



Workshop Agenda (30.05.2026)

ESA Maritime Security Workshop: *Tackling challenges in the Baltic Sea & Overseas Territories*

1st (pm)– 2nd of June 2026

Ponta Delgada, San Miguel Island, Azores, Portugal
(3rd June morning – Optional Social Visit)

Agenda

1 June 2026 - PM

Welcome Cocktail

Arrival of participants

18:00 – 18:05 Welcome address by **Pascal Legai**, Senior Security Adviser to ESA DG, DG-OS, ESA

18:05 – 18:15 Welcome address by **Commodore Nicholson Lavrador**, Commander of the Azores Maritime Zone, Regional Commander of the Azores Maritime Police, Head of the Azores Maritime Department

18:15 – 18:25 Welcome address by **Benoist Bihan**, Director, CAPRI

18:25 – 18:35 Welcome address by **André Craveiro**, Coordinator of the Azores Mission Structure for Space

18:35 Start of Cocktail

21:00 End of Cocktail

2 June 2026

Start of the Workshop

8:30 – 9:00 Arrival of participants and registration (badges distribution)

9:00 – 9:05 Welcome address by **Rui Martins**, Regional Director for Maritime Policies, Azores Government

9:05 – 9:20 Welcome address by **Ricardo Conde**, President, Portuguese Space Agency

9:20 – 9:25 Keynote message (video) by **Josef Aschbacher**, Director General, ESA

9:25 – 9:40 Keynote address by **Fiammetta Diani**, Head of Market, Downstream and Innovation, EUSPA

9:40 – 9:55 Keynote address by **Brigadier General Francisco Dionísio**, Commander of the Azores Air Zone – Representative of the Portuguese Minister of National Defence

9:55 – 10:10 Keynote address by **Admiral Nuno de Noronha Bragança**, Coordinator of the Atlantic Center

10:10 – 10:20 Introductory words and video (*to be identified with CSC/RND*) by **Pascal Legai**, Senior Security Adviser to ESA DG, DG-OS, ESA

Satellites play a vital role in advancing maritime security operations by providing comprehensive and reliable surveillance capabilities, helping mitigation of threats and challenges affecting both the Baltic and overseas territories. They enable potential real-time permanent monitoring of vast ocean areas, which is otherwise challenging with conventional methods.

1st SESSION: Space Infrastructures for Security in the Baltic Sea
10:20 – 13:30

10:20 – 11:30 Panel 1: Maritime Security Challenges in the Baltic Sea

Moderator: Isabelle Duvaux-Bechon, Consultant on Security / defence projects for ESA
Senior Security Coordinator

This panel will review specific challenges faced by the Baltic Sea European neighbouring countries and how the maritime domain awareness is key for the security of the region. Speakers will address how space assets contribute to resilience and informed decision-making against jamming, spoofing, cyber threats, and hybrid risks in an increasingly complex security environment.

10:20 – 10:30 Presentation by **Pedro Lourenco**, Head of Unit Surveillance in Department Safety, Security and Surveillance, EMSA

10:30 – 11:30 Discussion led by the **Moderator**

Speakers:

- **Otto Tabuns**, Founding Director and member of the BSF Board, Baltic Security Foundation
- **Louise Souverbie**, Researcher and Head of the Europe, EU, NATO Programme on political developments in European countries, IRIS
- **Jesper Bank**, Chief Commercial Officer, Port of Esbjerg
- **Breda Bunič**, Senior Analyst, European Centre of Excellence for countering Hybrid threats
- **Olivier Surly**, Senior Director Europe, Business Development, Geoinformation, MDA

11:30 – 12:00 **Coffee Break / Flash talks: ICEYE & GomSpace & MDA Space**

12:00 – 13:30 Panel 2: Space Assets for Maritime Geostrategic Surveillance in the Baltic Sea

Moderator: Thibault Taillade, EO Security Applications Engineer, EOP, ESA

Discussions will address the added value of satellite-based Earth Observation, PNT, Connectivity for vessel detection, and cooperation between civilian and defence actors. The panel will highlight the role of resilient GNSS services, cybersecurity measures, and user perspectives from maritime authorities and commercial operators.

12:00 – 12:05 Presentation by **Laurent Jaffart (video)**, Director of Resilience, Navigation and Connectivity, ESA

12:05 – 12:15 Presentation by **Christophe Gomart**, Member of the European Parliament and Vice-Chair of the Committee on Security and Defence

12:15 – 13:15 Discussion led by the **Moderator**

Speakers:

- **Jean Luc Trullemans**, Head of European Space Security & Education Centre, ESA
- **Olivier Piepsz**, CEO/President, Prométhée Earth Intelligence
- **Marko Perkovic**, Associate Professor, University of Ljubljana
- **Jarkko Antila**, CEO, Kuva Space
- **Tugba Gunes**, Chief Commercial Officer, Vake.ai

13:15 – 13:30 Questions from the audience

LUNCH BREAK

13:30 – 14:30

2nd SESSION: Space Infrastructures for European Overseas Territories

14:30 – 18:20

14:30 – 14:40 Presentation by **Dr. Luca Vincenzo Maria Salamone**, Director General, Italian Space Agency

14:40 – 15:40 Panel 1: Specific challenges faced by Overseas with regard to Maritime Activities

Moderator: Bruno Reynaud de Sousa, Professor, University of Minho, Portugal

This panel will present challenges specific to overseas territories with vast maritime zones and limited national physical surveillance capacity and focus on the use of satellite technologies to detect, monitor, and prevent illicit maritime activities, including illegal fishing, trafficking, and sanctions evasion (dark fleet). Speakers will discuss operational use cases combining Earth Observation, AIS data, and analytics tools, VDES, as well as coordination

between European agencies and local authorities.

14:40 – 15:40 Discussion led by **Moderator**

Speakers:

- **Sven Tahon**, Specialist Officer Surveillance Technologies, EFCA
- **Dr. Lars Gerdes**, Deputy Executive Director Operations, Frontex
- **Diogo Silva**, Analyst, Maritime Analysis and Operations Centre (Narcotics) – MAOC (N), Joint Operations Coordination Centre (JOCC)
- **Rui Martins**, Regional Director for Maritime Policies, Azores Government

15:40 – 16:30 **Coffee Break / Flash Talks: Thales & GeoSat & Prométhée & Constellr**

16:30 – 17:50 Panel 2: Space Assets for Crisis Response

Moderator: Jean-Marc Astorg, Senior Director BLC Middle East and former CNES Director of Strategy (10min presentation by panellist)

This panel will address how space-based services support rapid response to maritime and coastal crises, including natural disasters, extreme weather events, and environmental incidents. Discussions will highlight early warning systems, satellite communications, and real-time situational awareness tools that assist civil protection authorities and emergency responders. The panel will also consider the growing impact of climate change on island and coastal regions and the role of space in strengthening preparedness and resilience.

16:30 – 16:40 Presentation by **Lóránt Czárán**, Chief of the Space Applications Section, UNOOSA, Coordinator at UN-SPIDER

16:40 – 16:50 Presentation by **Estefania Blanch**, Earth Observation Project Manager, IEEC

16:50 – 17:50 Discussion led by the **Moderator**

Speakers:

- **Bruno Carvalho**, Director, Ilex Space
- **Dan Isaac**, Director of Sales, Marketing, Applications and Services, OHB LuxSpace
- **Laurence Duquerroy**, Space Systems for Safety and Security (4S) Implementation Manager, ESA
- **Manon Alix**, Head of Public Affairs, Unseenlabs

17:50 – 18:00 Presentation by **Darek Saunders**, Head of Research and Innovation Unit, Frontex, “Space-powered innovation in maritime border management”

18:00 – 18:10 Presentation by **Nil Angli**, Business Application and Partnerships Officer, ESA CIC

18:10 – 18:25 Questions from the audience



Wrap Up

18:25 – 18:30 Conclusive remarks by **Pascal Legai**, DG-OS, ESA

Evening reception – Dinner

3 June 2026

Optional Social Visit