Call for Workshops CyCon 2026

CCDCOE
NATO COOPERATIVE CYBER DEFENCE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

26 - 29 May 2026
Tallinn Estonia

18th International Conference on Cyber Conflict: Securing Tomorrow

CYCON

CyCon, the International Conference on Cyber Conflict, is organized annually by the NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence (CCDCOE). The 18th iteration of CyCon will take place from 26 to 29 May 2026 in Tallinn, Estonia.

The CyCon 2026 Programme Committee is pleased to announce an open call for workshops that offer hands-on experience and can help develop understanding in technical, legal, strategic, policy, and operational aspects of future cyber-related developments.

The theme of CyCon 2026 is "Securing Tomorrow".

The pace of technological development shows no sign of slowing. Each breakthrough in connectivity, computing, and automation shapes a world that is more dependent on digital systems and evermore vulnerable to their disruption. As we innovate, we must also anticipate. Securing tomorrow begins now, with the decisions we make and the strategies we set in motion today.

The future of cyberspace will not be defined solely by the technologies we create, but also by how well we secure and protect them. Emerging capabilities like quantum computing, artificial intelligence, and autonomous systems promise not only to transform our societies, but also to deepen our dependence on them, expand their attack surfaces, and upend existing security paradigms. Protecting the next generation of digital infrastructure will require a shift from reactive responses to proactive, forward-leaning measures.

In a domain where the boundaries between peace and conflict are increasingly blurred, cyber threats continue to evolve faster than the frameworks meant to contain them. The actors are many, their tools sophisticated, and their motives diverse. Whether nation-states, criminal networks, or lone wolves, these adversaries operate relentlessly in the shadows, without pity, remorse, or fear. In such an environment, waiting, talking, and planning are no longer sufficient. How can governments, industry leaders, legal experts, and technologists work together to adapt to new threats and secure tomorrow?

Workshop Goals

A CyCon workshop connects the topic with participants in an informal, interactive way by aligning with one or more of the three tracks of CyCon: Legal, Strategy and Policy, and Technology.

Workshops that overlap more than one of these categories are welcome. When submitting workshop proposals, workshop presenters must specify which track or tracks they are submitting under. Please contact the CyCon 2026 Programme Committee in advance if you are unsure of how to categorize your workshop.

Workshops at CyCon aim to bridge the Academic–Commercial–Community gap by generating actionable insights and sustained collaborations that outlive the workshop itself.

Workshops should therefore generally be designed to gain new skills and knowledge for the participants without requiring specialized training. Workshops should also have an option for people not familiar with the subject matter. Workshops are expected to run primarily on CyCon 2026's workshop day, **26 May 2026**, but some may run over the following two days of the conference.

Procedure

Workshop proposals should consist of a one-paragraph overview of the workshop topic outlining its proposed structure and goals. Presenters must state the required equipment and room setup. Please indicate whether the session is BYOD, the AV requirements, the required floor space, the expected level of physical activity, and any other specific requirements. Workshops should be designed to last approximately 90 minutes. Presenters should also attach their CV or their company's description to the email.

CyCon can generally support workshop groups of approximately 20-80 participants depending on the specific workshop requirements. There is no expectation that workshops should be able to accommodate any given number of participants other than a minimum of 20. The Programme Committee may have to reject otherwise suitable workshops if the workshop proposal cannot be adjusted to meet venue limitations.

If your workshop proposal has a specific training audience or requires specialized training, please specify that in your proposal so the Programme Committee can consider those factors. Such workshops will be considered and can still be a good fit for CyCon.

After a preliminary review, the CyCon 2026 Programme Committee will follow-up with the proposals that best fit the conference. This follow-up does not confirm selection. The CyCon Programme Committee will request a full submission from the workshop presenters, which should include a detailed agenda and a final list of all supporting materials needed for the Programme Committee to determine suitability and finalize workshop selection.

By submitting workshop proposals for consideration, the presenters acknowledge that at least one presenter from each accepted workshop will be required to deliver the workshop in person at CyCon 2026 in Tallinn.

Funding

Workshop presenters are eligible for the Speaker Support Package, which covers CyCon 2026 registration, accommodation, and economy-class round-trip tickets. Sponsors are encouraged to host workshops; however, the Speaker Support Package is reserved for presenters not affiliated with sponsoring organizations. Please note that all workshops may be recorded in audio-only or audio/video formats. Workshops will also be photographed for promotional and archival purposes, and the recordings and photos may be published on the CyCon 2026 or CCDCOE website, printed, posted on social media, or included in press releases unless the presenter requests otherwise with justification.

Important Dates

- Proposal submission deadline: **27 February 2026**
- Notification of initial workshop acceptance or rejection: **13 March 2026**
- Full workshop submission deadline: **3 April 2026**
- Notification of final workshop acceptance or rejection: **10 April 2026**

Submission Point of Contact

Email all proposals to cycon2026@ccdcoe.org