



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ORGANIZATION
CENTRE FOR MARITIME RESEARCH AND EXPERIMENTATION



Press Release

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The Centre for Maritime Research and Experimentation (CMRE) Celebrates 60th Anniversary

The Centre for Maritime Research and Experimentation (CMRE) in La Spezia, Italy, celebrates its 60th anniversary on 03 and 04 October. The Official Commemoration Day on 03 October will include the participation of NATO and Italian dignitaries, civil and military authorities, as well as current staff of the Centre. CMRE staff, alumni and their families will come together at the CMRE Open Day on 04 October. Guests are invited to visit the Coastal Research Vessel (CRV) *Leonardo* and an exhibition of the technology used for maritime research and experimentation throughout the history of the Centre will be on display during the celebration.

The Centre for Maritime Research and Experimentation, originally known as SACLANT Antisubmarine Warfare Research Centre or SACLANTCEN, was commissioned on 02 May 1959 in response to growing geopolitical tensions and technological advancements in maritime warfare that occurred during the Cold War. In the late 1950s, NATO realized that greater scientific knowledge of the undersea environment was essential in providing stronger protection to Alliance Nations and restricting the movements of Soviet naval forces.

The Centre's research activities widened after the fall of the Berlin Wall, expanding its programme of work to other undersea warfare technologies of interest to NATO and preparing itself for future security crises. The beginning of this century saw the Centre venture into the fields of maritime security such as counterterrorism, counter-piracy and protection of the natural environment. This evolution propelled the Centre into new work in underwater communications, big data analytics and autonomous systems that together led to powerful new concepts in antisubmarine warfare, naval mine countermeasures and maritime situational awareness.

CMRE is recognized for its world-class expertise in maritime unmanned systems, autonomy, big data analytics and deep-learning, in addition to, its unique ability to test and evaluate concepts and technologies at sea. Such expertise and capability, as well as an ever-widening network of international researchers who collaborate with the Centre in areas related to maritime security, position CMRE to meet the challenges of the future.

As new science emerges in artificial intelligence and autonomy, the Centre will continue to fulfil its mission to conduct scientific research and technology development, delivering innovative field-tested solutions to help NATO maintain the technological edge in the maritime domain.

For more information, please contact CMRE Public Affairs at pao@cmre.nato.int

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