

Dual by default?

Civil-defence synergies in the European academic sector

🕒 Wednesday April 1st, 2026

📍 Maison Irène & Frédéric Joliot-Curie
100, Rue du Trône, 1050 Brussels

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. followed by a networking lunch

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Although dual-use research may seem to call for a change of paradigm, for research-performing higher education institutions already situated in civil-defence ecosystems the next step is rather to optimize existing synergies by setting up European networks of like-minded partners.

Taking the example of the maritime sector, this event organized by France Universités on behalf of the University of Toulon (located next to Europe's largest naval defence base) will assess the role of universities in advancing dual-use research in Europe and their potential in generating new investments and fostering a transnational value chain.

What processes are needed to identify pre-industrial research and innovation with dual potential? How to align funding instruments at European and regional levels with national concerns for sovereignty? Can efforts at European level be strengthened by facilitating and structuring cross-border cooperation among civil-defence ecosystems?

8.30 Welcome coffee and tea

9.15 Opening remarks

Prof. **Xavier Leroux**, President of University of Toulon

What is a civil-defence university?

9.30 Guest speaker

Enzo Caponetti, University of Liège, associate lecturer and regional coordinator of the EU P2P export control programme for dual-use goods

Mapping technology transfers with TIM Dual-Use – the case of University of Toulon

Panel 1: Dual by default ? Dual by design ? Dual by nature ?

Chair: Prof. **Fabrice Lemoine**, Vice-president for European affairs, University of Lorraine

10.00 Keynote : Prof. **Hervé Glotin**, University of Toulon and Prof. **Clément Chion**, Université de Québec in Oouataouais
Predictive 3D Acoustic Models for a fin Survey of Marine Fauna and other Events in Arctic and Mediterranean Sea

10.20 Round table 1:

Speakers :

- Prof. **Valentin Gies**, University of Toulon
- Prof. **Bjorn Egil Asbjørnslett**, Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Director of NTNU Strategic Area Ocean and Coasts
- **Vincent Rigaud**, Director of Ifremer Mediterranean Center and European Center for Underwater Technologies

11.15 Coffee Break

Panel 2: From the Potential to the Actual – Attracting Investment for Scaling Innovation in the Maritime Sector

Chair: Prof. **Brigitte Müller**, Vice-president for International and European affairs, University of Toulon

11.30 Keynote: **Izabela Albrycht**, AGH University of Krakow
The Convergence of Civil and Defence Challenges and Needs

11.50 Round table 2:

- Prof. **Frédéric Guinneton**, Project Officer for 'Scientific and Regional Partnerships', Defence and Security Education Officer, University of Toulon
- **Mathieu Glade**, Managing Director, SeaOwl Technology Solutions
- **Renault Hock**, Team Leader, DG DEFIS, European Commission
- Representative of **Région Sud-Provence Alpes Côte d'Azur**

12.45 Closing remarks

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Registration

<https://urls.fr/jBGpuT>

