



CALL FOR WRITTEN INPUTS

Brussels, 20 November 2023

European Industrial Strategy Consultation: Commission calls for Written Inputs from Think tanks and academic experts

The European Commission, in close collaboration with the High Representative, is embarking on an extensive stakeholder engagement process to shape the new European Defence Industrial Strategy (EDIS). This strategy, announced by President von der Leyen in her 2023 State of the Union address, is a pivotal step towards strengthening the European Union's long-term defence readiness.

In the wake of the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine, the EU has swiftly and effectively responded to immediate challenges through the Regulation on Supporting Ammunition Production (ASAP) and the [European Defence Industry Reinforcement through common Procurement Regulation](#) (EDIRPA). **Now, the focus is shifting from emergency responses to the establishment of a robust and sustainable European defence readiness.**

The EDIS will build on recent work and initiatives, including the Defence Investment Gap Analysis, the European Defence Fund, joint procurement initiatives among Member States, and the short-term initiatives to reinforce industrial capacity to support Member States capacities in the context of the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine as mentioned above. This strategy will serve as a strategic framework to bolster Member States' defence capabilities, strengthen the European Defence Technological and Industrial Base (EDTIB), including its capacity to deliver more and faster when needed and enhance the EU's role as a security and defence actor, aligning with the objectives outlined in the Strategic Compass.

To ensure its effectiveness and inclusivity, EDIS is being prepared in close consultation with Member States, the European Parliament, the defence industry, financial institutions, and academic experts in the field.

We therefore invite written inputs from think tank members and experts with relevant research expertise in the field of European defence industrial policy to contribute to this comprehensive consultation

process. Your valuable insights will help shape the future of European defence.

The consultation focuses on four key challenges for EDIS:

1. Investing better and together
2. Strengthening our industry's competitiveness
3. Enhancing our security of supply on the Internal Market
4. Mainstreaming defence readiness culture in EU policies

Please see attached guiding questions.

We kindly request that all written inputs address the above challenges, and are concise, preferably two pages in length. In case of longer submissions, a two-page executive summary is requested. Inputs should focus on concrete and actionable solutions to the challenges facing the EDTIB.

The deadline for submissions is **December 29, 2023**. Insights from academic experts will be instrumental in crafting the EDIS, which is expected to be presented in early 2024 and will help consolidate the European defence industrial base beyond 2025.

Inputs should be submitted to the following address: DEFIS-EDIS-CONSULTATION@ec.europa.eu¹.

¹ The European Commission is committed to protect your personal data and to respect your privacy. The Commission collects and further processes personal data pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data (repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001). The data received in the context of this consultation is kept only for the time necessary to fulfil the purpose of collection or further processing of the information. For further information please refer to the Privacy Statement.

Annex – Guiding questions

- How can we improve the predictability and visibility of the European demand for the EDTIB?
- How can we achieve a better coordination of defence spending at EU level, including by making best use of Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO) and Coordinated Annual Review on Defence (CARD) as well as of the EU budget?
- How can we further promote the use of joint procurement? Is there any concrete issues that need to be addressed within the defence procurement directive in times of high tensions?
- How to jointly identify European defence infrastructures and strategic enablers to protect the EU's free and unfettered access to and freedom of action in contested domains? How to ensure that they are available at the EU level? Could they materialise into European flagship projects?
- How can we improve the industrial availability of defence products manufactured by the EDTIB in the short, medium, and long term?
- How can we design and implement an effective security of supply regime within the Internal Market, in particular when a crisis occurs?
- What can we do to prepare the integration of the Ukrainian DTIB into the EDTIB?
- How can we improve the social recognition of the key role of the defence industry, for the resilience, security, innovation, and economy of the Union?
- How can we enhance the EDTIB's access to finance (including EU structural funds) and adequate skills?
- Are there regulatory hurdles at EU level hampering the EDTIB's ability to contribute to the EU defence readiness? If so, which ones?