

# 'Rebuilding' International Forum

## Dual-use technologies for Recovery and Resilience

IFELOR, Lorca, Region of Murcia, Spain - 20<sup>th</sup> October 2026

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*Interpretation English / Spanish will be provided - Se facilitará interpretación Inglés / Español*

*Aforo limitado – Limited Capacity. Register at <https://reconstructionforum.caetraprogramme.es/>*

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.

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**Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

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| 08h45 – 09h30                                                                                                                                                                                                        | <b>Registration</b>                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                 |                                                                     |
| 09h30 – 10h00                                                                                                                                                                                                        | <b>Institutional Opening</b><br><b>Fernando López Miras.</b> President of the Region of Murcia<br><b>Fulgencio Gil Jódar.</b> Mayor of the City of Lorca                   |                                                                 |                                                                     |
| 10h00 – 10h30                                                                                                                                                                                                        | <b>José Martínez.</b> United States Army Veteran. Four Season Fighters.                                                                                                    |                                                                 |                                                                     |
| 10h30 – 10h45                                                                                                                                                                                                        | <b>Pekka TOVERI,</b> Member of the European Parliament. Chair of the Delegation to the EU-Ukraine Parliamentary Association Committee (D-UA). Video Message.               |                                                                 |                                                                     |
| <div><b>10:45 – 11:15 Networking Coffee</b></div> <div><b>BILATERAL MEETINGS</b> with the support of the <b>Enterprise Europe Network (EEN).</b></div> <div><b>START UP AREA</b> – Visit to Startup Exhibition</div> |                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                 |                                                                     |
| 11h15 – 11h45                                                                                                                                                                                                        | <b>NATO Resilience and Survivability in Hybrid Environments</b><br><b>CAP (N) Ignacio Nieto,</b> ACOS IAT de NATO Allied Joint Force Command at Brunssum, The Netherlands. |                                                                 |                                                                     |
| <div><b>11h45 - 13h15</b></div> <div><b>PARALLEL PANELS I, II &amp; III</b></div> <div><i>Further information on speakers and sessions content is provided later in this document.</i></div>                         |                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                 |                                                                     |
| <b>PANEL I – Rebuilding &amp; Resilience. Preparedness</b>                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                            | <b>PANEL II – Human Recovery</b>                                | <b>PANEL III – Dual-Use Innovation in Crisis and Reconstruction</b> |
| 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)   |
| <div><b>13h15 – 14h30</b></div> <div><b>Networking Lunch</b></div>                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                 |                                                                     |

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| <p><b>14.30-16.00</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                | <p><b>From Crisis to Resilience: Lessons Learned from Recent Emergencies in Europe.</b> 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.</p> <p><i>Coordinator: Ana Allende</i> CEBAS-CSIC</p> <p><b>KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Urban recovery</b><br/> <b>Carmen Mendoza Arroyo.</b> International University of Cataluña (UIC Barcelona). School of Architecture.</p> <p><b>ROUNDTABLE 1: Experiences in Spain</b><br/> Moderator: <b>Coronel Francisco Javier Moreno Miguel.</b> Spanish Military Emergency Unit (UME)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Earthquake in Lorca: <b>María del Sagrado Corazón García Martínez.</b> Lorca City Council</li> <li>○ La Palma Volcano: <b>Beate Ricken.</b> Dean of the Las Palmas College of Architects</li> <li>○ Valencia floods: <b>Salvador Lara.</b> Dean of the Valencia College of Architects</li> <li>○ Fires in Castilla y León: <b>Paula Nogueira.</b> León College of Architects</li> </ul> <p><b>ROUNDTABLE 2: Internacional Experiences</b><br/> Moderator: <b>D. Gonzalo Martín.</b> GAVE Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ AFPS, France: <b>Didier Combescure (on-line intervention),</b> president of AFPS - Association Française du génie Parasismique</li> <li>○ Civil Protection, Italy. PROCULTER Project. <b>Stefania Renzulli</b></li> <li>○ Storms in Andalucía &amp; South of Portugal: <b>Juan Antonio Benítez,</b> Málaga City Council &amp; <b>Portuguese College of Architects</b></li> </ul> |
| <p><b>16:15 – 17:15 Networking Coffee</b></p> <p><b>BILATERAL MEETINGS</b> with the support of the <b>Enterprise Europe Network (EEN).</b></p> <p><b>START UP AREA – Visit to Startup Exhibition</b></p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

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| 17.30 | <p><b>Study visit <i>LORCA'S LEGACY</i>. Post-Earthquake Heritage Recovery.</b></p> <p>Guided by <b>Francisco Jurado</b>, Architect.</p> <p><i>Participation in this activity may be applied for when registering 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></p> |
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*Details on speakers and sessions content of*

**PARALLEL PANELS I, II & III**

**11h45 to 13h15**

**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.*

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| 11h30 – 12h15 | <p><b>SESSION I.1 – Disaster Management</b></p> <p><b>Moderator</b></p> <p><b>Juan Francisco Galván Montero.</b> DG ECHO.B3, Prevention and Preparedness Capacity Building. European Commission.</p> <p><b>Experts</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Rosario Paradinas Zorrilla.</b> Jefa de Inteligencia de Mercados. Oficina Española para la reconstrucción de Ucrania.</li> <li>• <b>Francisco Martínez.</b> CIVILIO Information Systems, S.L.</li> <li>• <b>Dr. Andrii Vilenskyi,</b> Medical Director. Superhumans Charitable Foundation</li> <li>• <b>Ólöf Eyjolfssdottir.</b> Weave Reality (Norway)</li> </ul> <p><b>Q&amp;A</b></p> |
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| 12h15 – 13h00 | <p><b>SESSION I.2 – Resilient Technologies for Recovery or Preparedness</b></p> <p><b>Moderator: Pedro Vicente Martínez.</b> General Director for Emergencies. Region of Murcia</p> <p><b>Experts</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Iris Cuevas.</b> LIBELIUM Comunicaciones Distribuidas, S.L.</li> <li>• <b>Juan Carlos Riquelme.</b> ECOHIDRO Agua y Medio ambiente EBT, S.L.</li> <li>• <b>Susan Hommerson,</b> Public Affairs. Technical University Eindhoven. The emerging Resilience and Security Programme of Technical University Eindhoven (The Netherlands).</li> </ul> <p><b>Q&amp;A</b></p> |
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**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*

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| 11h30 – 12h15 | <p><b>SESSION II.1 – Healing Ukraine: Mental Health and Resilience (1)</b></p> <p><b>Moderator/Rapporteur: setting the scene.</b><br/><i>Jorge Aranda. "Hands with Heart" Foundation</i></p> <p><b>Experts</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Pater Pedro Zafra Gómez Limón (on-line intervention).</b> Catholic Church / Diocese of Kyiv-Zhytomyr</li> <li>▪ <b>Viacheslav Olshanskyi.</b> Ukrainian Armed Forces military chaplain</li> </ul> <p>The moderator will read <b>a original written contribution for this event by Dr. Stephen W. Porges</b>, who is a world-renowned behavioral neuroscientist and the originator of the Polyvagal Theory. His pioneering research on trauma, safety and resilience provides a unique perspective on the human dimension of recovery after disasters.</p> <p><b>Q&amp;A</b></p> |
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| 12h15 – 13h00 | <p><b>SESSION II.2 – Healing Ukraine: Mental Health and Resilience (2)</b></p> <p><b>Moderator/Rapporteur: setting the scene.</b><br/> <i>Jorge Aranda. “Hands with Heart” Foundation</i></p> <p><b>Experts</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Dr. Cristóbal Pagán Cánovas.</b> University of Murcia / Daellus Lab</li> <li>▪ <b>Andrii Anpleiev (on-line intervention).</b> Psychiatrist and Psychotherapist; Chair of the Board of Mental Recovery Institute of Ukraine (MRIU)</li> <li>▪ <b>Dr. Yaser Alsaidi (on-line intervention).</b> Neurosurgeon.</li> </ul> <p><b>Q&amp;A</b></p> |
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### PANEL III – Dual-Use Innovation in Crisis and Reconstruction.

This panel will explore how 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**

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| 11h30 – 12h15 | <p><b>SESSION III.1 – Innovative Solutions for Disasters &amp; Recovery (1)</b></p> <p><b>Moderator/Rapporteur: setting the scene.</b><br/> <i>Jorge González Olalla. Cluster TICBioMed Region of Murcia</i></p> <p><b>Experts panel topic I</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Michael Quarshie.</b> CEO Metabite (Finland)</li> <li>▪ <b>Alberto Martínez.</b> CEO Limbium Makers</li> </ul> <p><b>Q&amp;A</b></p> |
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| 12h15 – 13h00 | <p><b>SESSION III.2 – Innovative Solutions for Disasters &amp; Recovery (2)</b></p> <p><b>Moderator/Rapporteur: setting the scene.</b><br/> <b>Tonny Velin.</b> President ICT Technology Centre (CENTIC)</p> <p><b>Experts panel topic II</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Rubén Martínez Sandoval.</b> PhD Artificial Intelligence, CTO &amp; founder of Biyectiva, S.L.</li> <li>▪ <b>Enrique Pablo Sánchez Benítez-Cano.</b> CEO Aerospace Design Technology, S.A.</li> <li>▪ <b>Antonio Peñalver Sánchez.</b> CEO Biopro, S.L.</li> </ul> <p><b>Q&amp;A</b></p> |
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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)

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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:



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### Official Partners:

