



Yves DUBUCQ
Director of the ICI

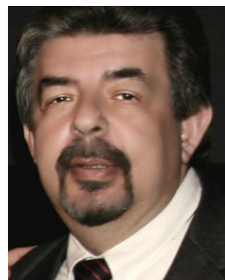


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NEWSLETTER December 2024



Yvan BAUDOIN
Manager ICI/ER KC



Ioannis GALATAS
Manager ICI/CBRN KC



Frank VAN TRIMPONT
Manager ICI/MED KC

1. Statement 2024

The year 2024 was more productive than 2023, in term of the visibility of our institution, now hosted by the **Val de Sambre Rescue Zone** (made up of an operational staff of around 240 professional firefighters, volunteer firefighters and ambulance drivers as well as an administrative staff of 22 people and managed by the Colonel Marc Gilbert).



In fact, no less than 30 countries were represented by delegates during this year either through their participation in our conferences or for having attended our courses. The focus this year has been set on the new courses given to emergency department staff of our hospitals on the one hand and on increasing our international visibility in the field of crisis management and robotics on the other hand.

The International CBRNE Institute has been extended to a CBRN Medical Knowledge Centre (CBRN MED-KC) entrusted to the Dr Frank VAN TRIMPONT, Anesthesiologist and Emergency Physicist, Director of the inter-university disaster medicine course, Secretary General of the European Council for Disaster Medicine, Reserve Officer of the Belgian Army.

A. ICI activities

The transfer of ICI to our new location (Sambreville) and the return to normalcy allowed us to materialize our new partnerships (police academy, firefighters, universities, hospitals both nationally and internationally). In particular, we developed a cooperation agreement with the French CF-NRBC (<https://centrefrancaisnrbc.fr>) and another one with Professor Roberto Mugavero, chairman of CEMEC (European Centre for Disaster Medicine)



Sébastien Sohet



Claude Lefebvre



Jean-Luc Fortin

Our KCs are assisted by national and international experts like:

- Col (Rtd) Claude Lefebvre: He is currently a member of the Scientific Council of the Institute of Applied Geopolitics Studies (IEGA), CBRN expert member of the SAFE CLUSTER and an expert consultant in the field to the European Defense Commission.
- Dr Jean-Luc Fortin: Emergency Physician / Toxicologist / Forensic Pathologist / Burn Resuscitator, Colonel Air Force (Reserve)
- Sébastien Sohet, coordinator of the "hospital emergency plans and administrator of the AFIU (Association Francophone des Infirmiers Urgentistes) and his colleague Christian Decnud.



B. ICI/ER-KC (European Projects/Robotic)

1. European Project OVERCOME



Co-Funded by
the European Union

OVERC.O.M.E.
Cross-border cOoperation
in Managing Emergency

WORKING TOGETHER TO MANAGE EMERGENCIES



For CRBN and TRANSBORDER INTERVENTION



Fire Department of Pisa, Viale delle Piagge, 1 - 56124 Pisa, Italy - infovercome@vigilifuoco.it - ph. (+39) 050 941942
More information is available at the following link: <https://civil-protection-knowledge-network.europa>



OVERC.O.M.E. Project



In the recent years, the Italian National Fire and Rescue Service has been leading three strategic projects, all of them aimed at improving the efficiency in emergency operations in Urban Search and Rescue context (EASeR, focused on ASR2; BELICE, focused on ASR1, Prometheus, data management system for USAR operations), thus, OVERC.O.M.E. intends continuing this process through its goals which are: 1) enhancing actual tools or resources used on the Alpine Arch (France/Italy) in USAR and CBRN capabilities; 2) covering lack of tools or resources or procedures through a strategic consortium to scale-up the achieved results; 3) providing with the technology to respond to the most significant operational needs stemming from the already available ICT tools, first of all, the data management system in USAR operations "Prometheus" co-funded by UCPM, DG ECHO in 2020. Additionally, the standardisation model actually used in USAR context (INSARAG Guidelines 2020) is intended to be the leverage to improve standardisation in CBRN scope. This will make OVERC.O.M.E. a project that responds to specific cross-border areas while impacting at international level. It will contribute actively to cover the lack of CBRN standardised operational forms to exchange information between the team on site and its coordination cell, applying a methodology that stems from USAR operations model (i.e. forms to assess the scenario and its changes). OVERC.O.M.E. will be designed and built up by a strategic consortium of public bodies which are also end-users and this will support both the customisation of the outputs for the specific end-users' needs and their spreading. The ICT tool, Prometheus, will be enhanced for CBRN (full coordination for all the phases) and daily interventions (alert phase). The approach of the project is "bottom-up" which means from the operational needs to the design of the response in terms of covering the needs, providing tools for a more efficient management and common planning to jointly respond. As a matter of fact, cross-border coordination and harmonization are one of the pillars to both facilitating joint operations and leveraging limited resources through an efficient mutual cooperation. The action is carried out in the frame of protocols of cross border cooperation (CBC) already existing between the Ministries of the Interior of France and Italy signed in 2007 with the aim to improve and strengthen some tools currently used for common joint intervention at the border as well as providing new tools to cover specific management needs in CBRN and USAR.



Coordinator: National Fire and Rescue Service (CNVVF), Italy
 Associated beneficiary: Departmental Fire and Rescue Service of Savoie (SDIS73), France
 Associated beneficiary: International CBRNE Institute (ICI), Belgium

2. UCPM-2024-KAPP: CivPro-LiNC (March 2025-March 2027)

Coordination: BEZIRKSREGIERUNG KOELN (Germany)

Partners: Institut der Feuerwehr Nordrhein-Westfalen (DE), NEDERLANDS INSTITUUT PUBLIEKE VEILIGHEID (NL), Associated BEZIRKSREGIERUNG DUSSELDORF (DE), Associated EU-Geschäftsstelle der Bezirksregierung Münster, International CBRNE Institute (BE), Associated SERVICE PUBLIC FEDERAL INTERIEUR (BE)

The goal of the project CivPro-LiNC (**Civil Protection Liaison-Network Concept**) is to strengthen the cooperation and coordination among UCPM Member States in border regions to improve preparedness for responding to natural and man-made disasters under the threshold of UCPM activation.

It complements and supports the Host Nation Support System (HNS) within the UCPM by training specialized civil protection personnel, building a network, and preparing them for incoming assistance and cross-border coordination in the event of small and medium-sized local and regional disasters. Past crisis have highlighted the need for international cooperation in disaster management. While the UCPM is a well-established and trained system with experts, regional and small-scale incidents, and minor disasters, which have a cross-border impact are not covered by the system. It is the task of the regional disaster-management agencies at the border. Lack of knowledge of the regional and national conditions, structure and procedures of the other country's emergency response and its capabilities can lead to slower and less powerful responses and intensification of the crisis.

The CivPro-LiNC project addresses this knowledge gap and aims to achieve a higher level of protection against disasters with cross-border impact by training civil protection personnel in this field and foster a culture of common preparedness. The training of liaison officers and building of a liaison network will improve cooperation and coordination within an emergency and in the prevention-phase. It will enhance the complementarity and interoperability of different civil protection systems and allow – in larger disasters - a better integration of incoming assistance in case of UCPM activation. The results like the Liaison Training Course, the Liaison Network as well as the Cross-Border Cooperation Manual will be available for the disaster management agencies in all UCPM border region.

C. ICI/CBRN-KC

A series of courses/training has been organized every month according to the following objectives and their level with a participation of 10 to 15 candidates/session. Claude Lefebvre, Jean-Luc Fortin, Christian Decnud and Sebastien Sohet assisted the chairman of the ICI. The last training was organized in November in the new site of ICI. Objective: to enable emergency services personnel to continue their mission in a contaminated environment in the event of a terrorist attack or a major CBRN or industrial accident (nuclear, Seveso plant, etc.)

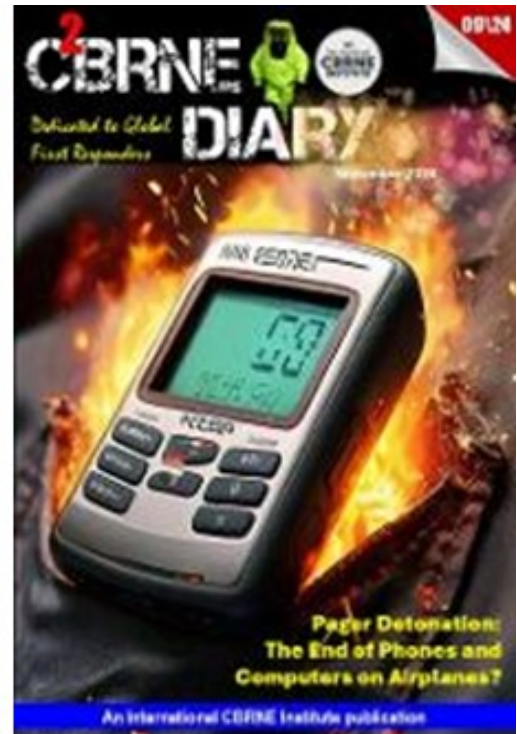
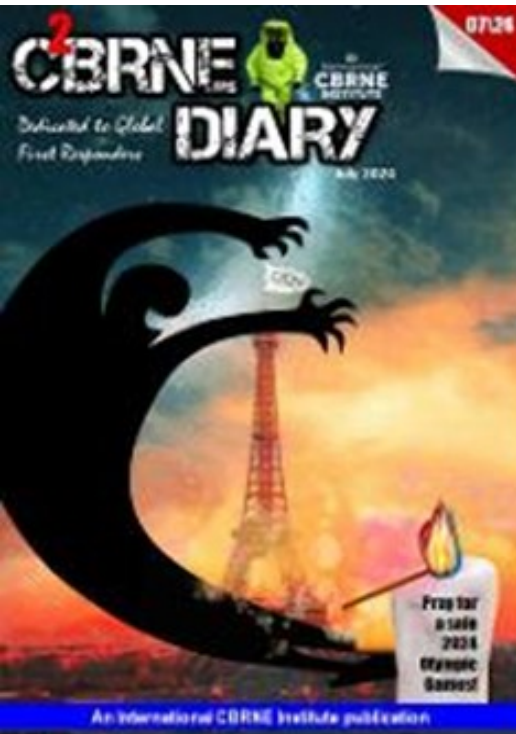
Level 1: e-learning, basic information on CBRN issues

Level 2: Information on the basics of the threat, protection, decontamination, and procedures for dressing and undressing in a CBRNE situation.

Level 3: Advanced: recognize, detect, protect, and decontaminate CBRN victims + medical countermeasures and first aid in a CBRN environment. Practical scenarios

The ICI plans to open a site for live agents training radiological in 2025; the request for the different authorizations is ongoing; more Info (details of courses, type of agents, planning and registration sheet) will be available on our website as soon as possible.

As usually, ICI edited its monthly publication, under the responsibility of the CBRN-KC manager/editor.



C²BRNE DIARY 2024[®]

Editor-in-Chief

Brigadier General (ret.)

Ioannis GALATAS, MD, MSc, MC (Army)

Consultant in Allergy & Clinical Immunology

Medical/Hospital CBRNE Planner/Instructor

Senior Asymmetric Threats Analyst

Manager CBRN Knowledge Center

@ International CBRNE Institute (Belgium)

Paralia Epanomis, Greece

Contact email: igalatas@yahoo.com

Web: <https://c2brne-diary-newissue.yolasite.com/>

EDITORIAL TEAM

- ❖ **Bellenca Giada**, MD, MSc (Italy)
- ❖ **Bossis Mary**, PhD, Intern/EU Studies (Greece)
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- ❖ **Khadra Joelle**, Lecturer, CBRN Women Project Leader (Lebanon)
- ❖ **Kiourktsoglou George**, BSc, Dipl, MSc, MBA, PhD (UK)
- ❖ **Marx Julien**, CCNurse, MSc, PhD cand | MoTransport (France)
- ❖ **Photiou Steve**, MD, MSc Em Disaster (Italy)
- ❖ **Tarlow Peter**, PhD Sociol (USA)

International CBRNE Institute

Rue de la Vacherie, 78

B5060 SAMBREVILLE (Auvellais)

Belgium

Email: info@ici-belgium.be

Web: www.ici-belgium.be



Editor's Corner
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Cyber News
UAV/Robotic News
AI News
Prep News



D. ICI/MED -KC

Frank Van trimpont is Anaesthesiologist and emergency physician, interested not only for the emergency medicine but also very much for the disaster medicine. Interested in a pedagogic way by being the Academic supervisor of the Certificate of the management of Disaster Situations that he created over 10 years ago or in a practical way through various humanitarian missions in the Philippines, in Palestine, in the Congo, in Sumatra, ...

He had the chance to be the assistant general - secretary of the French Society of Disaster Medicine before being one of the founding members of the European Council of Disaster Medicine and the actual President.

The disaster medicine is an exciting discipline and insufficiently explored as a field of research. The Interuniversity Certificate in Multidisciplinary Management of Exceptional Situations was held again this year (November) at the premises of ICI Belgium, partner of this certificate since 2022. It consisted of two times three days of courses that addressed the legal bases of the organization of relief, the presentation of the different disciplines, the first minutes of disaster management as well as the organization of relief from the construction site to hospital admission through the management of the advanced medical post. The different types of risks are then considered, rail accidents, airplane accidents, food poisoning, organization of preventive devices, nuclear, chemical, bacteriological risk, etc. Following these first courses, another one-day session planned in 2025 will bring the students in different practical workshops followed by another one-day real life exercise. At the end of this annual session, the students will be tested individually to get their certificate. The whole of this training brings together candidates from all disciplines.

This programme is co-managed by the Universities ULB (Brussels), ULG (Liège), UCL (Louvain-la-Neuve) and RMA (Royal Military Academy)

From 2025 on, different modules will be proposed to the candidates among which, a 3 days CBRN module which will be organized by the ICI and will grant 3 credentials ECTS to the participants.

2. Planning 2025 due to the unexpected threats (Ukrainian status, among others) dates of events and new ones may be adapted – read www.ici-belgium.be

From January to December 2025, CBRN Training

Niv 2: 20/01 – 17/02 – 28/04 – 19/05 – 15/09 – 13/10 2025

Niv 3: 25-26-27 March – 24-25-26 June – 18-19-20 November 2025

2025: Two DRS (Disaster Resilience Society) **Proposals** have been introduced end of November 2024

Topic: **HORIZON-CL3-2024-FCT-01-07:** CBRN-E
detection capacities in small architecture

Title of Smart sensor network for real-time CBRNE

Proposal: detection

Acronym: **SENTINEL**




Coordination: IANUS TECHNOLOGIES LTD (Cyprus), 19 partners (France, Germany, Greece, Netherlands, Belgium, Austria, Spain, Finland). The ICI will be responsible for the CBRNE training SENTINEL will:



DEFINE a dynamic **Security and Vulnerability Assessment Framework** (D-SVAF) that provides a comprehensive and standardized methodology for assessing and managing CBRN-E threats, enhancing **situational awareness** and **early detection** of CBRN-E threats based on sensor integrations. SENTINEL's D-SVAF will support a consistent and actionable assessment methodology through **qualitative and quantitative metrics**, accessible to public and private sector stakeholders responsible for public security.

15-16 April: We will organize the 12th International workshop RISE (Risky Interventions and Environmental Surveillance). The CALL may be read on our site.

As part of its many activities (conferences, symposium, workshops, courses, etc.) ICI constantly tries to stay at the forefront of the materials made available to trainees and visitors. This could not be a reality without the support of our sponsors:

		
<p>The firm CRISTANINI Spa, provided us with its new inflatable decontamination tent</p>	<p>The firm OUVRY provides us with protective equipment (PPE) By the way, OUVRY organised at ICI a special information day (BELGIUM Day) on April 25</p>	<p>The firm BLÜCHER provides us with the SARATOGA PPE</p>

LAST BUT NOT LEAST

best wishes for your whole family and Happiness through the coming Year 2025!

