



# TOWARDS A STRATEGIC COMPASS

The EU is facing new and increasing threats and challenges. To counter them, protect its citizens, and enhance its strategic autonomy to become a stronger global partner, the EU needs to define what kind of security and defence actor it wants to be.

## ADDRESSING THREATS TO THE EU'S SECURITY

As a first step to determine the direction of travel, the EU has conducted for the first time a comprehensive analysis on key threats and challenges to Europe, including:



**Global and regional threats**



**Conflicts in our neighbourhood**



**Challenges by state actors**



**Threats by non-state actors**

The Threat Analysis is a classified intelligence report identifying key trends:



**Global level:** slowdown of globalisation, growing economic rivalry between global powers, climate change and competition for resources, migratory pressures, and threats to the multilateral system.



**Regional level:** regional instability, conflict, state fragility, inter-state tensions, external influences, destabilising impact of non-state actors.



**Threats against the EU:** state and non-state actors targeting the EU with hybrid tools, including disruptive technologies, disinformation, and other non-military sources of influence; terrorist threat.

## DEVELOPING A STRATEGIC COMPASS TO GUIDE OUR ACTIONS

The Strategic Compass will help strengthen a common European security and defence culture and help define the right objectives and concrete goals for our policies.

The Strategic Compass will address four different, inter-linked areas:



**Crisis management missions**



**Resilience**



**Capabilities and Instruments**



**Working with partners**

**JUNE 2020**

Tasking by Council

**1<sup>ST</sup> HALF OF 2021**

Strategic dialogue with Member States

**EARLY 2022**

Adoption of Strategic Compass

**NOVEMBER 2020**

Threat analysis

**2<sup>ND</sup> HALF OF 2021**

Development of Strategic Compass