







# 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"> <li>Defence medical countermeasures Alliance – Research and Development actions (2 topics) (R) + (D)</li> <li>Autonomous triage and evacuation (R)</li> </ul>	35
	Information superiority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>European Multifunctional Information Distribution System (R)</li> </ul>	39
	Advanced passive and active sensors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multi-band 4D Radar technologies (D)</li> <li>Infrared detectors (D)</li> </ul>	58.5
	Cyber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Risk, robustness and resilience for autonomous vehicles in military operations (R)</li> <li>Improved cyber defence operations capabilities (D)</li> </ul>	54



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

