Bydgoszcz, Poland – On June 22nd, members of the media are invited to engage with NATO Deputy Secretary General, Rose Gottemoeller, Polish Undersecretary of State in the Ministry of National Defence, Tomasz Szatkowski, NATO Supreme Allied Commander Transformation, General Denis Mercier, NATO Deputy Chairman of the Military Committee, Lieutenant General Steven M. Shepro, and NATO Commander Joint Force Training Centre, Major General Wilhelm Grün, during the Coalition Warrior Interoperability eXploration, eXperimentation, eXamination, eXercise (CWIX) to discuss NATO’s continuous adaptation in a complex international security environment and the reality, importance and impact of operations in the cyber domain.

**BACKGROUND**

NATO must simultaneously innovate, defend against cyber-attacks and work to ready the Alliance for the challenges of the future.

The CWIX Exercises feature one thousand participants from 26 nations and 88 Commands, gathered to challenge assumptions and test NATO’s abilities to create an interoperable Alliance that is stronger than the sum of its parts. CWIX equips participants through a collaborative environment to test advanced technical tools and keep a critical advantage over potential adversaries, including in the cyber domain. These tests help NATO achieve its core tasks and, ultimately, protect North American and European populations.

CWIX is managed by NATO’s Allied Command Transformation and hosted by the Joint Force Training Centre between June 12th and June 29th.

Members of the media are invited to join NATO’s Deputy Secretary General, Supreme Allied Commander Transformation, Deputy Chairman of the Military Committee and various subject matter experts on June 22nd to gain insights into the challenges NATO faces, how the organization grapples with those challenges and the solutions being developed. Media representatives who are not able to attend on June 22nd are invited to remotely cover NATO’s annual interoperability event on June 27th during the NATO’s VIP day. On request, subject matter experts will be available for interviews to present the importance of maintaining interoperability between NATO Allies. In addition, other senior NATO personal will be ready to answer questions.
Members of the media interested in speaking with NATO leaders and Polish Undersecretary of State in the Ministry of National Defence should register to join the media event on June 22nd at 1pm (UTC +1hrs). One-on-one interviews will also be available on a case-by-case basis.

**WHERE**

Joint Force Training Centre in Bydgoszcz, Poland. You can park at a parking lot at 2 Szubińska Street (main gate).

Once registered at the gate, media members will be escorted to the auditorium, where the media event will start.

**NOTE TO EDITORS**

Members of the media are asked to arrive at the Joint Force Training Centre main gate (Szubińska Street 2) no later than 12:45pm. Please, use the registration form attached to indicate your interest in attending the media event. It is required to complete and return the attached form (to radoslawa.kubiczek@jftc.nato.int and jay.paxton@act.nato.int) before 10:00 (GMT+1) on Tuesday, June 20, 2017.

Members of the media can expect a briefs on CWIX activities and JFTC prior to engaging spokespersons. After the news conference, media representatives will have the opportunity to tour the unclassified CWIX testing area featuring underwater research, cyber defence and the Federated Mission Networking.

Members of the media can follow CWIX events on the following Twitter handle or using the hashtag #CWIX17:

@NATO_ACT

Information regarding CWIX activities will be regularly updated here: www.jftc.nato.int

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

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