



HQ Supreme Allied Commander Transformation
Multi - Domain Forces Development Directorate

Norfolk, Virginia | USA



ACT/MDFD/INNOV/TT-1894/SER:NU:192

TO: See Distribution

SUBJECT: **INNOVATION CONTINUUM 2026 - IGNITE CALLING NOTICE**

DATE: 23 March 2026

REFERENCES: A. HQ SACT, Save-the-Date, Innovation Continuum 2026, dated 05 December 2025.
B. HQ SACT, PP Innovation Continuum Process, dated 01 March 2024.
C. HQ SACT, Innovation Continuum 2024 Final Report Vol I, Vol II, dated 04 March 2025.

1. The Innovation Continuum (IC) (Reference A) focuses on the creation and implementation of new ideas, technologies, and methods to advance NATO Military Instrument of Power (MIoP). It drives the development of cutting-edge solutions that address emerging threats and operational challenges. By generating and rapid adoption of innovative concepts, this continuum supports measures that ensure military forces remain ahead of potential adversaries and are equipped with the most advanced tools and techniques.

2. In its 2026 edition IC directly supports SACT's Beacon Projects in addition to Warfare Development Agenda's Multi - Domain Operations, and Digital Transformation Programmes. This initiative offers an opportunity to NATO and STEP¹ Nations, NATO Enterprise entities, Academia and Industry to join Allied Command Transformation (ACT) efforts to accelerate, via collaborative experimentation and demonstration, development of innovative solutions to enable their prompt delivery to the warfighters.

3. IGNITE 26 is led by ACT, and is supported by Host Nation Poland and the Military University of Technology in Warsaw, Poland. The event is open to all of NATO Enterprise and NATO Nations, their industries, research institutions and academia.

4. IGNITE 26 is the architecture and design event of IC26 cycle – it will identify the requirements and define the environment for the technologies, projects and experiments previously identified at the SPARK scoping conference in February 2026. The IC cycle will be executed in a collaborative experimentation environment. It will provide, enabled by Emerging

¹ This includes the Republic of Korea, Switzerland, Ukraine, Australia and Japan.

Reference: <https://www.nato.int/en/news-and-events/articles/news/2025/03/19/the-republic-of-korea-joins-nato-science-amp-technology-organization-sto-partnership>.

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and Disruptive Technologies², a platform for operational experimentation, demonstration and spot-on innovation.

5. The 2026 edition will be capitalizing on recent advances in Emerging and Disruptive Technologies, and will address following operational themes and technology demonstratons:

- a. Cognitive Warfare
- b. Cyber Resilience
- c. AI for C4ISR
- d. AI in Audacious Training
- e. Counter-UAS - led by POL Military University of Technology
- f. NextGenTargeting
- g. Smart Logistics
- h. Electronic Warfare
- i. TF-X Arctic
- j. Critical Underwater Infrastructure, Amphibious Warfare, Underground Ops – led by TUR ALFA
- k. LCI-X (TBC)

6. The operational themes activities will be coordinated at IC Working Groups level. Nations are still kindly invited to nominate Working Group Leaders for specific projects or to identify additional topics. These can be integrated during IGNITE.

7. Organisation. IGNITE will be run in the three following syndicates:

- a. IC Syndicate – Admin/RLS/CIS/Budget/Legal/STRATCOM/EVAL.
- b. Operational Syndicate: Operational Experiments and Wargames.
- c. Technology Syndicate: Technology demonstations.

8. The DIBAX Syndicate will run in a separate cycle, covering LCI-X.

POC: Mr. Lukas Müller, Lukas.mueller@nato.int .

² Artificial Intelligence, Autonomy, Quantum, Bio-tech, Space Tech, Hypersonics, Novel Materials and Manufacturing, Energy and Propulsion, Next Generation Communication Networks

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Turkiye will run its own national ALFA Continuum and synchronise these events in an own remote syndicate with IGNITE 26.

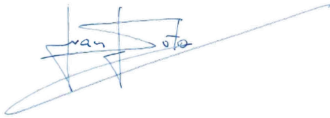
9. Time/Location. IGNITE 26 takes place from 5th to 7th of May 2026 at the Military University of Technology, gen. Sylwestra Kaliskiego 25a, 01-476 Warszawa. It will start daily at 0830am and close at 0500pm.

10. Administration. Information regarding registration is provided in Annex A and initial administrative instructions (including accommodation) are provided in Annex B. Additional information when available/required will be desiminated by email and posted on the VISTA information portal. Read ahead materials are available by using the VISTA Portal link provided in Annex A.

11. Points of Contact. The points of contact for IGNITE 2026 are:

- a. Innovation Continuum (IC26) Lead –
Mr. Krzysztof Skurzak, Email: Krzysztof.Skurzak@nato.int
phone: +1 (757) 839 3206.
- b. Innovation Continuum Coordination –
LtCol (DEU Army) Thorsten Ritter, Email: Thorsten.Ritter@nato.int
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FOR HEADQUARTERS SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER TRANSFORMATION:



Juan Jose SOTO RODRIGUEZ
Major General, ESP A
Deputy Chief of Staff, Multi – Domain Force Development

ANNEXES:

- A. Administrative Instructions for Innovation Continuum 2026 – IGNITE
- B. General Information Package for linnovation Continuum – IGNITE

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ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS INNOVATION CONTINUUM 2026 – IGNITE

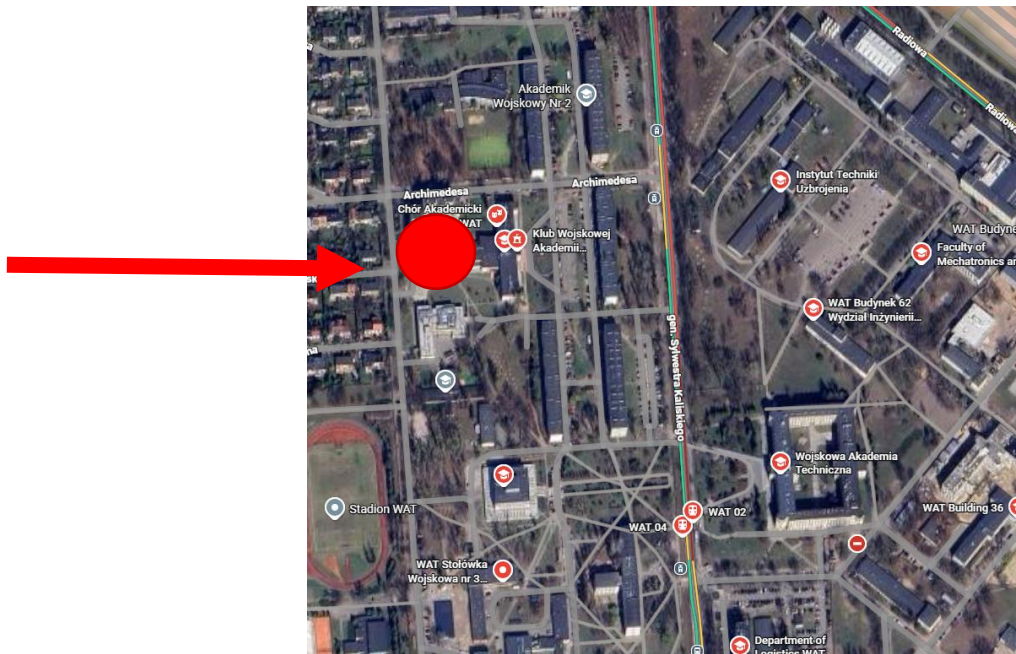
1. Introduction. This Annex provides supplementary administrative information to the HQ SACT calling notice for IGNITE 26, that will be held in Warsaw, Poland, from 5th to 7th of May 2026.
2. Venue. IGNITE 26 will be held onsite at the facilities of the Military University of Technology, gen. Sylwestra Kaliskiego 25a, 01-476 Warszawa, Poland. A virtual participation will be enabled for the plenary, wrap-up and syndicate sessions. Respective VTC links will be available on the VISTA platform.
3. Registration. Participants are required to register at the following link:

<https://events.innovationhub-act.org/event/17/>

The registration portal will be active from 25th March to 21st April 2026. Due to the national Polish regulations we will close the participant list on 21st April, no exemptions.

4. In-Processing. In-processing will start on 5th May, 0800 – 0900am at the Reception Area of the Military University of Technology, Klub Wojskowej Akademii Technicznej WAT:

gen. Sylwestra Kaliskiego 25a
01-476 Warszawa
Poland



Ensure to be registered upfront and bring a copy, printed or electronic, of your registration confirmation (QR-Code). Only registered NATO Nations' entities and other organisations/industry sponsored by a NATO Nation, will be permitted access to IGNITE. Every participant will be issued a Conference Badge. Australia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Switzerland and Ukraine are invited Partner Nations

5. Security. IGNITE 26 is a "NATO UNCLASSIFIED" event. Non-NATO entity participants will be required to sign a "Letter of Acknowledgement of Responsibilities" during the online registration process for protection of research data within NATO S&T. This Letter will be valid for the complete 2026 IC cycle. This applies for all new participants, that didn't sign up at SPARK already.

Participants will be required to wear their Conference Badge visible during their attendance to the event and to get access to the IGNITE conference area in general.

IGNITE will be held within the premises of WAT, which is an open military campus, guarded by Military Police patrolling the area.

6. Conference Fee. There is no conference fee for IGNITE 26.

7. VISTA Portal: The following page on VISTA Portal will be used to further coordinate the event:

https://tide.act.nato.int/mediawiki/vista/index.php/IGNITE_2026

8. VTCs. Syndicates and working groups will hold various VTCs with the online audience. There is no installed VTC system available. Therefore, be prepared and bring your laptop and headset.

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9. Transportation. There will be no shuttle service provided. At the Military University of Technology no parking space will be available. It is strongly recommended to use an accommodation in walking distance to the event or public transport.
10. Attire. The dress code for IGNITE 26 is Business Casual. Uniforms are strongly discouraged.
11. Language. IGNITE 26 will be conducted in English.
12. Participation. The event is open to NATO entities and NATO Nations. Australia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Switzerland and Ukraine are invited partner nations. Industry can participate via RFI or if being sponsored by a NATO, a NATO or a Partner Nation.

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13. Draft Agenda. The general, generic agenda will follow this outline:

Time	Topic	Lead	Location
Tuesday, 05 May			
0800 - 0900	In-Processing Innovators' Networking Morning	IC Syndicate	Reception Area
0900 – 1200	Welcome and Plenary session	IC Lead / HN	Auditorium
1200 – 1300	Lunch Break		
1300 – 1645	Syndicate work	Syndicate Leads	Breakout rooms
1500 – 1530	Break		Reception Area
1645 – 1700	Wrap-up, Q&A	IC Lead	AIH
1700 – 1800	<i>Icebreaker</i>	<i>IC Lead</i>	<i>TBC</i>
Wednesday, 06 May			
0830 – 0900	Innovators' Networking Morning	IC Syndicate	Reception Area
0900 – 0915	Morning D&G	IC Lead	Auditorium
0915 – 1645	Syndicate work	Syndicate Leads	Breakout rooms
1200 – 1300	Lunch Break		
1300 – 1330	VISTA training	IC Syndicate	Auditorium
1500 – 1530	Break		Reception Area
1500 – 1800	Opportunity for Cyper WG to visit the EY Cyber Labs	Cyber WG	Voluntary networking event, EY Labs
1645 – 1700	Wrap-up, Q&A	IC Lead	Auditorium
Thursday, 07 May			
0830 – 0900	Innovators' Networking Morning	IC Syndicate	Reception Area
0900 – 0915	Morning D&G	IC Lead	Auditorium
0915 – 1500	Syndicate work	Syndicate Leads	Breakout rooms
12:00 – 1300	Lunch Break		
1300 – 1330	VISTA training	IC Syndicate	Auditorium
1430 – 1500	Break		
1500 – 1645	Out briefings	Syndicate leads	Auditorium
1645 – 1700	Closing remarks	IC Lead / HN	Auditorium

**GENERAL INFORMATION PACKAGE
INNOVATION CONTINUUM 2026 – IGNITE**



1. Location. IGNITE 25 will be held at the Military University of Technology, gen. Sylwestra Kaliskiego 25, 01-476 Warszawa, Polen. More information about MUT is available on the MUT web site at <https://www.wojsko-polskie.pl/wat/en/>.

Wojskowa Akademia Techniczna im. Jarosława Dąbrowskiego (Military University of Technology, MUT) in Warsaw is a military, academic polytechnic university operating since 1951. As a public university supervised by the Minister of National Defence, the University educates students and conducts scientific research.

The MUT offer includes: first degree studies (engineering and bachelor's degree), second degree (master's degree), third degree (doctorate), as well as postgraduate studies and further education and language courses. The University educates students in military and civilian studies. Graduates of military studies receive the professional title of magister inżynier and are appointed to the rank of second lieutenant. Civilian studies are generally available, without any obligation to the Ministry of National Defence.

The specificity of the University is the training of candidates for professional soldiers for the needs of the Polish Armed Forces, in corpses and personnel groups in accordance with the

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needs and the limit set each year by the Minister of National Defence. Recruitment for this type of studies is conducted among high school graduates applying to take up service in the Polish Army. The University conducts civilian studies in full-time and part-time mode in over twenty majors. Full-time studies are free of charge, part-time studies — paid. Admission limits for particular fields of study are set by the Rector's decision before starting the recruitment process. The University conducts scientific research as well as implementation and modernization works in the field of technical and military sciences.

Warsaw. Located in the heart of Central Europe, Warsaw is Poland's modern, thriving capital city. Rebuilt after its near-total destruction in World War II and revitalized since the collapse of communism, Warsaw today boasts the tallest building in the European Union, a modern and efficient public transit system, an extensive network of parks and public green space, and Europe's deepest indoor diving pool. Voters in the European Best Destinations 2023 contest recently named the city as the most attractive tourist destination in Europe. Warsaw invites travelers and residents alike to visit its diverse museums, historic and cultural sites, and many excellent restaurants. Embassy Warsaw is at the center of this vibrant metropolis and is taking on new challenges of its own, sustaining the American bilateral relationship with Poland and responding to Russia's brutal, full-scale invasion of Ukraine.

2. Getting there. The Military University of Technology is located at gen. Sylwestra Kaliskiego 25a, 01-476 Warszawa, Poland. You can use the following Google maps pin: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/aRaQXGBqamJbZPdU9>

Main transport connections to MUT:

Transportation from central Warsaw to the Military University of Technology (MUT/WAT) in Bemowo typically takes 40–50 minutes via public transport, costing less than €1.50 (75-minute ticket). Options include buses, trams, or app-based services, with free transport for participants often provided from Chopin Airport (WAW).

Public Transport to MUT (Warsaw Area Transit - ZTM)

- Best Routes: Take tram lines 20, 23, or 24 toward Bemowo or bus lines 171 or 523.
- Tickets: Valid on all buses, trams, and metro lines. Purchase at machines, kiosks, or ZTM points.
- App: Use "Jakdojade" to navigate in real-time.

Airport Transfers to MUT

- Chopin Airport (WAW): Free transport may be available for specific events. Alternatively, take the SKM train (S2 or S3) to the city center and transfer to a tram or bus.
- Modlin Airport (WMI): Take a train to Modlin station and transfer to a shuttle bus, or use a taxi/Bolt (approx. 49 mins, ~100-150 PLN).

Tips

- Tickets must be validated immediately upon entering the vehicle.
- The university is located in the Bemowo district.

3. Recommended Accommodations

Given the central location of MUT, it is advisable to seek accommodation in Warsaw city center or nearby districts, which offer easy access to the venue as well as to restaurants and cultural attractions. Here are several recommended hotels with varying amenities:

Radisson Collection Hotel Warsaw
InterContinental Warsaw
Sofitel Warsaw Victoria
Hilton Warsaw
Hampton Inn by Hilton Warsaw Downtown

There are numerous hotels more in each price range.

4. Recommended Restaurants

Warsaw offers a diverse culinary scene, combining traditional Polish cuisine with international dining options, modern bistros, and lively bars. The city center, in particular, hosts a wide variety of restaurants, cafés, and nightlife venues. Here are several recommendations:

Soul Kitchen

Nowogrodzka street

- elegant modern Polish cuisine
 - excellent dumplings, steak tartare, duck
- one of the highest-rated restaurants in Warsaw.

Delicja Polska Restaurant

Krakowskie Przedmieście Street

- classic, elegant Polish cuisine
- ideal for business dinners
- beautiful interiors in a tenement house

U Wieniawy Restaurant

Piłsudski Square

- Traditional Polish cuisine in a manor house style
- Prestigious location next to the Saxon Garden
- Excellent tasting menu

often recommended as a "showcase" Polish restaurant for tourists and business people.

Specjały Regionalne

Nowy Świat street

- a very popular restaurant serving classic Polish cuisine
- dumplings, sour rye soup, bigos (hunter's stew), pork chop

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- good for tourist groups

The restaurant serves traditional dishes such as dumplings, bigos and żurek.

Hala Koszyki

Koszykowa street

- large dining area with numerous restaurants
- Great for groups of 100–200 people
- various cuisines: Polish, Italian, Asian

the EATERY

Koszykowa street

- modern interpretation of Polish cuisine
- elegant atmosphere

5. Places to See / Things to Do

Warsaw is a city where ancient history meets contemporary urban life. Visitors can enjoy cultural landmarks, museums, green spaces, and vibrant street life. If you want to explore the city with a guided tour.

- **Museum of the History of Polish Jews.** Exceptional, expansive exhibit on the full Jewish experience through Polish history.
- **Castle Square.** Colorful spot with whiffs of old Warsaw — Royal Castle, monuments, and a chunk of the city wall — and cafés just off the square.
- **Royal Castle.** Warsaw's best palace, rebuilt after World War II, but retaining its former opulence and many original furnishings.
- **Old Town Market Square.** Re-creation of Warsaw's glory days, with lots of colorful architecture.
- **National Museum.** Collection of mostly Polish art, with unknown but worth-discovering works by Jan Matejko and the Młoda Polska (Art Nouveau) crew.
- **Warsaw Uprising Museum.** State-of-the-art space tracing the history of the Uprising and celebrating its heroes.
- **Copernicus Science Center.** Spiffy science museum with well-explained, hands-on exhibits in English; Warsaw's best family activity.
- **Łazienki Park.** Lovely, sprawling green space with Chopin statue, peacocks, and Neoclassical buildings.
- **Museum of Warsaw.** In-depth treatment of the history of Warsaw, with excellent movie in English.
- **Marie Skłodowska-Curie Museum.** Honors the great Polish scientist who studied radiation, in her birth home.

6. Additional Practical Information

- Poland uses the Polish Złoty (PLN), symbolized as "zł," as its official currency, subdivided into 100 groszy, with coins and banknotes featuring Polish national figures.
- 1 Euro equals 4,26 Zloty.

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- Card payments are widely accepted throughout the city in hotels, restaurants, and taxis in central Warsaw.
- The standard emergency number is 112.
- Electricity supply is 230V / 50Hz, and Type F (Schuko) sockets are used, which are compatible with most European plugs.
- Free Wi-Fi access is available on WAT premises, an event WiFi will be established. Reliable mobile and public Wi-Fi coverage is common across the city center.