

SUMMIT TO SAY ON NATIONAL SECURITY!

'Emergency Services Ireland' is the media partner of the inaugural National Security Summit Ireland, which takes place on 25 and 26 February in Dublin. This two-day event will be hosted by Slándáil, and Dr Gerry Waldron, Founder and Director of this new voluntary organisation, says the aim is to promote education, debate and discussion around national security issues in Ireland.



During the past few years national security issues such as terror attacks and natural disasters have rarely been absent from the news cycle, yet detailed discussion of these issues in Ireland is not a regular occurrence.

So, is our preparation, training and ability to respond to emergencies as good as it could be? Are we learning from the successes and failures of our colleagues around the world? Are we harnessing technology correctly to assist frontline members? How are we sharing the lessons learned and knowledge from recent multi-agency exercises in Ireland?

At the National Security Summit Ireland we want to start to answer these questions. The Summit will be a unique collaboration connecting emergency services, academia and the business community.

DISCUSSING FUTURE CHALLENGES

So, just what is national security and how does it affect you? Historically national security was often considered the first duty of government and involved protecting the state, its citizens and their way of life.

The modern understanding has evolved to include a diverse range of areas including

traditional military defence, protection from terrorism, emergency preparedness, response and resilience, food security, economic security and environmental security to name a few.

For decades, given, our geographical location, many of these issues were not a major concern in Ireland. However, in the age of climate chaos, emerging disruptive technologies and greater connectivity in cyber space, our geographical position no longer



FIVE UNIQUE EVENTS UNDER THE ONE ROOF

The National Security Summit will feature five events, which will each address a range of issues, at the Helix in Dublin on 25 and 26 February:

***Global Security Forum** will look at global trends such as climate change and emerging technologies and how our country and the emergency services will need to adapt and response.

***Defence, Intelligence & Security Conference** will examine the future of all our security services and explore how these services can respond to new technologies and dynamic security threats.

***Emergency Preparedness, Response & Resilience Conference** will be geared towards health professionals, emergency planners and frontline responders from all emergency services and volunteer bodies, and is particularly relevant for first responders and operational leaders with an interest in CBRN and Hazmat. UK Police, Ambulance and Fire Services will outline how they responded to the ‘Salisbury Poisonings’ and what lessons they learned. We will discuss how to enhance interagency co-operation both within Ireland and across the EU in relation to CBRN training and response.

***Cyber Conference** will discuss Ireland’s new national cyber security strategy, debate the economic risks and opportunities that cyber security presents for a small country and explore ways of improving co-operation across the public and private sector. Speakers from the US, UK and Estonia will discuss how international co-operation can strengthen our cyber security at home.

***Innovation, Industry & Research Symposium** will run continuously during the two-day event, providing a forum for knowledge exchange between government, industry and academia through presentations, panel discussions and industry exhibitions. Pioneering Irish security research will be discussed, Irish industry successes will be highlighted and innovative solutions to current and future security challenges will be proposed and investigated. The key aim is to demonstrate the value that business and research communities can bring to Ireland’s frontline services using innovative approaches and new technologies.



Dr Gerry Waldron currently works as a medical doctor in the Irish health service. He previously served as an officer in the Defence Forces for 16 years in a variety of roles at home and abroad with the United Nations.

along and engage with our discussions and bring your own experience and expertise to all of our debates.

The summit is organised by volunteers on a not-for-profit basis and is supported by the National Ambulance Service, Dublin Fire Brigade, Garda Síochána and the Defence Forces.



REGISTRATION IS JUST THE TICKET!

All emergency services personnel and healthcare professionals may register for free via www.nssi.ie.

Emergency Services Ireland’ is offering a 50% discount on tickets for general admissions, and for those working in the civil/ public service and third level staff.

Use promo code ‘ESI50’ on registration.



slándáil
NATIONAL SECURITY SUMMIT IRELAND

offers the security, protection and stability to which we have become accustomed.

With new challenges and threats emerging daily and technology developments in the private sector continuing to move faster than government or our emergency services can comprehend, the State alone cannot provide all the answers.

The responses to our future security challenges will require a collaborate relationship between government, academia and industry. At the National Security Summit we want to assist in the breaking down of organisational silos and help to bridge the gap between government agencies and other sectors.

At a time of unprecedented change across a number of our uniformed services we now, more than ever, need to discuss future challenges and begin to explore ideas about how we can work better together and work smarter to achieve our goal of protecting Ireland and keeping its citizens safe.

Whether you have an interest in all of our topics or only one, we invite you to come