

JCBRND COE

A brief introduction of the Centre In a nutshell



The NATO Joint CBRN Defence Centre of Excellence (JCBRND COE) was accredited in 2006 and is a NATO military body and multi-nationally sponsored organization which offers recognized expertise and experience to the benefit of the Alliance and other partners. As of now 14 countries joint the Centre and with more than 70 members it is one of the biggest COE within the landscape of 25 NATO COEs, and it's the only one dealing with CBRN Defence. Its activities are focused on:

- NATO Transformation process
- Operational Support by providing a CBRN Defence advice and
- Support of CBRN Defence Education, Training and Exercises

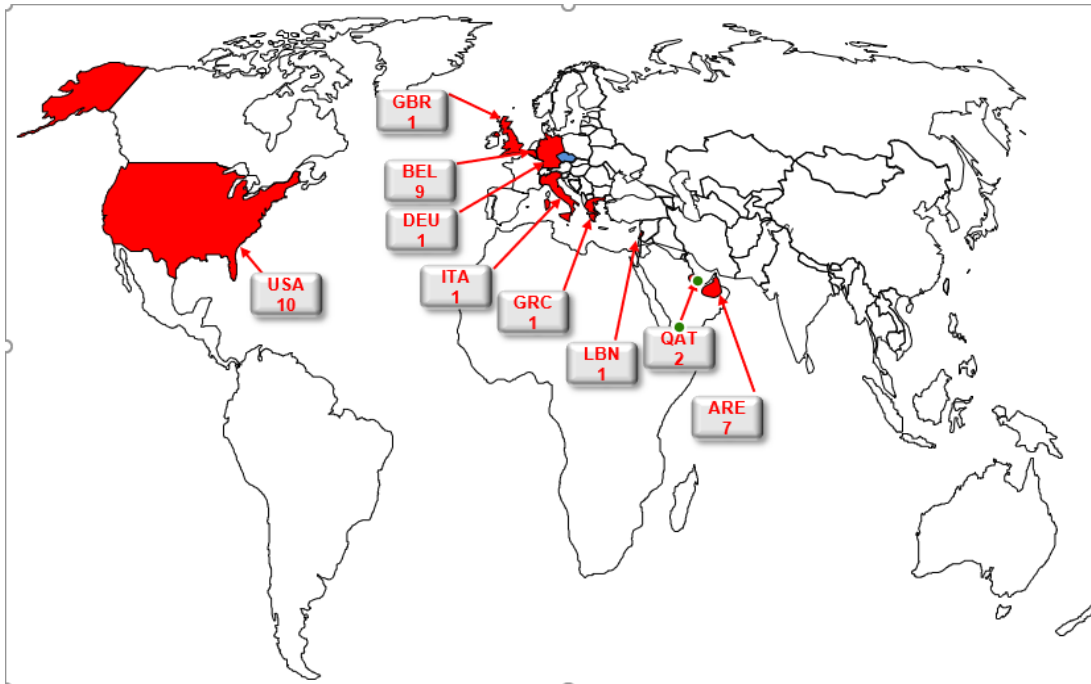
More general information can be found following the link:
<https://www.jcbrncoe.cz/index.php>

In case of being interested in the Centre's training activities only, please follow this link:
<https://www.jcbrncoe.cz/tp/>

The Joint Activity - description and images

This was the first time a JA took place at the JCBRND COE in Vyškov, Czech Republic, and it has to be planned and conducted in a slightly different way. The challenge was to combine and to integrate a regular residential course into an eNOTICE JA. The chosen course was the 'International Radiological Assistance Programme Training for Emergency Response (I-RAPTER) Basic Course 2019' including a practical training. The aim of this course was to provide radiation protection specialists, first responders, law enforcement and emergency managers with practical information to effectively respond to radiological incidents and accidents.

The course provided instruction through briefings, equipment demonstrations and field exercises with the use of a wide variety of radiation detection instrumentation, radiation sources and personal protective equipment. The course itself was conducted by the US National Nuclear Security Agency (NNSA) as part of the US Department of Energy (DoE). They came with ten instructors and all the needed equipment from the United States to Europe and were positively surprised by the huge number of students. In total 32 students applied to this course and approximately 42% of these students were related to eNOTICE consortium members respectively to their institutions. So, for everybody, the Centre, the NNSA as well as for eNOTICE it has been a win-win situation. This picture shows where the course students came from:



The objectives for the invited experts were defined as follows:

- The external participants take the course as an opportunity to reflect on the added value of opening activities of CBRN Training Centres for other CBRN (and public safety and security) stakeholders.
- They are asked to identify opportunities to build a bridge between practitioners, academia, industry, researchers, policy-makers and on the conditions to improve collaboration (through this type of participation) for all groups of security stakeholders.
- By extension, they are asked to identify opportunities to exchange knowledge and practices between civil and military first responders.

The Objectives for eNOTICE partners were agreed upon observing the practical training and identifying:

- opportunities to strengthen the network of CBRN Training Centres;
- best practices to share with the eNOTICE community;
- input for ongoing eNOTICE Tasks.

This photo shows the eNOTICE Consortium Members at the JCBRND COE:



And this photo shows both, the eNOTICE Consortium Members and the I-RAPTER Course students and instructors.

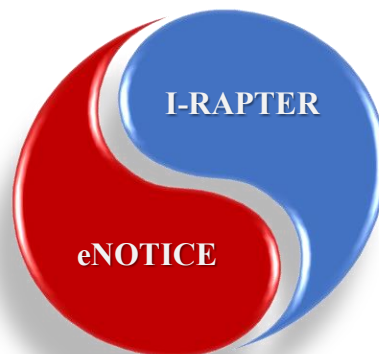


Further impressions of the JA:



Third: Results and lessons learnt from Vyškov JA

As it was the first time, the Centre hosted and prepared a JA as a partner and consortium member of the eNOTICE project, the challenge was to combine an existing course with the JA format.



Combining the two had the huge advantage, that quite a remarkable number of students were directly or indirectly linked to the eNOTICE consortium members and therefore it has been an added value regarding the visibility of the Centre. Without the JA course students from e.g. the Dortmund Fire Department (Germany), from Campus Vesta or from the Université catholique de Louvain (Belgium) certainly wouldn't have found their way to Vyškov.

In addition, there has been a basket full of opportunities to mutually share knowledge, experiences, expertise and even developing ideas for future common projects. Especially information sharing between the students from various countries and regions with different cultures and the experts from the US and the consortium members can be considered as unique and an added value as such.

As the curriculum, planning and preparation of the I-RAPTER course is related to NATO education regulations and standards according to its Quality Control Process, there is no direct impact of improving the course itself. However, regarding the combination of the course with the JA there are still some actions to be taken to make the practical part even more successful.

These steps have been already identified and will be translated for the upcoming JA in Vyškov in 2021 where we would like to say:

Welcome to Vyškov, welcome to the JCBRND COE, welcome to eNOTICE JA!