



EUROPEAN NETWORK OF  
DEFENCE-RELATED REGIONS

# ENDR Newsletter

September 2021

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**Commission kick-starts EDF with €1.2 billion**

**[EDF Info Day and Networking Event on 15-17 September 2021](#)**

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#drones#ENDR #EDF  
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BOOSTING  
INNOVATION &  
STRATEGIC  
AUTONOMY



#EUDefenceIndustry

EUROPEAN  
DEFENCE FUND

FOR A EUROPE THAT PROTECTS

€8 billion  
2021-2027

### Commission kick-starts EDF with €1.2 billion

On 30 June 2021 the Commission approved a package of decisions supporting the competitiveness and innovation capacity of the EU defence industry. The adoption of the first European Defence Fund (EDF) annual work programme paved the way to the immediate launch of 23 calls for proposals for a total of €1.2 billion of EU funding in support of collaborative defence research and development projects.

Furthermore, under the EDF's precursor programme, the European Defence Industry Development Programme (EDIDP), 26 new projects with a budget of more than €158 million were selected for funding. In addition, two major capability development projects received a directly awarded grant of €137 million under the EDIDP.

[Read more](#)

More info on the [package](#)

Find out more about the [EDF calls](#)

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The banner features the European Union flag and logo on the left. Below it is the text 'THE EUROPEAN DEFENCE FUND' and 'A Building Block for EU Strategic Autonomy'. To the right, it says 'INFORMATION DAY & NETWORKING EVENT for the EDF 2021 Calls for Proposals' and 'Online event, 15 & 16-17 September 2021'. There are also social media handles: '#EUDefenceIndustry' and 'DG DEFIS #StrongerTogether'. The banner includes several hexagonal icons: a globe, a gear, a target, and a brain with circuitry.

## EDF Info Day and Networking Event on 15-17 September 2021

Following the publication of the European Defence Fund (EDF) 2021 calls for proposals, the European Commission will organise its first information day on 15 September followed by networking sessions on 16-17 September.

This event will be an opportunity to learn about the context, objectives and participation modalities of the EDF, and to network with potential partners.

Potential applicants from public and private entities interested in the EDF calls for proposals are welcome to attend.

[For more info and registration](#)

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## Defence sector contributing to regional development

A new study revealed that the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) have supported 972 defence related and dual use projects during the 2014-

2020 programming period. The funded projects cover a broad range of activities, including research, innovation, technological development, facilities, infrastructure, training, business support, internationalisation and exports, and involve a range of players in the supply chain from major multinational firms to micro-SMEs.

The total amount of funds allocated to the development of these projects amounted to 1.87 billion euros, of which 1.01 billion euros has been financed by ESIF (in particular the European Regional Development Fund and the European Social Fund).

The project activities align closely with the policy objectives of the previous and forthcoming ESIF programming period, indicating that the defence sector can play a significant role in enabling the delivery of these policy objectives through accessing ESIF funding.

[Read more](#)

[Brochure](#) with practical tips on how to access ESIF

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## Four ENDR Conferences this autumn

A series of hybrid European conferences are planned to take place in the framework of the ENDR during autumn 2021. These events will involve a wide range of participants from defence/security-related businesses, national and European authorities, knowledge institutions and cluster organisations in the security and defence sector. To find more information about the programme and registration, check out the link below.

### Calendar:

- European Conference: Drones And Counter Unmanned Aerial Systems For Defence, Le Havre, France (**7-8 October '21**)
- European Conference: Advanced Materials For Defence Applications, Gothenburg, Sweden (**13 October '21**)
- European Conference: Future Skills For Europe's Aerospace And Defence Industry, Rzeszow, Poland (**21-22 October '21**)
- European Conference: The Soldier Of The Future, Interconnection Between Defence, Cyber And Space Technologies, Copenhagen, Denmark (**9-10 November '21**)

[More information](#)



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