



16th International Conference on Cyber Conflict: Over the Horizon



CyCon, the International Conference on Cyber Conflict, is organised annually by the NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence (CCDCOE). The 16th iteration of CyCon will take place 28-31 May 2024 in Tallinn, Estonia.

The theme of CyCon 2024 is "Over the Horizon".

The ever-increasing rate of technological development has been apparent for some time. We are reaching a point where is also accelerating socio-economic and geopolitical change. Combined, this has the potential to cause sudden paradigm shift in world order, participative democracy and in the structure and values of our societies and economies. "Over the Horizon" denotes the need not only to look at the forthcoming technological trends on the horizon but also to start forecasting beyond that horizon due to accelerating rates of change, and to examine the outcome of potential interplay between science, technology, innovation, industry, law, socio-economic factors and geopolitics.

Even if predictions prove not to be completely accurate, such forecasting will help us prepare our societies and technologies for mitigating future challenges at an earlier structural stage and to maximise exploitation of opportunities. Examples include improving the ability of legislation to keep up with technological and social change, or having national and international conversations with citizens about the potential impact of such change to ensure inclusion in the creation of new policies.

CyCon 2024 is now opening a call for original research papers offering technical, legal, strategical, and operational insight for future cyber and cyber-related developments that humanity ought to start considering already in 2024. Papers regarding multi-sectoral and interdisciplinary cooperation are of particular interest.

Furthermore, we particularly welcome papers addressing the following topics:

- Quantum and post-quantum challenges and opportunities for the security of our societies
- Outcomes or uses of over-the-horizon scanning or useful fiction in policy making
- Innovations in the State-sponsored attack landscape
- Artificial intelligence in military operations, including cyber defence and cyber offence
- Implementing the zero trust model in the public and private sectors
- Emergence of new norms in international law applicable to cyberspace and/or space domain
- Law applicable to autonomous weapons systems
- Impact of privacy and human rights obligations on cyber operations
- Ripple effect of nation-specific approaches to sovereignty and international law

- Modernising legislation and decision making processes to keep pace with technological and social change, including best practice in legislation related to cyberspace operations
- Breaking down silos between defence, intelligence and civilian sectors to increase coherence in pivoting to address future national and international societal challenges, including crisis management and civilian-military cooperation in cyberspace
- Building bridges between technical understanding and policy development, including recognising and mitigating limitations, and maximising opportunities

One author from each paper accepted for publication in the CyCon 2024 conference proceedings will be required to make a corresponding presentation at the conference. Speakers will be exempted from the conference fee, and offered accommodation for the duration of the conference, and reimbursement for reasonable travel costs. Please note that as a default, presentations will be audio and/or video recorded and photographed for promotional and archival purposes, and the recordings and photos may be published on our website, printed and posted on social media and in press releases.

Important dates

Abstract submission: 16 October 2023

Notification of abstract acceptance: 31 October 2023

Full paper submission: 08 January 2024

Author notification: 13 February 2024

Final paper submission: 12 March 2024

Contact address

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Publication

Authors are asked to submit a 200-300-word abstract of their planned paper, describing the topic and setting out the main aspects and conclusions. After a preliminary review, the authors of accepted abstracts will be invited to submit full papers. Only original research papers that have not been previously published will be admitted for review. Authors must specify which CyCon conference track they are submitting their paper to: legal, strategy/policy, or technology. In case of doubt, consult CCDCOE in advance. The full submissions should have between 4000 and 6000 words, including abstract, footnotes, captions and references. Exceptions exceeding the maximum word count by more than 10% require prior consent by CCDCOE. Submitted papers will be subject to a double-blind review.

Links

[CyCon 2024 Style Guidance](#)

[CyCon 2024 Template](#)

[Upload abstracts and manuscripts to EasyChair](#)

[Proceedings and recordings of previous CyCon conferences](#)

The NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence (CCDCOE) is a NATO-accredited cyber defence hub focusing on research, training and exercises. This international military organisation based in Estonia is a community of 39 nations, with expertise in the areas of technology, strategy, operations and law.