



**CCDCOE**

NATO COOPERATIVE

CYBER DEFENCE

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

# What is a Centre of Excellence?



- Allied Command Transformation (ACT) has overall responsibility for the currently **29 NATO accredited Centres of Excellence (COE)**.
- COEs are nationally or multi-nationally funded. NATO does not directly fund COEs and COEs are **not part of the NATO Command Structure**.
- The COEs cover a **wide variety of areas** such as civil-military operations, cyber defence, military medicine, energy security, naval mine warfare, defence against terrorism, cold weather operations, and counter-IED.
- In addition the European Centre of Excellence for Countering Hybrid Threats (**Hybrid CoE**) in Helsinki focuses on responses to hybrid threats.







# Members



# Focus areas

RESEARCH



TRAINING



EXERCISES



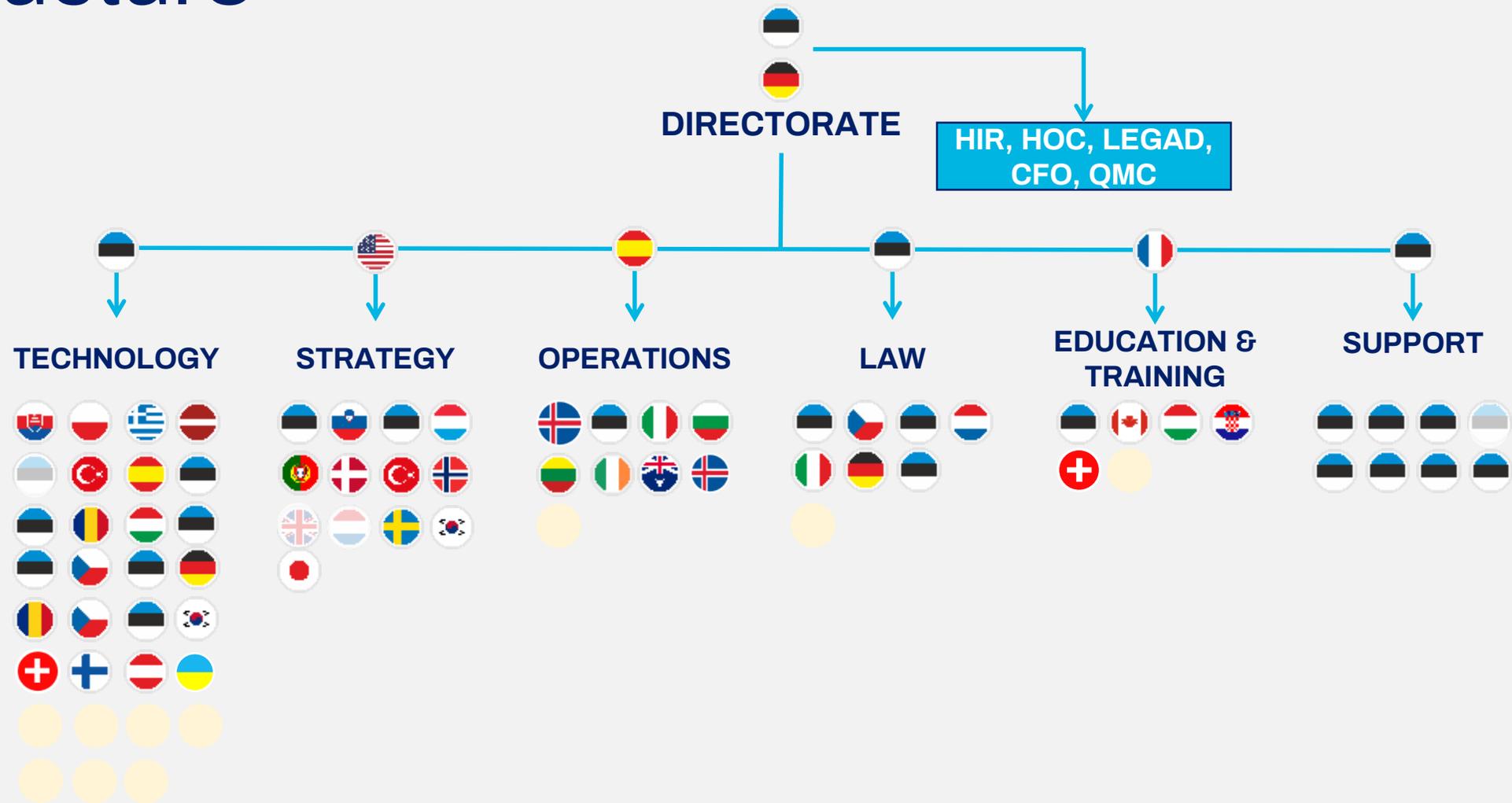
Technology

Strategy

Operations

Law

# Structure



# Flagship Projects



**LOCKED  
SHIELDS**



**CROSSED  
SWORDS**



**CYCON**  
INTERNATIONAL  
CONFERENCE ON  
CYBER CONFLICT

**TALLINN  
MANUAL**

INTERNATIONAL LAW  
APPLICABLE TO  
CYBER OPERATIONS



**CCDCOE**

# NATO CCDCOE key roles for NATO



**CCDCOE**  
NATO COOPERATIVE  
CYBER DEFENCE  
CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

Custodian of Allied Joint Doctrine  
for Cyberspace Operations

Department Head for Cyberspace  
Operations Discipline

Support for Exercises



# CCDCOE coordinates cyber training within NATO

- Identify training needs
- Coordinate education and training solutions across the Alliance
- Work closely with NATO Allied Command Transformation (ACT)
- Unconditional quality assurance accreditation from ACT

# Training

CCDCOE promotes continuous learning in cyber security

Our training courses are based on our latest research and cyber defence exercises



# Strategic, Operational and Legal Training

## → Senior Leadership Training

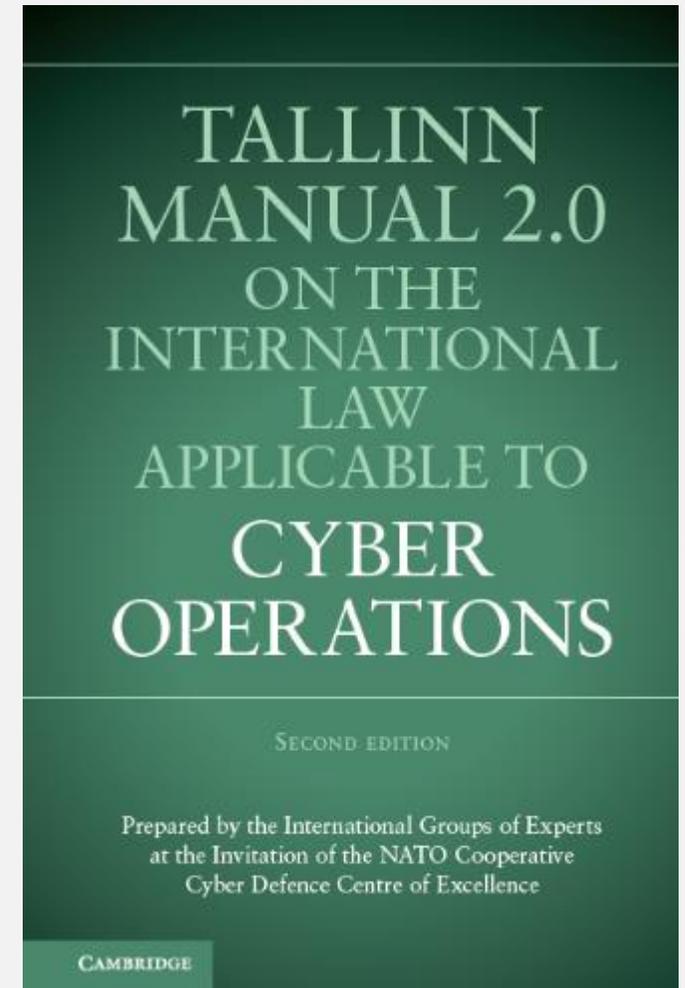
- Executive Cyber Seminar

## → Operational Level Training

- Integration of Cyber Considerations into Operational Planning Course
- Operational Cyber Threat Intelligence Course
- Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Course

## → Legal Training

- International Law of Cyber Operations Course



# e-Learning Materials

- The Centre's e-Learning materials are published on the NATO e-Learning website (JADL)
- **General awareness course:** ADL 076 Cyber Defence Awareness (from 2013)
- **Specific Admin Awareness course:** ADL 335 Cyber Awareness course for System Administrators (under update)
- Cyber Awareness Course **Tallinn Manual Module**
- e-Learning materials to support the technical courses



# Exercises

CCDCOE organizes and contributes to exercises targeting technical experts and decision-makers in member nations and within NATO



# Exercises and exercise support

- CCDCOE develops and organizes Cyber exercises **Locked Shields** and **Crossed Swords**
- Support to NATO Cyber Defense Exercise **Cyber Coalition**
- Support to NATO military exercises for evaluation and certification (e.g. **TRIDENT Juncture**)
- Cyber related scenarios and injects
- Cyber operations **inject database**



LOCKED  
SHIELDS



CROSSED  
SWORDS



**CROSSED  
SWORDS**

# Exercise Crossed Swords (XS)

- Developed and conducted since 2014
- Exercises essential aspects of cyber operation
- Complex scenario integrating cyber and conventional elements
  - Integrates innovative technologies, tactics, techniques and procedures
- Exercises Command & Control (C2) to include intelligence in conflict situation



# Crossed Swords 2021

*Offensive Cyber Operations, Digital Forensics, Cyber Command HQ, kinetic operations with battlefield forensics*

- **400** Virtual Machines
- **108** participants from more than 21 countries
- **200** Offensive Cyber Operations target systems
- **150** Offensive Cyber Operations machines attack infrastructure and testing
- Windows, Linux, wyos, Siemens Spectrum and many more

XS21 promotional video clip: [here](#)



**CROSSED  
SWORDS**





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SHIELDS**

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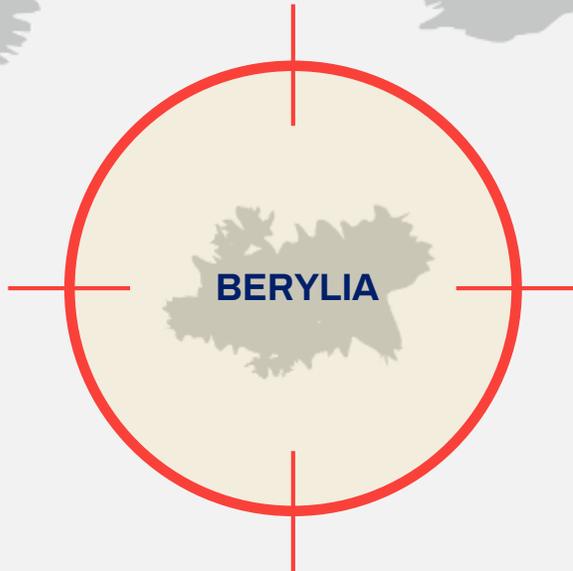
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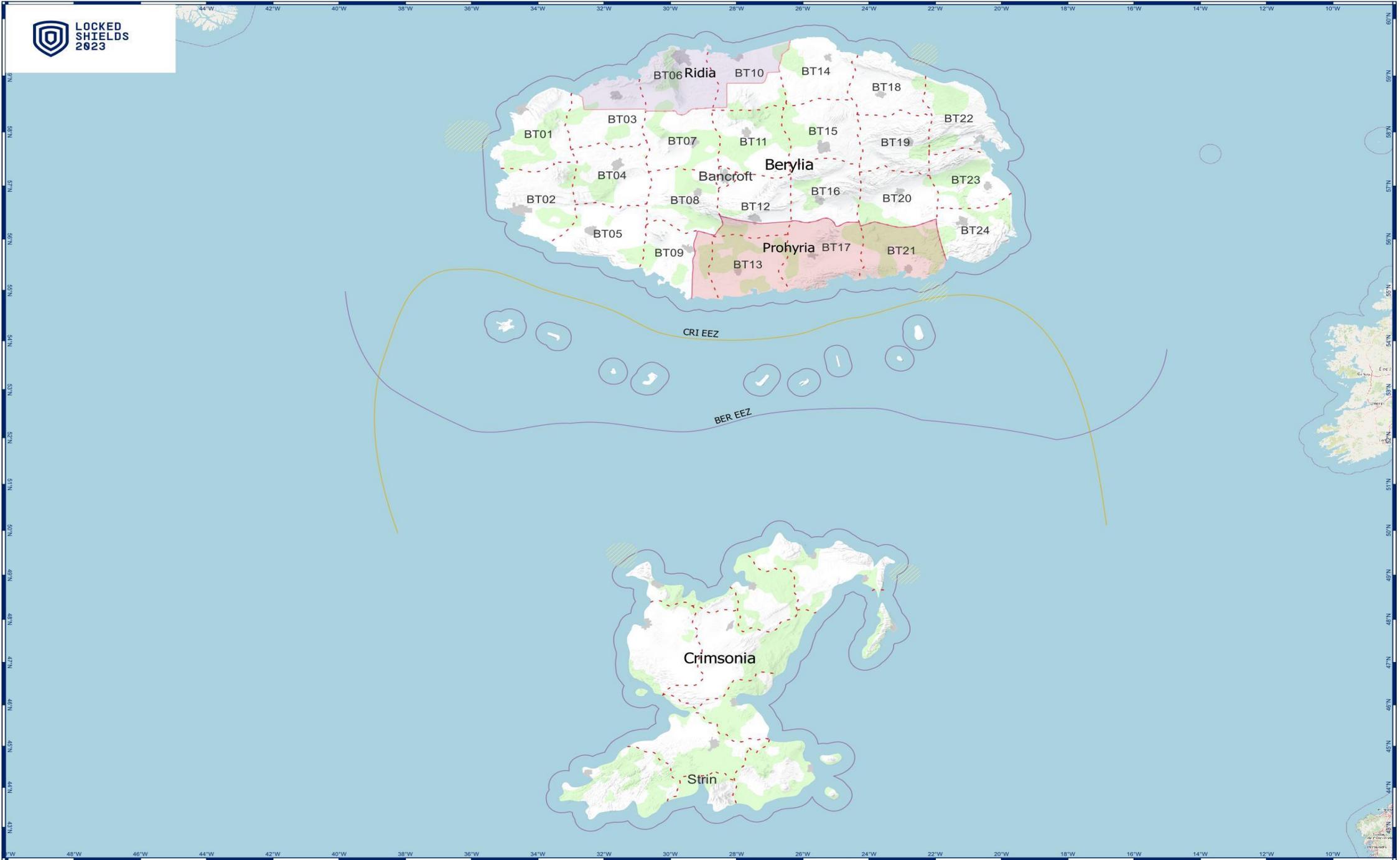
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# Locked Shields is unique

- International
- Technical & Strategic
- Live Fire
- Red ↔ Blue
- Game Based
- Complex, including ICS/SCADA
- Innovative
- Cyber Range Environment
- Defense Oriented
- Cooperation & information sharing







# Critical Infrastructure Protection



LOCKED  
SHIELDS



CCDCOE  
NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence  
Centre of Excellence Tallinn, Estonia

# Locked Shields 2023 in numbers

## Organisers

38 nations

20+ partners

375 planners & developers

## Environment

5500 VM

8000 RT Attacks

## Training Audience

38 nations

24 teams

~3400 participants

# Cyber exercises for strategic level

We must continue emphasising the need for training on strategic decision-making level. The Locked Shields also offers national senior-level decision-makers the chance to test their readiness to manage a crisis.

Kaja Kallas, Prime Minister of Estonia,  
at Locked Shields 2021

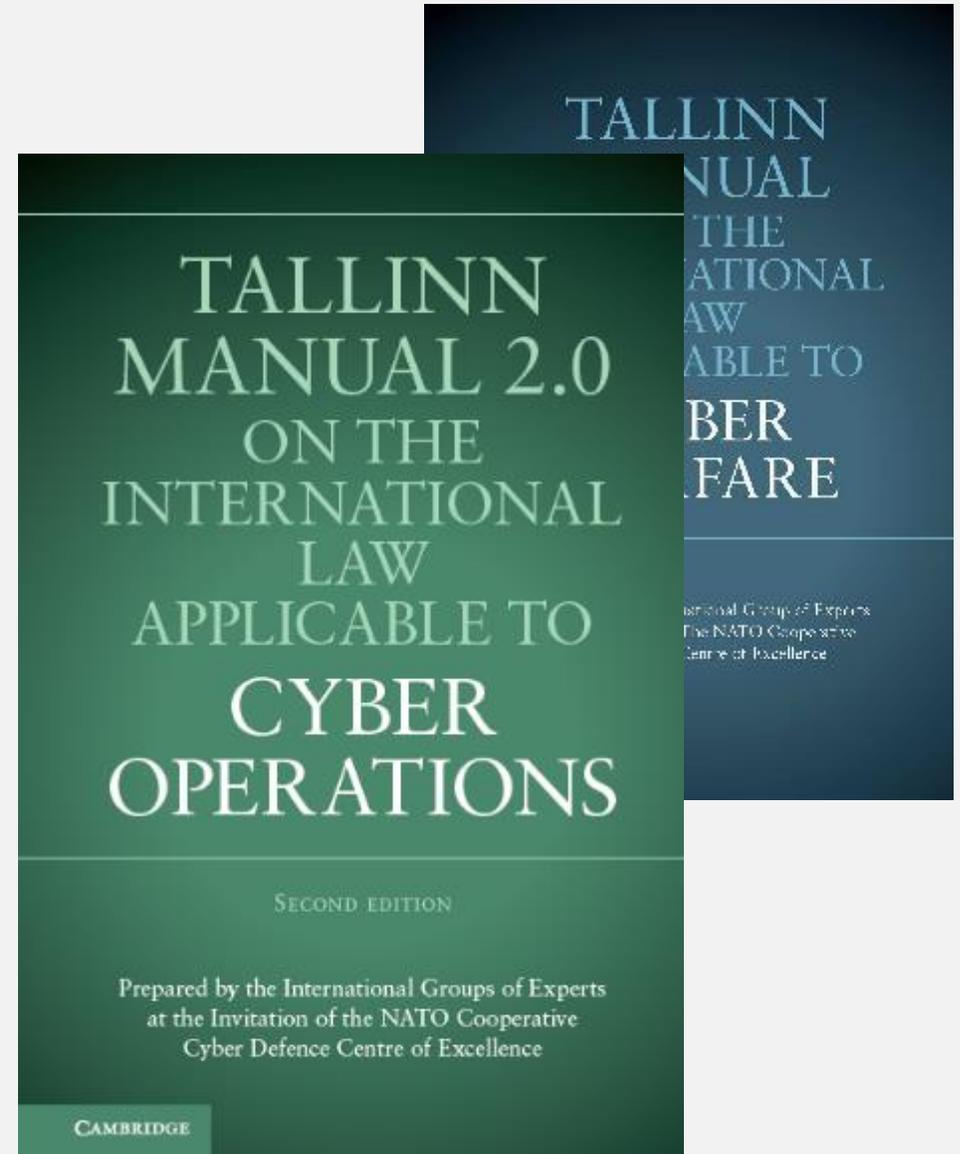
# Strategic decision making - goals

- Translate technical incidents into strategic decisions as outlined by National Cyber strategies
- Reporting and information sharing, command and control functionality
- Understand the coordination and decision making process during a cyber event - both domestically and internationally



# The Tallinn Manual

- Hosted by CCDCOE in 2009-2013; 2013-2017; 2021+
- International Group of Experts of scholars and practitioners from around the globe
- State consultations
- Interpretation of existing international law (*lex lata*) in the cyber context
- Rules and commentary





 CYCON

CyCon 2024: Over the Horizon!  
May 28-31, 2024

# Partners

## ACADEMIA



## NATIONAL



## INDUSTRY



## INTERNATIONAL



Thank you!



SLOVAKIA



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