



THE NATO CLIMATE CHANGE
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MONTREAL
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SOMMET
SUR LA SÉCURITÉ CLIMATIQUE DE
MONTREAL

MATKO BARIŠIĆ

Challenge Manager

[NATO DIANA](#)

Matko Barišić is a Croatian Doctor of Science (awarded by the University of Zagreb) of electrical engineering, born in 1980, specializing in topics of robotics, autonomy and maritime operations. He is in a science, technology and innovation senior professional with 22 years of career experience, which combines 8 years in academia, 12 years multinational industrial R&D, and recently NATO. As of 2026, he serves as a NATO DIANA Challenge Manager in the North American office in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.



His expertise covers multi-domain autonomous systems, and the collaborative and teaming approaches to sensing, battlespace awareness, and effect, with a special focus on the underwater environment in GNSS- and RF-spectrum-denial conditions. His secondary area of expertise is energy and power systems for maritime and naval assets, and his tertiary that of ruggedization, winterization, and resilience of technologies for deployment in the High North.

He has previously served as the Head of the Global Marine Software Development Centre and then as the Global R&D Programmes and Partnerships Manager in ABB Marine & Ports, as well as—in parallel—the Global Division Patent Officer. His area of professional focus for the last 12 years has been (commercial; large) ship autonomy and techno-economics of autonomous shipping. He is an author of dozens of journal and conference papers and several book chapters on collaborative maritime autonomy, as well as a holder of several patents on specific electrical propulsion concepts in ice-breaking vessels. He is an experienced practitioner of the Gate model of project management, Agile methodologies, and visual management techniques. In the last 12 years he has held a progression of increasingly



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authoritative and responsible roles of direct people, budget, and process management and ownership in multi-national industrial R&D settings. Technically he is professionally skilled in SQL, Python, EBASE, IEC-61131-3 and EPLAN, at a trainer/coach level in Matlab, Simulink and NetLogo, and at a train-the-trainers level in Microsoft Office and VBA.