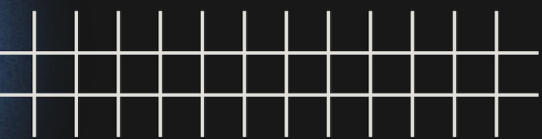


Nordic Security Conference 2024

The Future of Defense



April 5-7, 2024

Ridehuset

Oslo



Welcome to NorSec 2024

We are delighted to have you at YATA Norway's 19th annual Nordic Security Conference!

This year, the topic is "The Future of Defense" split into three sessions: Future Technology, Arms Control of New and Old Weapons, Climate Change and Security.

For many years, NorSec has been a platform for learning, discussing and creating new experiences between students, cadets and young professionals from Norway and abroad. We continue to work on improving our platform, in order to provide national and international participants with a genuine interest in security and foreign policy matters, a place to meet and learn from each other.

We sincerely appreciate your attendance, and wish you three fruitful days at the Nordic Security Conference 2024.

-Katarina, Sebastian and Lasse-

Saturday April 6th

9:30-10:00 *Registration and coffee*

Opening Session

10:00-11:00

A warm welcome:

Benedicte Røvik

President of YATA Norway

Opening speech:

Kate Hansen Bundt

Secretary General of the Norwegian Atlantic Committee

Opening speech:

Espen Barth Eide

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Opening speech:

Marie Lamo Vikanes

State Secretary in the Ministry of Defence



Saturday April 6th

Session I

Future Technology

11:00-13:00

Moderator: Ingrid Kongshaug Johannesen, Vice President YATA Oslo

Lecture and Q&A: Space Technology

Tonje Nanette Arnesen

Norwegian Defence Research Establishment (FFI)

Lecture and Q&A: Cryptography, quantum computers and secure communication

Martin Strand

Norwegian Defence Research Establishment (FFI)

11:50-12:10: *Coffee Break*

Lecture and Q&A: The automation of warfare

Lene Grimstad

Oslo New University College (ONH)

Lecture and Q&A: Space Security - perspectives from a small nation

Steinar Thomsen

Deputy Director General of the Norwegian Space Agency (NRS)

13:00-14:00: *Lunch*

Saturday April 6th

Session II

Arms control of new and old weapons

14:00-16:00

Moderator: Johanne Akerø, Political scientist & advisor at Sannum& Bergestuen

Opening Speech:

Guri Melby

Second Vice Chair of the Storting's Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee

Lecture on the regulation of autonomous weapons

Lene Grimstad

Oslo New University College (ONH)

Lecture on nuclear weapons and arms control

Adelina Trolle Andersen

Ph.D. candidate at the Institute for Defence Studies (IFS)

Lecture on strengthening military capabilities

Magnus Håkenstad (IFS)

Research Fellow at the Institute for Defence Studies (IFS)

Panel discussion with Grimstad, Andersen and Håkenstad

19:00-22:00: Dinner at Casa Pisano for those registered

Speaker biographies in order of appearance

Opening session

Welcome and Opening Speeches



Welcoming everyone to the conference and taking part in session four is Benedicte Røvik, the President of YATA Norway. She is currently serving as a member of the Liberal Party's Executive Board and Chair of the International Committee. She was a member of the Norwegian Defense Commission of 2021, representing the Liberal Party, which delivered their Official Norwegian Report (NOU) with recommendations regarding security and defence policy to safeguard Norwegian security in a 10 – 20 years perspective. She has been active in Youth Atlantic Treaty Association, both in Bergen and at a national level, since 2016. In 2014 she completed her 12 months of initial service as a military police officer at the Garrison of Sør-Varanger. She is enrolled in the Norwegian Home Guard as a part of her mandatory service. Benedicte holds a M.A. in Law from the University of Bergen.



Kate Hansen Bundt with a distinguished career in defense and international relations, serves as the Secretary General of the Norwegian Atlantic Committee since 2010 and will be opening the conference. Her scholarly journey includes a deep dive into German politics, European integration, and transatlantic affairs, grounded in her Cand.polit. from the University of Oslo. Recognized for her contributions to German-Norwegian relations with the Willy Brandt Prize in 2018, Bundt's expertise also encompasses Norwegian defense and security policies. Her influence extends through her participation in government committees and think tanks, marking her as a pivotal figure in shaping security discourse.



Speaker biographies in order of appearance



Espen Barth Eide, currently serving as Norway's Minister of Foreign Affairs, is a distinguished figure with a deep commitment to international relations and security policy. A member of the Norwegian Labour Party, his career has been marked by significant roles within the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Defence. Eide's expertise and leadership have positioned him as a key voice in European relations, North America, Russia, and general security policy. He will inaugurate the conference with the opening speech on Saturday, setting the stage for discussions on the future of defence.



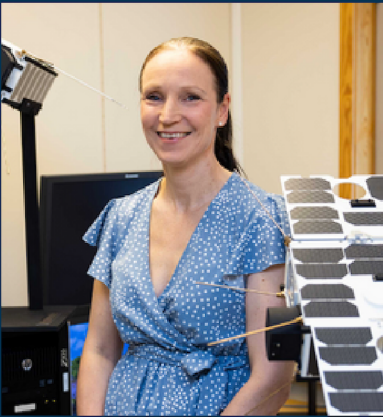
Marie Lamo Vikanes has been the State Secretary for the Minister of Defence, Bjørn Arild Gram, since June 2023. She held the position of political advisor to the Ministry of Defence from October 2021 until she transitioned into the position of State Secretary. Marie acquired her education from Queen Mary University of London as well as King's College in London. She has also spent time working for the Norwegian Red Cross.



Speaker biographies in order of appearance

Session I

Future Technology



Tonje Nanette Arnesen is a Senior Research Fellow at the Norwegian Defense Research Establishment. She is the chief researcher for the department on sensor and monitoring systems where she is working towards developing payloads for satellites. Additionally, she is spearheading a partnership on these developments between Norway and The Netherlands called SMART MilSpace2. She acquired her education from the Norwegian University of Science and Technology in Trondheim, as well as the International Space University.



Martin Strand, at FFI, delves into cryptography, focusing on quantum computing and securing communications. His research is pivotal in advancing quantum-safe cryptographic solutions and enhancing security for future technologies. Strand's involvement in projects like PRIVATEER showcases his dedication to pioneering secure, privacy-enhancing technologies. At the conference, he will share his insights into these critical areas, offering a deep dive into the complexities and advancements in cryptography and secure communication systems.



Speaker biographies in order of appearance



Lene Kristin Grimstad is an academic at Oslo Nye Høyskole, responsible for programs in peace and conflict studies and international studies. She holds a master's degree in Society, Science, and Technology from the University of Oslo and the University of Strasbourg, and a bachelor's degree in peace and conflict studies from Oslo Nye Høyskole. Grimstad is actively involved in the "Stop Killer Robots" campaign and Lene has followed states' work with Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems under the UN Weapons Convention since 2014. At the conference, she will hold two sessions, focus on the automation of warfare and the work of regulating these new technologies, complemented by a Q&A session after each session.



Join Steinar Thomsen as he navigates the complexities of space security from the lens of a small nation. Steinar, with a background in naval operations and a master's in nautics from the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, has significant experience in satellite navigation and space security issues. As a director at the Norwegian Space Centre, he focuses on the strategic use of space for national security. His session will provide insights into how small nations can contribute to and benefit from global space security initiatives.

Moderating session I



Ingrid Kongshaug Johannesen is the Vice President of YATA Oslo. She is currently finishing her master's degree in political science at the University of Oslo and holds a bachelor's degree in human geography from the same university. In her master's degree, Ingrid investigates information operations within the Russian hybrid threat toolkit in a European Arctic context. Ingrid is also a part-time employee at a consultant firm, working with sustainable society transformation. With her experience in YATA and educational background she will be an excellent moderator for the first session of the conference.



Speaker biographies in order of appearance

Session II

Arms control of new and old weapons



Guri Melby, leader of the Liberal Party, serves as a Member of Parliament for Oslo (2021-2025) and holds the position of Second Vice Chair in the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence. Her comprehensive experience in foreign affairs and defence, alongside her role in parliamentary delegations related to European Parliament relations, positions her well to open Session 2 at the conference. Her background and expertise in education and her governmental experience further enrich her contributions to discussions on arms control and defence policy.



Adelina Trolle Andersen, a Ph.D. candidate at the Institute for Defence Studies, focuses on nuclear policy and arms control. With a Master's in Political Science from the University of Oslo and studies at Sciences Po Paris, Andersen's work critically examines shifts in American nuclear policy and its implications for the Arctic. Her doctoral thesis explores Norwegian nuclear policy, contributing vital insights into the strategic landscape of nuclear arms control. At the conference, Andersen will share her expertise on nuclear weapons and arms control, enriching the discussion with her deep research background, followed by a Q&A session.



Speaker biographies in order of appearance



Magnus Håkenstad is a research fellow at the Institute for Defence Studies (IFS). He has completed a master's degree in history at the University of Oslo and is currently working towards a Ph.d. in history at the same university focusing on the Armed Forces' assistance to the police. Håkenstad has been responsible for several studies on preparedness, crisis management, total defense and national security for Norway's Defense College. In 2019 he received the Defense College's teaching prize for his efforts.

Moderating session II



Johanne Akerø, armed with a master's degree in political science from the University of Oslo, brings a rich background in research and political engagement to her role as a moderator for session two. Her previous involvement in politics, including her role as a local politician for the Labour Party and leadership in student organizations. Johanne has previously served as a board member for YATA Norway and often writes articles on topics regarding politics, foreign policy and current events. Johanne is now working as a political scientist & advisor at Sannum& Bergestuen where she contributes with political and social analysis, especially focusing on strategic communication.



Sunday April 7th

10:30-11:00 Registration and coffee

Session III

Climate change and security

11:00-13:15

Moderator: *Katarina Hodal, NorSec Project Coordinator*

Opening Speech:

Lieutenant General Ingrid Gjerde

Chief of the Defense Staff

Lecture and Q&A: Climate change and national security

Geir Arild Engh-Hellesvik

Department Director at the Norwegian National Security Authority (NSM)

12:00-12:15: *Coffee Break*

Lecture and Q&A: Climate change and security the northern regions

Andreas Østhagen

Senior Research Fellow at the Fridtjof Nansen Institute (FNI)

Lecture and Q&A: The armed forces' climate and environmental
“accounting”

Kristian Lausund

Ph.D. candidate at the Institute for Defence Studies (IFS)



Sunday April 7th

13:15-14:00: Lunch

Session IV

National Perspectives on the Future of Defense

14:00-15:00

Moderator: Birger Lausund, YATA Norway International Coordinator

Panel discussion between YATA Chapters

YATA Norway: Benedicte Røvik

YATA Germany: Lars Neal

YATA Latvia: Trīne Žagare

Closing remarks

15:00 - 15:10

Katarina Hodal, Sebastian Halvorssen & Lasse Lundsholdt

Project Coordinators, Nordic Security Conference 2024



Speaker biographies in order of appearance

Opening Speech



Lieutenant General Ingrid Margrethe Gjerde, with an impressive military background, will open the third session on Sunday, focusing on climate changes and security. Gjerde, appointed as the Chief of the Norwegian Defence Staff in November 2023, has extensive experience from various national and international military positions, including leadership roles in UN peacekeeping operations. Her educational background combines military training with a master's degree in political science, positioning her well to address complex security challenges.

Session III

Climate change and security



Geir Arild Engh-Hellesvik is the Department Director at the Norwegian National Security Authority (NSM), leading the division for defense against advanced digital threats. With a background as an information security manager at the Vy Group and an education in computer engineering from Oslo Metropolitan University coupled with an MBA in strategic management from NHH, he brings a wealth of knowledge to the field. At the conference, he will deliver a session on the challenges and strategies in national cybersecurity followed by a Q&A.



Andreas Østhagen, a senior researcher at the Fridtjof Nansen Institute, focuses on the political dynamics of the Arctic and Northern regions, particularly in terms of security and geopolitics. His work examines the complexities of cooperation and conflict in the Arctic, the interests and actions of key players like Norway, the EU, the USA, and China, as climate and political landscapes evolve. Østhagen has a Ph.D. in International Relations from the University of British Columbia and has held several academic and advisory roles related to Arctic geopolitics. At the conference, he will discuss climate change and its impact on security policy in the northern areas, followed by a Q&A session.



Speaker biographies in order of appearance



Kristian Lausund is a Research Fellow at the Norwegian Defence Research Establishment where he has taken part in producing a report on the defense sector's climate and environmental "accounting" for 2022. Lausund has previously been a researcher at the University of Oslo where he took part in one of UiO's interdisciplinary research projects Diatech, in the research group on Nanostructures and functional materials (NAFUMA) and for the center for materials science and nanotechnology at the Department of Chemistry at UiO.

Moderating session III



Katarina Hodal is one of the NorSec Project Coordinators for this year's Conference. She is currently completing a master's in political science at the University of Oslo about the effect of security crises on climate policy, with a particular focus on petro-states. She holds a bachelors degree in development studies from the same university. With climate and security as her areas of interest, Katarina will be an excellent moderator for session three.

Moderating session IV



Birger Lausund is an EU Public Affairs consultant at Kreab Brussels, and works in the defence team, as well as in their sustainability team. He is also the International Coordinator for YATA Norway. Birger has a Master's degree in European studies from the University of Leuven in Belgium where he wrote his thesis on Norway's role both inside and outside the EU. He also holds a bachelors degree in political science from the Norwegian University of Science and Technology in Trondheim, and has spent time learning Spanish in Central America.





If anything occurs during the conference that you would like to inform us about, please call or text any of these numbers:

(+47) 473 91 277 (+47) 414 99 171 (+47) 401 85 219

The norwegian numbers for emergency contacts are as follows:

(+47) 110 Fire Department

(+47) 112 Police

(+47) 113 Ambulance



Thank you for attending our 19th Annual Nordic Security Conference!

We hope to see you again next year!