

Industrial Defence Policies in Europe

Ambitions for the defence sector

4 December 2014 – Egmont Palace Brussels

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Defence issues have recently featured prominently on the European agenda. This was underscored in December 2013 by the dedication of a European Council to Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP), for the first time in six years. European Institutions and Member States seem ready to act to sustain this very specific domain. The defence market is not like other markets: the defence demand is driven solely by governments, while the defence supply consists of a limited number of companies providing high level of technological innovation. Therefore, the impact of national and international ambitions - coupled with the need for operational autonomy - drives all initiatives in the sector, making it a challenge for the elaboration of policies at the European level. While it remains difficult to predict what the European defence and security sector will look like in the next 20 to 30 years it is clear that its added value in terms of autonomy - but also in terms of economical and social benefits - is key for European societies. In this context, this year's conference aims at stimulating the debate to define our level of ambition for European defence and, as a result, to adapt the Defence Technological and Industrial Base (DTIB) that will be key to maintain capabilities, technologies and jobs in Europe.

❖ **9:00-9:15 - Welcome address by Sven Biscop, Egmont Institute**

❖ **9:15-11:00 - Plenary Session I: Where do we stand? Europe's ambitions**

High level speakers from the European Institutions, NATO and Member States will address the audience and introduce this day of debates. Defence in Europe will be looked through various perspectives. In the run-up of a second Defence Council to be held in June 2015, which conclusions from the December Council have been put in motion? What are the key challenges that the new European Parliament members, Commissioners and High Representative will face in the near future? From a Transatlantic perspective, the NATO Summit has redefined the position and role of the Alliance, reminding its European members of the importance of burden sharing and collective defence. The set-up of an ACSA and on-going negotiations around the TTIP will also have a strong impact on the transatlantic relationship, and are carefully monitored by all actors. Amongst these, Member States will have a crucial role to play in defining the future of Defence in Europe, and Europe's ambitions.

■ **9:15-9:40 - An introduction to the European geopolitical stage: is the Defence industry in Europe fit to ensure the security of its citizens?**

- Michel Foucher, Chair of Applied Geopolitics in the College of World Studies (Paris), former Ambassador, Advisor to CEIS

■ **9:40-10:00 - Key note panel**

TBC

- Tomasz Siemoniak, Minister of Defence, Poland (TBC)
- Ursula von der Leyen, Minister of Defence, Germany (TBC)

■ **10:00-11:00 - Debate**

Confirmed speakers

- Pierre Vimont, Executive Secretary General, European External Action Service
- Claude-France Arnould, Chief Executive, European Defence Agency
- Trevor Taylor, Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies, RUSI
- Eduardo Rihan-Cypel, Member of Parliament, Member of the Parliamentary Defence Commission, France

Moderator: Axel Dyèvre, Director Defence & Security, CEIS

❖ **11:00-11:30 – Coffee break**

❖ **11:30-13:00 - Focus sessions**

■ **Focus Session I – Defining the scope of Defence Industry in Europe**

In the past months, it has been acknowledged that an operational CSDP needs a strong European Defence Technological and Industrial Base (EDTIB). Europe's ambitions rely on a more integrated, sustainable, innovative and competitive EDTIB. Indeed, the European defence industry contributes to the goal of non-dependency and to the global economy with important technological spill-over effects for civilian industries. Nevertheless, this ambition relies on a concept that has yet to be defined. Discussions around the definition of the EDTIB, its actors and its scope are crucial to develop a strategy for the defence industry and the security of the supply chain at a European level and to preserve the autonomy of Europe. Member States will need to agree on a common definition, used by all. Such a definition will contribute to improve the effectiveness of the sector and will increase the impact of European initiatives while maximizing the return on public investment.

Confirmed speakers

- Slawomir Tokarski, Head of Unit Defence, DG ENTR, European Commission
- Col. Grzegorz Liszcz, Deputy Director of Armaments, Policy Department, Ministry of Defence, Poland
- Daniel Argenson, Armament Counsellor, French Representation to the EU and to NATO
- Krzysztof Soloch, Associate research fellow, Fondation pour la Recherche Stratégique, France

Moderator: Matthieu Anquez, Senior Consultant, CEIS

■ **Focus Session II – Developing capabilities in Europe: what strategy and what challenges?**

In its July 2013 Communication, the European Commission highlighted the need to address the full range of capability needs to meet the many challenges Europe is facing. At the same time, the European Defence Agency (EDA) launched four programmes focusing on key capabilities needed at the European level. This focus session will be the occasion to assess the progress of these programmes and the key challenges they will face in the next months. In addition, the Commission can also make an important contribution in the field of capabilities, notably

through the implementation of financial incentives. Such a role will be discussed. Finally, Member States should also discuss the possible adoption of a new Capability Development Plan, which would lay out a genuine strategy for an industrial policy in Europe. Synergies with the NATO Defense Planning Process should be found to avoid duplicating efforts.

Confirmed speakers

- Graham Muir, Head of Unit Strategy and Policy, European Defence Agency
- Col. Roberto Chivilo, Head of Office for industrial policy, Ministry of Defence, Italy
- Daniel Fiott, Research fellow, Institute For European Studies - VUB, Belgium
- Christian Mölling, Research Fellow, German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP)

Moderator: Frederik Schumann, Senior Consultant, CEIS

■ Focus Session III – Ensuring the future of Defence industries in Europe

One of the consequences of the economic crisis was a strong cut in national budgets. In most European Member States, defence budgets were severely impacted. R&D budgets in particular have suffered from these decisions. The future of Defence industries in Europe might be threatened, as today's investments in research will contribute to developing tomorrow's capabilities. The European Union expressed its will to step in by supporting research efforts in the future. Thus, the European Commission will launch a Preparatory Action for defence R&T, and has widened the scope of structural funds to the defence sector. If successful, these initiatives will promote synergies with national research efforts and encourage industrial cooperation. As for jobs in the defence sector, some areas are already experiencing skills shortages. Last but not least, to meet these challenges, requirements must also be harmonized, and demand consolidated amongst European Member States.

Confirmed speakers

- Kenny Maclure, Deputy Head, Defence Equipment and Support, International Relations Group, Ministry of Defence, United Kingdom
- Denis Roger, Director European Synergies and Innovation, European Defence Agency
- Ulf Hammarström, Director General, Swedish Defence and Security Export Agency
- Jan Joel Andersson, Senior Analyst, European Union Institute for Security Studies

Moderator: Pierre Goetz, Senior Consultant, CEIS

❖ 13:00-14:30 – Lunch break

❖ 14:30-16:15 - Closing Plenary Session – Where are we going?

Member States have shown their intent to tackle defence issues in a more comprehensive and active way. In addition, European Institutions have paved the way for concrete initiatives through the publication of Communications, road maps and the launch of capability programmes. The challenge ahead of Europe is now to put words into motion and to identify whether the willingness is there to sustain the right level of strategic autonomy in Europe. One key challenge for Member States will also be to truly commit to their declarations by dedicating sufficient financial resources for defence. The path to stronger Defence industries in Europe also relies on ensuring access to raw materials. Indeed, access to raw materials is an increasing challenge for the European economy.



*This conference is co-organized by CEIS
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Finally, will Member States and European Institutions find a balance in their policies and actions to achieve commonly this objective? It is now time to see if defence really matters.

■ **The importance of raw materials for defence industries**

- Gwenole Cozigou, Director, Resources Based, Manufacturing and Consumer Goods industries, DG Enterprise and Industry, European Commission

■ **What the future holds for Defence industries in Europe**

Confirmed speakers

- Michèle Alliot-Marie, MEP, former Minister of Defence, France
- Adm. Xavier Païtard, CEO Senior Defence Advisor, MBDA
- Col. Philippe Adam, Deputy Director Euro-Atlantic Affairs, Delegation for Strategic Affairs, France
- Olivier Zajec, Director of Operations, CEIS

Moderator: Jo Coelmont, Senior Associate Fellow, Egmont Institute

TBC

- Ioan Mircea Pascu, Vice President, European Parliament

❖ **16:15-17:30 – Key note speaker(s) and Farewell Address**

TBC

- Elżbieta Bieńkowska, Commissioner Internal Market, Industry, and Entrepreneurship, European Commission