



## About the Kiel Munition Clearance Week 2025

As offshore infrastructure expands, climate and security concerns rise, and new technologies emerge, addressing the challenges of marine UXO clearance and critical infrastructure protection is more important than ever. The Kiel Munition Clearance Week 2025, jointly organised by the Ministry for Energy Transition, Climate Protection, Environment, and Nature of Schleswig-Holstein (MEKUN) and north.io GmbH, taking place from

**18 – 20 June, 2025**

**in the Business Lounge of the Wunderino Arena, Kiel**

aims to bring together experts, policymakers, military representatives, and industry leaders to exchange knowledge and shape the future of munitions remediation and security at sea.

The KMCW25 conference will focus on tackling the pressing challenges of historic ordnance disposal and critical infrastructure protection. Through high-profile keynotes, expert panel discussions, and live technology showcases, the event offers a unique platform for collaboration and innovation.

Alongside the conference, the KMCW25 Exhibition will showcase cutting-edge UXO clearance technologies, autonomous systems, data-driven solutions, and innovations in maritime security.

Organising Partners:



**Schleswig-Holstein**  
Ministry for Energy Transition,  
Climate Protection,  
Environment and Nature



## Wednesday, 18 June 2025

*Registration & Morning Coffee 08:15–09:20*

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### **Official Conference Opening 09:20–09:30**

Jann Wendt

Initiator of the Kiel Munition Clearance Week & CEO of north.io GmbH

Tobias Goldschmidt

Minister of Energy Transition, Climate Protection, Environment, and Nature (MEKUN) of Schleswig-Holstein

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### **International Keynote Remarks 09:30–10:00**

Kęstutis Sadauskas

Deputy Director-General of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE)

James Bergeron

Political Advisor to the Commander, NATO Allied Maritime Command

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10:00–11:15

#### **Panel 1:**

#### **Scaling Up: Lessons from Germany's Pilot Programme for Global Munitions Clearance**

*Expert presentations & debate*

Germany's groundbreaking pilot programme in the Baltic Sea provides a unique blueprint for addressing munitions in marine environments. This panel will discuss the programme's outcomes, key challenges, and transferable lessons for global application. Experts will evaluate how to translate these experiences into broader international initiatives.

- **Dr. Ing. Wolfgang Sichermann** – CEO at Seascope GmbH
- **Axel Rasch** – Head of Product Management NXTGEN at TKMS
- **Dieter Guldin** – COO at SeaTerra GmbH

Led by: Terry Martin, Journalist

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11:15 – 12:15

#### **Legacy and Progress: Global Perspectives at Munitions Clearance**

*Expert presentations*

- **Prof. Dr. Edmund Maser** – Research Director at Institute of Toxicology, University Medical School (UKSH) Kiel
- **Terrance P. Long CD** – Chairman at International Dialogues on Underwater Munitions (IDUM)
- **Dr. Michael D. Richardson** – Technical Advisor for SERDP/ESTCP Munitions Response Program at Institute for Defense Analyses
- **Dr. Andreas Röpke** – Deputy Head of Department at Ministry of Climate Protection. Agriculture. Rural Areas and Environment Mecklenburg-Vorpommern

Led by: Dr. Alix Valenti, Journalist

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12:15–13:45

*Lunch & Networking Break at **Exhibition Area***

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## Remote Keynote Remarks 13:45–13:50

Rita Schwarzelühr-Sutter

Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection

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13:50 – 15:05

### Panel 2:

#### Balancing the Scales: Achieving Environmental and Economic Sustainability in Munitions Clearance

*Expert presentations & debate*

Clearing munitions from the seabed must balance ecological preservation with economic feasibility. This session will examine strategies to minimise environmental harm during operations and assess effective monitoring systems. Panelists will discuss case studies and innovations that achieve sustainability without compromising efficiency.

- **Alexander Bach** – Head of Division Water Risk Management at Ministry for Energy Transition, Climate Protection, Environment and Nature
- **Dr. Anita Künitzer** – Senior Scientific Advisor at German Environment Agency
- **Prof. Jacek Beldowski** – Head of Laboratory at Institute of Oceanology PAS

Led by: Terry Martin, Journalist

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15:05 – 16:05

### Tech Innovation Presentations

*Expert presentations*

- **Manfred Krüger** – Technical Manager (High-Speed Dynamics) at IABG mbH on behalf of TenneT
- **Dr. Thorsten Kiefer** – Executive Director at Joint Programming Initiative Healthy and Productive Seas and Oceans (JPI Oceans)
- **Dr.-Ing. Eckhard Wellbrock** – Professor Department of Mechanical Engineering at Fachhochschule Kiel – University of Applied Sciences
- **Dr. Philipp Dau** – Account Executive at north.io GmbH

Led by: Dr. Alix Valenti, Journalist

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*Coffee Break 16:05–16:35*

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16:35 – 18:00

### Panel 3:

#### The Industrialisation of the Ocean: UXO Clearance in the Age of Offshore Expansion

*Expert presentations & debate*

The rapid expansion of offshore wind farms and infrastructure projects has made UXO clearance an urgent priority. This panel will address the unique challenges of clearing munitions in industrial zones and the role of new technologies. Stakeholders will discuss how to align clearance efforts with the accelerating pace of ocean industrialisation.

- **Dr. Dorte Erbs-Hansen** – Project Lead at Ceridwen on behalf of TenneT
- **Jann Wendt** – CEO at north.io GmbH
- **Peter Nieuwveld** – Solution Owner UXO Risk Mitigation at Fugro N.V.

Led by: Peter Menzel, CEO at Corvus Works

## Preliminary Agenda as of 16 June 2025

16:35 – 18:00

### **Stakeholder Dialogue Workshop**

*Led by Scientific Partners (held in the additional room "Sweden")*

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*Reception & Networking at **Exhibition Area** 18:00 – 20:00*

***Including a guided exhibition tour led by Dr. Alix Valenti, Journalist: 18:15 – 18:45***

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*VIP Dinner 19:00-21:00 (by invitation only)*

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**Thursday, 19 June 2025**

*Registration & Morning Coffee 08:15–09:00*

**Opening 09:00–09:10**

09:10 – 10:30

**Panel 4:**

**Innovations in Munitions Clearance: Transforming the Value Chain with Advanced Technologies**

*Expert presentations & debate*

From detection to disposal, emerging technologies are reshaping the munitions clearance process. This panel will showcase cutting-edge innovations available today in robotics, and remediation tools. Industry leaders will discuss how these advancements can enhance efficiency, safety, and cost-effectiveness across the value chain.

- **Arne Dossing Andreassen** – CEO and Co-Founder at UMag Solutions
- **Kevin Hagan** – Senior Capture Manager at Oceaneering International, Inc.
- **Tommy Kaltofen** – CEO at ATLAS MARIDAN ApS
- **Dipl.-Phys. Armin Keßler** – Project Group Leader Technical Safety at Fraunhofer Institute for Chemical Technology, ICT

Led by: Terry Martin, Journalist

10:30–11:30

**Scientific Plenary Session**

*Organised by Scientific Partners*

- **Dr. Hans Sanderson** – Senior Researcher at Department of Environmental Science–Environmental chemistry and technology of Aarhus University
- **Prof. Jacek Bełdowski** – Head of Laboratory at Institute of Oceanology PAS
- **Prof. Dr. Jens Greinert** – Head of DeepSea Monitoring Group at GEOMAR Helmholtz Centre For Ocean Research Kiel

Led by: Andriy Martynenko, Adviser (Safe and Secure) at Council of the Baltic Sea States

11:30–13:00

*Lunch & Networking Break at **Exhibition Area***

13:00–14:30

**Panel 5:**

**Contaminated Waters: Addressing UXO and Environmental Hazards in Ukraine's Rivers and Coastal Zones**

*Expert presentations*

Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine has resulted in widespread contamination of inland and coastal waters with munitions and hazardous substances. This session will highlight the environmental and humanitarian consequences of UXO in Ukraine's rivers, reservoirs and coastal areas. Panelists will present field-based insights, urgent remediation needs, and opportunities for international cooperation. The session will explore how global expertise in underwater clearance, environmental science, and technology can support Ukraine's recovery and water safety efforts.

- **Yevhenii Zubarevskyi** – Deputy Head of Mine Action Department at Main Directorate of Mine Action, Civil Protection, and Environmental Safety of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine
- **Ihor Fedirko** – CEO at Ukrainian Council of Defence Industry
- **Mykhailo Rizak** – Director on Government Relations at NIBULON Ltd.
- **Fabian Bannasch** – CEO at Evologics GmbH

Led by: Terry Martin, Journalist

14:30 – 15:50

### Panel 6:

#### **Data Revolution: Managing and Utilising Large-Scale Ocean Floor Survey Data**

*Expert presentations & debate*

The increasing scale of munitions clearance is producing vast amounts of survey data. This panel will explore solutions for effective data gathering, warehousing, analysis, and integration into operational planning. Experts will discuss how artificial intelligence and machine learning can improve anomaly detection and decision-making.

- **Jann Wendt** – CEO at north.io GmbH
- **Alina Dallmann** – Referent at Ministry for Energy Transition, Climate Protection, Environment and Nature
- **Patrick O'Keefe** – Staff Officer Space Operations at NATO COE CSW

Led by: Terry Martin, Journalist

*Coffee Break 15:50–16:20*

### **International Keynote Remark 16:20–16:35**

Thierry Segers

Programme Manager of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Defence Industry and Space (DG DEFIS)

16:35 – 18:00

### Panel 7:

#### **Unmanned Systems and Advanced Autonomous Technologies: The Future of UXO**

##### **Detection and Clearance**

*Expert presentations & debate*

The future of munitions clearance lies in autonomous solutions capable of efficiently covering vast areas at unprecedented speeds. This discussion will explore the integration of unmanned systems, their operational challenges, and the potential of interconnected technologies that enhance precision and coordination. Beyond munitions clearance, these systems are poised to play a critical role in the safety and security of offshore infrastructure, addressing emerging threats and ensuring resilience. Panelists will highlight current breakthroughs and predict how these systems will evolve across various applications.

- **Prof. Dr. Jens Greinert** – Head of DeepSea Monitoring Group at GEOMAR Helmholtz Centre For Ocean Research Kiel
- **CDR Andreas Montag** – Head of Maritime Unmanned Systems at DEU Navy / 3rd (DEU) Minesweeping Squadron
- **Eugen Ciemnyjewski** – Managing Director EUROATLAS GmbH

## Preliminary Agenda as of 16 June 2025

Led by: Terry Martin, Journalist

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18:00 – 22:00

**Exhibitor Night at Exhibition Area, Wunderino Arena, Kiel** (*Reception & Networking*)

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19:15–21:00

**Public Side Event:**

*hosted on the side lines of the KMCW25*

Discussion on underwater munitions at Business Lounge at Wunderino Arena, Ziegelteich 30a,  
24103 Kiel

(open to general public – held in German)

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**Friday, 20 June 2025**

*Registration & Morning Coffee 08:15–09:00*

**Opening 09:00–09:15**

**International Keynote Remark 09:15–09:45**

Stylianos Tzimis

Maritime Hybrid Threat Senior Analyst at Hybrid CoE

09:45 – 11:10

**Panel 8:**

**Securing the Depths: Protecting Munition Dump Sites, Clearance Areas and Critical Infrastructure from Unauthorized Access**

*Expert presentations & debate*

As clearance operations progress, the challenge of safeguarding known munitions dump sites, clearance areas in shallow waters and maritime infrastructure becomes increasingly critical. This panel will address the risks posed by unauthorized access, including tampering, manipulation, theft of historical ordnance, or mishandling by divers. Experts will explore the technical solutions and policy measures being developed to prevent unauthorized entry, mitigate safety risks, and counter potential nefarious uses of recovered materials such as TNT. Panelists will discuss the intersection of security, technology, and international collaboration to protect these sensitive sites effectively.

- **Dr. Peter Menzel** – Managing Partner of the Rostock Institute for Ocean Technologies GmbH (RIOT)
- **Carl Philipp Wrede** – Deputy Director at DLR Institute for the Protection of Maritime Infrastructures
- **Stylianos Tzimis** – Maritime Hybrid Threat Senior Analyst at Hybrid CoE

Led by: Ferdinand Gehringer, Policy Advisor Internal Security and Cybersecurity at Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

11:10 – 12:00

**Tech Innovation Presentations 3**

- **Jan Matthiesen** – Head of Sales NXTGEN at TKMS
- **Dr. Florian Schulz** – Atlas Elektronik GmbH
- **Markus Beer** – Chief Sales Officer for Autonomous Underwater Vehicle at EUROATLAS GmbH
- **Dirk Peters** – Policy Officer at DG Defence Industry and Space at European Commission

Led by Dr. Alix Valenti, Journalist

*Coffee Break 12:00 – 12:30*

12:30 – 14:00

**Panel 9:**

**Standards and Synergies: Creating Legal and Operational Frameworks for Global Collaboration**

*Expert presentations & debate*



The protection of offshore infrastructure requires consistent legal standards and cooperative frameworks to succeed. Building on recent developments pertaining to offshore safety and resilience, this session will examine existing gaps in regulation and explore how new thinking and lessons learned could inform harmonised policies. Panelists will highlight opportunities for cross-sector collaboration to foster efficient and compliant protection measures.

- **Dr. Moritz von Rochow** – Research and Teaching Assistant at Walther-Schücking-Institut for International Law, Kiel University
- **Stylianos Tzimis** – Maritime Hybrid Threat Senior Analyst at Hybrid CoE
- **Domas Petrulis** – Policy Officer at DG MARE – Maritime Security and Surveillance

Led by: Terry Martin, Journalist

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*Closing Lunch & Networking at **Exhibition Area** 14:00 – 15:30*

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