



Batteries at the core of European sovereignty

EU funding opportunities for defence/dual-use R&D

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- **Battery technology in defence & EDF-related actions**
- **The European Defence Fund in the context of EU R&D funding**
- **EU defence and dual-use funding: What comes next?**

Battery technology is defence technology

- **Batteries are used across defence application domains (e.g. logistics). Improvements in unmanned aerial/ground/naval systems are likely to increase demand even further.**
- **Battery endurance is key for effective unmanned systems (e.g. drones).**
- **Developing sovereignty and fostering innovation in battery technology is crucial to European security.**
- **The EU is recognising the importance of defence/dual-use technology and is increasing investment in this area for years to come**

>>> The European Defence Fund: Powering Research & Innovation

Boosting defence R&D in **critical defence technologies** and preparing the ground for next generation defence systems



Budget: **EUR 7.3 billion** (2021-2027)



5th year of EDF implementation



EUR 5.4 billion already committed to EDF



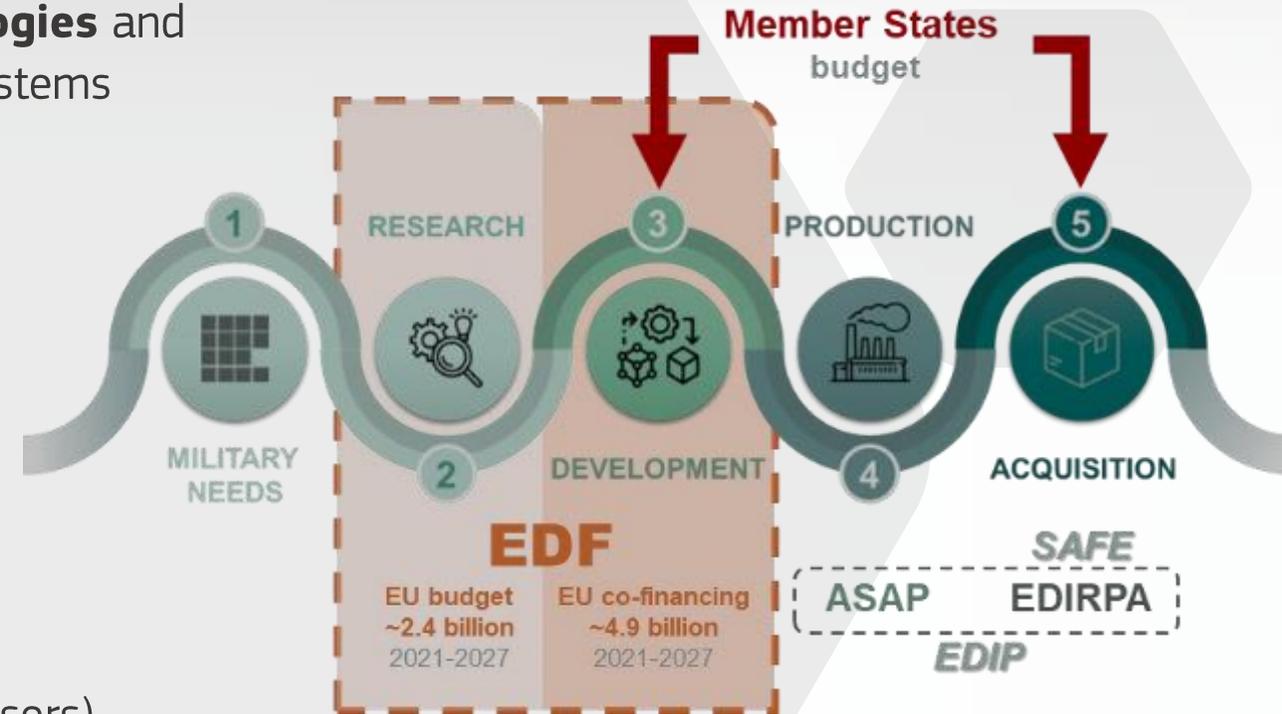
Portfolio of **224 projects** to date (+62 from precursors)



€1 invested → **over €4.5 return** by 2040



EU in the **Top 3 defence R&D investors** in Europe



EDF Categories of Actions

Addressed by annual work programmes & calls for proposals

-  **Medical response, CBRN & human factors**
-  **Information superiority**
-  **Sensors**
-  **Cyber**
-  **Space**
-  **Digital transformation**
-  **Energy resilience & environmental transition**
-  **Materials and components**

-  **Air combat**
-  **Air and Missile defence**
-  **Ground combat**
-  **Force protection and mobility**
-  **Naval combat**
-  **Underwater warfare**
-  **Simulation and training**

Horizontal categories

 **Disruptive technologies**

 **Innovative defence technologies (SMEs)**





EU Defence Innovation Scheme (EUDIS)

Shaping the future of European defence from ideas to impact

Discover EUDIS

EUDIS: enabled by the European Defence Fund (EDF) to strengthen defence innovation in the European Union.

Target group: small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), including start-ups, scale-ups and non-traditional suppliers in defence

Our objective: accelerate defence innovation, broaden the innovation base and de-risk high-potential ideas

Funding & Budget

€1.5 billion until 2027

On average 20% of annual **EDF Work Programme**

What we offer

Support in various forms for the selected participants, such as business coaching, matchmaking events, an accelerator.

Additionally, we have **EUDIS hackathons** and try to facilitate access to **financing through the EIF**.

The EDF & Battery technology

Battery technology is a horizontal technology relevant across many EDF calls (Energy & Environment, Air Combat, Ground Combat, etc.). Some example EDF-supported projects:

NOMAD – Supporting the development and validation of European energy storage technology, funded with 20M€.

INDY – Developing a roadmap for future energy independent military camps, funded with 14M€.

SMALL UAS – Unmanned Aerial Systems using hybrid engines with advanced battery systems, funded with 11M€ in EDF 2024.

Future funding: The funding for research into defence and dual-use technology will increase over the coming years, with more projects in the area of battery technologies (with applications such as grid resilience or drones) to be expected. Applications to current and future funding programs are encouraged.

How can I apply to the EDF?

- Calls are published once a year, structured by themes
- Consortia with members from at least three Member States + Norway (only two necessary for disruptive technologies calls)
- Information online or the EDF Info Days in Spring 2026



Defence & the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) 2028-34

Increases in funding for defence and dual-use technologies

€865 billion – almost half the coming MFF – to help close the gap between Europe's regions

€409 billion to make Europe more competitive in the global economy

€49 billion to invest in education (*Erasmus+*) and promote democratic values (*AgoraEU*)

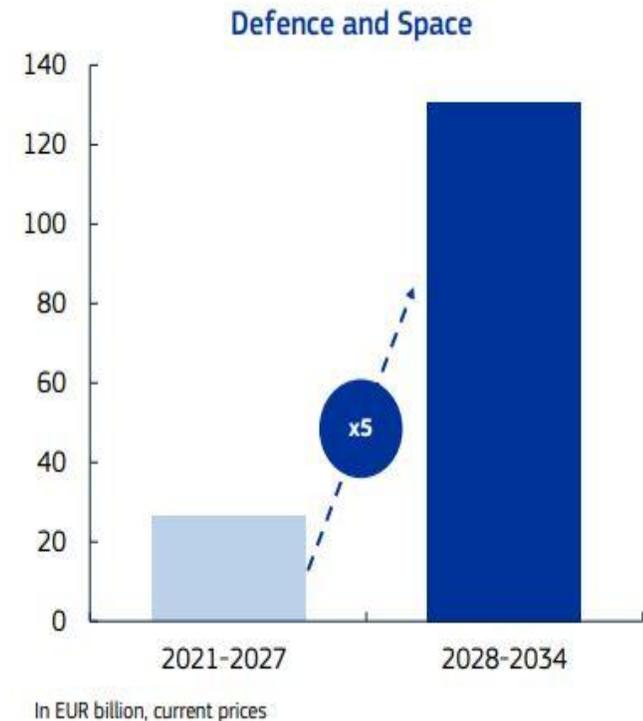
€200 billion to build stronger partnerships with the rest of the world

€ 131B for Defence & Space

What is the Commission proposing?

To strengthen Europe's security capabilities and support critical infrastructure:

- 131 billion for Defence and Space in the European Competitiveness Fund (x5 times).
- Support throughout the investment journey via the European Competitiveness Fund.
- A major boost for cybersecurity, dual-use infrastructure and defence.



>>> Zoom in: EU framework programme for research and innovation (FP10/HE)

The next research and innovation framework programme is
€175 BN

4 pillars:

Pillar I

'Excellent Science'

e.g. ERC, MSCA, JRC

€44 BN

Pillar II

'Competitiveness
and Society'

e.g. defence and
space supporting the
ECF

€75.8 BN

Pillar III

'Innovation'

e.g. European
Innovation Council

€38.7 BN

Pillar IV

'European
Research Area'

e.g. EU research
infrastructures

€16.2 BN

Focus on DUAL- USE: EIC can support the 'DARPA-style challenges with focus on defence', for highly innovative and non-bankable startups, and SMEs

THANK YOU!