

EUROPEAN DEFENCE MATTERS

the annual conference by the European Defence Agency

DRAFT AGENDA

21 March 2013 - Moderator: Jacki Davis

- 9.00 **Registration & welcoming coffee**
- 10.00 **Opening address** by Mrs Arnould – Chief Executive of the European Defence Agency
- 10.15 **Keynote speech** by Mrs Ashton – Head of the European Defence Agency
- 10.30 **Keynote speech** by Mr. Shatter TD - Irish Minister for Justice, Equality and Defence – Presidency of the European Union
- 10.45 **Panel 1: Lessons from Defence Cooperation**

TOPIC DESCRIPTION

Cooperation in the European context is not new; it has a long history. When thinking about substantial future cooperation, it is important to draw on experiences from previous collaborations in the military area (in particular operations) as well as in the industrial (armaments) domain.

Key issues to address:

- What are the prerequisites of successful cooperation?*
- What are the risks and obstacles, which must be addressed to be successful?*
- Where is the need for defence cooperation the most urgent?*

Mr. Schmidt – German Parliamentary State Secretary

Mr. Enders - CEO EADS

General Middendorp - Dutch Chief of Defence

General Palomeros - NATO's Supreme Allied Commander Transformation

11.45 **EDA testimonial: “Behind the scenes of Pooling & Sharing”**

Peter Round - Director Capabilities of the European Defence Agency

12.00 **Walking Lunch**

13.30 **Special address** by Mr. Van Rompuy – President of the European Council

14.00 **Panel 2: Looking ahead: setting the longer-term goals for European Defence Cooperation**

TOPIC DESCRIPTION

Financial constraints are such that some question the ability of individual MS to meet their future defence requirements. Yet security and defence challenges are not diminishing: on the contrary they are increasing and becoming more intense. As a consequence, the case for substantive military cooperation is stronger than ever.

Ad hoc activities and short term solutions are in themselves useful. But their impact will be limited unless there is a concerted and coherent approach to meeting longer-term objectives. Cooperation is not an end in itself but a way to retain and acquire capabilities together that might otherwise be out of reach individually.

The EDA Code of Conduct on Pooling & Sharing adopted by defence Ministers last November is a positive manifestation of a willingness by Member States to do more together. What should be the longer-term objectives? What are the strategic implications for the EU of non-cooperation. How can Defence actors be persuaded that cooperation strengthens rather than diminishes sovereignty? And how can these issues be made more accessible to and understandable for European citizens?

General de Rousiers – Chairman of the military committee of the European Union

Lieutenant-General Debortolis - Secretary General of the Italian Defence and National Armaments Director

Vice-President of European Parliament (tbc)

Mr. Missiroli – Director of the European Union Institute for Security Studies

15.00 **Outcome of Thesis**

By the Winner of “EDA – Egmont PhD Prize”

15.15 **Coffee Break**

16.00 **Panel 3: European Defence Cooperation: concrete steps for the next year**

TOPIC DESCRIPTION

Based on the analysis of the current situation and the longer-term goals for cooperation, and taking into account the nature of military planning, it is essential to start now with concrete steps for cooperation in order to achieve results to better meet the challenges and threats Europe will face in the future.

In addition to already achieved results, such as the Code of Conduct on Pooling & Sharing, what should be the next concrete steps we now have to take? What should be expected from the involvement of Heads of States & Government?

Mr. De Crem - Belgian Minister of Defence

Mr. Klich - Senator of the Republic of Poland

Mr Trappier – Chairman of the ASD Defence Commission - Chairman & CEO of Dassault Aviation

Mr. Calleja - Director-General of the Enterprise and Industry Directorate-General – European Commission

17.00 **Wrap-up talk: Dialogue between EDA Chief Executive & Moderator**

17.30 **Networking cocktail**

19.00 **End of programme**