

Continuity of Services and Access to Geodata in Crisis Situations

Dear Madam, Sir,

The **Royal Higher Institute for Defence** and **AM/FM-GIS Belgium/Luxembourg** are pleased to invite you to a **seminar** organised on **Thursday 13 November 2025** from **13:00 until 17:15**.

Resilience is nowadays a key concern. Whether it be terrorist attacks, floods, recent geopolitical events or the many conflicts around the world, access to geospatial and positioning data remains a constant challenge. This challenge is all the more crucial in areas not permanently covered by modern means of communication, where the availability of this information is essential for emergency services, defence and many other professionals responsible for our security.

This seminar aims to demonstrate the importance of having an access as permanent as possible to this strategic data. Join us to hear experts from a variety of backgrounds (public, private and academic organisations) who will share their strategies, experiences and existing solutions for optimising the access to and the use of geospatial information.

Prepare to be inspired and enlightened as current events remind us every day that, while this data is essential, the environment in which it is used can deteriorate rapidly.

The event will take place **in French and Dutch in the conference room at campus Renaissance (entrance: rue Hobbema 8/Hobbemastraat 8, 1000 Brussels)**. **Simultaneous interpretation in French and Dutch will be provided in the conference room**. It will not be possible to follow the seminar online.

We thank you in advance for registering via the following link: www.defence-institute.be. **Registration by Sunday 9 November 2025 at the latest is compulsory.**

(Signed)
Baudouin COPPIETERS DE GIBSON, MSc Eng
Rear Admiral
Director-general
Royal Higher Institute for Defence

Programme Thursday 13 November

- 12:30 – 13:00** **Welcome and Networking in the conference room**
- 13:00 – 13:15** **Introduction and Welcome Address**
Colonel GS Éric KALAJZIC (*Royal Higher Institute for Defence*)
Mr Ludovic DAIX (*AM/FM-GIS Belgium/Luxembourg*)
Mr Simon VAN HOEYMISSSEN (*Centre for Security and Defence Studies*)

Geopolitics

- 13:15 – 13:35** **L'enjeu du partage de l'information**
Air Force Senior Captain (OF-3) Estelle HOORICKX, PhD, CSDS researcher (*Centre for Security and Defence Studies*)
- 13:35 – 13:55** **L'apport stratégique des données spatiales dans la conduite des opérations militaires contemporaines**
Mr Alain DE NEVE, defence analyst, CSDS researcher (*Centre for Security and Defence Studies*)
- 13:55 – 14:10** **Q&A**

Crisis situation

- 14:10 – 14:30** **Geodata Collected During 2021 Floods in Wallonia – Learning and Experiences**
Mr Patrick ENGELS, expert (*SPW Agriculture, Ressources naturelles et Environnement – SPW Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment*)
- 14:30 – 14:50** **Positioning, Navigation and Timing – Besoin de résilience et de gouvernance**
Mr Jeffrey VERBEURGT, Head of Geodesy Department (*National Geographic Institute of Belgium*)
- 14:50 – 15:10** **Introduction to Navigation Warfare**
Air Force Lieutenant Colonel Nicolas GÉRÔME, MSc Eng, Commander of the Belgian Defence Geospatial Centre (*Belgian Defence*)
- 15:10 – 15:25** **Q&A**
- 15:25 – 15:40** **Coffee break**

Technical solutions

- 15:50 – 16:10** **Uniform and Shared Geo for Emergency Services 2.0**
Mr Rink KRUK, Senior Strategic Expert (*National Geographic Institute of Belgium*)
- 16:10 – 16:30** **La plateforme digitale du SatCen, une infrastructure cloud classifiée pour l'échange GEOINT entre États Membres et institutions de l'Union européenne**
Mr Alexis LETULIER, Head of IT Division (*European Union Satellite Centre*)
- 16:30 – 16:50** **ASTRID, fournisseur de solutions Geo Intelligence pour les missions critiques de secours et de sécurité**
Mr Philippe VANDEVONDELE, GIS Product Owner (*Astrid*)
- 16:50 – 17:10** **New Space, Real Impact – Garantir l'accès souverain aux données et communication en période de crise**
Mr Pierre JOACHIM, Head of Space Projects (*AerospaceLab*)
- 17:10 – 17:25** **Q&A**
- 17:25 – 19:00** **Closing address, followed by a reception with networking opportunities**
- 19:00** **END**