



[M] Scale: © JAPCC/Adobe; Ground: © Adobe; Fighter Jet: © Francesco Milanese – stock.adobe.com; Missile: © Adobe; Drones: © JAPCC/Adobe; Fighter Jet (Logo): © Lockheed Martin; Globe (Logo): © Jefry Maviskho – stock.adobe.com

# Disrupting Dominance

## The Future of Air Superiority?

For decades, NATO's unrivalled air and space superiority has been a cornerstone of its collective deterrence strategy. Is that era over?

Deteriorating geopolitics and disruptive technologies have fundamentally altered NATO's strategic landscape by widening the spectrum of potential threats and challenging its previous foundations of air and space deterrence. On one end of the technological spectrum, cheap, commercially available drones and other weapons have lowered the barrier to entry onto the modern battlefield, enabling state and non-state actors to contest the air and space domains at a fraction of the cost of previous eras. Simultaneously, on the other end of the spectrum, advancements in space capabilities, sixth-generation fighters, and autonomous platforms are set to render legacy combat systems obsolete, demanding a significant and urgent modernization effort from NATO members.

This broadening array of threats requires NATO to reevaluate its deterrence strategies, defence plans, and overall combat capabilities. Investments in high-end systems must be balanced with the need for 'affordable mass' capable of countering new and diverse threats ranging from low-cost drone swarms to advanced hypersonic weapons. To address this challenge, NATO requires a comprehensive assessment of its current defence posture, a willingness to promote rapid innovation, and a commitment to interoperability and collaboration between Alliance governments, militaries, and industry partners.

As NATO reorients to a changing battlefield, it must answer the question, 'How will we achieve air and space superiority in future operations?'

The 2025 Joint Air and Space Power Conference provides a forum to address these complex challenges.

The conference will examine the evolving air and space power landscape through four focused panels:

### PANEL 1 Dominance Disrupted

This panel will delve into the evolving strategic environment by examining the current geopolitical environment, as well as the disruptive impact of two simultaneous trends in air superiority:

First, the proliferation of readily available, cost-effective technologies, such as loitering munitions and one-way attack drones, has lowered the barrier to entry onto the modern battlefield and challenges NATO air superiority as we know it.

Second, the panel will discuss the rapid modernization of peer competitors as they field fifth- and sixth-generation fleets, advanced weapons, and space platforms at an astonishing rate. This session will provide an overview of the complex factors shaping the future of air and space power, highlighting the urgency to adapt and innovate, and identifying areas for immediate action.

### PANEL 2 The Tech Horizon: Emerging Technologies and their Tactical Implications

This panel will explore the disruptive technologies that are arriving this decade. Experts will discuss advancements in areas such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), Autonomous Collaborative Platforms (ACP), hypersonic weapons, and space warfare capabilities, and they will describe how these technologies are likely to broadly influence the design, employment, command & control, and survivability of future air and space capabilities. This panel will identify the opportunities and challenges presented by these breakthroughs while identifying the paradigm changes that will necessitate new operational concepts and tactical doctrine for air and space power.

### PANEL 3 Reshaping NATO's Innovation Cycles

This panel will focus on how NATO can accelerate its innovation cycles to maintain a competitive edge on today's rapidly changing battlefield. Participants will

discuss options for streamlining NATO's procurement processes and enhancing collaboration between industry and military stakeholders, to foster a culture of experimentation, rapid prototyping, and novel manufacturing and logistical methods. Experts will also discuss interoperability and standardization challenges and solutions related to integrating potential new technologies across existing forces, ensuring seamless operation in a complex threat environment.

### PANEL 4 'The Next Ten Years' Thought Experiment

In this open-ended panel, we ask leading experts to discuss their highest priority tasks for NATO if the Alliance had between one and ten years to prepare for a major war. Panellists will offer their perspectives on the key challenges and opportunities facing the Alliance in a near-term conflict scenario. They will further outline concrete, near-term steps which will provide the greatest benefit or mitigate the greatest risks to NATO in the short term. Discussions may cover acquisitions strategies, operational improvements, changes to the command structure, modernization initiatives,

public and private sector cooperation, or enhanced training and readiness. This session will include compelling arguments emphasizing the urgency of proactive change within the Alliance.



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In 2025, the Joint Air and Space Power Conference will move to the Grugahalle, not far from our traditional venue.

## 2025: A New Era Begins

*In the past three years, the JAPCC has reached its maximum capacity for both participants and exhibitors. The previous conference even exceeded attendee limits due to high demand. To accommodate the growing audience, the 2025 conference will take place at the Grugahalle, a larger and more versatile venue that provides new opportunities for participants, sponsors, and exhibitors.*

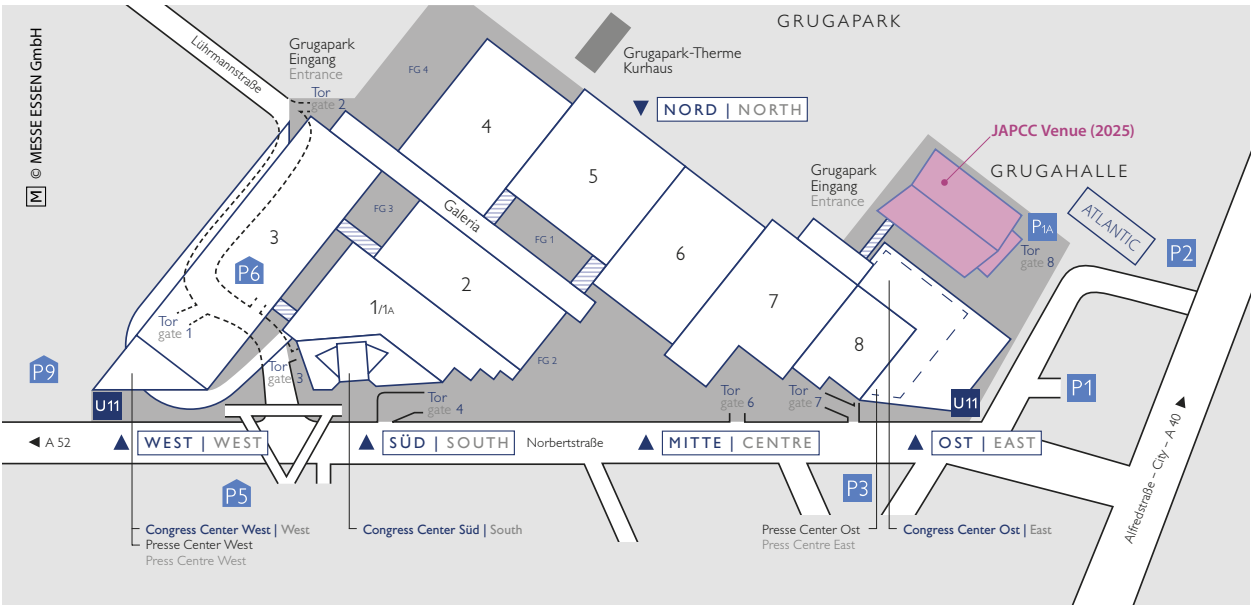
The 2025 conference will showcase a significantly expanded exhibition area, featuring larger and more accessible exhibitor booths and private meeting rooms located on the same floor as the main conference sessions. This setup will ensure seamless engagement between exhibitors and attendees during networking breaks, enhancing the overall experience for all involved.

**Experience the Excitement of a New Venue:** The Grugahalle offers a modern and spacious setting that caters to JAPCC's expanding audience, all while maintaining the high-quality experience that you have come to expect.

**Enhanced Exhibition Experience:** Exhibitor booths have been significantly enlarged, allowing for the showcasing of comprehensive solutions and interactive demonstrations that will captivate you.

**Unparalleled Networking Opportunities:** Interact with other senior leaders and experts as they delve into the future of joint air and space power, offering valuable insights and perspectives.

**Don't miss out on this exceptional opportunity to be a part of this event in 2025 – where innovation, collaboration, and excellence converge.**



### Conference Agenda

Tuesday, 30 September 2025	
17:00–18:00	Registration
18:00–21:00	Icebreaker
Wednesday, 1 October 2025	
08:00–09:00	Registration
09:00–16:00	Director's Opening Remarks Keynote Address Conference Panels 1 and 2
16:00–17:30	Industry Tour and Presentations
19:00–21:00	Networking Dinner
Thursday, 2 October 2025	
08:00–09:00	Registration
09:00–16:00	Keynote Address Conference Panels 3 and 4 Director's Closing Remarks

Please note that this agenda may be subject to change. Visit our website for the latest agenda and the line-up of confirmed speakers.

Follow us on Social Media:

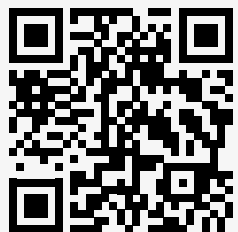


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### Why You Should Attend

Join us as renowned experts from the political, academic, military, and business spheres come together to engage in four themed panels. These panels will delve into the challenges and questions raised within this flyer, exploring how the Alliance and its partners can evolve and leverage Air and Space capabilities to enhance and sustain NATO's three core tasks of Collective Deterrence and Defence, Crisis Management, and Cooperative Security.

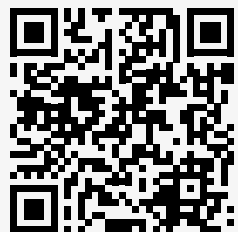
This event offers a unique opportunity to hear from senior military and civilian leaders from across NATO and various nations on these critical topics. Attendees will have the chance to engage with these experts and contribute to a robust discussion. Don't miss out on this invaluable opportunity to gain insights and make a meaningful impact in the realm of international security.



MORE INFORMATION

For more information on the 2025 Conference, please visit us online at: [www.japcc.org/conference](http://www.japcc.org/conference)

Join us at GRUGAHALLE Essen:  
Messeplatz, 45131 Essen, Germany



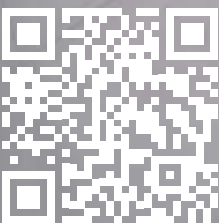
DIRECTIONS



Joint Air & Space Power  
Conference | 20  
25



Disrupting Dominance  
The Future of Air Superiority?



30.09.25–02.10.25  
GRUGAHALLE Essen,  
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