

# Information Operations Europe 2012 Conference



## The Rise of Extremism and the Role of Information Operations

February 22-23, 2012

NATO School, Oberammergau, Germany

The events surrounding “Arab Spring” awakened Western countries to the plight of disenfranchised populations in the Arab Region and Northern Africa. Large groups of disaffected people coalesced their anger to overthrow long-standing governments. These groups leveraged the information environment to communicate on a world stage while garnering support within their home nation, across their region, and from the entire world. This same information environment is available to other groups to advance their goals and objectives.

This conference will explore how individuals and groups use the information environment to advance extremism within nation states.

### Keynote Speakers

Mr. Matt Armstrong, Executive Director, US Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy

Mr. Austin Branch, SES

### Other Speakers

COL Randy Rosin, J39, USCENTCOM

COL Jim Skelton, J39, USCENTCOM

Mr. Mark Laity, Chief, Strategic Communications, SHAPE (Belgium)

CDR Dai Roberts

CDR Steve Tatham, UK

Professor Sean Costigan

COL Laurie Buckhout, USA (Ret)

Air Commodore Graham Wright, UK (Ret)

Mr. Thomas Nissen, Denmark

Ambassador Kurt Volker, USA

Erasmus B. Dragon

Gen Klaus Reinhardt, Germany (Ret)

Mr. Neeraj Singh, India

Mr. Steve Mehringer

Eleanor Penobscot

COL Arthur Tulak, USA

COL Al Bynum, USA (Ret)

COL Dave Grohoski, USA (Ret)

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