



## 10th meeting of the Special Group National Focal Points for the European Defence Fund

Brussels, 31 January 2025, 9:30 – 13.00

### Summary Record

#### 1. Introduction

The meeting took place in a hybrid format.

#### 2. Points discussed

The members of the group addressed the following main items during the meeting:

- **EDF Work Programme 2025**  
The Commission presented the newly adopted EDF Work Programme. All relevant documents are now available on [the website](#).
- **Strategic Technologies for Europe Platform (STEP)**  
The Commission informed the NFPs on the STEP seal. STEP is an EU initiative to support the EU industry and boost investment in critical technologies. It raises and steers resources across 11 EU funding programs, including the EDF.
- **Support action for follow-up of the NFP project EOA**  
A Coordination and Support Action to support the NFP network was introduced in the EDF WP2022. To ensure seamless continuation of the activities, a follow-up call for proposals is introduced in EDF Work Programme 2025, in line with the three-year duration of the first project. NFPs were presented with the key features of this call, including the scope and requirements, expected impact, and practicalities surrounding the proposal.
- **EDF proposal submission – practical aspects**  
The Commission presented an overview of the EDF call submissions in 2024, noting a strong increased interest by the industry and strong level of cross-order cooperation.

In addition, an overview of the types of questions received concerning the EDF24 calls for proposals was presented. The Commission reiterated the publicly available information relating to many questions.

Finally, the Commission presented an overview of common issues encountered during the proposals' preparation phase. These focused on three areas: eligibility, admissibility, and award scores.

- **Enhancing opportunities for all (EOA) NFP project – update on progress**

On behalf of the project coordinator, the NFP network was updated on the progress of the EOA project. The project website was launched, the first edition of a training workshop will take place in Zagreb, Croatia. The EOA project has carried out 2 online and 1 physical matchmaking days in 2024, with several upcoming matchmakings planned in 2025.

### **3. AOB**

In view of future meetings, one question was raised about the Defence Equity Facility (DEF), to have an overview of investment funds that participate in the DEF and their contact details.

## LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Austria	Austrian Research Promotion Agency
Belgium	Federal Public Service of Economy
Bulgaria	Ministry of Economy and Industry
Cyprus	Ministry of Defence
Czechia	Defence and Security Industry Association
Denmark	Danish Defence and Security Industries DI Danish Defence and Security Association
EU	European Commission, DG DEFIS
Finland	Business Finland
France	Systematic Paris Region
Germany	VDI Technology Center
Greece	Ministry of Defence
Hungary	Ministry of Defence
Italy	Ministry of Defence AIAD
Latvia	Ministry of Defence
Lithuania	Ministry of Defence Defence Material Agency
Luxembourg	Luxinnovation
Netherlands	Ministry of Economic Affairs Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO)
Norway	Norwegian Defence and Security Industries Association
Poland	Ministry of Defence Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Portugal	Ministry of Defence
Romania	Permanent Representation of Romania to the EU
Slovakia	Permanent Representation of Slovakia to the EU
Slovenia	Ministry of Defence
Spain	Ministry of Defence
Sweden	Ministry of Defence