

BSC Berlin Security Conference

24th Congress on European Security and Defence

One of the largest events on European Security and Defence. Exhibitions of international companies.

18–19 November 2025

Vienna House Andel's Berlin

Landsberger Allee 106

D-10369 Berlin

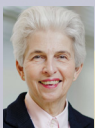
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Partner Nation 2025: Sweden



Europe and NATO: Reliable Resilience – Credible Deterrence

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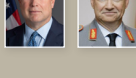
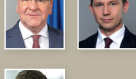
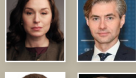


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Congress language: English

Status as of
3 November 2025

Under attendance
of HRH The Crown
Princess Victoria of
Sweden, Duchess of
Västergötland!



Main Programme

Tuesday, 18 November 2025

Overall Moderation:

- » **Major General (ret.) Reinhard Wolski**,
Chairman, BSC
- » **Katarina Tracz**, Security and Defence
Analyst

- 07.00 Women's Breakfast (invited only, sponsored by Elbit Systems, IAI, Helsing)
- 08.00 Opening of the Exhibition / Registration
- 08.30 Announcements, National Anthems, Stabsmusikkorps der Bundeswehr
- 08.45 **Welcome to the Congress**
» **Dr Eva-Charlotte Proll**, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher, Behörden Spiegel
» **Dr Marie-Agnes Strack-Zimmermann**, MEP, Chair of the Security and Defence Committee in the European Parliament, Congress President BSC

- 09.00 **OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE**
Opening Ceremony
» **Florian Hahn**, Minister of State, Federal Foreign Office, Germany

- 09.20 » **Keynote**
» **General Ingo Gerhartz**, Commander, Joint Force Command Brunssum
- 09.45 **'More Scharnhorst' – Digital Sovereignty as a Mandate for State, Military, and Economy**
» **Michael Guschlbauer**, COO, Bechtle

- 10.05 Coffee Break
- 10.35 **The enemy in our machine – Secure and robust intelligent systems**
» **Boris Hecker**, Managing Director, Head of Public Sector and Defence Germany, Atos Germany

- 11.00 **HIGH-LEVEL DEBATE**
"THE NORTH: From the Baltics to the Arctic circle: Threat, risks and their mitigation"
Chair: **Katarina Tracz**, Security and Defence Analyst
» **Kęstutis Budrys**, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Lithuania
» **General Michael Claesson**, CHOD, Sweden
» **General Markus Laubenthal**, Chief of Staff, Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE)
» **Eivind Vad Petersson**, State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norway
» **Vice Admiral Frank Trojahn**, Danish Military Representative to NATO

- 12.00 Lunchtime
- 13.00 **Panels Sessions A1 – A9** »»»» **BSC STARTUP CHALLENGE**
- 14.30 **Keynote**
» **Dr Pål Jonson**, Minister of Defence, Sweden
» **Boris Pistorius**, Minister of Defence, Germany

- 15.30 Coffee Break
- 16.00 **The European sovereignty blueprint - enabling credible deterrence and force multiplication**
» **Ludwig Biller**, Director, Strategy&

- 16.25 **HIGH-LEVEL DEBATE**
"Authoritarianism on the rise / Russia: Threat, risk and mitigation"
Chair: **Dr Tobias Lindner**, BSC Advisory Board
» **Sorin Dan-Moldovan***, State Secretary, Ministry of National Defence, Romania
» **Ejup Maqedonci**, Minister of Defence, Kosovo
» **Dr Gudrun Persson**, Senior Analyst, Swedish Armed Forces
» **Arseniy Yatsenyuk**, former Prime Minister, Ukraine (2014-2016)

- 17.25 **The Enduring Value of Transatlantic Industrial Partnerships**
» **Steve O'Bryan**, Corporate Vice President and Global Business Development Officer, Northrop Grumman Corporation

- 17.50 **HIGH-LEVEL DEBATE**
"Europe's Role in a multipolar world"
Chair: **Dr Marie-Agnes Strack-Zimmermann**, MEP, Chair of the Security and Defence Committee in the European Parliament, Congress President BSC
» **Mikael Frisell**, General Director Civil Contingencies Agency, Sweden
» **Michael Gahler**, MEP, Foreign Affairs Coordinator of the EPP Group in the European Parliament
» **Benjamin Hartmann**, Cabinet Expert and Diplomatic Adviser, Cabinet Andrius Kubilius, European Commission
» **Catriona Mace**, Foreign and Development Policy Director, U.K. Mission to the European Union
» **H.E. Matthew G. Whitaker**, U.S. Ambassador to NATO
» **Lieutenant General Wolfgang Wien**, German Military Representative to the NATO and EU Military Committee

- 19.00 **CiDAN/ESDA Award Ceremony**
- 19.30 **Buffet & Networking**

»»»» BSC STARTUP CHALLENGE, 18 November 2025, 13:50 – 15:10

- 13:05 **Introduction**
Welcome to the 1st BSC Day

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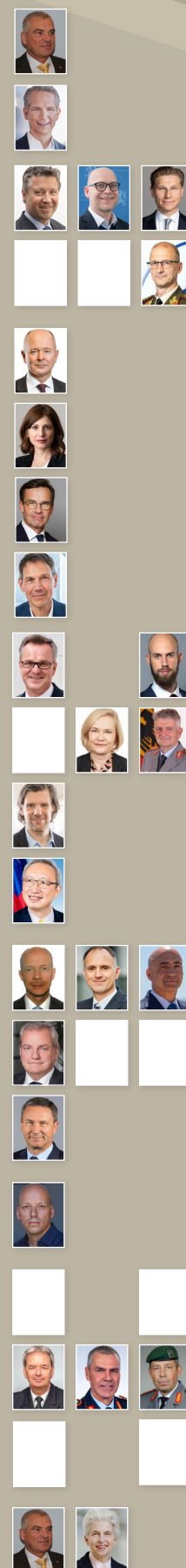
- » **Major General (ret.) Reinhard Wolski**, Chairman, BSC
- » **Katarina Tracz**, Security and Defence Analyst

08.00	Opening of the Exhibition
08.30	OPENING OF THE 2ND CONFERENCE DAY Welcome to the 2nd Conference Day » Major General (ret.) Reinhard Wolski , Chairman, BSC
08.35	Industrial Technology for Security and Sovereignty » Dr Peter Koerte , Member of the Managing Board, Chief Technology Officer, Chief Strategy Officer, Siemens
09.00	HIGH-LEVEL DEBATE "The Transatlantic Bond" <i>Chair:</i> Dr Géza von Geyr , State Secretary, Federal Foreign Office, Germany » Lieutenant General Remigijus Baltrėnas , Director General of the International Military Staff, NATO » Andreas Flām , State Secretary, Ministry of Defence, Norway » Antti Häkkinen , Minister of Defence, Finland » H.E. Angus Lapsley* , Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to NATO » Alex Meltzer* , Charge d'Affairs, US Embassy to Germany
10.00	Taking Responsibility: Why Defence Is Fundamental to Europe's Democracy » Micael Johansson , CEO, SAAB
10.25	Keynote » Irene Fellin , Secretary General's Special Representative for Women, Peace and Security, NATO
10.35	Coffee Break
11.00	Keynote / Q&A » Ulf Kristersson , Prime Minister, Sweden
11.35	European Defence: How to create the industrial and technological landscape we need » René Obermann , Chairman of the Board of Directors, Airbus
12.00	LEADERS' TALK ON TOTAL DEFENCE <i>Chair:</i> Hans-Georg Engelke , State Secretary, Ministry of the Interior, Germany » Carl-Oskar Bohlin , Minister of Civil Defence, Sweden » Dr Christoph Erdmann , CEO, Secusmart » Mari Rantanen , Minister of the Interior, Finland » Lieutenant General Alexander Sollfrank , Commander, Bundeswehr Joint Force Command
12.50	Lunch
13.50	PANELS SESSIONS B1 – B8 »»»» BSC STARTUP CHALLENGE
15.15	Keynote » H.E. Ambassador Francois Chihchung Wu , Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Taiwan
15.40	HIGH-LEVEL DEBATE "Capability Build-Up of the European Pillar" <i>Chair:</i> Herald Ruijters , Deputy Director-General for EU Defence and Space » Eric Béranger , CEO, MBDA » Major General Andre Denk , Executive Director, European Defence Agency » Jan Pie , Strategic Adviser to the ASD President, ASD » Rear Admiral Massimo Scialpi , Deputy Director, OCCAR EA, Germany » N.N. , Supreme Allied Commander Transformation, NATO
16.40	Equipping Europe's forces for their most important missions » Dr Gundbert Scherf , Founder, Co-CEO, Helsing
17.05	FUTURE FORCES FORUM: "The Chiefs' Session": Fight tonight – Fight tomorrow <i>Chair:</i> Nana Brink , Member of Executive Board WIIIS e.V. » Vice Admiral Dr Thomas Daum , Chief, German Cyber and Information Force » Lieutenant General Gerald Funke , Commander, Bundeswehr Joint Support Command Headquarters » Lieutenant General Heico Hübner , Deputy Chief, German Army » Lieutenant General Günter Katz , Commander, Air Force Command Cologne, Germany » N.N. , German Navy
17.50	Handover Ceremony to the next Partner Nation Lithuania
18.00	Closing Session and Farewell » Dr Marie-Agnes Strack-Zimmermann , MEP, Chair of the Security and Defence Committee in the European Parliament, Congress President BSC » Reinhard Wolski , Chairman, BSC
18.20	End of Congress

»»»» **BSC STARTUP CHALLENGE, 19 November 2024, 13:30 – 15:00**

13:45 **Introduction**
Welcome to the 2nd BSC Day

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Panel Programme

Tuesday, 18 November 2025**PANEL A1****NATO Capability Targets – Consequences for European Armies**

Chair: **Jessica Nies**, Vice President, Section Head Berlin, German Society for Security Policy

Introduction: **Dr Thomas Kauffmann**, Vice President, GDELS, Managing Director, GDELS Germany

Panellists:

- » **Major General Peter Boysen**, Chief, Danish Army
- » **Simon Brünjes**, Vice President Land Systems, Helsing
- » **Lieutenant General Christian Freudig**, Chief, German Army
- » **Lorenz Lehmhaus**, Associate Partner, IBM Consulting
- » **Major General Jonny Lindfors**, Chief, Swedish Army
- » **Brigadier General Nerijus Stankevičius**, Chief, Lithuanian Army
- » **Lieutenant General Jan Swillens**, Chief, Dutch Army

PANEL A2**Air Forces**

Chair: **Major General Jonas Wikman**, Chief, Swedish Air Force

Introduction: **Stephanie Lingemann**, Senior Director Programmes, Helsing

Panellists:

- » **Marco Gumbrecht**, Senior Vice President, Head of Key Account Germany, Airbus Defence and Space
- » **Lieutenant General Günter Katz**, Commander, Air Force Command Cologne, Germany
- » **Johan Segertoft**, Head of Business Unit Gripen, SAAB
- » **Doug Stevenson**, Vice President of Europe and NATO, Requirements and Capabilities, RTX

PANEL A3**North Atlantic Challenges**

Chair: **Rear Admiral Johan Norlén**, Chief, Swedish Navy

Introduction: **Chandra Marshall**, Vice President & General Manager, Lockheed Martin

Panellists:

- » **Fabian Bannasch**, CEO, Evologics
- » **Rear Admiral Richard Kesten**, Chief of Staff, German Navy
- » **Vice Admiral Angus Topshee**, Commander, Royal Canadian Navy
- » **Magiel Venema**, Managing Director, Damen Schelde Naval

PANEL A4**Cyber-Information Forces**

Chair: **Vice Admiral Dr Thomas Daum**, Chief, German Cyber and Information Domain Service

Introduction: **N.N.**, Trellix

Panellists:

- » **Lieutenant General Tom Copinger-Symes**, Deputy Commander, Cyber & Specialist Operation Command, UK
- » **Major General Armin Fleischmann**, Head of Planning CIR and Digitization of the Bundeswehr, German Cyber and Information Domain Service
- » **Colonel Thomas Höglund**, Commander Cyber Defence, Swedish Armed Forces
- » **Fredrik Landberg**, Vice President Defence, Akkodis Nordics
- » **Chris Ruffner**, CEO & Country Director, Thales Germany
- » **Robert Wortmann**, Principal Security Strategist, Trend Micro

PANEL A5**Enablement and the Civilian Support**

Chair: **Lieutenant General Gerald Funke**, Commanding General, Bundeswehr Joint Forces Services

Introduction: **Christian Fischbach**, Executive Professional, Schwarz Digits

Panellists:

- » **Major General (MC) Dr Johannes Backus**, Commander, German Armed Forces Healthcare Command
- » **Prof Heiko Höfler**, Partner, PwC
- » **Brigadier General Stig-Olof Krohné**, Deputy Chief, General Staff's Directorate of Support Service, Sweden
- » **Sabine Lackner**, President, Technical Relief Agency, Germany
- » **Dr Michaela Ramirez Schulschenk**, Head of Division Health Security, Crisis Management National and European, Federal Ministry for Health in Germany
- » **Daniel Zeitler**, Director Product Management, Vincoron

Tuesday, 18 November 2025

PANEL A6

Availability of Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices – A Civil-Military challenge in NATO and Europe

Chair: **Major General (MC) Almut Nolte**, Deputy Surgeon General Commander of the Bundeswehr, Joint Medical Service, Director for Operations and Health Care Directorate

Introduction: **Prof Djordje Nikolic**, Managing Director, Accenture and consus.health

Panellists:

- » **Markus Bensmann**, Division Manager, Maltese Relief Service, Germany
- » **Brigadier General Clas Ivgren**, General Physician, Swedish Armed Forces
- » **Dr Kai Joachimsen**, Chief Executive Officer, German Pharmaceutical Industry Association
- » **Dr Armin Hoffmann**, President Federal Chamber of Pharmacists, Germany
- » **Thomas Müller**, Director Directorate General Medicinal Products, Medical Devices, Biotechnology, Federal Ministry of Health, Germany
- » **Ask Eirik Storsve**, Senior Director, Head of International Government Affairs, Emergent Bio Solutions

PANEL A7

Procurement

Chair: **Dr Hans-Christoph Atzpodien**, CEO, German Security and Defence Industry Association

Introduction: **Johannes Artl**, Senior Vice President, STARK

Panellists:

- » **Karl Heinz Gerlach**, CEO, Schmidt & Bender
- » **Eva Hagwall**, Deputy Director, Swedish Defence Material Agency
- » **Jussi Järvinen**, Executive Vice President, Patria
- » **Grith Poulsen**, Deputy Director, Ministry of Defence Acquisition and Logistics Organisation, Denmark
- » **Helmut Rauch**, CEO, Diehl Defence
- » **Vice Admiral Carsten Stawitzki**, Head of Armaments Department, Ministry of Defence, Germany

PANEL A8

Resilience as a Strategic Capability: Rethinking Germany's and Europe's Security Architecture

Chair: **Silvia Petig**, Chairwoman, WIIS e.V. Germany

- » **Lieutenant Colonel Katharina Benford**, Federal Academy for Security Policy
- » **Florian Keisinger**, Chief Executive Officer of the Association of German Seaport Operations
- » **Thorsten Kirschner**, Military General Dean of the Protestant Church
- » **Patricia Schneider**, Bundeswehr Command and Staff College
- » **Caroline Schweitzer**, Managing Director, Fraunhofer Division Defense, Prevention and Security, VVS
- » **Charlotte Weil von der Ahe**, Senior Group Director Government Affairs, Helsing
- » **N.N.**, Deloitte

PANEL A9

How to accelerate the financial-industrial Process in military Procurement

Chair: **Matthias Wittenburg**, Honorary Consul Namibia for Hamburg, Mecklenburg -Vorpommern and Schlesweig-Holstein

Introduction: **Enrico Scharlock**, Aerospace & Defense Solution Experience Senior Director, Dassault Systèmes

Panellists:

- » **Robert de Groot**, Vice-President, European Investment Bank
- » **Heinz Hilger**, Divisional Director, Large Corporates, LBBW
- » **Rainer Lindenau**, Partner and Managing Director, Valantic
- » **Kristian Orrbeck**, Head of Defence, Industry and Medtech, Swedish Export Credit Agency



Panel Programme

Wednesday, 19 November 2025

PANEL B1

Total Defence

Chair: **Lieutenant General (ret.) Martin Schelleis**

Introduction: **Jens Stephan**, Director FA&D in CER, PTC

Panellists:

- » **Torsten Bernström**, Global Industry Lead Defence, CGI
- » **Björn Borgman**, Partner, KPMG Sweden
- » **Magnus Hjort**, Director General, Psychological Defence Agency, Sweden
- » **Petteri Korvala**, Secretary General, National Security Committee, Finland
- » **Peter Lauwe**, Head of Department, Protection of Infrastructure, Federal Office for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief, Germany
- » **Clemens Mayr-Harting**, Federal Chancellor's Office, Austria
- » **Dr Wolfgang Zink**, Partner, PwC

PANEL B2

Military Research and Development

Chair: **Prof Wolfgang Koch**, Chief Scientist, Head Sensor Data & Information Fusion, Fraunhofer, FKIE

Introduction: **Dr Florian Andresen**, Manager, PwC

Panellists:

- » **Angelo Conigliello**, Chief Technology Officer EMEA, Safety & Security, Defence, AI, Computer Vision, Dell Technologies
- » **Lars Höstbeck**, Director of Division, Defence Technology, Swedish Defence Research Agency (FOI)
- » **Prof Jo-Yen Nieh**, Associate Professor, National Defence University, Taipeh
- » **Peter Nilsson**, Head of Business Unit Advanced Programs, SAAB
- » **Daniela Pistoia**, Corporate Chief Scientist, ELT Group
- » **Dr Thomas Rothacher**, Deputy Chief of Armament, Federal Department of Defence, Civil Protection and Sport, Switzerland
- » **Eric Voss**, Senior Vice President Sales Defense, IAV

PANEL B3

The Use of AI in the Military

Chair: **Prof Stefan Pickl**, Chair for Operations Research, University of the Bundeswehr Munich

Introduction: **Marcel Taubert**, Vice President Defence & Space, secunet Security Networks

Panellists:

- » **Harald Mannheim**, Head of Defence Digital and Cyber, Managing Director, Airbus Defence and Space
- » **Dr Scott Mongeau**, Lead Solutions Architect, Google Cloud
- » **Brigadier General Dr Volker Pötzsch**, Deputy Head of Cyber/Information Technology Department, Ministry of Defence, Germany
- » **Ada Shani**, Deputy Director Intelligence, IAI

PANEL B4

Women, Peace and Security in Deterrence and Defence

Chair: **Charlotte Isaksson**, Gender Advisor, Swedish Armed Forces

Panellists:

- » **Breda Bunic**, Senior Analyst, CoE of Countering Hybrid Threats, Helsinki
- » **Irene Fellin**, Secretary General's Special Representative for Women, Peace and Security, NATO
- » **Lieutenant Colonel Olov Kesselmark**, Commander, Nordic Centre for Gender in Military Operations
- » **Nina Larsson**, Minister for Gender Equality and Working Life, Sweden
- » **Johanna Persson**, CEO & President, Adapteo Group

PANEL B5

Innovation as a Driving Force on the Battlefield

Chair: **Lieutenant General Michael Vetter**, Chief, CIT Department, Ministry of Defence, Germany

Introduction: **Marc Akkermann**, Head of Market Segment Public Defence, Capgemini

Panellists:

- » **Dr Fulvio Arreghini**, Head of Global Business, Infodas
- » **Major General Mathias Hanson**, Chief Information Officer, Swedish Armed Forces
- » **Lieutenant General (ret.) Frank Leidenberger**, former CEO, BWI
- » **Dr Philipp Müller**, Vice President Public Sales, DriveLock
- » **Alexander Philipp**, Managing Director, Rohde & Schwarz
- » **Marc Wietfeld**, CEO, ARX Robotics

Wednesday, 19 November 2025

PANEL B6

Progress of the Military Use of Space

Chair: **Rear Admiral Louis Tillier**, Director, European Satellite Centre

Panellists:

- » **Colonel Sylvain Debarre**, Space CoE, NATO
- » **Dr Clemens Kaiser**, Chief Program Officer, Deputy CEO, Rivada Space Networks
- » **Martin Polak**, Managing Director, Planet Labs Germany
- » **Sven Sünberg**, Managing Director, MBS
- » **Rear Admiral Anders Sundemann**, Commander, Swedish Armed Forces Space Component
- » **Major General Michael Traut**, Commander, Space Command, Germany
- » **Major General Isaac Manuel Crespo Zaragoza**, Commander, Space Command, Spain

PANEL B7

Hybrid Warfare Threats – Destabilisation

Chair: **Dr Gehard Conrad**, Director (ret.) Federal Intelligence Service

Introduction: **Dr Carsten Willems**, CEO, VMRay

Panellists:

- » **Aleksi Aho**, Analyst, CoE of Countering Hybrid Threats
- » **Sviatoslov Hnizdovski**, CEO, OpenMinds Global
- » **Fredrik Löjdquist**, Director Stockholm Centre for Eastern Europe Studies, Sweden
- » **Ingo Schubert**, Field CTO, RSA
- » **Imogen Verret**, EMEA Public Sector Lead, Defence, Google Cloud

PANEL B8

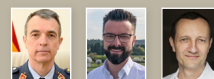
Protection of Critical Infrastructure

Chair: **Dr Christoph Hübner**, Deputy Director, Crisis Management and Civil Protection, Ministry of the Interior, Germany

Introduction: **Prof Heiko Höfler**, Partner, PwC

Panellists:

- » **Harald Aarø**, EVP Business Development and Strategy, Kongsberg
- » **Sebastian Bauer**, Vice President Business Development & Marketing, Elbit Systems
- » **Brigadier General Aki Heikkinen**, Assistant Chief of Staff Operations, Defence Command, Finland
- » **Rear Admiral Francesco Milazzo**, Head of the 5th Department Submarines, Italian Navy
- » **Major General Gunnar Arpe Nielsen**, Chief of the Home Guard, Denmark
- » **N.N.**, PD Consulting



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