



EDA CE SPEECH CF SEDSS II WARSAW CONFERENCE

Date	Time	Place
16/10/2018	09:25 – 09:40	Radisson Blu Centrum Hotel Plenary room “POLANIA 1 & 2”

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Ladies and Gentlemen,

Dear conference participants,

- Allow me to join the Deputy Defence Minister in extending a warm welcome to all of you also from my side.
- I am delighted that this event is hosted by Poland, particularly in this historical moment, as the country will in a few weeks celebrate its 100th anniversary of regaining independence. To all our Polish colleagues we wish you prosperous, creative and healthy years to come.
- Today, the European Union and its Member States are facing serious challenges from both within and outside its borders. Consequently, the EU is stepping up its work in the field of defence. This is a recognition of the fact that Europe can no longer outsource its own security and that national responses are not enough to counter transnational challenges.



- Building on the Union's shared vision for a Stronger Europe, we have launched the Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO) by which 25 Member States confirmed in December last year that they were ready to fulfil higher criteria and make more binding commitments on defence spending, and to step up defence cooperation. We have initiated the Coordinated Annual Review on Defence (CARD) which introduces a monitoring mechanism that over time will play a crucial role in providing a comprehensive picture of Member States' defence plans and capabilities, the state of collaboration, as well as progress towards EU priorities. And we have set up the European Defence Fund (EDF) that will help us finance the research and defence capabilities we need together.
- All these initiatives are underpinned by two common prioritisation instruments at the European level agreed by the Member States: the Capability Development Plan (CDP) and the Overarching Strategic Research Agenda (OSRA), which will support the Member States' defence capability and research activities.
- While energy is not a stand-alone topic in the CDP, we should remember that Energy is cross-cutting and its inclusion in requirements will enable us to enhance capability whether that is in reducing logistics footprints or delivering military effectiveness. In terms of OSRA, we



have developed a series of energy related Technology Building Blocks (TBBs) such as on innovative technology in energy management; renewable energy technologies; efficient propulsion or drive systems; and power distribution in platform systems. Artificial intelligence in combination with smart sensors and connected technologies can also play a key role in improving energy management and consumption.

- I am proud to say that EDA is playing a key role in the current European defence landscape, in close interaction with the EEAS/EUMS, the EUMC, and the European Commission, all in support of Member States' national defence efforts. The Agency coordinates the CDP and OSRA, acts as the secretariat for CARD and is part of the PESCO secretariat.
- We also support the test cases for the European Defence Fund, notably in the implementation of the Preparatory Action on Defence Research (and before that for the Pilot Project) by ensuring a capability-driven approach and making full use of our expertise - from the shaping of the work programme to the definition of technical specifications, and from the assessment of projects to the uptake of results.
- Through our roles in CDP, OSRA, CARD, PESCO and EDF, the Agency is well-placed to ensure that these European



initiatives deliver the capabilities our Member States need in a coherent manner, and do not become self-sustained bureaucratic processes.

- Equally important, with 22 EU Member States in NATO, we must also ensure that EU and NATO defence planning processes are mutually reinforcing and provide a coherent output. The EU-NATO Joint Declaration signed here in Warsaw in July 2016 called for a coherent, complementary and interoperable development of defence capabilities, as one of the priority actions between the EU and the Alliance.
- We are therefore seeking coherence of output with NATO in projects like our complementary work on smart systems. While EDA is conducting research into suitable technologies for potential deployment to EUTM Mali through our Smart Camps Technical Demonstrator project, NATO is seeking to test the interoperability of nationally owned micro grids through its Smart Energy Training and Assessment Camp project. We must and will continue to ensure the complementarity of EU-NATO efforts also in the energy domain.
- We expect that the momentum of European defence efforts will be further reinforced as the EU budget unlocks funding opportunities for substantial defence programmes and projects in the upcoming 2021-2027



Multiannual Financial Framework. I am confident that energy will be a part of this framework. The output of this Forum will certainly enable us to explore together the multiple opportunities that this Framework will present.

- Almost one year ago, I had the honour to address this community in Thessaloniki when the first phase of the Consultation Forum was concluded. Our goal of raising awareness of energy issues in Member States' Ministries of Defence and creating a European network of defence energy experts had been achieved. Back then, I underlined that this Forum provides a unique platform that could assist the Ministries of Defence of the EU Member States in developing projects to move towards a more sustainable energy model. This process would also save money that can be allocated to other military priorities.
- I encourage you now to promote the European Defence Energy Network that we have collectively managed to build. This unique network is getting bigger, and through this, we will further raise awareness of the importance to move towards a greener, more affordable and sustainable defence energy model. Because sustainable energy matters for defence and a greener defence energy matters for the European Union.



- The continuation of the Energy Consultation Forum through the second phase reflects the determination of the European Defence Agency and the European Commission to further enhance our support to the Ministries of Defence in their efforts to address energy considerations. The attendance of some 140 participants today, from more than 27 European countries as well as experts from more than 30 different institutions and organisations sends a strong message: that sustainable energy matters for defence.
- This second phase of the Consultation Forum is more project oriented and presents us with a financial and strategic opportunity for improving energy efficiency as well as diversifying the energy supply and enhancing resilience to security challenges. At our conference today, we place emphasis on financing and funding for defence energy-related topics in Europe.
- The participation of the European Investment Bank, with which EDA signed an MoU in February this year to help EIB identify possible financing opportunities for defence and security-related R&T projects in support of Member States, demonstrates the growing importance of the Consultation Forum for implementing sustainable investment projects within the defence sector. In the



following plenary session, we will have the opportunity to explore a range of financing and funding options, coming either from the national public sector or the European Union instruments like the European Defence Fund, the European Structural and Investment Funds the Erasmus+ and the LIFE Programme.

- To increase the possibilities of the realisation of the project ideas that all the Working Groups are currently developing, EDA is currently implementing our so-called “IdentiFunding for Energy” process. This is a dedicated EDA methodology which will be presented during this Conference. The objective is to match each specific project with the available tailored funding programmes and opportunities at the European level. The concrete steps on how to access EU “money” for the project ideas you are elaborating, will, I hope, facilitate their adoption by your Ministries of Defence.
- Today, we have launched a web-page on EDA’s website called the “European Funding Gateway for Energy in Defence”. This web-page will provide an overview of the financing and funding opportunities that the defence sector, and the Ministries of Defence and Armed Forces, industry, research and technology organisations or academia, can access at the European level for energy-related projects. More information will be shared during the conference.



- I understand that the three working groups have developed more than 30 defence energy-related project ideas, ranging from topics such as capacity building, knowledge/practice sharing and data analysis to purely technology development focused tools, like smart metering, smart grids and decision support systems. From my side, I have already informed the Ministers of Defence of this progress on various occasions. The feedback is positive and there is support for this process. This is of course the result of your collective and individual efforts.
- I also encourage you to enhance your engagement in the development of project ideas and to explore with your respective Ministries the options that we offer within the Agency for establishing joint collaborative-multinational ad-hoc projects, using the incentives and well-established procedures that we have developed over the years. Our experts will be at your disposal for exploring these options during the conference.
- As the European Union continues to build a resilient Energy Union by advancing its clean energy transition towards 2030, defence must be an integrated part of this transition. It is therefore necessary to shift our focus to how we can further enable the Ministries of Defence to develop defence energy policies, strategies



or action plans and to join the national efforts to meet their energy objectives.

- EDA's role as interface between the Member States and wider EU policies to the benefit of Defence is one of the Agency's key tasks and was laid out in the Conclusions and Recommendations of the Long Term Review of the Agency that Member States defence ministers approved in May last year.
- The Agency will therefore continue exploring the benefits that could be enabled in implementing the European Commission's energy-related Directives (the Energy Efficiency Directive (EED); the Renewable Energy Directive (RED); the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD); and the Directive on European Critical Infrastructures (ECI)) and to identify where the defence and security sectors can bring added value.
- I wish to thank DG ENER and EASME for supporting our activities and particularly for assisting us in bringing closer the defence and energy communities. To this end it would be beneficial for the Member States to include the defence dimension in the Integrated National Energy and Climate Plans [NECPs] before they submit them to the Commission. This would help the MODs gain access to national funding and technical assistance.



- Finally, I would like to acknowledge the hard work of the team leaders, the moderators of the working groups and EDA staff for organising this conference. I would also like to note that EDA has received great support from the National Contact Points, who are the facilitators of our coordination with their respective Ministries of Defence.
- I wish you a good conference and I hope to see you again next February in Nicosia.

Thank you.