

HIGH LEVEL EU CONFERENCE

**THE EUROPEAN DEFENCE FUND – DRIVING FACTOR
FOR DEFENCE RESEARCH AND INNOVATION**

NEW WAYS – NEW MEANS – NEW FUNDS

VIENNA, 2 OCTOBER 2018



CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Registration: 08:30 – 09:30

Conference: 09:30 – 17:30

CONFERENCE OPENING AND WELCOME ADDRESS

Mario Kunasek, Minister of Defence, Austria

SETTING THE SCENE – THE POLITICAL CONTEXT

From Vision to Action – The European Defence Fund and its Added Value for the EU

Lowri Evans, Director General European Commission, Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs

The European Defence Fund – The Parliaments View

Prof. Zdzisław Krasnodębski, Vice President and Member of the European Parliament, Rapporteur EDF

Turning EU Military Level of Ambition into Reality

General Mikhail Kostarakos, Chairman, European Union Military Committee (EUMC)

Defence Capability Needs & Added Value of the EDF – EDA perspective and contribution

Jorge Domecq, Chief Executive, European Defence Agency (EDA)

PANEL 1: THE EUROPEAN DEFENCE FUND – THE COMMISSION'S PROPOSAL

This panel will give an in-depth view of the European Defence Fund by giving attention to its objectives, design and content. In particular it will focus on the integrative approach of combining research and capability development into one single fund. This will enable participants to get a deeper insight into the basic concept and the current legislative proposal from the European Commission for a regulation of the EDF. The opportunity to reflect on the proposal by pointing out the potentials and challenges from the viewpoint of different stakeholders will also provide valuable feedback for the ongoing discussion process on the European level.

Panelists **Lowri Evans**, Director General, Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW)

Jan Pie, Secretary General, AeroSpace and Defence Industries Association of Europe (ASD)

Frank Treppe, President, European Association of Research and Technology Organisations (EARTO)

Olli Ruutu, Deputy Chief Executive, European Defence Agency (EDA)

Member States Representative (MoD R&T Director) ... tbd

Moderator **Daniel Fiott**, EU Institute for Security Studies (EUISS)

PANEL 2: TOWARDS A COMPREHENSIVE FUND
CONSISTENCY BETWEEN RESEARCH AND CAPABILITY DEVELOPMENT IN PRACTICE

The EDF is designed to support the whole development chain from research to acquisition, yet the integration of research and development phases presents new opportunities as well as challenges to stakeholders. This panel will therefore focus on the interaction and consistency between research and capability development. Special attention will be given to the potential impact of capability development on the research phase. Furthermore it also aims at supporting stakeholders to develop new ideas and strategies on how to deal with the unprecedented integrated approach of the EDF and benefit from it.

Panelists **Philippe Brunet**, Director, Space Policy, Copernicus and Defence, DG
GROW

Denis Roger, Director, European Synergies & Innovation, European
Defence Agency (EDA)

Paul de Krom, CEO, TNO

Katarina Björklund, Vice President, Group Strategy, Saab AB

Norbert Haslacher, CEO, Frequentis

Moderator **Dick Zandee**, Clingendael Institute

PRESENTATION: SMART USE OF FINANCE FOR EU DEFENCE

ECOFIN Representative ...tbd

OUTLOOK:
THE EDF'S ADDED VALUE FOR EUROPE AND THE MEMBER STATES' PERSPECTIVE

Wolfgang Polt, Director Policies, Joanneum Research

MS Minister or State Secretary ... tbd

Karin Kneissl, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Austria ... tbd

POST-CONFERENCE SOCIAL EVENT

Begin: 18:30

Winery Fuhrgassl-Huber, Neustift am Walde 68, 1190 Vienna

This event will be organized in cooperation with the Austrian Security and Defence Industry Group. Transport is available, for details please refer to our website.



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The proposal for the next Multiannual Financial Framework for the first time includes an overarching instrument to support European defence research and capability development, the European Defence Fund (EDF). The EDF is one of several initiatives launched by the European Union to boost and strengthen European security and defence, such as the Coordinated Annual Review of Defence (CARD) and the Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO).

The European Commission's proposal dedicates a EUR 13 billion budget for the EDF to support cross-border cooperative partnerships on defence research and development (R&D). It aims to boost common defence capability priorities identified by the Member States, notably those defined in the revised Capability Development Plan (CDP) and the Overarching Research Agenda (OSRA). The Fund will foster the competitiveness, efficiency and capacity to innovate the European defence industry.

During the Austrian EU Presidency the negotiations regarding the EDF are entering a decisive phase. To contribute to the ongoing policy development process, Austria is hosting a high-level conference to discuss the European Commission's legislative proposal.

This event offers a timely opportunity and ideal platform for a comprehensive discourse between the various stakeholders. It is also designed to focus on opportunities and challenges of this unprecedented initiative and the development of potential strategies to deal with it.

Further details can be found on our website www.edf-vienna2018.at.

The main conference goals are to...

- ❖ Present the reasoning behind the Commission's ambition to strengthen European defence and the European Defence Technological and Industrial Base (EDTIB) with the current legislative proposal for the EDF.
- ❖ Highlight the contribution of defence R&D, strengthened by the EDF, in preparing Europe's armed forces for their future tasks.
- ❖ Analyse the potential and opportunities of the integration of defence research and capability development in a single programme and identify how this can have a positive impact on the European defence industrial cycle.
- ❖ Explore challenges for stakeholders as well as the potential strategies that will enable them to benefit from the new initiatives.
- ❖ Address opportunities, initiatives and experiences to set up competitive and innovative defence ecosystems across different sectors.
- ❖ Outline the synergies between the European Defence Fund and other EU instruments.
- ❖ Review the Fund's focus on supporting SMEs and examine the opportunities for them to benefit from the Fund.



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Austrian
Presidency
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Council of the
European Union

