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NCIA/JISR/2026/10690
26 June 2026

To : See Distribution

Subject : **Calling Notice to the NATO Biometrics and Identity Intelligence Exercise "Northern Spirit 2026"**

References : A. Defence against Terrorism Programme of Work (DAT POW) Winter Workshop Report, AC/259-D(2024)0090 (INV), dated 22 November 2024;
B. Bi SC 075-003, Collective Training and Exercise Directive (WD), 28 January 2020

In accordance with References A and B, this letter serves as the Calling Notice for the NATO Biometrics and Identity Intelligence (B&I2) exercise, named "Northern Spirit 26" (NOSP 26), and for its preceding 4th Training Coordination and Scripting Workshop (4TC&SW). The 4TC&SW will be organized at the NATO HUMINT Centre of Excellence (NHCOE) in Oradea, Romania to prepare the execution of NOSP 26, and will take place between **02 and 06 September 2026**.

The NOSP 26 event will be planned in the margins of a larger Human Intelligence exercise called "Steadfast Interest 26" (STIN 26), and it will be conducted from **07 to 25 September 2026**, at the NHCOE in Oradea, Romania.

The aim of NOSP 26 is to exercise the technical and operational interoperability of B&I2 in a scenario simulating operational coherence and capabilities' integration at Corps level as part of a NATO led joint mission.

The NOSP 26 is organized and executed by the NCI Agency, with SHAPE providing operational guidance and with the NHCOE offering administrative support. The event is sponsored by NATO HQ Operations Division, through the Defence against Terrorism Program of Work and is open to NATO Nations, Organizations, Missions and Industry. Further details regarding the registration to NOSP 26 are provided at Annex A.

This document also serves as the official invitation to the **NOSP 26 Distinguished Visitors Day (DV Day)**, which will take place on **22 September 2026**. Participating DVs will have the opportunity to visit the location of both exercises and to be briefed on the exercise training objectives, scenario and execution - as well as the synergy and mutual support between HUMINT and B&I2. The DVs will also have the opportunity to observe biometric operations within the NOSP 26 scenario and to see Identity Intelligence products delivered to the STIN 26 exercise - as part of the intelligence support to counter the anonymous threat. For registration, DVs are kindly invited to follow the administrative instructions outlined at Annex B and reach out to the NOSP 26 POCs should they have any questions concerning the DV Day.



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The NCIA Points of Contact for NOSP 26 are:

- NOSP 26 Officer with Primary Responsibility: Mr. Radu Cimpean +31 (0)70 374 3724, NCN: 257 3724, radu.cimpean@ncia.nato.int
- NOSP 26 Administrator: Ms. Maria Hibais, maria.hibais@ncia.nato.int

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Matt Roper' with a horizontal line underneath.

Matt Roper
Chief, JISR Centre

Annexes:

- Annex A: Administrative Details 4 TC&SW and NOSP 26 Operational Conduct;
Annex B: Administrative Details NOSP 26 Distinguished Visitors Day



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ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

4th Training Coordination and Scripting Workshop

NOSP 26 Operational Conduct

Event Location:

The 4th TCSW will be hosted by the NHCOE in Oradea, Romania from 02 to 06 SEP 2026 to be followed by the NATO HUMINT Exercise STIN26-2 (07 to 25 SEP 2026) at the same location. Participants are requested to register for the event no later than **29 AUG 2026**.

The address of the exercise location is: 24 Armatei Romane street., 410087, Oradea, Bihor, ROMANIA.

Registration:

- 1) Access the internet the link www.natohcoe.org/NOSP26/. The password is: **LIVEX@No5P26\$&**
- 2) Fill in the selected registration form, as required.
- 3) After filling in the registration form, click the "Submit" button and participants will be automatically registered for the selected event.
- 4) A confirmation message will be automatically sent to your unclassified e-mail address.

Travel and Transportation:

All transportation expenses are to be met by the participating nations or organisations, including the transportation from the airport to the accommodation area(s). The available airports are Oradea, Timisoara (ROU) - 170 km, Cluj-Napoca (ROU) - 150 km, Debrecen (HUN) - 75 km, or Budapest (HUN) - 260 km. Transfer from other airports to accommodation area(s) can be arranged through different local transportation companies (i.e.: AEROTRAVEL, email – oradea@aerotravel.ro, ROTEXIM, e-mail transport_rotexim@yahoo.com). No transportation will be provided to/from the hotel and HCOE.

Accommodation:

There is an agreed rate with the Ramada Hotel, located in Oradea, Calea Aradului nr. 9. The booking can be made at reservations@ramadaoradea.ro, or by phone: +40359403333, or by accessing the direct link for reservations:

<https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/ramada/oradea-romania/ramada-oradea/overview?checkInDate=08/30/2026&checkOutDate=09/26/2026&groupCode=090126NATO>

Alternatively, the city of Oradea offers a large variety of accommodations, hotels and airbnb, at affordable prices, which can be pre-booked via the internet.

Meals:

Lunches can be served at the NHCOE Lodge dining facility. Costs of the meals will be individually paid by each of the participant for 5 days in advance.

Social Event:

A **welcome social** will be organised on **09th Sep**, and a final social will be organised on **24th Sep**, both at Artemis Leto Events Hall.



Annex A to
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Security:

Confirmation of PSCC must be sent in advance by participant's security office at security@natohcoe.org and NOSP 26 Administrator at maria.hibais@ncia.nato.int (hardcopy on arrival by exception).

During in-processing all participants must present a NATO travel order and a valid military or civilian ID with photo, for access to HCOE working facilities. Furthermore, prior to arrival at HCOE, all participants must be registered for the event as per paragraph one.

The usage of duty and/or privately owned mobile phones or any other electronic equipment for the exercise purposes, must be authorised by HCOE security prior usage. ADP forms are available at HCOE website or will be provided at the location, and will require to be filled in prior the in-processing. ID Badges with picture will be provided to all exercise participants during in-processing.

Dress code:

NOSP 26 working attire is smart casual for all 4TC&SW and LIVEX participants. EXCON core functions are requested to have also business attire for the formal events. If national caveats impose, battle dress uniform may be worn, but only inside the HCOE compound or at HCOE Training Range.

Conference fee:

All participants will be requested to pay a 105 EUR fee for NOSP 26. There are the following payment options:

- bank transfer, mentioning the name and country for the person the payment is made. The HCOE bank details are as follows:
 - o Beneficiary: CENTRUL DE EXCELENTA NATO IN DOMENIUL HUMINT (HCOE);
 - o Tax code: 27664868
 - o Address: 24, Armatei Române st, Oradea, District: Bihor, Romania
 - o Account: RO47RZBR0000060012238134
 - o Bank: Raiffeisen BANK
 - o SWIFT: RZBRROBU
 - o Description: NO26
- by card (as a backup), during the in-processing

In-processing:

- In-processing for the **NOSP 26 Core Team** (OPR/ EXDIR, Deputy EXDIR, CIS, Admin, Security) will take place on **01 September 2026** at **09:00** hrs local at HCOE lodge;
- In-processing for the **participants to 4 TC&SW**: Scripters, Training Team (Biometrics O/T, BOD, I2 O/T) will take place on **02 September 2026** at **13:00** hrs local at HCOE lodge.
- In-processing for the remaining NOSP 26 EXCON not participating to the 4th TC&SW (Systems/ Industry, LEGAD and Doctrine) will take place on **08 September 2026** at **08:00** hrs local at HCOE lodge.
- In-processing for the NOSP 26 Training Audience and the Grey Cell will take place on **08 September 2026** at **12:00** hrs local at HCOE lodge
- In-processing for the NOSP 26 LEGAD EXCON and Training Audience will take place on **18 September 2026** at **08:00** hrs local at HCOE lodge.



Annex A to
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NOSP 26 Points of Contact (POC):

- Radu CIMPEAN, NOSP 26 Officer with Primary Responsibility, mobile: +31638627988, unclassified email: radu.cimpean@ncia.nato.int;
- Maria HIBAIS, NOSP 26 Administrator, unclassified email: maria.hibais@ncia.nato.int.



Annex B to
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ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

NOSP 26 Distinguished Visitors Day

Venue:

The Distinguished Visitors' Day (DV Day) of NOSP 26 will be held at the NATO HUMINT Centre of Excellence (HCOE), Oradea, Romania, on **22 September 2026**.

Registration:

Participants are requested to register for the event no later than (NLT) **04 September 2026**, by submitting an email to the NOSP 26 POC, mentioned below. After receiving and processing the registration a confirmation email will be sent to the requester's unclassified email address. For any other details related to the registration process, please contact the NOSP 26 POC. Additional administrative details will be e-mailed, on request, to attendees, upon receiving the registration email.

Travelling to Oradea:

Personnel expenses for transportation are to be met by sending units/organizations. Available airports are: Oradea, Timisoara (170 km), Cluj-Napoca (150 km), Debrecen - Hungary (75 km), or Budapest - Hungary (260 km). Local travel agencies such as Aerotravel (oradea@aerotravel.ro) or Rotexim (transport_rotexim@yahoo.com) can arrange transfers by car/bus to Oradea from other airports.

Accommodation:

Participants are responsible for securing their own accommodation. There is a number of pre-reserved rooms at DoubleTree by Hilton, 9 Aleea Strandului, Oradea, that can be booked, NLT **04 September 2026**, at the following link: [EVENT 21-23 SEP 2026](#).

Rooms' availability will no longer be guaranteed after the above-mentioned suspense date. In case of encountering problems regarding the reservation process, please contact the NOSP 26 POC.

Transportation:

Transportation from DoubleTree by Hilton Oradea to the HCOE facilities and retour will be provided on the 22 September 2026.

Social Event:

An official dinner will be hosted on **21 September 2026** at DoubleTree by Hilton Oradea, starting at 19.30 hrs;

A working lunch will be hosted on **22 September 2026**, at HCOE facilities.



Annex B to
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Conference fee:

All DV participants will be invited to pay a 70 EUR fee. There are the following payment options:

- bank transfer (preferably) until **11 September 2026**, mentioning the name and country for the person the payment is made. The HCOE bank details are as follows:
 - o Beneficiary: CENTRUL DE EXCELENTA NATO IN DOMENIUL HUMINT
 - o Tax code: 27664868
 - o Address: 24, Armatei Române st, Oradea, District: Bihor, Romania
 - o Account: RO47RZBR0000060012238134
 - o Bank: Raiffeisen BANK
 - o SWIFT: RZBRROBU
 - o Currency: EUR
 - o Description: NO26
- by card (as a backup), on site, on 22 September 2026

To avoid delays associated with payment processing and invoice issuance at the venue, participants are strongly encouraged to use the bank transfer option. On request, the HN POC can send a copy of the invoice after bank transfer completed. The original invoice will be handed over during the in-processing. The transaction will be refunded if participation is cancelled NLT 15 September 2026.

Dress Code:

Business suit (jacket and tie), equivalent for ladies, for official dinner and business casual for DV Day brief and visit to the exercise venue.

Security:

The overall classification of the event is NATO SECRET. Participants must provide a NATO Security Certificate (NATO Secret or above) during in-processing, or send an electronic copy of the document in advance, via e-mail, to the HN POC and cc to security@natohcoe.org. In this case, a confirmation mail will follow.

In-processing:

The in-processing will take place in the lobby of DoubleTree by Hilton Oradea on 21 September 2026, starting with 17.30 until 19.30. A hard copy of the NATO Security Certificate (if not sent in advance via e-mail, and confirmed as received), and a photo ID will be required.

NOSP 26 Points of Contact (POC):

- Radu CIMPEAN, NOSP 26 Officer with Primary Responsibility, mobile: +31638627988, unclassified email: radu.cimpean@ncia.nato.int;
- Maria HIBAIS, NOSP 26 Administrator, phone: +31703743050, unclassified email: maria.hibais@ncia.nato.int.

Host Nation Point of Contact:

- Alexandru GHEORGHE, HCOE Protocol Office, mobile +40.752.248.347, unclassified e-mail protocol@natohcoe.org, BICES GheorgheA@hcoe.rou.bices.org