

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



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

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#### 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.

