

## **THIRD INTER-REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE IMPACT OF EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES: CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE SECURITY DOMAIN**

within the OSCE Asian Partnership for Co-operation framework

**Vienna, 26 May 2025**

Organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea in close co-operation with the OSCE Secretariat's External Co-operation Section

### **Concept Note**

The *third Inter-regional Conference on the Impact of Emerging Technologies: Challenges and Opportunities for the Security Domain* will be organised on 26 May in Vienna (Hofburg, Neuer Saal) with the aim of exchanging insights, identifying common strategies and enhancing co-operation to address the impact of emerging technologies in the security domain. The Conference is organized in line with OSCE Ministerial Declaration MC.DOC/2/20, which encourages the Asian Partners to use existing OSCE tools and initiatives in the three dimensions of OSCE's comprehensive approach to security. It will be held in a hybrid format, enabling attendance both in person and online.

#### **Conference objective**

To promote a shared understanding and inter-regional dialogue between OSCE participating States and Asian Partners for Co-operation on the transformative impact of emerging technologies in the security domain, considering both their potential for misuse and positive contributions. The Conference will focus on understanding technology-enabled threats, raising awareness about risks and opportunities to peace and security, addressing generated by artificial intelligence (AI) and AI-driven information manipulation and its effect on the economic system and social cohesion, and building resilience of critical national infrastructure (CNI), while promoting enhanced international co-operation to anticipate long-term security risks and explore opportunities for leveraging emerging technologies. Participants will be encouraged to actively share their views, reflections, and recommendations throughout the sessions by engaging in open and constructive discussions.

## **Background**

The OSCE, with its 57 participating States, is a key multidimensional platform for addressing comprehensive security risks, including those posed by emerging technologies. The rapid progress in technologies such as AI and quantum computing present substantial risks and challenges to the existing security domain. While these technologies simultaneously also provide opportunities such as enhancing threat detection and resilience, they are all too often exploited for hybrid attacks, information manipulation and assaults on critical infrastructure, impacting politico-military stability, and disrupting social, economic and financial systems. The OSCE three-dimensional approach to security offers a comprehensive framework to approach and respond to these challenges.

Since 2015, the OSCE and the Asian Partners have been engaged through the OSCE Asian Partnership for Co-operation in dialogue on new security threats. This collaboration has highlighted the shared nature of technology-driven risks, as noted in previous inter-regional conferences in 2020 and 2023, organised by the Republic of Korea. The 2025 conference aims to build on these efforts, providing a platform for participating States, Partners for Co-operation, regional organisations and the broader international community for structured inter-regional exchange on the security implications of emerging technologies.

## **Proposed agenda**

**Session 1** - Understanding and addressing security challenges and opportunities of emerging technologies

- What are the current trends in the military use of emerging technologies, such as AI-integrated weapon systems, cyber-attacks, and unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs)?
- What is the impact of the increased military use of emerging technologies on strategic stability, as well as military transparency and predictability, in the OSCE region and the Asian context?
- What opportunities do emerging technologies offer for enhancing security and stability in the OSCE region and beyond, and how can the OSCE and its Asian Partners strengthen cooperation in the politico-military dimension to effectively leverage these advancements?

**Panel Discussion:** Tackling information manipulation using artificial intelligence (AI) and its potential to disrupt economic systems and social stability, including the impact on human security and governance.

- In what ways does dis- and misinformation erode social trust and cohesion?
- What is the impact of AI-generated and AI-driven information manipulation on economic security, including financial market disruption?
- What is the role of the private sector, civil society, and the media in countering dis- and misinformation to safeguard economic and human security?

**Session 2** – Building resilience of critical national infrastructures (CNI) in the era of emerging technologies

- What are the new and emerging threats to CNI (e.g., cyber-attacks on energy and transportation) and their implications?
- What are the economic and social consequences of CNI vulnerabilities, e.g., disruptions to energy supply chains?
- What are effective strategies that can prevent threats and mitigate CNI disruptions?