







EDF CALLS FOR PROPOSALS 2025

DEVELOPING TOMORROW'S DEFENCE CAPABILITIES












9 calls
€1.065 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 **fifth European Defence Fund (EDF) Work Programme** addresses **33 topics** in total, organised around **7 thematic calls**, **2 non-thematic calls** and **2 specific grant agreements** in support of the 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"> Defence medical countermeasures Alliance – Research and Development actions (2 topics) (R) + (D) Autonomous triage and evacuation (R) 	35
	Information superiority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> European Multifunctional Information Distribution System (R) 	39
	Advanced passive and active sensors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-band 4D Radar technologies (D) Infrared detectors (D) 	58.5
	Cyber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk, robustness and resilience for autonomous vehicles in military operations (R) Improved cyber defence operations capabilities (D) 	54



CATEGORIES		TOPICS	BUDGET (in million euros)
	Space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-orbit operations and services (D) • Space-based ISR constellation (D) 	115
	Digital transformation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Privacy-preserving human-AI dialogue systems – Participation in and Organisation of a technological challenge (2 topics) (R) 	27
	Energy resilience and environmental transition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Propulsion system for next generation rotorcrafts (R) • Naval hybrid propulsion and power systems (R) • Aircraft propulsion and energy management systems (D) 	93
	Materials and components	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chiplelets for defence applications (R) 	25
	Air combat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborative air combat (D) • Enhanced pilot environment (D) 	103
	Ground combat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technologies for counter-battery capabilities (R) • Future modular multifunctional land platforms and enabling technologies, including green technologies (D) • Land collaborative combat including air-land (D) • Drone-based affordable mass munitions (D) 	192
	Force protection and mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full-size demonstrators for next generation soldier systems (D) 	35
	Naval combat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital Ship and Naval Combat Cloud (D) 	54
	Underwater warfare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stand-off anti-submarine warfare engagement (R) • Advanced underwater networks (D) 	45
	Simulation and training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multi-disciplinary design and analysis framework for Aerial Systems (R) • Live, virtual, constructive training interoperability (R) 	43
	Disruptive technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great-depth enabling technologies (R) • Non-thematic research actions targeting disruptive technologies for defence (R) 	43
Non- thematic calls for innovative and future-oriented defence solutions focused on SMEs		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call for proposals dedicated to SMEs and research organisations (R) • Call for proposals dedicated to SMEs (D) • Call for proposals for coordination and support action to the National Focal Points (NFP) network 	67
Other actions*		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Coaching in the European Defence Fund • EUDIS Business Accelerator • EUDIS Matchmaking Services for companies and investors • Defence Equity Facility under InvestEU for SMEs and Mid-Caps • EUDIS Defence Hackathon in 8 locations • EDF outreach and communication • Technical and administrative assistance for the EDF implementation 	37.2

Legend: R – Research; D- Development actions

 #EUDefenceIndustry



EU Defence Innovation Scheme (EUDIS):

The EDF's annual Work Programme for 2025 includes dedicated SME calls as well as calls that aim at spinning in the outcomes from other EU programmes, organising of a Technological Challenge, and supporting start-ups and SMEs through calls with financial support to third parties (cascade funding) which are open to Ukrainian entities for the first time.

This year EUDIS will also offer a number of support services, such as EUDIS Business Accelerator, Matchmaking, SME Coaching and funding for EUDIS Defence Hackathon organisation.

