

# EDA AT A GLANCE



## A reinforced mission

With the implementation of the EU Global Strategy (2016), defence cooperation has moved to the top of the European agenda and with it the European Defence Agency's role in support of Member States.

In 2017, Member States reinforced the Agency's mission as the:

1. main intergovernmental **prioritisation instrument** at EU level in support of defence capability development, with the Capability Development Plan (CDP) and the Overarching Strategic Research Agenda (OSRA);
2. preferred **cooperation forum** and management support structure at EU level for participating Member States to engage in technology and capability development activities. In 2018, the Agency manages 97 ad hoc Research & Technology (R&T) and capability projects, 17 other programmes and more than 190 other activities related to capability development, R&T and the defence industry;
3. **interface** coordinating military views in wider EU policies to the benefit of the Defence community and a **central operator** with regard to EU funded defence-related activities, such as the European Commission's Preparatory Action on Defence Research (PADR) and the Consultation Forum for Sustainable Energy in Defence.

## Facts & figures



**set up in 2004** as an agency of the Council of the EU, based in Brussels;



**27 Member States** (all EU countries except Denmark);



**+ 150 staff** plus network of some 2,500 national experts;



Administrative Arrangements with Norway, Switzerland, Serbia, Ukraine;



Managed by Chief Executive **Jorge Domecq** (since 2015) under the authority of **Federica Mogherini**, the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy.

## Areas of activities include:

### Defence Research

- o EDA has 12 technical Capability Technology groups (CapTechs) gathering experts from Member States, industry and research organisations;
- o Since 2004, EDA has managed close to 200 Research & Technology (R&T) projects, worth over €1,1 billion.

### Air-to-Air Refuelling (AAR)

- o EDA initiated and supports the Multinational Multirole Tanker Transport Fleet (MMF);
- o it supports AAR training exercises;
- o and promotes the optimization of existing AAR capabilities.

### Cyber Defence

- o Main focus is on research & training and cyber support to operations;
- o Cyber ranges federation and cyber awareness packages developed for CSDP headquarters;
- o EDA produced a feasibility study and supported the establishment of the EU Cyber Education, Training & Exercise Platform in the European Security & Defence College in 2018.

### Counter Improvised Explosive Devices (IED)

- o EDA procured two deployable exploitation capabilities, delivered in 2017;
- o Experts are trained to staff deployable laboratories in military operations;
- o European Centre for Manual Neutralisation Capabilities opened in February 2018.

### Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS)

- o EDA focus is on RPAS air traffic insertion (ATI) through R&T, development of a community of military users and creation of RPAS ATI Industry Exchange Platform;
- o EDA developed and deployed RPAS training simulators across European military schools;
- o EDA supports Medium Altitude Long Endurance MALE RPAS programme run by DE, FR, IT, ES.

### Military Mobility

- o Since 2012, EDA has worked on projects dedicated to removing obstacles to movement of troops and assets: the EU Multimodal Transport Hub network and the Diplomatic Clearances Technical Arrangement project;
- o EDA ad hoc working group delivered a roadmap in 2018 as the basis for the EU Action Plan on Military Mobility, identifying tasks, responsibilities and timelines in 4 areas: legal, customs, military requirements including infrastructure, cross-border military permissions and will continue to support this work.

### GOVSATCOM

- o EDA's "EU SatCom market" project provides flexible commercial SatCom and CIS services for Member States, Athena Mechanism and CSDP military and civilian missions;
- o EDA launched Govsatcom demonstration project to show benefits of Pooling & Sharing in June 2017, with first services to be provided in second half 2018.

## Maritime Surveillance

- o EDA facilitates the enhancement of Navies' recognized maritime picture through the MARSUR Networking (18 Member States);
- o The MARSUR technology was employed during a capability demonstration in support of the CSDP Operation SOPHIA in 2017.

## Rotary and Fixed Wing Exercises & Training

- o EDA's various European Air Transport Fleet (EATF) courses and exercises have trained some 125 crews and close to 50 instructors since 2012;
- o Initiated and developed in EDA, the permanent European Tactical Airlift Centre (ETAC) opened in Zaragoza/Spain in 2017;
- o 14 Member States participate in EDA's Helicopter Exercise Programme (HEP), which has since 2009 trained 447 crews (with 243 helicopters and over 14,000 participants). The programme is set to evolve into a future permanent Multinational Helicopter Training Centre.

## Military Airworthiness

- o EDA develops common safety regulations for European military aircraft;
- o EDA generates important time and cost savings for governments & industry during development of new aircrafts.

## Support to Operations

- o EDA offers projects and expertise to CSDP operations: cyber defence awareness, HR management software, maritime surveillance network, contracting support, etc.;
- o EDA's 'GeohuB', a software tool for safe sharing of geospatial information, was deployed to EUNAVFOR MED in Rome (HQ).

## Defence Industry

- o EDA developed structured dialogue & enhanced engagement with industry in the following priority areas: capability development, R&T, Single European Sky, Key Strategic Activities;
- o EDA also supports industry access to information, business opportunities and EU tools (including funding) with special focus on SMEs;
- o Future plans include industry engagement in military exercises.

## Interface with EU policies

- o EDA runs the EU Commission's Consultation Forum for Sustainable Energy in Defence;
- o EDA helps Member States to identify & minimise impact of REACH (chemicals) on defence;
- o EDA acts as military interface for the Single European Sky (SES) implementation and supports Member States in areas such as Space, Maritime Security and Circular Economy.

# Ensuring coherence

The Agency is involved in major EU defence initiatives to ensure **coherence** and a **capability driven approach**: collaborative projects must lead to a coherent set of usable, deployable, interoperable and sustainable capabilities and forces.

## Capability Development Plan (CDP) revision

- o EDA produces updated CDPs since 2008, in close conjunction with Member States and the EU Military Committee (EUMC), and supported by the European Union Military Staff (EUMS). The aim is to provide an evolving picture of European defence capabilities over time, to make recommendations about future needs and to help Member States' planners identify priorities and opportunities for cooperation;
- o EDA will present a revised 2018 CDP in spring, with updated priorities reflecting the new level of ambition set out in the 2016 EU Global Strategy.

## Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO)

- o EDA acts as the PESCO secretariat, together with the European External Action Service (EEAS) including the EUMS;
- o EDA serves as a platform where PESCO participating Member States can identify, assess and consolidate possible projects – guaranteeing focus on capability priorities and avoidance of unnecessary duplication with existing initiatives;
- o EDA supports the practical PESCO project implementation, at Member States' request;
- o EDA plays a leading role in the annual assessment of PESCO participating Member States' contributions and respect of the binding commitments.

## Coordinated Annual Review on Defence (CARD)

- o EDA acts as the CARD secretariat, together with the EU Military Staff (EUMS);
- o EDA is responsible for gathering information from Member States on defence plans, including spending;
- o EDA provides Ministers with a comprehensive CARD analysis report, including concrete recommendations for further defence cooperation.

## European Defence Fund (EDF)

In preparation of the European Defence Fund, EDA is already working on:

- o the Fund's 'research window' with the Preparatory Action on Defence Research (PADR), contributing to the elaboration of the work programme (based on the CDP), implementing it on behalf of the European Commission and seeking an uptake of the results in future capability development programmes;
- o the Fund's 'capability window', contributing to the work programme of the European Defence Industrial Development Programme (EDIDP) and supporting Member States in preparing projects they intend to propose for EU financial support.