



Timeline: European cooperation in the area of security and defence



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*We are seeing a historic moment in European defence.
We have moved more in the last twelve months than
in the last ten years.*
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Federica Mogherini
High Representative/Vice-President

Ever since High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/ Vice-President of the European Commission Federica Mogherini presented the EU Global Strategy on Security and Defence on 28 June 2016, European cooperation in the areas of security and defence has developed at a fast pace, focusing on three complementary strategic priorities:

- 1) responding to external conflicts and crises,
- 2) strengthening the capacities of our partners and
- 3) protecting the European Union and our citizens. The successful steps taken towards more European integration are based on the following documents (the ‘defence package’):



[IMPLEMENTATION PLAN
ON SECURITY AND DEFENCE](#)



[EUROPEAN DEFENCE
ACTION PLAN](#)



[EU – NATO COOPERATION
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
WARSAW DECLARATION](#)

12.
2017

The European Council welcomes the launch of the permanent structured cooperation (PESCO), reviews progress on EU-NATO cooperation and the European Defence Fund.

12.
2017

Member States reach an agreement on a European Defence Fund at a Council meeting.

12.
2017

The Council adopts the decision formally launching PESCO. The participating Member States also agree on a declaration, expressing their intention to prepare the first 17 collaborative PESCO projects.

12.
2017

Ireland and Portugal notify their decision to join PESCO, which increases the number of participating Member States to 25.



- 12. 2017** | 2nd progress report on the implementation of the EU-NATO Joint Declaration (Warsaw Declaration) and additional 34 actions, including in three new areas of cooperation presented.
- 11. 2017** | 23 EU Member States submit a 'common notification' expressing their interest to participate in PESCO to HRVP Mogherini. The notification includes the list of common commitments, indicating that the participating Member States are willing and able to fulfil the requirements of PESCO.
- 11. 2017** | The European Commission and HRVP Mogherini present a Joint Communication on military mobility to address the obstacles hampering the movement of military equipment and personnel within the EU.
- 10. 2017** | First trial run of the Coordinated Annual Review on Defence ([CARD](#)) starts. CARD will help to foster capability development addressing shortfalls, deepen defence cooperation and ensure more optimal use of defence spending plans.
- 09. 2017** | EU and NATO conduct for the first time a parallel and coordinated exercise. Crisis response mechanisms and their synchronisation are tested, including countering cyber and hybrid threats.
- 09. 2017** | Start of discussions in the European Parliament on the [European Defence Fund](#) and proposal for regulation on the European Defence Industrial Development Programme (EDIDP).
- 09. 2017** | HRVP Mogherini and EU Defence Ministers agree to develop defence cooperation and increase defence industry financing at an informal meeting in Tallinn.
- 07. 2017** | Beginning of Council discussions on proposed regulation on EDIDP.
- 06. 2017** | The Military Planning and Conduct Capability ([MPCC](#)) is established. The EU military training missions (currently in Mali, Somalia and Central African Republic) are now under one commander, ensuring a better coordination and cooperation between military and civilian actors.
- 06. 2017** | Launch of Preparatory Action on defence research (signature of delegation agreement with European Defence Agency), making the European Defence Fund (Research window) operational.
- 06. 2017** | First progress report on the implementation of the Warsaw Declaration submitted by HRVP Mogherini and NATO Secretary General Stoltenberg.
- 06. 2017** | European Council agrees on the need to activate PESCO, expressing the will to cooperate more closely together.

- 06. 2017** | The Commission presents proposals for [European Defence Fund](#) and on the EDIDP.
- 06. 2017** | European Commission opens with its [Reflection Paper on the future of European defence a public debate on defence](#) in an EU at 27.
- 05. 2017** | EU Foreign Ministers endorse the modalities to establish CARD, which should allow Member States to test, adapt and validate the approach as necessary ahead of the first full CARD implementation in autumn 2019.
- 04. 2017** | HRVP Mogherini and EU Defence Ministers review the different strands of the defence package at an informal meeting in la Valletta.
- 03. 2017** | During the 60th anniversary of the Treaties of Rome, EU leaders decide to move forward on the European Union defence and security cooperation.
- 12. 2016** | European Council endorses the 'defence package' - the Implementation Plan on Security and Defence, EDAP and the proposals for the EU-NATO cooperation.
- 12. 2016** | EU and NATO Foreign Ministers endorse a [common set of proposals](#) of 42 concrete measures in seven areas of cooperation: 1. countering hybrid threats; 2. operational cooperation including at sea and on migration; 3. cyber security and defence; 4. defence capabilities; 5. defence industry and research; 6. exercises; 7. supporting Eastern and Southern partners' capacity-building efforts.
- 11. 2016** | The [European Defence Action Plan](#) (EDAP) is put forward by the European Commission with new financial tools for capability development and defence cooperation in support of European defence industry and technological innovation.
- 11. 2016** | HRVP Mogherini proposes an Implementation Plan on Security and Defence, to turn the vision set out in the Global Strategy into action through a set of concrete actions to enable the EU and its Member States to fulfil this level of ambition. Proposals include improving the EU's rapid response to crises, strengthening coordination between civilian and military structures, setting up a Coordinated Annual Review of Defence spending, and exploring the potential of a Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO) among Member States.
- 10. 2016** | The EU's Foreign Ministers endorse the priority areas for the implementation of the Global Strategy and invite HRVP Mogherini and the Commission to take work forward, drawing on all available instruments and policies in a comprehensive manner.
- 09. 2016** | HRVP Mogherini and EU Defence Ministers agree in an informal meeting in Bratislava to [move forward](#) on European Defence.
- 07. 2016** | The Presidents of the European Council and the European Commission, together with the Secretary General of NATO sign a [Joint Declaration](#) in Warsaw with a view to giving new impetus and substance to the EU-NATO strategic partnership. It tasks HRVP Mogherini and SG Jens Stoltenberg to take the work forward.

28 June 2016:

HRVP Mogherini launches the [EU Global Strategy](#)



European Union
Global Strategy