

# Exercise SPARTAN 2019



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## Context & importance



The 4th edition of the European SPARTAN exercise takes place from **13-24 May 2019** at Otopeni airbase in Romania. The aim of the exercise is to increase interoperability among European countries operating the **C27J Spartan** military aircraft. It is one of the outcomes of the European Air Transport Fleet (EATF) partnership signed in 2011 by 20 EDA Member States.

Five Member States of the European Defence Agency (EDA) which use the C-27J Spartan aircraft participate in the exercise: **Bulgaria, Italy, Lithuania, Slovakia and Romania**). Observers from other C-27J user countries - **Greece, the United States and Australia** - also attend.

The C-27J Spartan aircraft is designed to perform tactical missions in peacekeeping and humanitarian operations, providing direct air transport to the theatre, day and night.

Prepared by EDA and hosted by the Romanian Air Force, the event aims at promoting aircraft user type approaches to harmonise tactics, techniques and procedures as well as to develop more cost-effective solutions to operate and sustain the C27J. Air crews will undergo academic and flight training while ground crews will develop harmonised procedures which will eventually allow them to perform cross maintenance on each other's aircraft.

The SPARTAN exercise idea was developed under the C27J cooperation concept launched by EDA in 2015. The aim is to improve interoperability amongst C27J operators through projects in the areas such as operations & training, logistics, airworthiness, common procurement and Single European Sky ATM Research (SESAR).

## Media & VIP Days

On 22 May 2019, a dedicated Media Day will take place offering journalists the possibility to attend a flying exercise at Boboc Airbase will include the landing of C-27J Spartan aircraft on soil and short-distance tracks, parachuting personnel and materials, cooperation with combat aircraft, airline coordination with land forces and medical evacuation. Media representatives who want to participate are requested to send their personal data (name, surname, ID number, name/address of media they represent) to [proff@roaf.ro](mailto:proff@roaf.ro) (deadline: Friday 17 May, 2pm).

The following day, on 23 May 2019, there will also be a **Distinguished Visitors' Day** attended by Romanian Defence Minister Gabriel-Beniamin Leş and EDA Deputy Chief Executive Olli Ruutu.

Media representatives wishing to attend the Distinguished Visitors' Day are requested to send their personal data (name, surname, ID number, name/address of media they represent) to [proff@roaf.ro](mailto:proff@roaf.ro) (deadline: Wednesday 22 May 2019, 2pm).

## Background

The European Air Transport Fleet (EATF) partnership, launched in 2011 and now gathering 20 Member States (AT, BE, BG, CZ, DE, EL, ES, FI, FR, IT, LT, LU, NL, PL, PT, RO, SK, SE, NO and HU), aims at increasing the airlift provision in the EU, developing concrete solutions to increase the efficiency of existing and future fleets and to optimise the use of air transport organisations and structures.

Other activities undertaken as part of EATF include the C-27 J Spartan Cooperation CAT B Programme, the Transport Plot Training Capacity AHWG, the Diplomatic Clearance Ad Hoc Working Group (AHWG) and the Operations and Training AHWG.

Besides the Spartan exercise, the C27-J Spartan cooperation in EDA is also developing a common type training for aircrews, using the already existing facilities placed in Romania and Italy; a common training for maintenance under the new European standards, a common logistic support and a common avionics upgrade programme to benefit from economies of scale.

## Participants

	1x C-27 J 	(1 C130, 1 Helicopter, 1 C 27 J for logistic support)
	1x C-27 J 	 1x C-27 J 
	1x C-27 J 	 Maintenance personnel only

## Observers

