

Two examples of key actions in EU defence and security.

PESCO (Permanent Structured Cooperation)

PESCO is an EU framework for defence cooperation designed to foster deeper integration in military and security capabilities.

Launched in 2017, it enables participating EU countries to collaborate on defence projects, from developing new military equipment to establishing joint military forces. It allows for more flexible, deeper cooperation between member states willing to invest in European defence, while non-participating countries remain free to pursue national priorities.

PESCO aims to enhance the EU's collective defence capabilities, reduce fragmentation, and improve operational readiness, though its success depends on member states' political will and coordination on shared defence priorities.

PESCO commitments

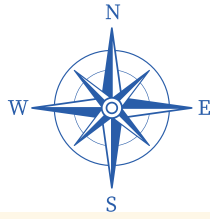
“a) cooperate, as from the entry into force of the Treaty of Lisbon, with a view to achieving approved objectives concerning the level of investment expenditure on defence equipment, and regularly review these objectives, in the light of the security environment and of the Union's international responsibilities.”

PESCO projects

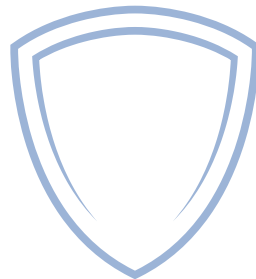
The projects that are being developed in the context of PESCO cover areas such as Training, Land, Maritime, Air, Cyber, and Strategic Enablers & Force Multipliers



European Strategic Compass



The European Strategic Compass is the EU's roadmap for strengthening its security and defence over the next decade. Adopted in 2022, it aims to provide a clear vision and action plan for addressing external and internal security threats. It focuses on improving the EU's strategic autonomy, crisis management capabilities, and resilience to hybrid threats (e.g., cyber-attacks, disinformation).



Compass outlines measures for enhancing military mobility, boosting the EU's rapid response capabilities, and fostering deeper cooperation with partners, including NATO.

It represents a pivotal step towards a more unified and proactive EU defence strategy, although its implementation will require overcoming significant political, financial, and institutional challenges.



Act – presence and engagement on the ground

Fast-tracking EU civilian and military tools to tailor action to partners' needs and strengthen the EU's role as a key player in crisis management across the world.

Invest – increased and improved spending

Being defence ready with an integrated, innovative, competitive and resilient European defence technological and industrial base, together with a reinforced European defence industry.

Secure – anticipate threats and protect citizens

Strengthening resilience to guarantee free, safe and secure access to contested strategic domains, protect EU citizens and support EU partners globally.

Partner – a key source of strength and resilience

Extending and deepening tailored partnerships with bilateral, regional and multilateral partners worldwide to ensure mutual benefit and enhanced collaboration.

