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# **2019**

# **ChaIr REPORT**

NATO

Establishing a Reassessment of the European Defense Range

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**Introduction**

The Continent Europe consists of 44 countries and has a population of 741 million. The defense of these 44 countries and the citizens is the priority of all of the European countries. To achieve their goal, it is known that more economically developed European countries such as France, have enhanced their military and developed new military arms. Also as seen during World War II and after, Non-European countries such as the United States of America has been aiding and assisting European countries with defensive aid, military aid and humanitarian aid. However recently, proposals for a more robust European defense range from a series of Brussels-based initiatives on procurement, training, and research and development, to the extension of France’s nuclear umbrella- so called Force de Frappe-, to the development of a full-blown EU army, was endorsed by French President Emmanuel Macron and German Chancellor Angela Merkel. Which is aimed to unite the European Countries’ Military Forces and Armies into **one** greater army which would be the second largest army force in the world with a total of roughly 1.5 million service members. The task of this united military is to defend Europe from any threats. The biggest obstacle to this proposal might be NATO, the alliance which has safeguarded the Continent since the end of World War II. The alliance thinks that such an action like the European Defense Range is not realistic and would much more resources than now to be effective. There are also some perspectives that say that there is no viable alternative to the existing alliance U.S. supremacy. To conclude, the issue of the European Defense Range both the NATO member countries and the European countries. Most of the European NATO member countries are in favor of this united military idea however countries like the United States of America have the idea that such action would be unrealistic and unnecessary. There also is the perspective of the Russian Federation which thinks that such a union might be a threat to them since they are neither a NATO member nor a European country and the expansion of the French nuclear umbrella with the union of European armies concerns them.

### **Key Vocabulary**

**Force de Frappe**: The name of the nuclear arsenal of France and translates to “strike force”. France is one of the five "Nuclear Weapons States" under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. It is the world’s third largest nuclear arsenal and consist of 300 nuclear warheads, 54 cruise missiles. It is not known to possess or develop any biological or chemical weapons.

**European Defense Agency:** The European Defense Agency (EDA) is an agency of the European Union that promotes and facilitates integration between member states within the EU's Common Security and Defense Policy. It is tasked with the development of defense capabilities, enhancement of the European armaments cooperation, strengthening the defensive technologies to create a competitive European Defense Equipment Market and enhancement of the effectiveness of European Defense Research and Technology.

**Common Security and Defense Policy:** The Common Security and Defense Policy (CSDP) is the European Union's course of action in the fields of defense and crisis management, and a main component of the EU's Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP). The CSDP involves military or civilian missions being deployed to preserve peace, prevent conflict and strengthen international security in accordance with the principles of the United Nations Charter. Military missions are carried out by EU forces established with secondments from the member states' armed forces.

**European Defense Fund:** European Defense Fund is a component of the EU’s CSDP. It was proposed in 2016 by Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker and was established in 2017. The purpose of this fund is to coordinate and increase national investment in defense research and interoperability national armed forces.

**PESCO:** Introduced by the [Lisbon Treaty on European Union (article 42.6, 46 and Protocol 10)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/resource.html?uri=cellar:2bf140bf-a3f8-4ab2-b506-fd71826e6da6.0023.02/DOC_1&format=PDF" \t "_blank), PESCO is a framework and process to deepen defense cooperation between those EU Member States who are capable and willing to do so. 25 EU Member States have joined PESCO and subscribed to more binding commitments to invest, plan, develop and operate defense capabilities more together, within the Union framework. The objective is to jointly arrive at a coherent full spectrum of defense capabilities available to Member States for national and multinational (EU, NATO, UN, etc.) missions and operations. This will enhance the EU’s capacity as an international security actor, contribute to the protection of the EU citizens and maximize the effectiveness of defense spending.

**Focused Overview**

1. **Economical**

The EU is facing the most severe security challenges of the past 60 years. It was outlined by the President Commissioner Jean-Claude Juncker in 2014 that new threats in Europe and neighboring countries and emerging risks like cyberterrorism is making internal security and external defense lines very blurred. Due to this, new technology and therefore research and cooperation is needed for defense systems. However, there is a significant economic case for greater cooperation on defense spending among European Union countries. The cost newer defense equipment and development of these equipment is rising more than defense budgets. The lack of cooperation between Member States in the field of security and defense is estimated to cost annually between 25€ billion and 100€ billion. 80% of procurement and greater than 90% of Research and Technology is being done on a national basis. Up to 30% of procurement can be saved through pooling of procurement. This situation ends up with the absolute need for European Defense Fund to even start to achieve some goals.

1. **Military and Defense**

Dysfunctional cooperation contributes to the lack deployability of armed forces. Therefore, damaging the EU’s ability to act and protect the population, land and etc. The best thing to do in this scenario is to as mentioned before, cooperate. Cooperation is crucial to increase the deployability of armed sources and to enhance defense actions.

### **Major Parties Involved and Their Views**

**The United States of America**

The United States of America is a NATO member country, but it is geographically, not in the continent of Europe. The United States of America has been aiding and supporting the European countries when they are in need since the end of World War II. Thus, they are not very friendly to the idea of European countries forming a united and large military and army. The United States of America has the idea that such an alliance would be unnecessary because Europe is well defended, equipped and has their allies’ help. Also, it has been said by the U.S. Ambassador to NATO, Kay Bailey Hutchinson, that if the European Defense Range was to happen the financial resources would be largely affected, requiring much more than %2 of GDP on military spending and ultimately being unrealistic. It can be said from the view of the United States of America that they are not in favor of this idea and would like the defense supremacy of the U.S. to remain in European land.

**France**

The idea of European Defense Range was endorsed by the French President Emmanuel Macron, so it is clear that France is in favor of a united European military and army. France’s nuclear capabilities, also known as “force de frappe”, is the world’s third largest nuclear arsenal with 300 warheads so it is likely that such a number would be sufficient to protect Europe from any threats. It is very clear that France would want European Defense Range to happen and willing to work towards it.

**The Russian Federation**

The Russian Federation is neither a NATO member country nor a European country so if a European Defense Range is formed it is formed to protect Europe from any non-European and non-NATO countries such as Russia. On the other hand, the Russian Federation finds the European Defense Range as a threat for themselves too because the presence of a united European army in Eastern Europe would affect Russia’s presence there and make them uncomfortable. It can be seen from the Russian Federation’s President, Vladimir Putin, that they are against the idea of European Defense Range and would not want this alliance to form any time soon.

**Germany**

Around the same time when the President of France, Emmanuel Macron, proposed the idea of a European Defense Range the Chancellor of Germany, Angela Merkel, also was proposing the same idea. Germany is in favor of such an alliance and willing to work with France to make it happen, but they are aware of the obstacles such as NATO.

**Timeline of Events**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Date of Event (Day/Month/Year)** | **Description of Event** |
| 1954 | Failure of the establishment of the European Defense Community |
| 3 June, 1999 | Launch of the European Security and Defense Policy. |
| 12 December, 2003 | European Security Strategy adopted. |
| 12 July, 2004 | Establishment of the European Defense Agency |
| 20 December, 2013 | Priority Actions for defense set out |
| September, 2016 | Announcement of the establishment of European Defense Fund |
| 15 December, 2016 | European Council stressed the need to strengthen Europe’s security and defense |
| 2017 | Establishment of European Defense Fund |
| 14 December, 2017 | EU Leaders welcome reinforced defense cooperation |
| 17 June, 2019 | Council reviews security and defense cooperation |

### **Evaluation of Previous Attempts to Resolve the Issue**

**European Defense Fund:** European Defense Fund is an attempt to resolve the economical aspect of the issue. The fund has been providing and is providing financial aid to countries who are trying to enhance their defensive capabilities with 1 billion euro per year.

### **Possible Solutions**

**Lack of Cooperation**

As mentioned before, lack of cooperation costs the member states billions of Euros and damages the continuation of research on defense equipment. This waste could have been used to develop newer equipment, gather information on new threats such as cyberterrorism but instead it is foreseen. To resolve this issue, procurement can be pooled to gather all of the procurement in one place and be more efficient saving %30 of procurement from the %80 of lost procurement. To conclude, the pooling of procurement and cooperation between Member States can be an effective solution to the financial difficulties and the wastage of procurement and research.

**Being Less Dependent on Individual Factors**

Being less dependent on individual external factors such as the US as countries’ political instability threatens everyone else working with them but depending more on pacts, and organizations (collaborations) such as NATO or EU itself.

**Re-defining Threats**

Re-defining threats and making them up to date with 21st century realities (understanding ISIS and how it became such a powerful threat and how to be safer against such threats, defining cyber threats and providing a defense mechanism against that….)

**Re-sharing the Burden**

Instead of countries individually trying to protect themselves getting more organized on protecting the whole of the EU area with shared resources such as funds, military people, strategic plans etc.

### **Further Reading**

[**European Defense**](https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/security-disarmament-and-non-proliferation/european-defence-63008/)

[**Transatlantic Defense Relationship**](https://carnegieeurope.eu/2019/10/30/role-of-capabilities-in-transatlantic-defense-relationship-pub-80221)

[**European Defense Fund**](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/pl/memo_17_1476)

[**Arms Control Association**](https://www.armscontrol.org/factsheets/franceprofile)

<https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/pl/memo_17_1476>

<https://carnegieeurope.eu/2019/10/30/role-of-capabilities-in-transatlantic-defense-relationship-pub-80221>

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