

Defence Reconstruction: our priorities!

27 April 2022
17:00 – 18:30



Dear Madam, Sir,

We are pleased to invite you to an **evening conference** organised on **Wednesday 27 April 2022** by the **Centre for Security and Defence Studies** of the Royal Higher Institute for Defence.

As soon as she took office, Belgian Defence Minister Ludivine Dedonder set about implementing a global plan with initiatives for the women and men making up her department. This plan, named “POP” for “People Our Priority”, is a combination of measures to enhance the attractiveness of Defence, recruitment and retention of personnel.

On a different note, but still with a view to increasing the attractiveness of Defence, the minister has initiated a “Quarters Plan”. The objectives of this plan include modernising the department’s infrastructure and improving the geographical distribution of military quarters, in particular by creating two “Quarters of the Future”, in Charleroi and East Flanders.

This POP and Quarter Plan are in fact the first steps in updating the 2030 Strategic Vision for Defence, provided for in the government agreement and set out in the minister’s STAR plan (Security/Service, Technology, Ambition, Resilience). Indeed, this new plan, crucial for the future of Defence, presents a necessary objective in view of the complex, uncertain and unpredictable security environment in which we live. This new strategic review will lead to a change in priorities and the means that are to be allocated to the department. In the long term, the department must have adequate capacities to respond to the new contemporary challenges and to ensure the management of present and future crises and conflicts.

In order to better understand the current challenges of her department, we are honoured to welcome the minister of Defence, Mrs Ludivine Dedonder, who will touch upon the ambition of these three plans which, in the end, all aim to strengthen the security of Belgium, as well as that of its strategic partners and allies, while assigning a privileged role to Defence, at the heart of the Nation and its citizens.

This conference will take place in French and in Dutch on **Wednesday 27 April 2022 at 17.00 hours in the conference room at campus Renaissance** (entrance: **rue Hobbema 8/Hobbemanstraat 8, 1000 Brussels**). A simultaneous interpretation in English, Dutch and French will be provided in the conference room. We thank you in advance for registering via the following link: www.defence-institute.be. **Registration is compulsory and must be received by Monday 25 April 2022 at the latest.** You will then receive a registration confirmation.

(Signed)

Filip BORREMANS, MSc Eng
Air Force Colonel GS
Director-General
Royal Higher Institute for Defence

Programme:

16:30 – 17:00: Welcome
17:00 – 18:30: Conference and Q&A
18:30 – 19.30: Reception