

September 2024

OFFICIAL INVITATION TO THE COMBINED NAVAL EVENT (20TH – 22ND MAY 2025)

Dear Commodore Ivo Vark,

We are delighted to invite you and members of the Estonian Navy to join and participate in the Combined Naval Event (CNE), taking place between 20th - 22nd May 2025 at the Farnborough International Exhibition & Conference Centre in the UK.

CNE is the largest annual dedicated naval conference in Europe and is officially supported by the Royal Navy, the UK Department for Business & Trade, the UK Ministry of Defence and NATO. The event attracts over 2,500 attendees from more than 80 countries and hosts 230 exhibiting companies from naval industry.

Currently, international armed forces are paying close attention to the ongoing war in Europe, continued maritime tension in the Indo-Pacific region, complex weapons increasingly being used by non-state actors in the maritime environment, a growing threat to critical global infrastructure, and the pending UK Strategic Defence Review. Clearly, there is much to discuss. Alongside the exhibition, the CNE conference programme offers strategic insights via an agenda that brings together government ministers, flag officers, industry leaders and academics to collaborate and address shared challenges in operations, procurement, capability development, and R&D.

We would be honoured if you would consider supporting the event in one or more of the following capacities:


1. **Keynote presentation:** Address the plenary audience on strategic naval themes.
2. **Subject matter expert presenters:** Operations, exercises, programmes and future acquisition focused on:
 - Ships
 - Submarines
 - Underwater capabilities (ASW, MCM & Critical Undersea Infrastructure)
 - Technology and its application
3. **Audience delegation:** Send a group of 5-20 attendees (sailors – officers) to participate as audience members.

We understand the demands on your schedule and the difficulty of predicting your commitments, but this event is the key naval engagement opportunity for like-minded nations to share operational feedback, lessons learnt, best practice and new capabilities. We are confident that it will provide significant value to your naval force.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please contact Navy Leaders' Defence Director, Major Harry Macleod, at harry@defenceleaders.com or +44 7929 749595.

Thank you for taking the time to consider your participation at this invitation-only event. We very much hope that we are able to welcome you to CNE in May 25, and please may we ask that you respond to this invitation by 25th October 2024.

Yours Sincerely,



Vice Admiral (Retd) Duncan Potts CB
Chairman Combined Naval Event 2025
Former Commander UK Maritime Forces

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