

Russia's New Generation Warfare

Panel 1: Thematic Approach

Panel 2: Geographic Approach



21 March 2025

8:50 - 15:00

Campus Renaissance

Abstract

Over the years, 'hybrid warfare' has become a generic term to describe the combined use of non-conventional actions either to substitute or to support military operations with a view to reaching a strategic goal.

In 2013, many Western analysts saw in Russian General Valery Gerasimov's article, the full title of which being "The Value of Science is in Foresight: New Challenges Demand Rethinking the Forms and Methods of Carrying out Combat Operations", a paradigm shift in warfare doctrine, and the term 'hybrid' soon became a buzzword used for all covert hostile actions, as opposed to direct military engagement of forces.

The Russian operation in Crimea was launched on 27 February 2014, exactly one year after Gerasimov's article was published in the Russian journal Military-Industrial Kurier on 27 February 2013. These coinciding dates seemed to suggest that the annexation of Crimea and the ensuing occupation of the Luhansk and Donetsk oblasts were a direct implementation of what had become known as the 'Gerasimov Doctrine'. That somewhat hasty conclusion, however, proved far too simplistic.

Today, more than ten years have passed since the mysterious little green men appeared on the Crimean Peninsula. The world is now witnessing how the Russian aggression against Ukraine has evolved into a fully fledged war, in which old military doctrines based on massive use of lethal kinetic force result again in huge attrition of equipment and personnel.

Programme

- 08:00 – 08:50** Conference room opens the doors for the colloquium
- 08:50 – 09:00** **Welcome Address**
Rear Admiral (LH) Baudouin COPPIETERS DE GIBSON
Royal Higher Institute for Defence
- 09:00 – 09:10** **Introduction**
Captain (N) (OF 5) Kurt ENGELEN
Centre for Security and Defence Studies
- 09:10 – 09:30** **Keynote Address**
General (Ret.) Riho TERRAS
Vice-Chair, Committee on Security and Defence of
the European Parliament
- 09:30 – 11:00** **Panel 1: Russia's New Generation Warfare,
Thematic Approach**
- 11:00 – 11:30** **Coffee break**
- 11:30 – 13:00** **Panel 2: Russia's New Generation Warfare,
Geographic Approach**
- 13:00 – 14:00** **Sandwich lunch hosted by the RHID**
- 14:00 – 14:30** **Panel discussion**
- 14:30 – 15:00** **Conclusions and Summary**
Prof. Julian LINDLEY-FRENCH
The Alphen Group, The Netherlands & United Kingdom
- 15:00** **End**



Welcome Address

Rear Admiral (LH)
Baudouin COPPIETERS DE GIBSON
Royal Higher Institute for Defence

Rear Admiral (LH) Coppieters joined the Royal Military Academy in the polytechnic section and graduated in civil engineering, specializing in telecommunications, in 1994. After naval officer training, he began his career aboard the minehunters Primula and Crocus as a weapons and operations officer. He continued his studies in air defense at the Den Helder School, served on the frigate Wandelaar, and took part in the Fairwind 2000 deployment in Asia.

Promoted to lieutenant commander in 2000, he obtained a master's in military equipment engineering in Paris.

In 2008, he became the commander of the Primula, leading national and international missions.

In 2010, he headed the mine countermeasures section and coordinated the BENESAM agreements for mine hunting.

He then joined the frigate Leopold I, participating in Operation Atalanta and the Maritime Capability Building mission in 2014-2015.

In 2015, he initiated the project to replace mine countermeasure capabilities, leading to contracts for 12 new ships in 2019.

In May 2019, Coppieters took command of the frigate Louise-Marie.

From 2020 to 2024, he managed naval systems and capacity renewal.

In July 2024, he was appointed Director General of the Royal Higher Institute for Defence.



Introduction

Captain (N) (OF 5) Kurt ENGELEN
Centre for Security and Defence Studies

Navy Captain (OF-5) Kurt Engelen is Director of the Centre for Security and Defence Studies (CSDS). His primary fields of expertise include Eastern Europe – with a focus on Russian foreign policy and war doctrine –, the Arctic region, the EU security and defence policies, EU-NATO relations and strategic foresight analysis.

Kurt Engelen is a Belgian navy officer with a combined military, industry and academic background in international politics and conflict studies. During his latest assignments, he was a staff officer in charge of cooperative security and crisis management at the Belgian military representation to NATO (2015-2018), Head of the European Union section at the Belgian Defence staff strategy department (2018-2020), Belgian Delegate to the Politico-Military Group of the Council of the EU (2020-2022) and, Defence Counsellor to the Ambassador of Belgium to the Political and Security Committee (2022-2024). During his tenure at the Permanent Representation of Belgium to the EU, he held the positions of Deputy Military Representative (2022-2023) and Acting Military Representative to the EU Military Committee (March-June 2023). He has also represented Belgium in the Steering Committee of the European Security and Defence College (ESDC) (2022-2024).

On the academic front, he is a guest lecturer at the West University of Timisoara in Romania and teaches European affairs, crisis management and multilateral negotiations at the Belgian Defence College. Before joining the CSDS in 2024, Captain Engelen was already a regular guest lecturer and conference panellist at the Belgian Royal Higher Institute for Defence (RHID), at the ESDC and at various academic institutions and think tanks in Belgium and abroad.

Captain Engelen holds a master's degree in applied linguistics from the Higher Institute of Translators and Interpreters (Brussels) as well as a master's degree in international politics from the CERIS-ULB Diplomatic School of Brussels. He also holds a General Management Certificate from the Cambridge Judge Business School (United Kingdom) and a Certificate of Innovation Management from the M.I.T. Sloan School of Management (Cambridge, Massachusetts). He completed the CSDP High Level Course, the European Advanced Strategic Course on Security and Defence and the course on European Security and Geo-economics at the ESDC.



Keynote Address

General (Ret.) Riho TERRAS

Vice-Chair, Committee on Security and Defence of the European Parliament

General Riho TERRAS was born on 17 April 1967 in Kohtla-Järve, Estonia.

Between 1993 and 1994 General Terras served as Commander of the Põhja Single Infantry Company. After graduating from the Bundeswehr University (Germany, he became Commander of the Guard Battalion from 1998 to 2000.

General Riho Terras was appointed Chief of Staff of the Defence League Headquarters in 2000. From 2001 to 2004, he served as Estonian Defence Attaché in Germany and Poland.

Between 2005 and 2008, General Terras took on the position of Chief of the Analysis and Planning Department and of Chief of the Planning Section, Analysis and Planning Department in the headquarters of the Estonian Defence Forces. In 2007, he served in the NATO Training Mission - Iraq as Deputy Chief of Staff.

General Riho Terras was confirmed on December 2008 as Permanent Secretary of the Estonian Ministry of Defence. He served as Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations of the Estonian Defence Forces from January to March 2011 and then continued his service as Chief of Staff of the Estonian Defence Forces.

General Riho Terras was appointed Chief of Defence from 5 December 2011 to 5 December 2018.

He was elected as a Member of the European Parliament in 2019 and took up his mandate in February 2020. He was re-elected in June 2024. He is Vice-Chair in the Committee on Security and Defence, a member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the delegation for relations with Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo, including the EU-Bosnia and Herzegovina Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee and the EU-Kosovo Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee. He is also a substitute member in the delegation to the EU-UK Parliamentary Partnership Assembly.

General Riho Terras's civilian education includes history studies at the University of Tartu as well as a master's degree in political science and sociology from the University of Bundeswehr.

Panel 1: Russia's New Generation Warfare, Thematic Approach

Moderated by **Ms Mélissa CORNELIS**, First Counsellor
Embassy of Belgium in Luxembourg

Speakers: **Commander (N) (OF 4) Stefan LUNDQVIST**
(Maritime aspects)
Swedish Defence University, Sweden

Ms Valentyna BILAN (FIMI aspects)
V.M. Koretsky Institute of State and Law,
National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Ukraine

Prof. Laetitia SPETSCHINSKY (Trade aspects)
UC Louvain, Belgium

Colonel (GS) MSc Eng Pierre CIPARISSE
(Cyber aspects)
Belgian Defence, Cyber Command



Moderator

Ms Mélissa CORNELIS
First Counsellor
Embassy of Belgium in Luxembourg

Ms Mélissa CORNELIS is a Belgian diplomat currently serving as First Counsellor at the Embassy of Belgium in Luxembourg. With an academic background in political science from the Université catholique de Louvain, Mélissa started her career in consultancy and project management before joining Belgian Defence where she developed both her strategic acumen and tactical expertise by holding a political-military advisor role for the Strategy Department and by undergoing an Infantry Platoon Leader training. She seamlessly integrates these dual career paths as an active member of the Operational Reserve. She led in 2024 a Belgian detachment for EUMAM Ukraine. Mélissa is fluent in French, Dutch, English, Spanish and Portuguese, with a basic knowledge of German, and consolidates her diplomatic effectiveness through her experience in international relations, negotiations, military strategy and the development of interdepartmental projects.



Maritime aspects

Commander (N) (OF 4) Stefan LUNDQVIST

Swedish Defence University

Commander Stefan LUNDQVIST serves as a military lecturer in the Department of War Studies at the Swedish Defence University (SEDU) since 2010. He is an active-duty officer holding a PhD degree in political science from Åbo Akademi University, Finland. Until his marked turn towards academia, he served in various sea- and shore-based positions at tactical and operational levels of command. His research interests include IR, military strategy, security and cooperation in the Arctic and Baltic Sea regions, as well as pedagogy. Stefan Lundqvist is a frequent guest lecturer and speaker in Europe and in the U.S. Stefan Lundqvist is Pro-Dean at SEDU, Vice-Chair of its Research and Education Board, as well as Chair of its Syllabus Committee. His research has appeared in scholarly books and journals including *Studies in European Affairs*, *Defence Studies* and the *RUSI Journal*.

Trade aspects

Prof. Laetitia SPETSCHINSKY

UC Louvain

Prof. Laetitia SPETSCHINSKY is a Belgian academic with a PhD in political science/international relations from the Université catholique de Louvain, specialising in EU-Russian relations and eastern European conflict analysis. She has extensive experience in teaching, research, analytical work and media. Since 2011, she has been Chair of EU-Russian relations at the Institute of European Studies (Université catholique de Louvain), where she has taught several courses revolving around Russia and the post-Soviet space. She worked as an administrative agent for the UN Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa in 2017 and since 2003 has regularly been invited as a guest lecturer/speaker for courses and conferences supported by the European Commission or Parliament, but also within the framework of the High Studies for Security and Defence, here at the Royal Higher Institute for Defence. Since 2000, she has (co-)published several research papers and monographs on EU-Russian relations, the latest of which is entitled “Europe-Russie : chronique d’une rupture annoncée”.





FIMI aspects

Ms Valentyna BILAN

*V.M. Koretsky Institute of State and Law,
National Academy of Sciences Of Ukraine*

Ms Valentyna BILAN is a Ukrainian journalist, cultural diplomat and producer of cultural and social initiatives in the United Kingdom and Ukraine. She has been working for more than 20 years for newspapers, television and radio in Ukraine and abroad (Channel 24 TV and Munster-Express newspaper). Her career has been focused on journalism and building an informed and conscious society, especially since the outbreak of the war in Donbas in 2014.

She holds a master's degree in Ukrainian philology, and has developed skills in communication, entrepreneurship, multimedia, photography and digital content creation. She is currently attending a post-doctorate in international law and comparative law at the V.M. Koretsky Institute of State and Law, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine.

Valentyna co-founded the RE:ban recycling start-up and the Unification Handbike Ride Project, launched the Power of Ukrainian Code podcast, coordinated the charity organisation British Ukraine Aid and worked as a manager for Ealing and Hounslow Community Voluntary Service as well as Ukrainian Education Hub in the UK.

Cyber aspects

Colonel (GS) MSc Eng Pierre CIPARISSE

Belgian Defence, Cyber Command

Colonel Pierre CIPARISSE started his military career at the Belgian Royal Military Academy in 1990 where he graduated from with a master in engineering sciences with a specialisation in telecommunication.

His military career revolves around his profile as a communication and information systems operational implementation manager and technical intelligence specialist. He has held command and staff positions at various levels, the most recent of which are: the command of the 4 Gp CIS at Marche-en-Famenne (Belgium), G6 or Head of Communication and Information Systems for the Land Component, as well as Commander of the Cyber Directorate within the General Intelligence and Security Service.

Since 19 October 2022, he has taken over the function of Deputy Commander of the newly created Belgian Cyber Command.



Panel 2: Russia's New Generation Warfare, Geographic Approach

Moderated by **Mr Jeroen ZUALLAERT**
Journalist at Roularta Media Group

Speakers: **H.E. Ms Daniela MORARI** (Moldova)
Ambassador of Moldova to the EU

Dr Igor DELANOË (Middle East)
Deputy Head of the Analytical Center Observo (Moscow)
Research Associate at IRIS Center (Paris)

Dr Ivan U. KLYSZCZ (Africa)
International Centre for Defence and Security,
Estonia and Poland

Mr Ian BOND (Western Europe and North America)
Centre for European Reform, United Kingdom

Moderator

Mr Jeroen ZUALLAERT
Editor at Knack Magazine



Mr Jeroen ZUALLAERT is an editor at Knack Magazine, Belgium's main news magazine. After studying Spanish and Portuguese Linguistics and Literature, Slavonic Studies and Journalism, he started covering International Politics for Knack. Fluent in Russian, he has extensively written on Russian politics, history and society, in particular several analyses on Putin's views, Russian military thinking, propaganda tactics and political repression. He conducted interviews with Russian thinkers like Sergey Karaganov, Alexandr Grushko and Alexandr Dugin. He was part of the Pravfond investigation, an international cooperation between European media uncovering Russian influence operations. In the aftermath of that investigation, Knack was included in a Russian sanctions list in June 2024.



Moldova

H.E. Ms Daniela MORARI

Ambassador of Moldova to the EU

H.E. Ms Daniela MORARI is the Ambassador of the Republic of Moldova to the European Union, a position she has held since November 2019. She has had a distinguished career in diplomacy and European integration. Ms Morari holds a master's degree in business administration from the Academy of Economic Studies in Moldova and a master's degree in international law from Moldova State University. She has also completed specialised courses at the Geneva Centre for Security Policy and the Vienna School of International Studies. Throughout her career, Ms Morari has held various key positions within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of Moldova, including Deputy Minister, Director General for European Integration and State Secretary for European Integration. She has been instrumental in establishing and developing bilateral and multilateral relations with external partners.

Ms Morari is fluent in Romanian, English, French and Russian. She has been recognised for her contributions to the European integration process and visa liberalisation.

Middle East

Dr Igor DELANOË

*Deputy Head of the Analytical Center Observo
Research Associate at IRIS Center*



Dr Igor DELANOË is Deputy Head of the French-Russian Observatory (Moscow) since 2015 and holds a PhD in history from the University Côte d'Azur (Nice). His expertise covers the geopolitics of Russia, Russian interests in the Black Sea, the Mediterranean and the Middle East, Russia-Africa relations and Russian security and defence issues. In 2013, he achieved a post-doctorate at the John F. Kennedy School of Government (Harvard University). He is a research associate at the French Institute for International and Strategic Affairs IRIS (Paris), at the Middle East Institute Switzerland (Geneva) and at the University Côte d'Azur (within the LADIE and CMMC centres). He is a member of the Network for Strategic Analysis (Canada). He was a consultant for the French ministries of Foreign Affairs and Armed Forces, and for the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue (Geneva). He was a lecturer at the NATO Defence College (Rome) and gives conferences at the École de Guerre (Paris).



Africa

Dr Ivan U. KLYSZCZ

International Centre for Defence and Security

Dr Ivan U. KLYSZCZ has been a research fellow in Russian domestic and foreign policy at the International Centre for Defence and Security since 2022. He has published research reports, analytical articles, contributed as organiser, speaker or moderator to major policy conferences all over Europe, held media interviews among others for BBC and France 24, and advised several NGOs and governments (EE, EU, US, UK, etc.). He was also a junior research fellow, co-lecturer in the security politics department and teaching assistant in the conflict management and resolution department at the University of Tartu between 2019 and 2022.

Ivan holds a BA in philosophy from the National Autonomous University of Mexico, an international master in Russian, central and eastern European studies from the University of Glasgow and a PhD in political science (international relations) from the University of Tartu.

Western Europe and North America

Mr Ian BOND

Centre for European Reform



Mr Ian BOND has been Deputy Director of the Centre for European Reform (CER) since November 2023. He joined the CER as Foreign Policy Director in April 2013. Prior to that, he was a member of the British diplomatic service for 28 years. His last diplomatic appointment was as Political Counsellor and Joint Head of the Foreign and Security Policy Group in the British Embassy in Washington (2007-12), where he focused on US foreign policy towards Europe, the former Soviet Union, Asia and Africa. He was British Ambassador to Latvia from 2005-07, receiving a CVO (Commander of the Royal Victorian Order) for his work on Queen Elizabeth II's state visit in 2006. Previously, he was posted in Vienna as Deputy Head of the UK delegation to the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) from 2000 to 2004, working on human rights and democracy in the OSCE area, as well as on conflict prevention and resolution in the Balkans and the former Soviet Union. His earlier career included postings in Moscow (1993-96) and at NATO HQ (1987-90), as well as working in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office on the former Soviet Union, on the EU's Common Foreign and Security Policy and on NATO and UK defence policy. Ian holds an MA in classics from Oxford University and is fluent in English, French, Russian and Latvian.

Panel discussion

Moderated by **Captain (N) (OF 5) Kurt ENGELEN**
Centre for Security and Defence Studies

Speakers: **Dr Jānis BĒRZIŅŠ**
Centre for Security and Strategic Research, Latvia

Prof. Laetitia SPETSCHINSKY
UC Louvain, Belgium

Mr Ian BOND
Centre for European Reform, United Kingdom





Dr Jānis BĒRZIŅŠ
*Centre for Security and
Strategic Research*

Dr Jānis BĒRZIŅŠ is a senior researcher and former director of the Center for Security and Strategic Research (CSSR) at the National Defence Academy of Latvia, a non-resident researcher fellow and advisor at the Swedish Defence University, a senior fellow at Center for the Study of New Generation Warfare, and The Saratoga Foundation. His work focuses on the juxtaposition between the theoretical developments of Russian Military Thought and the operational reality on the ground. This includes both the hybrid and conventional aspects of warfare, such as influence, information and psychological operations.

Dr Bērziņš has lectured as a guest in the United States, Sweden, Norway, the Netherlands, Singapore, Belgium, Brazil, Estonia and Lithuania at various academic and defence institutions. They include the New York University, the Johns Hopkins University, the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies, the Swedish Defence University, the Swedish Defence Research Agency, the Norwegian Military Academy, the US Army's Asymmetric Warfare Group, the NATO's Special Operations Command Europe, the NATO/SHAPE Brunssum Headquarters, among others.

Dr Bērziņš has advised the United Kingdom House of Commons' Defence Select Committee, the Parliament of Singapore, the Swedish Government and the Polish Government. He has advised the Ministry of Defence of Singapore regarding strategic communications and influence, information and psychological operations. He has also provided expertise about Russia's doctrine for the US Department of Defense and Russia's strategic issues for the private sector.



Concluding Remarks

Prof. Dr Julian LINDLEY-FRENCH

The Alphen Group

Prof. Dr Julian LINDLEY-FRENCH is Chairman of The Alphen Group (TAG), Senior Fellow at the Institute for Statecraft in London, Director of Europa Analytica, Fellow of the Canadian Global Affairs Institute and a member of the US-German Loisch Group of the George C. Marshall Center and the Munich Security Conference. He has published twelve books and many articles and reports, in particular for the European Parliament (*Honest Broker? The EU, Strategic Autonomy and Security in the Future Arctic*, April 2021), the Center for European Policy Analysis (CEPA) in Washington (*Military Mobility: Moving Mountains for European Defence*, 2021) and for NATO (*TAG NATO Shadow Strategic Concept*, January 2022, co-written with top-level NATO and European officials).

Prof. Dr Lindley-French was educated at the University of Oxford, the University of East Anglia and the European University Institute in Florence, Italy. He holds three advanced degrees and has held three professorial chairs in the Netherlands as well as senior policy and project positions for the EU, NATO and the UN. He was Vice-President of the Atlantic Treaty Association in Brussels and Distinguished Visiting Research Fellow of the National Defense University in Washington. In 2015, he was made Honorary Member of the Anciens' Association of the NATO Defence College in Rome.

He served on the UK Chief of Defence Staff's Strategic Advisory Group and was Head of the Commander's Initiative Group (CIG), COMARRC. In November 2017, he became the lead writer for the GLOBSEC NATO adaptation report entitled *The Future Tasks of the Adapted Alliance*. He was appointed director of the high-level Future War and Deterrence Conference in 2021 and became Director of the Future War, Strategy and Technology Conference in October 2023.

Evening conference 17 April 2025

Geopolitics of the Red Sea

Dr Marieke BRANDT

Institute for Social Anthropology, Austria

Captain (N) GS Christophe COLONVAL

Belgian Navy

Evening conference 22 May 2025

Inventing NATO 3.0: A New Defence Paradigm for Europe

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