



Aizsardzības ministrija

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA

10/12 K. Valdemāra Str., Rīga, LV-1473; Latvia; phone: +371 67210124;
e-mail: pasts@mod.gov.lv; www.mod.gov.lv

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Rīga, 08-05-2024

Invitation to round table discussion

Following up the tasking of the Baltic Defence Ministers of May 2023 Ministerial meeting, January of 2024 technical experts from Ministry of Defence of Latvia, Ministry of Defence of Lithuania and Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications of the Republic of Estonia met in Riga to explore the possibilities to extended state network infrastructure to the territory of the Baltic states to improve connectivity in time of crisis. The conclusions of the discussion indicated that a Baltic level table top exercise could help to identify existing gaps and potential way forward.

Taking the abovementioned into account, Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Latvia invites you to participate in a round table discussion on different subjects regarding the internet connectivity of the Baltic states. The goal of the discussion is to understand what services and communication networks would be available in the Baltic States in times of crisis where connection to the global internet is disrupted. The task is to identify next steps for improving regional connectivity in crisis time. The discussion will take place on June 11th in Riga, Latvia. We kindly ask you to delegate participants from responsible state institutions and representatives of national central bank of Estonia. The discussion will be conducted on the department director level, please choose your participants accordingly.

Please send the list of participants till May 20th to Kate Elizabete Kanasta, Deputy Head of the Cybersecurity Policy Coordination Section (kate.kanasta@mod.gov.lv). Detailed agenda and administrative details will be shared with the participants directly.

Please find attached:

1. Agenda
2. Discussion questions for preparation

Sincerely,

Aivars Puriņš
State Secretary

Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications of the Republic of Estonia
Information System Authority of the Republic of Estonia

MAJANDUS- JA
KOMMUNIKATSIOONMINISTEERIUM

15.05.2024
Nr. 6-4/1373-1

Tuesday, June 11th

10.00 Arrival at Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Latvia

10/12 K.Valdemara Str., Riga, LV-1473

10.00 – 11.45 First round of discussion

- *Introductions*
- *Mapping of the existing internet infrastructure*

12.00 – 13.00 Lunch hosted by MoD LV

Location TBD

13.00 – 15.00 Second round of discussion

- *Banking system without access to the global internet*
- *Governmental communication without access to the global internet*
- *Conclusions, next steps*
- *AOB*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS*:

Mapping of the existing infrastructure/ situational awareness:

1. Location of the datacenters and their interconnectivity
2. Critical services providers – regulation and requirements
3. Internet connectivity – existing land/sea connections to the global internet in the Baltic states
4. Alternatives in case of loss of connection to the global internet (state networks? Satellites? No alternatives?)

Banking system:

1. Interbank payments without connection to the global internet/international payment systems/datacenters (can citizens/government continue to carry out payments?)
2. International payments without connection to the global internet/international payment systems/datacenters (will government be able to continue international payments, e.g., purchase military equipment from other countries?)

Governmental communication:

1. Governmental work without connection to the global internet (what services are still available? E.g., Microsoft products? What communication channels are available between different state entities?)
2. International governmental communication without connection to the global internet (does your government is able to continue communication and exchange of documents with other countries? How about businesses?)

Discussion questions are distributed ahead of the discussion to give participants time to prepare their national perspectives.

*Discussion questions can be adjusted/ expanded during the discussion