

‘Rebuilding’ International Forum

Dual-use technologies for Recovery and Resilience

IFELOR, Lorca, Region of Murcia, Spain - 20th October 2026

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Dual-use technologies - technologies developed for both civilian and defense applications— are playing an increasingly important role in the **prevention, management, and recovery phases of natural disasters and crisis situations such as floods, earthquakes, or armed conflicts**. Innovations such as satellite observation, artificial intelligence for early warning systems, drones for rapid damage assessment, resilient communication networks, and advanced data analytics enable authorities and emergency services to anticipate risks, coordinate responses more effectively, and accelerate recovery processes.

The European Union (EU) is firmly committed to strengthening the European defence industrial base by unlocking the potential of dual-use start-ups, scale-ups, innovative SMEs, and mid-cap companies. Through targeted investments and strategic support, the EU aims to accelerate innovation cycles and reduce time-to-market for critical technologies. At the same time, the EU is confronting an increasingly complex and unprecedented risk landscape—ranging from geopolitical tensions and cybersecurity threats to climate change and the growing frequency of natural hazards. In response, alongside its security and defence initiatives, the EU has launched the Preparedness Union Strategy to enhance both civilian and military readiness and resilience, ensuring a coordinated and effective response to future crises.

The Forum aims to serve as **a meeting point for experienced professionals and stakeholders from different sectors**, bringing together public institutions, emergency management experts, security and law-enforcement agencies, technology companies, and innovative startups. By fostering collaboration and knowledge exchange among these actors, the event seeks to **promote practical solutions and strengthen resilience** in the face of increasingly complex emergencies.

The Region of Murcia offers a significant example of how territories can respond to major disasters and build resilience over time. The **2011 Lorca earthquake**, one of the most damaging seismic events in recent Spanish history, caused extensive destruction in the city and required a large-scale emergency response and reconstruction effort involving local, regional, and national authorities. At the same time, the Segura River basin has historically suffered from recurring flooding episodes that have affected towns and agricultural areas across the region. These experiences have driven improvements in risk management, urban planning, civil protection coordination, and the development of technological and infrastructural measures aimed at mitigating the impact of future disasters.

Three main topics have been identified, and a dynamic panel structure in the Forum’s agenda will deal with them. Moreover, a **Technology Brokerage Event, organized with the support of the Enterprise Europe Network (EEN)**, will allow participants to meet in 20-minute pre-scheduled meetings to match bilateral interests at European level. Finally, a **European Startup Area** will show the latest trends of Dual-use technologies provided by startups and innovative enterprises.

Tuesday, October 20th, 2026

08h45 – 09h15	Registration
09h20 – 10h00	Institutional Opening
10h00 – 10h30	Keynote Speech 1 Tbc

10h30 – 10h50	Keynote Speech 2 – CAP (N) Ignacio Nieto , ACOS IAT de NATO Allied Joint Force Command at Brunssum, The Netherlands.		
10h50 – 11h00	Video message from Mr Pekka TOVERI , Member of the European Parliament. Chair of the Delegation to the EU-Ukraine Parliamentary Association Committee (D-UA).		
11:00 – 11:30 Networking Coffee			
11h30 - 13h00 PARALLEL PANELS I, II & III <i>Further information on speakers and sessions content is provided later in this document.</i>			
PANEL I – Rebuilding & Resilience. Preparedness		PANEL II – Human Recovery	PANEL III – Dual-Use Innovation in Crisis and Reconstruction
Session I.1. Disaster Management		Session II.1. Healing Ukraine: Mental Health and Resilience (1)	Session III.1 – Innovative Solutions for Disasters & Recovery (1)
Session I.2. Resilient Technologies for Recovery or Preparedness		Session II.2. Healing Ukraine: Mental Health and Resilience (2)	Session III.2 – Innovative Solutions for Disasters & Recovery (2)
13h00 – 14h30 Networking Lunch			
14.30-16.00	From Crisis to Resilience: Lessons Learned from Recent Emergencies in Europe. This panel aims to provide a forum for technical and scientific excellence, bringing together experts from different disciplines to examine the lessons learned from the most significant recent emergencies in Spain and across Europe. Through a multidisciplinary approach, participants will explore best practices, identify key challenges, and discuss innovative strategies to strengthen preparedness, resilience, and coordinated emergency response in the face of future crises. <i>Coordinator: Juan Carlos García López Davadillo (IGME-CSIC / GADE)</i> KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Urban recovery Carmen Mendoza Arroyo. International University of Cataluña (UIC Barcelona). School of Architecture. ROUNDTABLE 1: Experiences in Spain Moderator: Spanish Military Emergency Unit (UME) Tbc ○ Earthquake in Lorca: María del Sagrado Corazón García Martínez. Lorca City Council ○ La Palma Volcano: Beate Ricken. Dean of the Las Palmas College of Architects ○ Valencia floods: Salvador Lara. Dean of the Valencia College of Architects ○ Fires in Castilla y León: Paula Nogueira. Castilla y León College of Architects		

	ROUNDTABLE 2: Internacional Experiences Moderator: D. Gonzalo Martín . GAVE Group ○ AFPS, France: Didier Descombes. ○ Civil Protection, Italy. PROCULTER Project. Tiziana Vicario ○ Storms in Andalucía & South of Portugal: Juan Antonio Benítez, Malaga City Council & Portuguese College of Architects
16h00 – 16h30	Closing Keynote speech. José Martínez . Four Season Fighters. United States Army Veteran
16h30 – 17h30	BILATERAL MEETINGS with the support of the Enterprise Europe Network (EEN) .

17.30	Study visit LORCA'S LEGACY. Post-Earthquake Heritage Recovery. Guided by Francisco Jurado , Architect. <i>Participation in this activity may be applied for when making your subscription for the event. As there is a limitation of participants, you should expect a confirmation of participation by email. Participation is not allowed without this confirmation.</i>
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Details on speakers and sessions content of

PARALLEL PANELS I, II & III

11h30 to 13h00

PANEL I – Rebuilding & Resilience (Preparedness).

The panel will explore how advanced engineering, innovative materials, and cutting-edge construction methods can enhance the resilience of territories facing complex crises and disasters. It will focus on the role of dual-use technologies in strengthening preparedness capacities, highlighting how technological capabilities—ranging from smart infrastructure and resilient design to digital tools and advanced manufacturing—can support faster, safer, and more sustainable reconstruction processes. By bringing together experts from engineering, industry, and public institutions, the session aims to showcase practical solutions that bridge technological innovation with real-world application, reinforcing the ability of communities to anticipate, withstand, and recover from disruptive events.

*Panel I Rapporteur: **Fernando Ballesta Sánchez**. Regional Development Agency of Murcia.*

11h30 – 12h15	SESSION I.1 – Disaster Management Moderator/Rapporteur: setting the scene. Juan Francisco Galván Montero . DG ECHO.B3, Prevention and Preparedness Capacity Building. European Commission.
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	Experts • Rosario Paradinas Zorrilla. Jefa de Inteligencia de Mercados. Oficina Española para la reconstrucción de Ucrania. • Francisco Martínez. CIVILIO Information Systems, S.L. • Company Tbc Q&A
12h15 – 13h00	SESSION I.2 – Resilient Technologies for Recovery or Preparedness Moderator/Rapporteur: setting the scene. Tbc Experts • Antonio Jara. LIBELIUM Comunicaciones Distribuidas, S.L. • ECOIDRO Agua y Medio ambiente EBT, S.L. • The emerging Resilience and Security Programme of Technical University Eindhoven (The Netherlands). Susan Hommerson, Public Affairs. Technical University Eindhoven. Q&A

PANEL II – Human Recovery. *As Ukraine advances along the path of reconstruction and closer integration with Europe, human recovery is emerging as a national priority and a defining factor in the country's long-term resilience. This panel will explore how rebuilding Ukraine requires placing people at the center—recognizing that sustainable recovery depends not only on infrastructure, defence, and security, but equally on the mental, emotional, and physical well-being of its population. Experts will examine how neurorehabilitation and mental restoration must be treated as essential pillars of reconstruction policy, on par with physical rebuilding efforts. In addition, the panel will consider how innovative and dual-use technologies can support human recovery responses at scale—from digital tools for remote therapy and crisis intervention to advanced rehabilitation techniques.*

Panel II Rapporteur - Jorge Aranda Beltrán. Hands With Heart Foundation / University School of osteopathy - University of Murcia

11h30 – 12h15	SESSION II.1 – Healing Ukraine: Mental Health and Resilience (1) Moderator/Rapporteur: setting the scene. <i>Jorge Aranda. "Hands with Heart" Foundation</i> Experts ▪ Pater Pedro Zafra Gómez Limón. Catholic Church / Diocese of Kyiv-Zhytomyr ▪ Viacheslav Olshanskyi. Ukrainian Armed Forces military chaplain ▪ Tetiana Sirenko. NGO Resource Centre "Lisova Poliana" / State Institution "Lisova Poliana Mental Health and Rehabilitation Centre for Veterans" Q&A
12h15 – 13h00	SESSION II.2 – Healing Ukraine: Mental Health and Resilience (2)

	Moderator/Rapporteur: setting the scene. <i>Jorge Aranda. "Hands with Heart" Foundation</i> Experts ▪ Dr. Cristóbal Pagán Cánovas. University of Murcia / Daellus Lab ▪ Andriy Anpleev. REpower Ukraine ▪ Shareen Elnaschie. Office of Displaced Designers (ODD) Q&A
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PANEL III – Dual-Use Innovation in Crisis and Reconstruction.

This panel will explore how health technologies are shaping resilience and recovery in crises, with a focus on the dual-use potential of defence-driven medical innovation. As conflicts and disasters accelerate technological development, many of these solutions are increasingly transforming civilian healthcare systems and strengthening Europe's health innovation ecosystem. Discussion will highlight the role of health tech in enabling continuous care in disrupted environments, supporting rapid recovery, and improving early medical response in challenging conditions. Innovations such as field-deployable healthcare solutions, remote diagnostics, and technologies for frontline care are critical to mitigating injury impact and improving outcomes. The session will address the need to build digital health resilience through interoperable systems, secure data infrastructure, and adaptable care models—positioning health tech as a strategic pillar for resilience, reconstruction, and long-term societal well-being.

Panel III rapporteur - Jorge González Olalla, Cluster TICBioMed Region of Murcia

11h30 – 12h15	SESSION III.1 – Innovative Solutions for Disasters & Recovery (1) Moderator/Rapporteur: setting the scene. Tbc Experts panel topic I ▪ Michael Quarshie. CEO Metabite ▪ Alberto Martínez. Limbium Makers ▪ Rafael Valverde. Iconic Solutions by Murcia, S.L. Q&A
12h15 – 13h00	SESSION III.2 – Innovative Solutions for Disasters & Recovery (2) Moderator/Rapporteur: setting the scene. Tbc Experts panel topic II ▪ Rubén Martínez Sandoval. PhD Artificial Intelligence, CTO & founder of Biyectiva, S.L.

	▪ Enrique Pablo Sánchez Benítez-Cano. CEO Aerospace Design Technology, S.A. ▪ Superhumans Charitable Foundation Tbc Q&A
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About the Region of Murcia CAETRA Programme: Promoting Dual-Use Technologies for Defence, Security, and Reconstruction.

CAETRA's primary objective is to support companies and start-ups developing dual-use technological solutions—both civil and military— for defence, security, reconstruction, and to strengthen their position in international markets. The programme focuses on research and development (R&D), innovation, technological entrepreneurship, international cooperation, and technology transfer.

CAETRA seeks to generate specialized employment in an industry that requires highly skilled professionals, particularly engineers. Significant job creation is expected, both through the establishment of new companies and expansion of existing ones.

The Region of Murcia, via the Regional Development Agency Instituto de Fomento (INFO), which is responsible for the CAETRA programme, is part of the European Network of Defence-related Regions (ENDR), promoted by European Commission DG DEFIS.

The historic City of Lorca (Region of Murcia, Spain)

Located in southeastern Spain, Lorca is a city rich in history, culture, and striking landscapes. Known as the “City of the Sun” for its more than 300 sunny days a year, Lorca captivates visitors with its impressive Baroque architecture, historic squares, and the iconic Lorca Castle, which overlooks the city from a hilltop and offers panoramic views of the surrounding countryside.

The beautifully preserved old town invites travelers to stroll through elegant streets filled with churches, palaces, and lively cafés, while the city’s famous Holy Week celebrations—declared of International Tourist Interest—feature spectacular parades, elaborate costumes, and a unique rivalry between brotherhoods. Combined with its welcoming atmosphere, traditional gastronomy, and proximity to both mountains and Mediterranean beaches, Lorca offers an authentic and memorable experience for visitors.

Organizer:



Official



Partners:

