



NATO MODELLING & SIMULATION CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE



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Deputy Director

TO: See Distribution

SUBJECT: **CALLING LETTER FOR THE 2021 EDITION OF THE NATO COMPUTER ASSISTED ANALYSIS, EXERCISE, AND EXPERIMENTATION FORUM (CA²X² FORUM).**

DATE: 15 September 2021

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- 1. Invitation.** The NATO Modelling & Simulation Centre of Excellence (M&S CoE), despite the impact of the COVID-19 global pandemic, is delighted to invite the addressees to register and attend the 16th Edition of the NATO Computer Assisted Analysis, Exercise, Experimentation Forum (CA²X² Forum) virtually from **4-8 October 2021**. The event will be followed by the "M&S Sprint Week" virtual event from **11-15 October 2021**. The first NATO CAX Forum was held more than fifteen years ago, and has today become one of NATO's main M&S event. Annually, the CA²X² Forum brings together hundreds of participants representing government, industry and academia from NATO, NATO's Nations, as well as Partner and Contact Nations around the world.
Addressees are also kindly asked to pass this invitation to organisations and individuals for which the event could be of interest.
- 2. Event.** The NATO CA²X² Forum is an event where Military, Industry, Academia, Study Groups and Subject Matter Experts, meet yearly to discuss M&S related topics. The event is opened to NATO Nations, NATO Bodies, EAPC, MD, ICI, NATO Partners across the Globe, and UN, EU, OSCE Representatives. On a case-by-case basis, and upon approval, participants outside the listed entities could be admitted. All the information is available at the link: <https://www.mscoe.org/event/nato-ca2x2-forum-2021/>
- 3. Theme and Topics.** The 2021 edition's main theme is "*Shaping NATO's Future Modelling and Simulation Capabilities,*" and the forum will be focused on, but not limited to, the following topics:
 - Computer Assisted eXercise (CAX)
 - Commercial-Off-The-Shelf (COTS) for M&S
 - M&S Standards and Technologies
 - M&S Lessons Learned
 - Education and Training
 - Wargaming
 - Cyber M&S
 - Space M&S
 - Artificial Intelligence
 - Capability Development and Experimentation
 - Support to Military Operations and Decision Making
- 4. Call for papers, presentations, and activities.** Experts and authors are invited to submit papers, articles, or presentations about the Forum's topics to be presented during the event. Companies, organisations, study groups, teams, and experts are also invited to propose and support sessions/activities on specific M&S topics. The sessions/activities proposed by the M&S Community of Interest encompass presentations, round tables, interviews, workshops, demos, courses, and others. The proposal will be evaluated and, if feasible, conveniently embedded in the event (main forum and/or sprint week).

5. Sponsorship Opportunities and Virtual Booths. Companies are given the opportunity to sponsor the event and receive visibility on the online platform, taking advantage of the event coverage on the COE social media accounts and on any other possible media (TV, Radio, Press etc...). Other than their logo appearing during the event, sponsors can have a virtual booth at their disposal for both advertising activities, products, and services, and making connections. In addition to sponsoring companies, NATO Bodies, Nations, Government, Academia, Organisations, study groups, large teams and other entities can receive a virtual booth.
6. Structure and Schedule. **The Forum will be conducted virtually** over 5 days, from 4-8 October 2021. These dates have been chosen to facilitate the participants who wish also to benefit from the "**M&S Sprint Week**" event, which will be held from **11-15 October 2021**.
The projected schedule of the conference will be updated regularly on the NATO M&S COE web page - [t.ly/8sXT](https://www.mscoe.org/event/nato-ca2x2-forum-2021/) (<https://www.mscoe.org/event/nato-ca2x2-forum-2021/>). Enclosure 1 provides a provisional overview of the conference. The final detailed Agenda will be issued in due time.
7. Registration and Fees. Free registration to the event for the M&S community of interest will be available by filling a pre-registration online form available in the NATO M&S COE dedicated CA²X² FORUM web page - <https://www.mscoe.org/event/nato-ca2x2-forum-2021/page/preregistration/>. After the approval of the participation request, an invitation link to complete the registration process will be sent a few days before the event begins.
8. Classification. The conference has no classification marking and all contents will be releasable to the public. The conference will be held under the Chatham House Rule.
9. Contacts. For any additional detail or further information, contact the NATO CA²X² Forum Organizing Committee at - <https://www.mscoe.org/event/nato-ca2x2-forum-2021/contact-us/> or directly email the Event Manager, LTC Claudio ZAMPONI: claudio.zamponi@mscoe.org
10. The CA²X² Forum past edition recorded the participation of 630 digital visitors, 41 nations, 124 companies, 59 exhibitors, counted 22 workshop sessions and received wide media coverage. In the 2021 CA²X² Forum edition we are eager to overcome the past goals and we thank you in advance for your support of the event. We look forward to an interesting and productive event.



LTC Brad KOERNER
Deputy Director
NATO M&S COE