

What is the 2024 NPS European Military Alumni Symposium?

The NPS European International Alumni Symposium offers European and Canadian graduates of NPS the opportunity to reconnect with fellow graduates, learn about cutting edge NPS programs, and share and expand their understanding of regional dynamics. Keynote remarks by senior leaders will be followed by expert academic and practitioner panel sessions, including many alumni, that encourage life-long learning in the fields of academic research, technological innovation, and strategic studies. The program provides opportunities to develop and sustain relationships among the NPS alumni attendees, as well as offering continued exposure to U.S. military and government institutions, and those of our partner and allied nations. There will be a robust spouses program this year. There is no rank requirement to participate though most will be in the OF-4 to OF-8 ranks. The first of these symposia was held in the Fall of 2023 with a focus on alumni from the Indo-Pacific region. A recap of the event can be found here: [Alumni News - Inaugural Alumni Symposium](#) These in person NPS symposia will rotate annually across the globe to deliver educational opportunities, networking, and communication relevant to our NPS International alumni in each region.

When is the 2024 NPS European Alumni Symposium?

30 September – 3 October 2024

Who can apply to attend the 2024 NPS European Military Alumni Symposium?

International Alumni, Active duty: European and Canadian International Military & Civilian alumni of NPS who are still on active duty or in service to their Ministry of Defense are eligible to apply for this year's symposium.

US Alumni, Active Duty: A limited number of seats will be set aside for US Alumni on active duty in Europe. Please apply to attend using the link below.

I'm retired, can I still attend? In most cases, yes. While our priority is continuing education, training and engagement for those alumni who are still on active duty, there will be a limited number of seats available at the conference for fully retired alumni. However, US regulations prohibit fully retired alumni now working in the defense contracting business from attending the Symposium. If you're in the area, we encourage you to attend the evening receptions hosted by the Naval Postgraduate School Foundation and Alumni Association.

How can I apply for a seat at the Symposium?

Due to a limited number of seats and to ensure the Symposium has representation from each country, alumni must apply to attend. Applications can be completed using this online portal: [NPS European International Alumni Symposium Application](#) and will be accepted through 15 March.

After the alumni team reviews applications, those alumni selected to attend the symposium will be notified through the US Embassy in their home country by 1 May.

US alumni and any retired personnel selected to attend will be contacted by our team by 15 May.

What is the cost to attend?

For accepted active duty NPS alumni from Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Kosovo, Latvia, Lithuania, North Macedonia, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Ukraine:

The Security Cooperation Office (SCO) at the US Embassy will receive International Military Education and Training (IMET) funding to send between a limited number of participants from your country to the Symposium. Just like programs at NPS, you will be vetted and receive an Invitational Travel Order (ITO).

If you are not selected by the SCO to receive funding from the US Government to attend the Symposium, you may still attend at your own cost, if accepted. Some countries' militaries will provide funding for their service members to participate in continuing education programs, please check with your service to see if you qualify. You will still have to utilize the SCO for preparation and issuance of an ITO. The approximate cost to attend the conference (5 nights/4 days) is \$1200USD and is payable directly to the hotel. This amount covers the nightly hotel fee, breakfast, and lunch daily, and the daily conference fees.

For accepted NPS alumni from Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom:

There is currently no US government funding available to attend. Some countries' militaries will provide funding for their service members to participate in continuing education programs, please check with your service to see if you qualify. The approximate cost to attend the conference (5 nights/4 days) is \$1200USD. This amount covers the nightly hotel fee, breakfast and lunch daily, and the daily conference fee, and is payable directly to the hotel. The Security Cooperation Office at the US Embassy in your home country will produce and issue your ITO.

Where will the event be held?

The 2024 NPS European Military Alumni Symposium will be held in beautiful Garmisch, Germany. Once selected to attend, you will receive details on the reservation process.

Can I bring my spouse?

Yes! Conference attendees may bring their spouse. The hotel will not charge additional room fees for your spouse. You will be responsible for all other expenses related to your spouse (for example: meals, incidentals, travel, etc). Spouses will not be included in the ITO. The Naval Postgraduate School Foundation and Alumni Association will provide activities for spouses during the Symposium, or they may choose from one of the hotel's many tours at cost. Spouses' identification information will be requested along with yours to facilitate property access.

Where can I find more information on alumni programs?

Look for updates on this event as well as other alumni opportunities on the International Graduate Programs Office [website](#) and [LinkedIn](#) page. Direct questions can be sent to [Ms. Erin Ferguson](#).

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