

# eda factsheet

## European Framework Cooperation for Security and Defence Research

### Background

EDA and the European Commission are already synergising their research in specific projects, such as Software Defined Radio and for the insertion of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles into regulated airspace. The European Framework Cooperation for Security and Defence has the purpose to systematically ensure complementarity and synergy of Defence R&T investment by the Agency with research investment for civilian security and space by the European Commission under the Seventh Framework Programme and by the European Space Agency (ESA).



European Ministers of Defence, meeting in EDA's Steering Board on 18 May 2009, have tasked the EDA to develop proposals, working in close coordination with the Commission. The likely candidate of this Programme is 'situational awareness', from sensing to command and control of networked assets.

### Latest developments

The Steering Board of 17 November 2009 has decided to launch this European Framework Cooperation aiming at maximising complementarity and synergy of civilian security, space and defence-related research programmes, and to task the Agency. The Steering Board has tasked the Agency to discuss with the Member States, the Commission and ESA the setting up of this EFC and prepare possible candidates. Also, EDA has been tasked to develop a proposal for the EDA part of the EFC.

*The European Framework Cooperation for Security and Defence, aims at a systematic synchronisation between R&T investment under the EDA umbrella and by the Commission - thus maximising complementarity of civilian security, space and defence-related research programmes. EDA has been tasked to set up, together with the Commission and the European Space Agency, the details of the coordination scheme and to develop proposals for possible subjects for this cooperation, situation awareness being one possible candidate.*

## Q&As

***What connection between defence and civilian research exists at present? What collaboration/ synergies exist already between the EDA and the European Commission? What areas of civilian research are of most interest to security research goals?***

The Council Joint Action 2004/551/CFSP of 12 July 2004, establishing EDA, tasks the Agency to work in liaison with the Commission to maximise complementarity and synergy between defence and civil or security related research programmes. Likewise, the Council Decision 2006/971/EC regarding the specific FP7 Programme "Cooperation" recognises that there are areas of dual use technology relevant to both civilian and military applications. It stipulates that a suitable framework will be established to coordinate with the activities of the European Defence Agency (EDA).

So far, the Agency and the European Commission work together in the areas of Software Defined Radio and critical space technologies for European non-dependence. The former topic is mainly related to standardisation and harmonisation, whereas the latter aims at non-duplication of public funding, in research aimed at fulfilling future defence and security capability requirements and thereby strengthening Europe's industrial and technological potential in this domain. Other areas where the Agency is preparing for further working in liaison with the European Commission encompass Maritime

Surveillance, CBRNE protection related research and UAS air traffic insertion.

The Agency has been tasked by Defence Ministers to investigate how to move from a case by case and ad hoc cooperation to an approach which allows a more systematic coordination. EDA as an intergovernmental EU agency promotes joint defence R&T, coordinates and plans such activities in close coordination with its participating member States. Accordingly, the Agency has been tasked by its Steering Board to propose, working with the Member States and the European Commission and with ESA, the set-up of a framework for maximising complementarity and synergy between defence and civilian research activities.

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More information: <http://www.eda.europa.eu/reference.aspx>  
- EDA's Bulletin # 12, page 10 and 11.

*The European Defence Agency (EDA) was established by the Council on 12 July 2004. It is designed "to support the Council and the Member States in their effort to improve European defence capabilities in the field of crisis management and to sustain the ESDP as it stands now and develops in the future". More specifically, the Agency is ascribed four functions, relating to:*

- defence capabilities development;
- armaments cooperation;
- the European defence technological and industrial base and defence equipment market;
- research and technology;

*The EDA is an Agency of the European Union. The High Representative Javier Solana is the Head of the Agency, chairman of the Steering Board, which acts under the Council's authority and within the framework of guidelines issued by the Council.*

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