



European
Commission

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EUROPEAN DEFENCE FUND (EDF) CALLS 2021











23 EDF CALLS FOR PROPOSALS FOR 2021

The EDF is implemented through annual work programmes.

With a total budget of €1.2 billion, the first EDF work programme will be organised around 23 calls. Submission for proposals will last until December 2021.

Calls categories	Topics addressed by the calls	Indicative budget for the call
 Defence medical response, Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear (CBRN), biotech and human factors	Detection, identification and monitoring (DIM) of CBRN threats (Research) ----- Defence medical countermeasures (Development)	€18.5 M ----- €50 M
 Information Superiority	High-altitude platform systems (Development) ----- Robust defence multi-dimensional communications (Development)	€70 M
 Advanced passive and active sensors	Infrared detectors (Research) ----- Advanced radar technologies (Research)	€38 M
 Cyber	Improving cyber defence and incident management with artificial intelligence (Research) ----- Improved efficiency of cyber trainings and exercises (Development)	€13.5 M ----- €20 M
 Space	Space and ground-based navigation warfare (NAVWAR) surveillance (Development) ----- European protected waveform and accompanying technologies for resilient satellite communications against jamming (Development)	€50 M
 Digital transformation	Frugal learning for rapid adaptation of AI systems (Research) ----- Military multi-domain operations cloud (Development)	€18.5 M ----- €40 M
 Energy resilience and environmental transition	Energy independent and efficient systems for military camps (Development) ----- Next generation electrical energy storage for military forward operation bases (Development) ----- Alternative propulsion and energy systems for next generation air combat systems (Development)	€133 M

Calls categories	Topics addressed by the calls	Indicative budget for the call
 Materials and components	Materials and structures for enhanced protection in hostile environments (Research) Advanced radiofrequency components (Research)	€40 M
 Air combat	Next generation rotorcraft technologies (Research) Enhanced pilot environment for air combat (Development) European interoperability standard for collaborative air combat (Development)	€40 M €150 M
 Air and missile defence	Endo-atmospheric interceptor – concept phase (Development)	€100M
 Ground combat	Improved warheads (Research) Future modular ground vehicles and enabling technologies, including green technologies (Development) Unmanned ground vehicle technologies (Development) Beyond line of sight collaborative close combat architecture (Development)	€10 M €150 M
 Force protection and mobility	Development of full-size demonstrators for soldier systems (Development) Development of a digital system for the secure and quick exchange of information related to military mobility (Development)	€50 M
 Naval combat	Digital ship and ship digital architecture (Research) Ship Structural Health Monitoring (Research) Multirole and modular offshore patrol vessel (Development)	€43.5 M € 60 M
 Disruptive technologies	Quantum technologies for defence (Research) Non-line-of-sight optical sensors applications (Research) Over-the-horizon radars applications (Research) New materials and technologies for additive manufactured defence applications (Research)	€ 60 M
 Open calls for innovative defence technologies	Open call addressing disruptive technologies for defence (Research) Open call focused on SMEs for research on innovative and future-oriented defence solutions (Research) Open call dedicated to SMEs for development of innovative and future-oriented defence solutions (Development)	€ 10 M (€ 4 M/action) €17.5 M (€ 4 M/action) €36 M (€ 4 M/action)

In addition, the 2021 EDF work programme provides funding for SME support by offering business coaching services for SME-led research and development projects selected for funding under the open SME calls. The coaching services aim at providing SMEs advice to grow their business and help them exploit the results of their projects.