

Draft Agenda

High-Level Regional Aviation Safety Conference 2026

Regional Conflicts and Aviation Safety

Building Aviation Resilience in Europe and the Middle East

6 November 2026, Cleopatra Hotel, Nicosia, Cyprus

Organised by the **Flight Safety Foundation – Southeast Europe – Cyprus**
with the support of the **Ministry of Transport, Communications and Works of the Republic of Cyprus**.

Conference Overview

The aviation sector is operating in an increasingly complex geopolitical environment, characterised by regional conflicts, airspace restrictions, cyber threats, GNSS interference and rapidly evolving security challenges. Recent developments in Europe, the Eastern Mediterranean and the Middle East have reinforced the need for stronger preparedness, closer international cooperation and more resilient aviation systems.

Against this backdrop, the Flight Safety Foundation – Southeast Europe – Cyprus is organising this High-Level Regional Aviation Safety Conference to bring together senior representatives from international organisations, European institutions, governments, civil aviation authorities, airports, airlines, air navigation service providers, industry and aviation professionals.

Through two high-level thematic panels and a concluding High-Level Regional Roundtable of Directors General of Civil Aviation (or equivalent heads of Civil Aviation Authorities), the Conference will examine strategic and operational challenges, exchange practical experience and identify recommendations to strengthen aviation safety, crisis preparedness, operational resilience and regional cooperation.

Moderation: Moderation arrangements will be announced with the final programme, with members of the Executive Board of the Flight Safety Foundation – Southeast Europe – Cyprus contributing to the moderation of the discussions.

**Speakers/participants marked TBC are subject to confirmation.*

Time	Draft Programme
09:00–09:30	Registration, Welcome Coffee & Networking
09:30–09:50	<u>Opening Ceremony</u> - Welcome by the Chairman, Flight Safety Foundation – Southeast Europe – Cyprus, Chrysanthos Chadjichrysanthou. - Opening Address by H.E. the Minister of Transport, Communications and Works of the Republic of Cyprus, Evi Tsolaki (TBC)
09:50–10:00	<u>Honorary Award Ceremony</u> Presentation of the Flight Safety Foundation – Southeast Europe – Cyprus Honorary Award to MEP Costas Mavrides , in recognition of his longstanding contribution to the promotion of aviation safety. *Award to be presented by the Minister of Transport, Communications and Works (TBC).
10:00–10:15	<u>Opening Video Message – ECAC</u> Alessio Quaranta , President of the European Civil Aviation Conference “Strengthening Aviation Safety and Resilience through European and Regional Cooperation”

Regional Conflicts and their Implications for Civil Aviation Safety

Focus on: Understanding how regional conflicts are reshaping the global aviation safety landscape and identifying the strategic measures required to mitigate emerging operational risks.

Indicative structure

- **Scene-setting Address - Steven Moore**, Head of Network Operations – EUROCONTROL
“Managing Europe’s Aviation Network in Times of Regional Instability: Safety, Airspace and Resilience”
- **European Commission / DG MOVE** – European aviation policy and resilience perspective (TBC)
- **IATA** – airline / operational perspective (TBC)
- **ACI EUROPE** – airport / resilience perspective (TBC)
- **IFATCA & ECA** – professional ATM / flight crew operational perspective (TBC)

Q&A (10 min)

Key topics

- ✓ The evolving global and European aviation safety environment
- ✓ Conflict zones, airspace restrictions and dynamic airspace management
- ✓ Risk assessment and timely information sharing
- ✓ Safety oversight and operational decision-making during periods of regional instability
- ✓ International coordination between States, organisations and operational stakeholders
- ✓ Lessons learned from recent geopolitical crises
- ✓ Future priorities for strengthening aviation resilience

11:30–12:00: Coffee Break

12:00–13:15 | Panel 2

Crisis Management and Business Continuity – Strengthening Operational Aviation Resilience

Focus on: How aviation stakeholders prepare for, respond to and recover from major regional disruptions while ensuring the continuity of safe, secure and efficient operations.

Indicative structure

- **Scene-setting Address – EASA** (TBC)
Proposed title: *“From Crisis Response to Aviation Resilience: Maintaining Safety in a Changing Operational Environment”*
- **Major Nikolas Kollakides**, Crisis Management Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Cyprus - *national crisis-management perspective*
- **Haris Antoniadis**, CEO, Cyprus ANSP – *ATM operational perspective*
- **Miltos Miltiadous**, COO, Hermes Airports – *airport operational perspective*
- **Thanos Pascalis**, CEO, Cyprus Airways – *airline operational perspective*
- **TUS Airways** – *airline operational perspective* (TBC)

Q&A (10 min)

Key topics

- ✓ National crisis-management arrangements and multi-agency coordination
- ✓ Airport operational continuity and contingency planning

- ✓ *Air traffic management resilience and management of rapidly changing traffic flows*
- ✓ *Airline contingency planning, rerouting and operational decision-making*
- ✓ *Business continuity and organisational preparedness*
- ✓ *Cybersecurity and GNSS interference*
- ✓ *Information sharing and coordination between authorities and operational stakeholders*
- ✓ *Building resilient aviation systems through preparedness, cooperation and lessons learned*

13:15–14:15: Networking Lunch

14:15–15:45 | High-Level Regional Roundtable

Regional Experiences and Lessons Learned

Theme: *Building Aviation Resilience through Regional Cooperation*

Indicative participating States

Directors General of Civil Aviation, or equivalent heads of Civil Aviation Authorities, from countries across the wider region:

Cyprus (confirmed), **Greece** (TBC), **Malta** (confirmed), **Israel** (confirmed), **Egypt** (TBC), **Jordan** (preliminary confirmation), **Lebanon** (TBC)

Guiding questions

- *What have been the principal civil aviation challenges experienced during recent periods of regional instability?*
- *Which measures proved most effective in maintaining safe and resilient operations?*
- *What were the principal lessons learned?*
- *What improvements in preparedness, coordination and information sharing remain necessary?*
- *How can cooperation among Civil Aviation Authorities and other aviation stakeholders across the wider region be strengthened?*
- *What practical recommendations should guide future crisis preparedness and aviation resilience?*

Format: Short introductory interventions followed by a moderated high-level exchange.

15:45–16:15: Coffee Break

16:15–16:45 | Conference Conclusions

Presentation of the Nicosia Aviation Safety Recommendations

The Conference Rapporteur will present the principal conclusions and practical recommendations emerging from the discussions, with particular emphasis on:

- Aviation safety
- Crisis preparedness
- Operational resilience
- Business continuity
- Regional cooperation
- Future collaborative initiatives

16:45–17:00: Closing Remarks