

# **NATO MW COE EVENTS CATALOGUE 2023**





**Publisher:** NATO Mountain Warfare Centre of Excellence

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**Printed by:** Medium d.o.o.

**Edition:** 200 copies

Publication issued: October 2022

Photographs: Archive NATO MW COE

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# **NATO MW COE EVENTS CATALOGUE 2023**





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## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



The NATO MW COE is an independent military organization, which can contribute to strengthening the resilience of the Alliance. As such it is paramount that the Centre is recognized as a leading institution in the area of Mountain Warfare. The Centre's basic task is to provide doctrinal documents such as standards, manuals and training activities that are necessary to enable the establishment of Mountain Warfare capabilities at Alliance level. It is crucial that the Community of Interest recognizes the NATO MW COE as an

institution whose success can contribute to the achievement of the common goal, and that the knowledge acquired in the Centre can be used in a broader environment.

For this reason, we have prepared, on the basis of an approved programme of work from the Steering Committee, a summary of the key activities that can help organizations/institutions identify content/activities that may be of interest to the expert public. Participation is not limited to the subject matter experts of the Armed Forces, but we also encourage associations and the wider public to participate in and follow our events.



## INTRODUCTION

The NATO Mountain Warfare Centre of Excellence (NATO MW COE), located in the small village of Poljče in the Gorenjska region of Slovenia, is a multi-nationally sponsored and NATO-accredited international military institution which offers recognized expertise and experience for the benefit of the Alliance, especially in support of its transformation endeavours. It provides opportunities to expand education and training, improve interoperability and capabilities, assist in doctrine development, and test and validate concepts through experimentation in mountain warfare.

The mission of the NATO MW COE is to assist NATO member states, PfP nations, other countries, and international organizations to enhance mountain warfare capabilities through the following core areas:

- The development of mountain warfare-specific doctrine and tactics.
- Concept development and experimentation.
- The mountain warfare lessons learned process.
- Education and training.
- Support to capability development.

The NATO MW COE contributes to the transformation and adaptation of the Alliance's capabilities which enable its forces to better operate in the mountain environment. The Centre strives to set and meet standards and continues to foster interoperability, with the goal of upgrading the knowledge of mountain warfare already existing at both the national level and within NATO. The development and integration of mountain warfare capabilities into the Alliance and Partnerships, as well as the development of capabilities ready to be used in NATO operations, is a core task of the Centre. It is organized so as to allow the functioning of four pillars: Doctrine and Standardization; Concept Development and Experimentation; Education and Training; and Lessons Learned.

The NATO MW COE incorporates a professional core which develops and maintains the subject matter expertise necessary to meet the requirements of mountain warfare challenges. This

enhances the ability of individuals and military units to engage in mountain warfare, as well as the Alliance's readiness to operate in a mountain environment. The Centre represents a core element with the required professional skills to develop standardized training.

Our Centre works closely with other NATO Centres of Excellence, and through the joint work of qualified and professional staff focuses on specific fields of the mountain environment to enhance related NATO capabilities.

The vision of the NATO MW COE is to be the hub of mountain warfare expertise in the NATO community.





## 5<sup>th</sup> Mountain Warfare Congress – “Vertical Manoeuvre”

### Aim:

### Objectives:

[illegible]





The Congress will have an integrated Industry Day to provide practical presentations and demonstrations of new technological developments focused on Vertical Manoeuvre, enabling participants to meet companies and enterprises within the MW field of expertise, become acquainted with their latest products and services, and exchange knowledge and experience.

**Date and location:**

2 October - 6 October 2023, NATO MW COE, Poljče, Slovenia.

**Participants:**

NATO MW COE FN/SN

Other NATO COEs

Academic, industry and civilian actors

The private sector

Community of Interest

**Event fee:**

Yes

**Points of Contact:**

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## DOCTRINE & STANDARDIZATION

### Reviewing ATrainP-6

#### Aim:

To review the ATrainP-6 with regard to the NATO regulations for standardization, in order to consider the latest developments and the requirements of the units, and to be in common with safety standards in the mountainous environment.

#### Objectives:

- ✓ Identify needs/requirements
- ✓ Check for validity of standards
- ✓ Adapt the ATrainP-6 to the latest developments

#### Activities:

- 1<sup>st</sup> activity: Internal meeting (vote)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> activity: Writing session

#### Date and location:

- 1<sup>st</sup> activity: March 2023 – NATO MW COE
- 2<sup>nd</sup> activity: July 2023 – NATO MW COE

#### Participants:

Mountain specialists from Mountain Warfare Schools, Mountain Units and experts from Civilian Organizations.



**Event fee:**

None

**Points of Contact:**

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## Subject Matter Expert Meeting: MW Handbook

### Aim:

Create a "Mountain Warfare Handbook" for instructors and leaders in accordance with the ATrainP-6 and ATP 3.2.1.3 with a focus on common and accepted safety standards, tactics, techniques, procedures, and mountain specific material, in order to provide a summarized working basis for training and surviving in the mountainous environment within NATO.

### Objectives:

- ✓ Identify needs/requirements
- ✓ Standardization of TTPs and material
- ✓ Determine how to proceed in a general sense

### Activities:

- 1<sup>st</sup> activity: Kick-off meeting
- 2<sup>nd</sup> activity: Writing session
- 3<sup>th</sup> activity: Field testing

### Date and location:

- 1<sup>st</sup> activity: Mid-February 2023 – NATO MW COE
- 2<sup>nd</sup> activity: June 2023 – NATO MW COE
- 3<sup>th</sup> activity: Beginning of December 2023 – NATO MW COE

### Participants:

SMEs (mountain guides) from Mountain Warfare Schools, Mountain Units and experts from Civilian Organizations.



**Event fee:**

None

**Points of Contact:**

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## Risk Management 2

### Aim:

Conduct a meeting with mountain specialists from military mountain units and topic-related civilian organizations to evaluate recent accidents in mountainous environments, in order to gain insights which will be considered in the ATrainP-6, ATP 3.2.1.3 and MW Handbook. In the end, the outcome should be to provide a COA to reduce risks in a mountainous environment.

### Objectives:

- ✓ Identify risks and learn from accidents
- ✓ Check our regulations
- ✓ Identify best practice

### Activities:

- Meeting and field test

### Date and location:

- September 2023 – location TBD

### Participants:

SMEs (mountain guides) from Mountain Warfare Schools, Mountain Units and experts from Civilian Organizations.

### Event fee:

None





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## CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT & EXPERIMENTATION

### Cavalry in Support of Mountain Warfare Operations

#### Aim:

To share national capabilities, techniques and procedures of cavalry units in support of Mountain Warfare.

#### Objectives:

- Recognizing the importance of reconnaissance troops, which are an essential element in the gathering of battlefield intelligence. They are trained in info gathering by stealth, both from vehicles and on foot, and providing information to commanders in all weather conditions.
- Exploring the possibility of employing cavalry units in support of operations in mountain and harsh climate (arctic) conditions.
- The results of the study could be shared, discussed and assessed during a specific concluding event (i.e. seminar or workshop).

#### Activities:

- 1<sup>st</sup> activity: The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> workshops.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> activity: Final conference: Research Introduction and Involvement in the Mountain Warfare Multi-Domain Concept





## **Date and location:**

2023 (specific date and location of activities TBD)

## **Participants:**

- Experts from NATO MW COE FN/SN
- Experts from NATO Member States and Partner Nations with a tradition in mountain warfare
- Academic, industry and non-military actors.

## **Event fee:**

None

## **Points of Contact:**

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## Mobility Exoskeleton

### Aim:

A study of mobility and the enhancement of the natural physical capabilities of mountain warriors by proper use of EXOSKELETON technology.

### Objectives:

- ✓ - To encompass the technical solutions for improving mobility to enhance the combat effectiveness of MW combatants. This solution allows soldiers to move and operate in mountainous terrain more effectively, spend less energy, and feel less exhausted while engaged in demanding mountain warfare activities.
- ✓ - The intermediate findings of the study will be shared among the Community of Interest (CoI) and discussed through conferences/seminars/workshops.

### Activities:

- 1<sup>st</sup> activity: Carry out a series of studies and workshops.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> activity: Field test of the exoskeleton devices





### **Date and location:**

2023 (specific date and location of activities TBD)

### **Participants:**

- Exoskeleton producers.
- NATO MW COE sponsoring nations.
- Other NATO COEs (in priority given to the EOD COE).
- Community of Interest.

### **Event fee:**

None

### **Points of Contact:**

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Staff Officer, Concept Development & Experimentation Branch

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## Multi-domain Mountain Warfare Concept

### Aim:

Synchronization of the military campaign across all domains (land, air, maritime, cyberspace, space) to enhance effectiveness and efficiency in mountain warfare.

### Objectives:

- ✓ - Transformation of operations from the purely land domain into multi-domains, thus gaining decisive advantages by forcing an enemy to confront multiple threats simultaneously from multiple domains.
- ✓ - Primary integration focus should therefore be Joint Forces. Tactical mountain units should be task-organized as multifunctional battle teams for distributed or semi-independent operations.
- ✓ - Forces in the mountains should have multi-domain capabilities at all levels and employ optimized manned-unmanned combined arms teams for both mounted and dismounted operations.





## Activities:

- 1<sup>st</sup> activity: Organize, prepare and carry out a series of workshops and studies to follow the procedures of the pre-initiation, initiation and research phases as per the NATO CD&E Handbook.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> activity: Close cooperation with the SACT Concept Development Branch and the Community of Interest.

## DATE:

1<sup>st</sup> Phase: Pre-Initiation March 2023

2<sup>nd</sup> Phase: Initiation June 2023

3<sup>rd</sup> Phase: Research November 2023

## Participants:

- NATO MW COE FN/SN and Community of Interest.
- NATO Bodies (International Staff, ACT, ACO, JFC Naples, JFC Brunssum, LANDCOM, JALLC)

## Event fee:

None

## Points of Contact:

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Branch Head, Concept Development & Experimentation Branch

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## LESSONS LEARNED

### NATO MW COE Workshop/Webinar

#### Aim:

Gather observations, Lessons Identified, and Lessons Learned applicable to the MW COE area of interest.

#### Objectives:

Gather Subject Matter Experts and the Community of Interest, and discuss/analyze current topics related to Mountain Warfare.

#### Date:

June-December 2023

#### Participants:

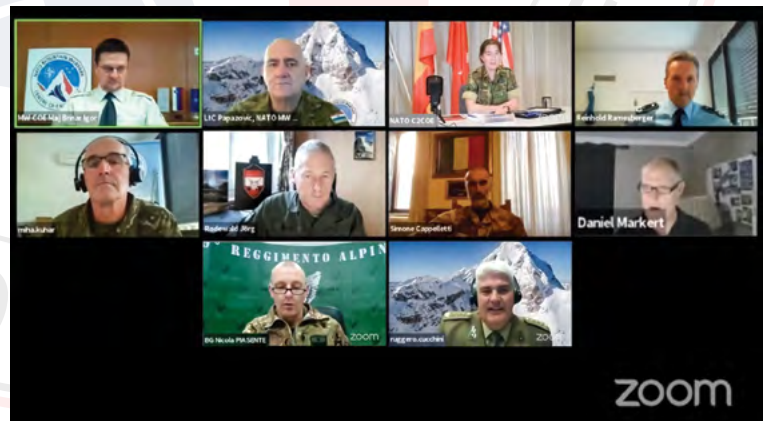
Mountain Warfare Community of Interest (OR7-OF4)

#### Event fee:

None

#### Points of Contact:

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## NATO MW COE Staff Ride

### Aim:

Gather observations, Lessons Identified, and Lessons Learned applicable to the MW COE area of interest.

### Objectives:

- ✓ To promote and familiarize participants with MW and the MW COE;
- ✓ To gather lessons from the past which can be applicable in modern (mountain) warfare;
- ✓ To expand the personal development of individuals.

### Date and location:

June 2023 at the NATO MW COE, Slovenia, and in Italy

### Participants:

HQ above Brigade level (max. 15 participants)

### Event fee:

Yes

### Points of Contact:

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## EDUCATION & TRAINING

Education and training activities are conducted with the professional support of highly qualified experts, lecturers, instructors and guest speakers from international military and civilian organizations and universities through:

- ✓ Lectures,
- ✓ Seminars,
- ✓ Courses,
- ✓ Study trips/visits to respective organizations.

Practical and technical courses which require field applications and special expertise are conducted by the respective Armed Forces of the Framework Nation, Sponsoring Nations and Contributing Partners.

## NATO MW COE Courses

### Mountain Warfare Small Units Leader Course

**NATO ETOC Course Code: LOP-LO-35586**

- **06-17 March 2023 at NATO MW COE, Poljče, Slovenia**
- **18-29 September 2023 at AWL Mountain Training Centre, Szklarska Poreba, Poland**
- **06-17 November 2023 at NATO MW COE, Poljče, Slovenia**

The aim of this course is to provide officers at the light infantry platoon/company level and staff officers of different branches at the level of light infantry battalion/regiment, from NATO and Partner Nations, with in-depth knowledge and understanding of mountain warfare, to foster the development of leadership and management skills, and to enhance their understanding of the

specifics of mountainous terrain and climate when planning and conducting operations in this environment.

The course can be held outside the NATO MW COE as a Mobile Education and Training Team activity (METT), in cooperation with requesting nations.



### **Structure of the Course:**

The two-week course is comprised of three parts: leadership, movement and tactics, and is carried out in a combination of teaching methods such as classroom lectures, teamwork and fieldwork, to build capabilities from easy to difficult.

The first week focuses on building the students' knowledge of the specifics of the mountainous environment, its influence on combat functions, and the best ways to mitigate negative effects and seize opportunities. Students will be introduced to the importance of leadership skills in critical situations, of SMEs in the preparation and execution of training and military operations, and of proper mountaineering/winter equipment for movement in difficult terrain.

In the second week, the course participants will be faced with a tactical situation in order to develop the ability to overcome the challenges of fighting in areas where technological supremacy can be negated by terrain or climate, and combat power can only be achieved by good planning and skills.

The students will train in and carry out troop leading procedures, taking into consideration the specifics of mountainous terrain and its influence on combat power. After building COAs based on map reconnaissance, they will execute an on-foot recce in the area of operations to assess the implications of mountainous terrain on the planning process and conducted activities.

## Learning Objectives:

- Summarize the NATO MW Education and Training Architecture;
- Identify the main class, terrain and climate characteristics of a given mountainous area;
- Understand Mountain Warfare capabilities requirements and developments;
- Identify company equipment and capabilities requirements and existing NATO capabilities for operating in a mountainous environment;
- Apply leadership competencies and actions to get results in mountainous environment operations;
- Understand the dynamics of the mountainous environment in military operations;
- Conduct activities with sub-level units in all forms of mountainous areas, in all weather conditions;
- Be able to move through all forms of mountainous area, in all weather conditions;
- Organize casualty rescue from inaccessible terrain or snow avalanche;
- Identify constraints and opportunities that the mountainous environment has on conducting operations;
- Understand the special characteristics and fundamentals of military operations in the mountainous environment;
- Plan operations of light infantry company units in difficult mountainous terrain.







## Target Audience:

A. Rank Level: OR 5-9, OF 1-2.

B. Language Proficiency: English SLP 2222 - STANAG 6001 or ALCPT 80%.

## Course fee:

None

## Prerequisite e-Learning Courses:

- ✓ Basic Characteristics of the Mountain Environment
- ✓ Combat Functions in Mountain Warfare

\* Course participants are required to have completed the e-Learning courses prior to starting this course; they are available on both the NATO JADL platform and the MW COE website.

## POC:

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## Basic Mountain Warfare Small Units Leader Course

**NATO ETOC Course Code: LOP-LO-35586**

**28 August – 08 September 2023, Knin, Croatia**

The aim of this course is to provide leaders at the light infantry team/squad level and leaders of different branches from NATO and Partner Nations with in-depth knowledge and understanding of mountain warfare and of the specifics of mountainous terrain and climate when conducting operations in this environment.

The course will be held at military training facilities in Croatia as a Mobile Education and Training Team activity (METT), in cooperation with the Armed Forces of the Republic of Croatia.

### **Structure of the Course:**

The two-week course is comprised of leadership, planning and movement, and will be carried out in a combination of teaching methods such as classroom lectures, teamwork and fieldwork to build capabilities from easy to difficult.

At the beginning, the course focuses on building the students' knowledge of the specifics of the mountainous environment, its influence on combat functions, and the best ways to mitigate negative effects and seize opportunities. Students will be introduced to the importance of leadership skills in critical situations, of SMEs in the preparation and



execution of training and military operations, and of proper mountaineering/winter equipment for movement in difficult terrain.

Next, the course participants will be faced with a tactical situation and will learn to create a Mountain Situation Plan to provide awareness of the hazardous aspects of the mountain environment to tactical commanders before making decisions.

Finally, the students will be trained in mountaineering abilities and skills at designated training facilities, in accordance with ATrainP-6, and apply this knowledge in a real mountain environment situation.

### Learning Objectives:

- Identify the main class, terrain and climate characteristics of a given mountainous area;
- Understand Mountain Warfare capabilities requirements and developments;
- Identify the necessary equipment and capabilities requirements and existing NATO capabilities for operating in a mountainous environment;
- Apply leadership competencies and actions to achieve results in operations in a mountainous environment;
- Understand the characteristics and dynamics of military operations in a mountainous environment;
- Conduct activities in all forms of mountainous areas, under all weather conditions;
- Be able to move through all forms of mountainous areas, in all weather conditions;
- Organize casualty rescue from inaccessible terrain or snow avalanche.





## Target Audience:

- A. Rank Level: OR 3-9, OF 1.
- B. Language Proficiency: English SLP 2121 - STANAG 6001 or ALCPT 60%.

## Course fee:

None

## Prerequisite e-Learning Courses:

- ✓ Basic Characteristics of the Mountain Environment
- ✓ Combat Functions in Mountain Warfare

\* Course participants are required to have completed the e-Learning courses prior to starting this course; they are available on both the NATO JADL platform and the MW COE website.

## POC:

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## Mountain Warfare Staff Officer Course

**NATO ETOC Course Code: LOP-LO-35516**

**05-16 June 2023 at NATO MW COE, Poljče, Slovenia**

The Mountain Warfare Staff Officer Course is a higher level of mountain light infantry/light infantry officer training, preparing students to carry out staff duties in mountain operations. Its purpose is to provide independent and group training during which students use their acquired knowledge to plan, organize and conduct training in units of a particular branch/service/specialty in mountain terrain.

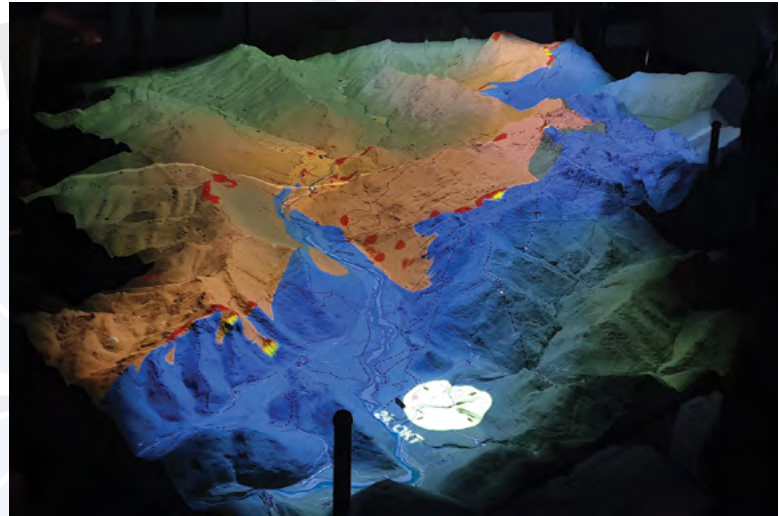


This course is designed for NATO Member and Partner Nations requiring the particular knowledge and skills necessary to safely and efficiently operate in the complex terrain and climatic conditions of the mountain environment.

### **Structure of the Course:**

The two-week course is comprised of three parts: a General Module, a Module of the Tactics and Doctrine of Mountain Warfare, and the Staff Operations Module. The students will be introduced to the NATO Planning Process using NATO standards based on the Comprehensive Operations Planning Directive (COPD) by means of the steps of the Military Decision-Making Process (MDMP).

The first week focuses on the introduction of the specifics of the mountain environment, familiarization with military mountaineering equipment, and the role of mountain troops in the preparation and execution of training and military operations. Next the students will learn about the influence of climate and terrain specifics on combat functions.



In the second week, the course participants will be faced with a tactical situation and be trained in planning procedures, taking into consideration the specifics of mountainous terrain and its influence on combat power.

## Learning Objectives:

- Know the NATO Mountain Warfare (MW) Terminology;
- Present the Mountain Infantry Light Brigade structure, equipment and capabilities;
- Explain the role, tasks and main considerations of the work of the Mountain Cell (MC); present the main product of the MC;
- Present the fundamentals of movement and manoeuvre in mountainous/difficult terrain;
- Explain the characteristics of good leadership and the principles of C2 and communications in mountainous terrain;
- Know the steps of the intelligence process and the main methods for collecting data in support of conducting military operations in mountainous regions;
- Explain the specifics of fire support in mountainous terrain;
- Know the Force Protection (FP) planning considerations, principles, elements, measures, tasks and activities in mountainous terrain;



- Explain the sustainment considerations related to the mountain environment, and the fundamentals of health protection requirements for mountain operations;
- Know the Military Decision-Making Process (MDMP);
- Plan an operation of a light infantry battalion in difficult mountainous terrain.

### Target Audience:

A. Rank Level: OR 8-9, OF 1-4.

B. Language Proficiency: English SLP 2222 - STANAG 6001 or ALCPT 80%.

### Course fee:

None

### Prerequisite e-Learning Courses:

- ✓ Basic Characteristics of the Mountain Environment
- ✓ Combat Functions in Mountain Warfare

\*Course participants are required to have completed the e-Learning courses prior to starting this course; they are available on both the NATO JADL platform and the MW COE website.



### POC:

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## NATO MW COE SEMINARS

### Protection in Mountain Warfare Seminar

#### Aim:

Provide knowledge and interoperability for all required areas of protection IOT support understanding the significance of this combat function in a specific area of operation such as the mountainous environment. Take common positions to implement protection throughout all stages of an operation, from preparation to deployment, through engagement to redeployment.

#### Objectives:

Take all measures and means to minimize the vulnerability of personnel, facilities, equipment and operations to any threat and in all situations, to preserve freedom of action and the operational effectiveness of the force. To predict threats and hazards in active, passive and recuperation areas through all fundamental elements of protection.

#### Date:

17 April – 21 April 2023, Romania

#### Event fee:

None





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## THE E-LEARNING CENTRE

Considering the current emerging global trends, the NATO MW COE has identified the need to design an improved approach to training within the Mountain Warfare domain. The E-Learning Centre supports modern training methods and develops online courses in order to prepare the participants of residential courses.

The aim is to bring students to a common level of knowledge before the residential portion, enabling more practical performance during the course.



Our courses are included in the NATO Joint Advanced Distributed Learning (JADL).

<https://jatl.act.nato.int/>

<https://e-learning.mwcoe.org/>

## Basic Characteristics of the Mountain Environment e-Learning course

### Aim:

To make individual soldiers, leaders, staff and commanders aware of the required capabilities in Mountain Warfare. It is a help for commanders and sub-commanders to generate a fitting training program and a fitting unit/sub-unit or task element in order to achieve the required level in Mountain Warfare for a multinational mission in mountainous terrain, and an introduction to NATO MW COE courses.

### Target group:

Anyone interested in the subject of mountain warfare, including participants of the courses organized by NATO MW COE.



**Duration:** 1 hour.

**References:**

- ATrainP-6 Mountain Warfare Education and Training EdA V1 FD NOV 20,
- AJP-3.2 Allied Joint Doctrine for Land Operations EdA V1 2016,
- AJP-3.2.1 Allied Land Tactics EdB V1 2018.

## **Combat Functions in Mountain Warfare e-Learning course**

**Aim:**

To provide an understanding of the mountainous terrain, which requires specific knowledge. The basic aim for this course is to provide mountain unit personnel with an overview of the specific requirements in mountain warfare in order to develop their own SOPs for this specific environment. After this course, the participant will be able to understand and apply the specific requirements to combat functions in mountainous terrain.

**Target group:**

Anyone interested in the subject of mountain warfare, including participants of the courses organized by NATO MW COE.

**Duration:** 2 hours.

**References:**

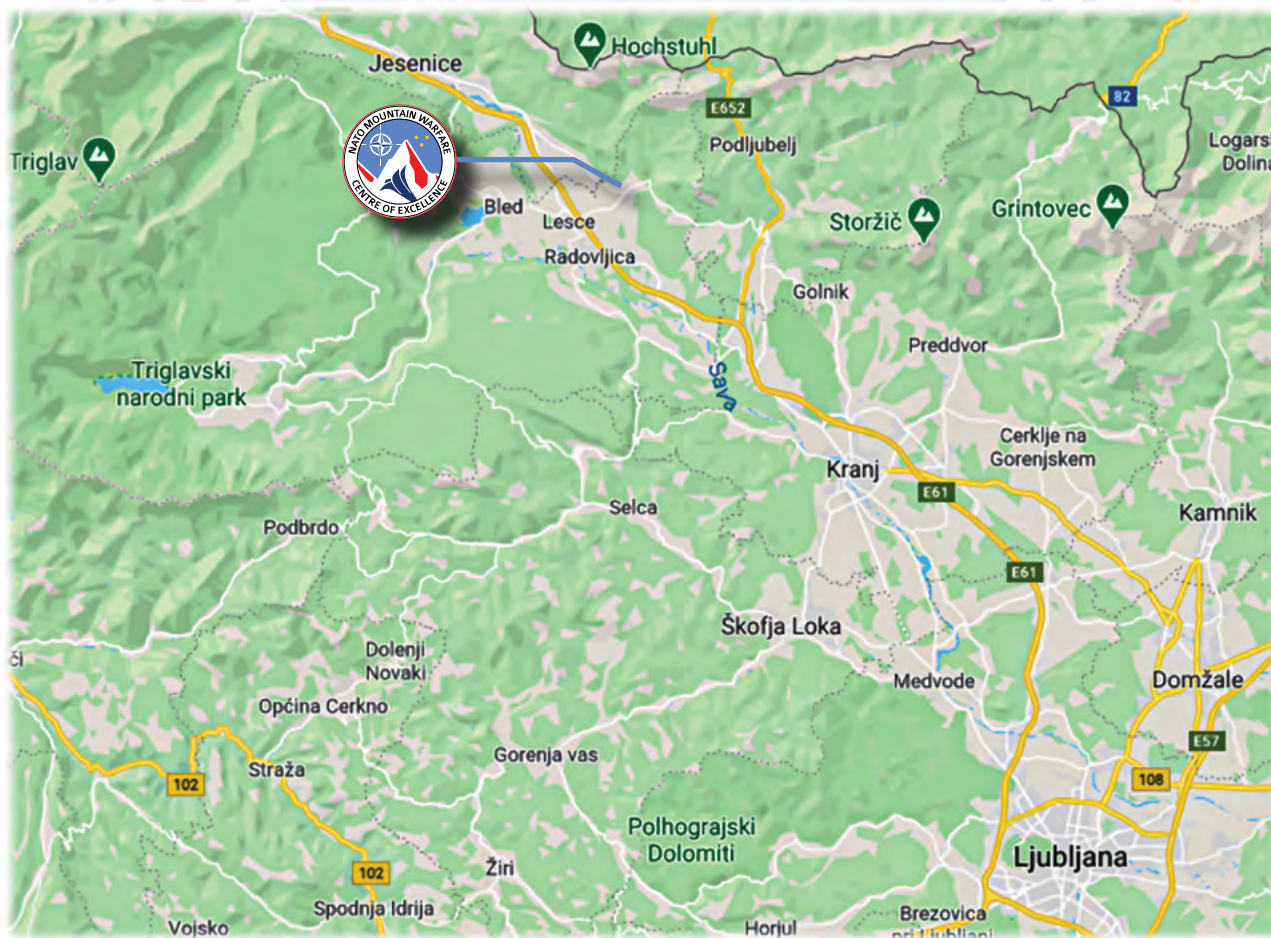
- ATrainP-6 Mountain Warfare Education and Training EdA V1 FD NOV 2,
- AJP-3.2 Allied Joint Doctrine for Land Operations EdA V1 2016,
- AJP-3.2.1 Allied Land Tactics EdB V1 2018.



## CONTACT US

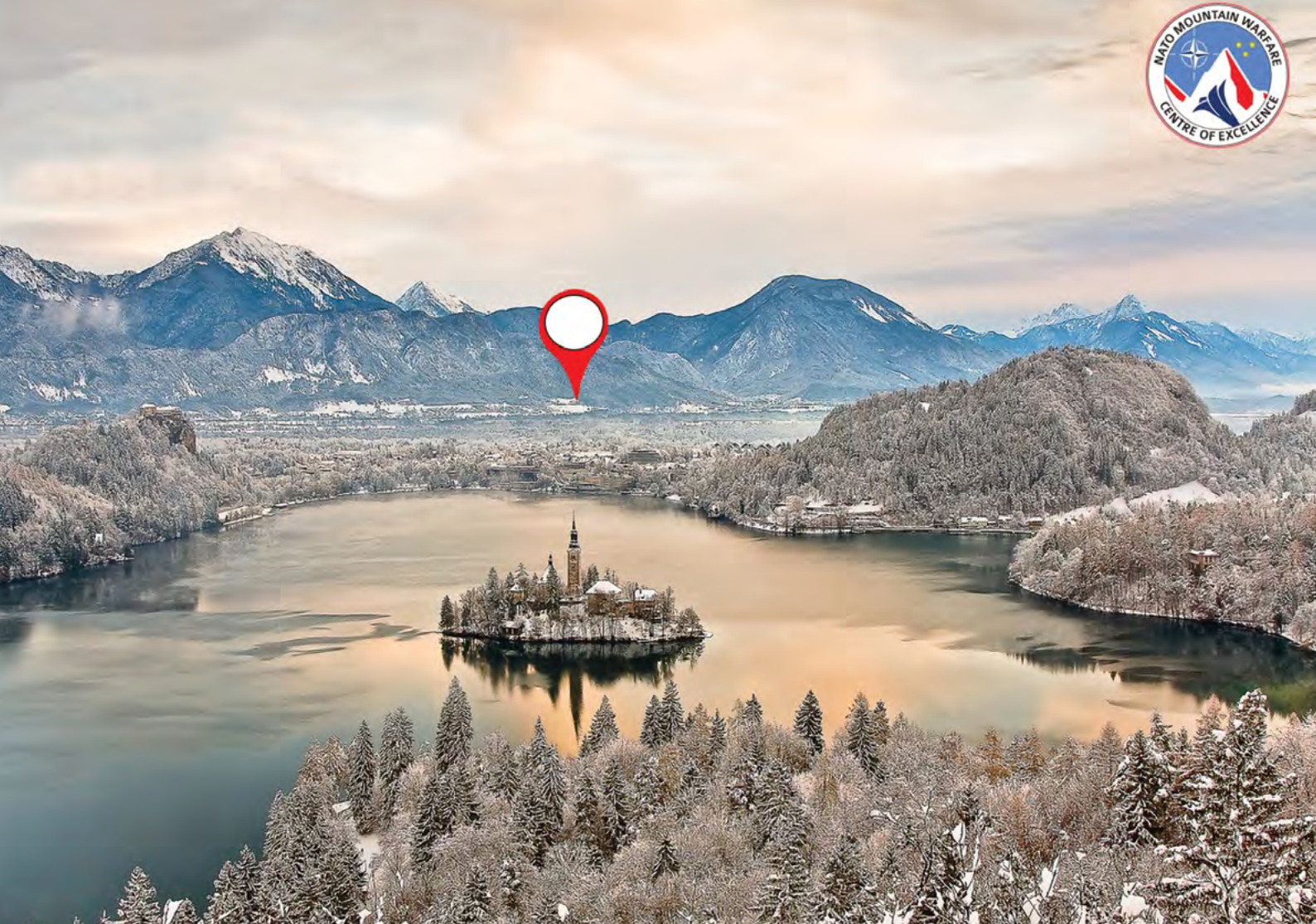
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