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ENDR Newsletter

March 2022

In short:

[Commission unveils significant actions to contribute to European Defence](#)

[SME Handbook on the Defence Transfers Directive available in all EU languages](#)



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Commission unveils significant actions to contribute to European Defence, boost innovation and address strategic dependencies

On the 15th of February 2022, the Commission announced [a number of Commission-led initiatives](#) in areas critical for defence and security within the European Union. These comprise its Contribution to **incentivise joint procurement** in the defence sector; and [a roadmap on critical technologies for security and defence](#).

In the upcoming years, the Commission will explore a number of instruments to incentivise the joint procurement of defence capabilities developed in a collaborative way within the EU, including by:

- proposing a Value Added Tax (VAT) waiver by early 2023
- setting up new financing solutions by mid 2023, and
- potentially reviewing the European Defence Fund bonus mechanisms.

The **Observatory of Critical Technologies**, currently being set up by the Commission, will:

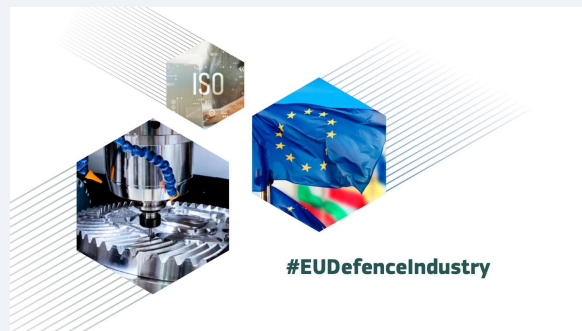
Identify, monitor and assess critical technologies for the **space, defence and related civil sectors**, as well as technology gaps, root causes of strategic dependencies and vulnerabilities.

In 2023, present an **approach for encouraging dual-use research and innovation** at EU level, targeting goods, technology and software that can be used for both civil and military purposes.

Support innovation and entrepreneurship in security and defence through a number of tools

(e.g. incubator, investment blending facility, etc.),
and by creating an **EU Defence Innovation Scheme** that brings these efforts under one umbrella.

[Read here the FACTPAGE](#)



SME Handbook on the Defence Transfers Directive available in all EU languages

The approximately **2,500 small and medium-sized enterprises** (SMEs) operating in the **European defence** sector are a critically important part of supply chains. SMEs active in the defence industry are **key enablers of innovation and growth**, able to conduct essential research, technology and innovation activities.

The Directive 2009/43/EC, known as the Defence Transfers Directive, aims to **simplify the rules for transfers of defence equipment between European countries** to ensure the proper functioning of the internal market and make procedures less burdensome for the industry, especially for SMEs.

The **Defence Transfers Directive Handbook for SMEs** provides SMEs active in the

defence sector with an easy to understand introduction to the Transfers Directive and useful advice on how to make the most of it.

**Download the Defence Transfers
Directive
- Handbook for SMEs -**

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