# EDA ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2023: Powering up European Defence

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<td>08h15</td>
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| 09h05 | **Welcome address**  
**Jiří Šedivý**, Chief Executive, European Defence Agency |
| 09h10 | **Opening speech: Bolstering EU defence: delivering together on the Versailles agenda**  
**Charles Michel**, President of the European Council |
| 09h30 | **Keynote speech: A Member State perspective – Cyprus**  
**Michalis Giorgallas**, Minister of Defence, Cyprus |
| 09h40 | **Panel session: EU capability development priorities for a stronger EU defence**  
In light of the strategic changes witnessed in the EU’s overall security environment since Russia’s war of aggression against Ukraine and the revision of the EU Capability Development Plan, high-level panelists discuss where the emphasis should lie to prepare for future conflicts.  

**Nathalie Loiseau**, Chair of the European Parliament Subcommittee on Security and Defence  
**Jiří Šedivý**, Chief Executive, European Defence Agency  
**Christian Mölling**, Deputy Director, German Council on Foreign Relations  

Moderator: **Steven Everts**, Director, European Union Institute for Security Studies |
| 10h20 | **Keynote speech: Belgium’s defence priorities for the upcoming Presidency of the Council of EU**  
**Ludivine Dedonder**, Minister of Defence, Belgium |
| 10h40 | Coffee break |
| 11h05 | **Next-generation capabilities: the end-user perspective**  
**Lieutenant General Michiel van der Laan**, Director General, European Union Military Staff |
| 11h10 | **Panel session: Towards next-generation capabilities**  
Preparing for warfare in 2040 must be a joint EU effort, reaching deep into innovation networks, research and development inside capability technology groups, and foresight analysis. In this panel we hear from European defence industry and senior military representatives.  

**Lieutenant General Michiel van der Laan**, Director General, European Union Military Staff  
**Eric Béranger**, Chief Executive Officer, MBDA Missile Systems  
**Lieutenant General Javier Fernández**, Military Representative to the EU and NATO, Spain  
**Camille Grand**, Distinguished Policy Fellow, European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR)  
**Andrea Masini**, Chief Executive Officer, Flysight  

Moderator: **Stefano Cont**, Director Capability, Armament and Planning, European Defence Agency |
| 12h05 | Technical break |
| 12h15 | **Keynote address: Defence in the geopolitical Commission**  
**Ursula von der Leyen**, President of the European Commission |
12h45  **Head of Agency address: Powering up European defence**  
*Josep Borrell Fontelles*, Head of the European Defence Agency, HRVP

13h15  Lunch

14h20  **The Ukrainian perspective**  
After over 21 months of resisting Russia’s full-scale war of aggression against Ukraine, members of the Ukrainian government share how their country contributes to the defence of the rules-based order in Europe and how to address their long-term security needs.

**Ukraine’s contribution to European security and defence** (Video)  
*Lieutenant General Ivan Havryliuk*, Deputy Defence Minister for Military Technical Policy, Ukraine

**Building the arsenal of the free world: partnering in Ukraine’s defence industry**  
*Oleksandr Kamyshin*, Minister of Strategic Industries, Ukraine

14h50  **Panel session: From bottlenecks to capital access: supporting and sustaining the EDTIB**  
Adapting to a high-intensity conflict in Ukraine has brought new pressures on Europe’s Defence Technological and Industrial Base (EDTIB). This panel debate will discuss if Europe has a joint capability problem, if it can be overcome and whether developing, procuring, and operating together is still the primary aspiration of European defence.

*Antoine Bouvier*, Head of Strategy, Mergers and Acquisitions, Airbus  
*Radka Konderlová*, Director-General for Industrial Cooperation, Ministry of Defence, Czechia  
*Wendy Gilmour*, Assistant Secretary General for Defence Investment, NATO  
*Zdzisław Krasnodębski*, MEP and co-rapporteur EDIRPA, European Parliament  
*Timo Pesonen*, Director General, DG DEFIS, European Commission  

Moderator:  *André Denk*, Deputy Chief Executive, European Defence Agency

15h50  **EDA Defence Innovation Prize 2023**  
Presented by *Jean-François Ripoche*, Director Research, Technology and Innovation, European Defence Agency

16h05  **Closing remarks**  
*Jiří Šedivý*, Chief Executive, European Defence Agency

16h10  End of conference/Networking Drink