers, and technology companies in order to develop the most impactful dual-use technological solutions for the Alliance's defense and security needs. Another complementary initiative is the NATO Innovation Fund, a EUR 1 billion fund that invests in early-stage start-ups and other venture capital funds developing dual-use emerging and disruptive technologies. Mr. Phil Lockwood will discuss these programs and others to give attendees a better understanding of how NATO is working to foment innovation and ensure the Alliance is utilizing cutting-edge technologies.

Ms. Veronika BARTAKOVA, Innovation Officer - NATO International Staff

14:15 - 15:00

## **Keynote Speech (Virtual)**

Admiral William H. MCRAVEN, U.S. Navy (Retired)

15:00 - 15:30

## **Networking Break**

15:30 - 16:15

## **Session FLOW DRILL: "What We Learned for SOF Operations in Ukraine that Will Apply to Taiwan or Other Nations"**

Based on a "flow drill" in which tactical teams train through a sequence of actions that simulate real-world scenarios, this session requires audience participation. Dr. Fabian will set the objectives and then quickly ask attendees a series of questions similar to how operators might move quickly (i.e., "flow") through doorways, hallways, and rooms together to accomplish the overall task of "clearing" a space.

Dr. Sandor FABIAN, Chair of Integration and Engagement - Irregular Warfare Center

16:15 - 17:00

## **What Winning (Can) Look Like: Utility of Special Operations in Compound Security Competition**

During his recent tenure as the president of the Joint Special Operations University at U.S. Special Operations Command, Dr. Wilson led a study and initiative titled "SOF Next". His presentation will focus on what SOF can contribute: "left of conflict," "left of bang," "below the threshold of armed conflict," or in "the gray zone". What does successful campaigning (i.e., the conduct and sequencing of logically-linked military initiatives aimed at advancing well-defined, strategy-aligned priorities over time) look like? How do we best cooperate and collaborate with partners in order to deter armed conflict?

Dr. Isaiah "Ike" WILSON III, Partner, Gainful Solutions, Inc. - Professor of Practice, Arizona State University

17:00 - 18:30

**Networking Reception****Thursday, October 26**

● Open Symposium ● SESSION FOR MILITARY &amp; GOVERNMENT ATTENDEES ONLY

08:00 - 09:30

**SOF Commanders Round Table (Government & Military only)**

09:30 - 09:35

**Welcome Remarks**

09:35 - 10:00

**Keynote Speech: Strategic Competition and Irregular Warfare - From Russia and China with Love**

Both Moscow and Beijing will increase their involvement in irregular warfare over the next five years. Dr. Seth Jones will address the why and how, based on his experience as the director of the Transnational Threats Project and senior advisor to the International Security Program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

Dr. Seth G. JONES, Senior Vice President and Director of the International Security Program - Center for Strategic & International Studies

10:00 - 11:00

**The Role of SOF in Competition, Crisis and Conflict: Situation Reports**

SOF formations are operating daily around the globe to deter conflict, respond to crises, and execute kinetic missions. This remarkable panel will bring together SOF leaders from many different regions to discuss experiences, lessons learned, challenges and opportunities, as well as the way ahead from their unique perspectives.

Mr. Peter BERGEN, Vice President for Global Studies & Fellows at New America, Professor at Arizona State University, Security Analyst - CNN

Brigadier General Claudiu DOBOCAN, Special Operations Forces Commander - Romania

Brigadier General Pedro Arnulfo SÁNCHEZ SUÁREZ, Deputy Commander of the Joint Special Operations Command - Colombia

Mr. Benedikt VANGELI, Head of Centre Against Terrorism and Hybrid Threats - Czech Republic Ministry of the Interior

11:00 - 11:30



### **Networking Break**

11:30 - 12:00



### **SOF Slam: Winning the Quantum Conflict**

The quantum conflict is an ominous threat to modern encryption systems posed by capable adversaries. The impacts of failing to prepare could be catastrophic for national security and prosperity. The time to prepare is now and the solution already exists.

Mr. Doug HILL, Founder & CEO - Real Random

12:00 - 12:45



### **Fireside Chat**

Dr. Isaiah "Ike" WILSON III, Partner, Gainful Solutions, Inc. - Professor of Practice, Arizona State University

Ukrainian Special Forces Representative

12:45 - 12:55



### **Closing Remarks**

13:00 - 14:30



### **Networking Lunch**

17:00 - 19:00



### **Closing Reception**



## About The Event

Check out the recap video of our 2022 event.

## 2023 Symposium Agenda

Browse insightful sessions.

## Take Part

Become an exhibitor.

**Supported by CZE MoD**

**Organised by Clarion Defence & Security Ltd**

**Produced by Global SOF Foundation**



## Event Timings

*Subject to change*

24 October: 09:00 – 18:30

25 October: 09:00 – 18:00

26 October: 08:00 - 15:45

## Venue

### **Brno Exhibition Centre**

Výstaviště 405/1,

603 00 Brno-střed,

Czech-Republic

## Quick Links

→ [About the event](#)

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→ [Register interest to visit](#)

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