

EU Defence Readiness Roadmap

Visual by the Centre for Security, Diplomacy and Strategy

Q4 (Oct-Dec, 2025)

2025

- Endorse the European Drone Defence Initiative flagship
- Endorse Eastern Flank Watch flagship
- Endorse the European Air Shield flagship
- Endorse the European Space Shield flagship
- Adopt the European Defence Industry Programme
- Present the European Defence Transformation Roadmap
- Establish Tech Alliances for Defence
- Adopt Reparation Loan for Ukraine
- Adopt the Ukraine Support Instrument within EDIP
- Deliver the 2 million artillery ammunition initiative
- Finalise adoption of the Defence Readiness Omnibus
- Present Military Mobility package

Q1 (Jan-Mar, 2026)

2026

- European Drone Defence Initiative launched
- Eastern Flank Watch launched
- First EDIP calls released
- First SAFE pre-financing payments made
- Set up Capability Coalitions with lead/co-lead nations
- Coordinate IRIS², EDF, EDIP work programmes
- Include Ukraine in capability coalitions
- Launch EU-Ukraine Drone Alliance
- Assess additional financial incentives to support Ukraine
- Proposals to provide Ukraine with more military support
- Identify and prioritise Military Mobility hotspot projects
- Create € 1 billion equity "Fund of Funds" for defence

Q2 (Apr-Jun, 2026)

- Launch European Space Shield
- Launch European Air Shield
- Launch all priority area capabilities
- Collect data on EU defence industrial critical capacities
- Publish Action Plan on strategic dependencies

Q3 (Jul-Sep, 2026)

- Present overview of defence industrial ramp-up
- Hold first EU Defence Industrial Summit
- Expand capability coalition dialogue with industry

Q4 (Oct-Dec, 2026)

- European Drone Defence Initiative initial capacity
- Eastern Flank Watch initial capacity
- EDF and EDIP to prioritise Air and Missile Defence
- Reskill 200,000 employees in the defence industry
- Roll out "Brave Tech EU" funding with Ukraine
- Finalise Single Market defence directives revision
- Co-legislators adopt the Military Mobility package

Q4 (Oct-Dec, 2027)

2027

- European Drone Defence Initiative fully functional
- Competitiveness Fund adopted
- New Military Mobility window in CEF adopted
- New MFF instruments approved and operational
- 40% of defence procurement is joint procurement

Q3 (Jul-Sep, 2028)

2028

- 50% of SAFE is disbursed

Q4 (Oct-Dec, 2028)

- Eastern Flank Watch functional
- Receive all SAFE-funded procurements
- Ensure projects, contracts and financing for critical capability shortfalls placed

Read
"Preserving
Peace:
Defence
Readiness
Roadmap
2030"



Read
CSDS
analysis
on
European
defence



BRUSSELS SCHOOL OF GOVERNANCE
CENTRE FOR SECURITY,
DIPLOMACY AND STRATEGY

www.csdsvub.be

