





EDF CALLS FOR PROPOSALS 2026

DEVELOPING TOMORROW'S DEFENCE CAPABILITIES












10 calls
€1 billion

The European Defence Fund is the Commission's instrument to support collaborative Research and Development in defence. It is implemented through annual work programmes.

The **sixth** European Defence Fund (EDF) Work Programme addresses **31 topics** in total, organised around **9** thematic calls, **1** non-thematic call, one action to focus on threats from hypersonic glide vehicles, and two actions in support of the EU Alliance for defence medical countermeasures.

CATEGORIES		TOPICS	BUDGET (in million euros)
	Defence medical support, CBRN, biotech and human factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defence medical countermeasures alliance – Research and Development actions (2 topics) CBRN decontamination systems and technologies 	40
	Advanced Passive and Active Sensors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multidomain sensors demonstrator and test Enhanced cognitive EW system with intelligent RESM CESM signal analysis 	44
	Cyber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quantum secured tactical networks 	14
	Space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integration of Galileo PRS receivers on weapon systems and NAVWAR operational centres in military C2 	50



CATEGORIES		TOPICS	BUDGET (in million euros)
	Digital Transformation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AI-based tactical situational awareness using swarms of small robots and drones – participation in and organisation of a technological challenge (2 topics) Military multi-domain operations cloud services 	70
	Energy Resilience and Environmental Transition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New turbofan engine High-performance energy systems Ammunition Waste Collection and Disposal Unmanned Platform 	50
	Materials and Components	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Smart and multifunctional textiles 	20
	Air Combat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Autonomous and automatic air-to-air refuelling Self-protection systems Smart technologies for next generation fighter systems 	69
	Air & Missile Defence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Countering hypersonic glide vehicles High-end endo-atmospheric interception 	168
	Ground Combat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multiple rocket launcher Future main battle tank platform systems 	150
	Force Protection and Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Future multirole light aircraft Secure digital military mobility system 	24
	Naval Combat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhanced medium-size semi-autonomous surface vessels 	90
	Underwater Warfare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development and validation of models predicting flow-related underwater noise Layered critical seabed infrastructure protection 	40
	Simulation and Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modelling & simulation supported AI framework for military decision-making and training 	16
	Disruptive Technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New abilities in over-the-horizon sensing Non-thematic actions targeting disruptive technologies for defence 	92
Non- thematic calls for innovative and future-oriented defence solutions focused on SMEs		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Call for proposals dedicated to SMEs and research organisations Call for proposals dedicated to SMEs 	30
Other actions*		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business Coaching for SMEs Defence Equity Facility under InvestEU for SMEs and Mid-Caps EUDIS Defence hackathons EUDIS Business Accelerator EUDIS Matchmaking Services 	39

»» #EUDefenceIndustry



EU Defence Innovation Scheme (EUDIS):

The EDF's 2026 Work Programme allocates nearly €60 million to disruptive technologies and over €60 million to non-thematic calls for proposals for SMEs, This year EUDIS will also offer a number of support services, such as 1 technological challenge to improve AI-based technologies for tactical situational awareness, 2 spin-in call topics to allow for smooth adaptation of civilian technologies to defence requirements, financial support options for smaller players, and two EUDIS Defence Hackathons.

