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02 September 2024

Commodore Ivo Värk
Commander
Estonian Navy

INVITATION:
SURFACE WARSHIPS 2025 CONFERENCE; LONDON
Copthorne Tara Hotel, January 2025

It is my great pleasure to formally invite you to **Surface Warships 2025** in London, United Kingdom at the **Copthorne Tara Hotel, Kensington** on **22-23 January 2025** where we will explore the indispensable role of surface warships in modern naval strategy and operations.

The Surface Warships Conference, now in its 13th year, has built a reputation as a premier event for the maritime community, drawing in senior military and industry leaders, from the Americas, Europe, the Middle East and Asia. This breadth of attendance and previous contributions from the First Sea Lord, the US Deputy Under Secretary of Defense and many senior Royal Navy, NATO and regional Navy leaders, underpins the significance of international collaboration and exchange of ideas around maritime superiority in a technological era.

Taking place over 2 days, **Surface Warships 2025** will look at ways to strengthen readiness with the role of people in securing this as core theme. In a time of dynamic geopolitical tensions, technological advancements, and increasing international cooperation, surface warships are at the forefront of maintaining global maritime stability and security. We will delve into the critical importance of these assets, discussing their adaptation to new challenges and their impact on future naval capabilities.

Given your leadership and expertise, I would be delighted to invite you to join the event and deliver a presentation on **“Enhancing Maritime Security: The Estonian Navy’s Commitment to Advanced Mine Countermeasures”**. I hope you will be able to attend and deliver a **20-minute speech**. This will be followed by a **10-minute Q&A session** allowing the attendees to benefit from your expertise in these areas.

I am, of course, conscious that you have many demands on your time, and if you are unable to attend in person, I kindly ask that you nominate a representative to speak on your behalf. As a speaker, you are invited to attend the conference without any fees, and we also extend this courtesy to members of your delegation who may be attending with you.

Please do not hesitate to contact her directly via email at sascha.pollock@defenceiq.com or via telephone at +44 (0) 2039896282. For our planning purposes, it would be much appreciated if your staff could indicate a decision by **9th September 2024**.

Yours sincerely,

S Pollock

Sascha Pollock
Conference Director
Defence iQ

