



AFCEA EUROPE

NEWSLETTER

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Dear AFCEANs,

As the first frosts start to gain a hold on our climate it seems a good time to set down my view of the world, well Europe at least, as seen from AFCEA International's European office in this winter newsletter.

Firstly let me express my appreciation for the way that most of you have accepted the changes to membership payments that we have made as a result of the audit that we underwent this time last year. We have had a follow-up audit this month and combining that with some relevant commercial guidance I believe that we have charted a course that will steer us neatly, and legally, through the minefield that is VAT. In this we have been greatly helped by Kathleen Helm and her team who are working extremely hard to make the transition as smooth as possible – my thanks to her and her team. We do remain available to provide representational services so we are still happy to offer first-stop guidance if needed.

I shall be attending the business meetings in San Diego in February from which there will be much to report so let me restrict myself in this letter to bringing you up to date with our other activities.

I am running a one-day mentored course entitled 'The Art of Leadership' in Brussels on Thursday 19 March. This is a departure from our mainstream events but I hope that the presence of 6 senior leaders from defence, industry and academia (3 in two 2-hour sessions) will spur the leaders of tomorrow to take the opportunity to learn from experts in this field. I am only allowing the first 25 applicants to attend as I want it to be very much a guided discussion from which all those present will benefit. Are you ambitious enough to want to be there?

May and June look especially busy and include a co-sponsored event with a UK-based company called Cityforum: the title is 'Foresight 2020' and it is planned to take place in Rome on 4/5 May. The details are still being worked out as I write but I hope to publish the information shortly.

Next is the new-look TechNet Europe being held in Madrid on Friday 5 June. It will examine personal identity management in detail and I am excited at the prospect of kicking off this new series with such a focused and professional range of speakers. Later that month we shall be returning to SHAPE for another excursion outside the traditional boundaries of AFCEA, this time to examine unmanned aerial systems. This promises to be a fascinating

view of a topical subject and already the speaker list is filling up to make it an instructive and valuable occasion.

Meanwhile we are well-ahead with our planning for the first of the new-style TechNet International events which will be held in Brussels on 29 and 30 October 2009 and we have already booked the venue for London in 2010. TechNet International Brussels will take as its theme 'Security: Searching for the Front Line' and the 'Call for Papers' has just been issued though, independently, the programme is filling up fast already.

I intend to hold our second one-day Student Event on the 28th of October under the title 'Information and Technology in the Knowledge Era.' I do hope that I might expect the same outstanding support that I had for the same event in April this year.

So there is much going on and we are pushing the envelope a bit more: I hope you can find something to suit your taste. All the details that we have so far are on our website at www.afceaurope.org – do have a look at it and let us know if you would like any more information about any of these activities.

All that remains for me to do is to join with Pia, Linda and Elodie, my stalwart staff in Brussels, to wish all those who celebrate it a very Happy Christmas and to you all we send season's greetings with the hope that 2009 may bring everything you wish.

Yours sincerely,

Robert Howell

BELGIUM CHAPTER LUNCH MEETING

A Lunch Meeting will be held on 4 February 2009 at the NATO Staff Centre in Brussels with a view to helping the Belgium Chapter to re-invigorate itself. Captain Robert Anderson, Royal Navy, of the NATO CIS Services Agency (NCSA) will give his views on the NCSA and its operations in support of ISAF. The lunch menu will consist of an 'aperitif' followed by a 3-course lunch, including wine and coffee at a cost of EUR 20 for members and EUR 25 for non-members (+21% VAT). Please contact lguthrie@afcea.org for further information and the registration form.

BOOK ANNOUNCEMENT

Professor Marina Ruggieri of the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Rome "Tor Vergata" and a Director of AFCEA has asked us to advise you of the publication of the University's book on "Aerospace Technologies and Applications for Dual Use - A New World of Defense and Commercial in 21st Century Security" (ISBN: 978-87-92329-04-2). Information can be found on the publisher's website at: www.riverpublishers.com.

For information on AFCEA's European membership, events, chapters, etc., consult the AFCEA Web site: <http://www.afcea.org> then click on to the AFCEA Europe button.

Web Sites

CHAPTER	WEB ADDRESS
Belgium	www.afcea.be
Bonn	www.afcea.de
Bucuresti	www.afcea.ro
Czech	www.afcea.cz
Hellenic (NEW)	www.afcea.gr
Helsinki	www.afcea.fi
Kaiserslautern	http://kaiserslautern.afceachapter.org
Mannheim	www.afceamann176.com
Munich	www.afcea-muenchen.de
Oslo	www.afcea.no
Paris	www.afceaparis.org
Polish	www.afcea.pl
Portugal	www.afceaportugal.pt
Rome	www.afcearoma.it
Slovak	www.afcea.sk
Sofia	www.afcea-bg.org
Stockholm	www.afcea.org.se
Stuttgart	www.afcea-stuttgart.org
The Hague	www.afcea.nl
Türkiye	www.afcea.org.tr
UK Chapters	www.afcea.org.uk
Varna	www.afcea.bg

Seasonal Greetings from the AFCEA Europe Staff!

