

Metis Strategic Foresight Network
Anticipate. Assess. Counsel.

Strategic Foresight Workshop

No. 01 | Feb. 2025
Athens, GR

Challenges to the rule-based international order



In cooperation of Metis Institute, DEU MOD & University of Plymouth, UK MOD



Day One

27 February 2025

Objectives

1. To enhance the common understanding of strategic challenges and their implications for regional and global stability.
2. To explore the strategic importance of strategic foresight, common understanding of international security challenges between partner countries.
3. To identify key opportunities and challenges for cooperation between selected partner countries.
4. To develop policy recommendations and strategies for enhancing regional cooperation, stability, and prosperity in light.
5. To foster collaboration and partnerships among stakeholders, including EU and NATO, government agencies, academic institutions, transnational companies, and local communities.

Time	Event
09:00–09:30	Registration and networking
09:30–10:00	Welcome and introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• University of Plymouth / Metis Institute, University of the Bundeswehr Munich• Ambassadors DEU and UK• Hellenic MoD
10:00–12:00	Panel 1: “International order: between uni-, bi- and multipolarity” <p>This panel will examine the geostrategic implications of shifts of the polarity of the international system. In an era marked by geopolitical tensions, the rise of emerging powers, and evolving alliances, this session will explore the competing forces shaping the future world order. Experts will dive deep into perspectives on the strategic, economic, and diplomatic challenges at play.</p> <p>Moderation: University of Plymouth</p> <p>10:00–10:20 Polarity, alliances and rule-based order in the 21st century Hellenic MoD</p> <p>10:20–10:40 The future role and function of international organizations NATO Maritime Command</p> <p>10:40–11:00 Weaponized interdependence and international economy George C. Marshall Center, Garmisch-Partenkirchen / University of the Bundeswehr Munich</p> <p>11:00–11:20 The future of international law in an age of global disorder Center for Intelligence and Security Studies, University of the Bundeswehr Munich</p> <p>11:20–12:00 Discussion and Q&A</p>
12:00–13:00	Lunch break

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Time	Event
13:00–15:00	<p>Panel 2: Emerging security challenges in the 21st century</p> <p>This panel will explore the evolving landscape of global security in the 21st century, addressing a range of critical threats from cyber warfare and terrorism to climate change and geopolitical tensions. Experts from diverse fields will discuss the implications of technological advancements, hybrid warfare, and the shifting power dynamics that challenge traditional security frameworks. This session aims to provide insights into how governments, organizations, and individuals can adapt to these emerging threats and foster resilience in an increasingly complex world.</p> <p>Moderation: University of Plymouth</p> <p>13:00–13:20 Hybrid threats and cognitive warfare Metis Institute, University of the Bundeswehr Munich</p> <p>13:20–13:40 Climate change effects on human security: pathways to sustainability Athens University of Economics and Business</p> <p>13:40–14:00 Space as a warfighting domain BAE systems</p> <p>14:00–14:20 AI, drones and the future of warfare Metis Institute, University of the Bundeswehr Munich</p> <p>14:20–15:00 Discussion and Q&A</p>
15:00–15:30	Coffee break
15:30–17:30	<p>Panel 3: Future regional security challenges in Asia and the Middle East</p> <p>As global power dynamics shift, these regions face complex security challenges that will shape their future stability. From geopolitical rivalries, economic uncertainty, and technological disruptions to emerging threats such as terrorism and climate change understanding the evolving landscape is essential for crafting sustainable regional solutions. This panel focusses on thought-provoking discussions on how the future of regional security can be navigated in these pivotal regions.</p> <p>Moderation: United Service Institution of India & National Maritime Foundation, India</p> <p>15:30–15:50 Appraising Chinese maritime-ness in India’s strategic calculus: dimensions, imperatives, priorities University of Goa, India</p> <p>15:50–16:10 A Saudi-Arabian outlook on political stability in the Middle East National Defence University of Saudi Arabia</p> <p>16:10–16:30 India’s maritime security imperatives and its indo-pacific strategy National Maritime Foundation, India</p> <p>16:30–17:30 Discussion and Q&A</p>
19:00	<p>Hosted dinner at the hotel restaurant Dinner Speaker: UK Space Command</p>

Day Two

28 February 2025

Time	Event
09:00–09:30	Networking
09:30–10:00	Briefing: Wargaming / table-top exercise briefing on space and team designation Chair: BAE Team The aim of the TTX exercise is to gain insight into how space will shape future conflicts and play a crucial role, particularly in enhancing conventional forces. A counterspace threat briefing will outline current and future adversaries' space programs. Following this, participants will be divided into three groups to examine the following conflict scenarios: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Asia-Pacific – The Taiwan issue2. High North – Russia's pursuit of strategic advantage3. Middle East – The Houthis' use of space in the Red Sea conflict
10:00–11:30	Wargaming / table-top exercise in breakout groups <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Breakout group 1• Breakout group 2• Breakout group 3
11:30–11:45	Coffee break
11:45–12:15	Wargaming / table-top exercise in breakout groups <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Breakout group 1• Breakout group 2• Breakout group 3
12:15–13:30	Final discussion, key findings and closing remarks
13:30–14:30	Lunch

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