

29 May 2026

**Colonel Antti Viljaste**  
**Commander, 2nd Infantry Brigade**  
**Estonian Land forces**

**INVITATION TO BRIEF: LAND WARFARE EUROPE; VILNIUS GRAND RESORT, LITHUANIA | 17- 18 November 2026**

It is my esteemed pleasure to be directing Defence iQ's **Land Warfare Europe conference** taking place on 17-18 November in Vilnius, in **official partnership with the Lithuanian Land Force**. I would like to extend a formal invitation to provide a brief at the conference.

In modern combat, **achieving lethality has become markedly cheaper than ensuring survivability**. **Precision strike has increasingly overtaken direct attack** as the primary means of defeating enemy forces, enabled by the widespread use of sUAS alongside integrated radars, ISR, communications, and weapons systems. Armoured warfare is changing weekly. The RUS/UKR conflict has reaffirmed the value of armour for shock, protection, and armoured manoeuvre. National armies are now prioritising the maintenance and longevity of their armoured formations.

More recently, Ukraine's scaling of remotely controlled interceptor drones, unified UAV control, and cost-effective approaches to air defence have redefined the economics of warfare. In the current combat environment, **integrating traditional armoured manoeuvre with indirect fires and integrated air and missile defence** is no longer an option, but a necessity for achieving operational advantage.

The Baltics and wider Eastern European nations continue to progress the Baltic Defence Line and East Shield initiatives, underscoring a collective effort to strengthen integrated land warfare capabilities along NATO's Eastern Flank. This significant funding commitment of the Baltics underpins their commitment to fortify national borders and significantly enhance ground-based air defence - capabilities now widely recognised across Eastern Europe as central to contemporary defence and deterrence strategies.

It's in this capacity that the **Land Warfare Europe Conference** is returning this November, **in official collaboration with the Lithuanian Land Forces** at the Epicentre of NATO's Eastern Flank, to drive integrated land capability, ground-based air defence, and regional deterrence. Through each dedicated stream across Indirect Fires, Air and Missile Defence, and Armoured Manoeuvre, you will draw on regional priorities across Eastern Europe to follow new standards for cost-effective air defence, armoured capability, mobility, precision-targeting, and resilient communications.

We will be uniting national armies, NATO commands and agencies, and industry across Eastern Europe over two days of presentations, interactive discussions, and networking.

Key areas of discussion:

- Combined Manoeuvre and Synchronised Land Capabilities
- Baltic Defence Line Initiative to Strengthen Eastern Borders
- Ground-Based Air Defence and Interoperability Challenges
- Cost-Effective Warfare and C-UAS
- Loitering Munitions: Survivability in Contested, GPS-Denied Airspace
- Following Ukrainian Standards for Drone Warfare

Your participation is crucial in driving forward these efforts and making a tangible impact on our collective defence strategies. We are delighted to invite you to deliver a **20-minute** brief sharing your preferred insights in relation to **Trials To Tactical Utility: Scaling THeMIS UGVs For Reconnaissance, Logistics And Force Protection** (tentative suggestion: subject to personal preference). This will be followed by **10 minutes** of questions from the floor.

Land Warfare Europe conference is designed to:

- Gather experts and leaders to tackle challenges, share insights, and develop innovative solutions
- Unite senior representatives from nations and organisations involved in NATO security
- Encourage engagement with interactive sessions and briefs examining current threats and strategic challenges in the region

Please contact the Programme Director directly via email at [helena.peradigou@defenceiq.com](mailto:helena.peradigou@defenceiq.com) or via telephone at + 44 (0) 207 368 9771. For planning purposes, **please indicate a written decision for participation to the email address above.**

Yours sincerely,

**Helena Peradigou (on behalf of Lithuanian Land Force)**  
**Senior Conference Director**  
**Defence iQ**

