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**UCLouvain, Master in EU studies** 

Autumn 2025, Monday 1:30pm-3:30pm, Local P50

#### Outline

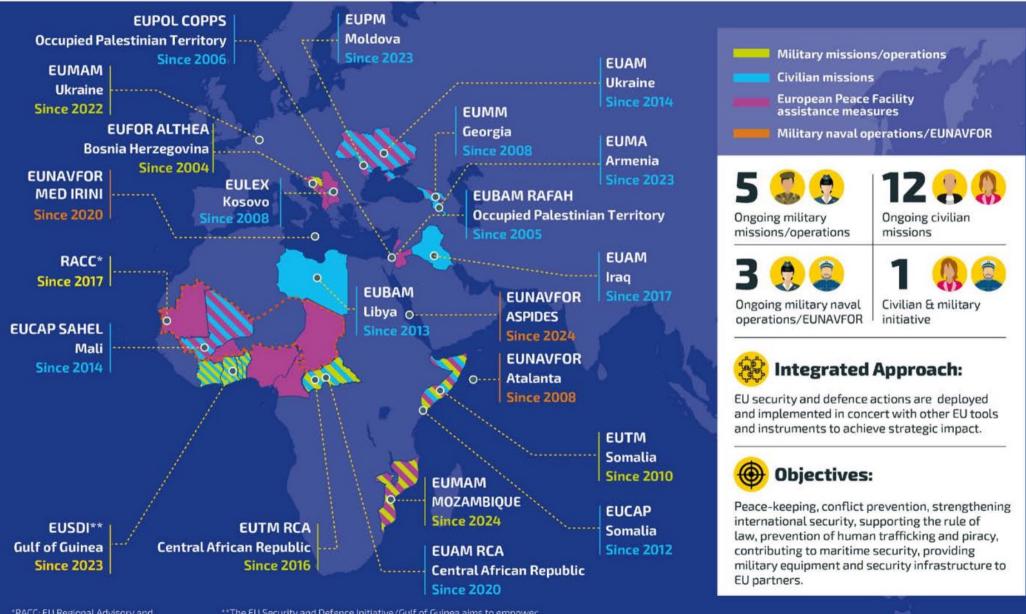
- Session 2 The European Union A peacemaker
  - I. History Explaining the origins of European defence policy
  - II. The ESDP/CSDP Analysing the EU's main politico-military instrument
  - III. Governance Understanding who makes decisions and how
- Session 3 The European Union A militaro-industrial entrepreneur
  - Oral presentation by Ahmed
  - Lecture





#### EU SECURITY AND DEFENCE ENGAGEMENT AROUND THE WORLD

November 2024 © European Union



\*RACC: EU Regional Advisory and Coordination Cell for the Sahel \*\*The EU Security and Defence Initiative/Gulf of Guinea aims to empower
Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo and Benin to strengthen their security and defence capabilities

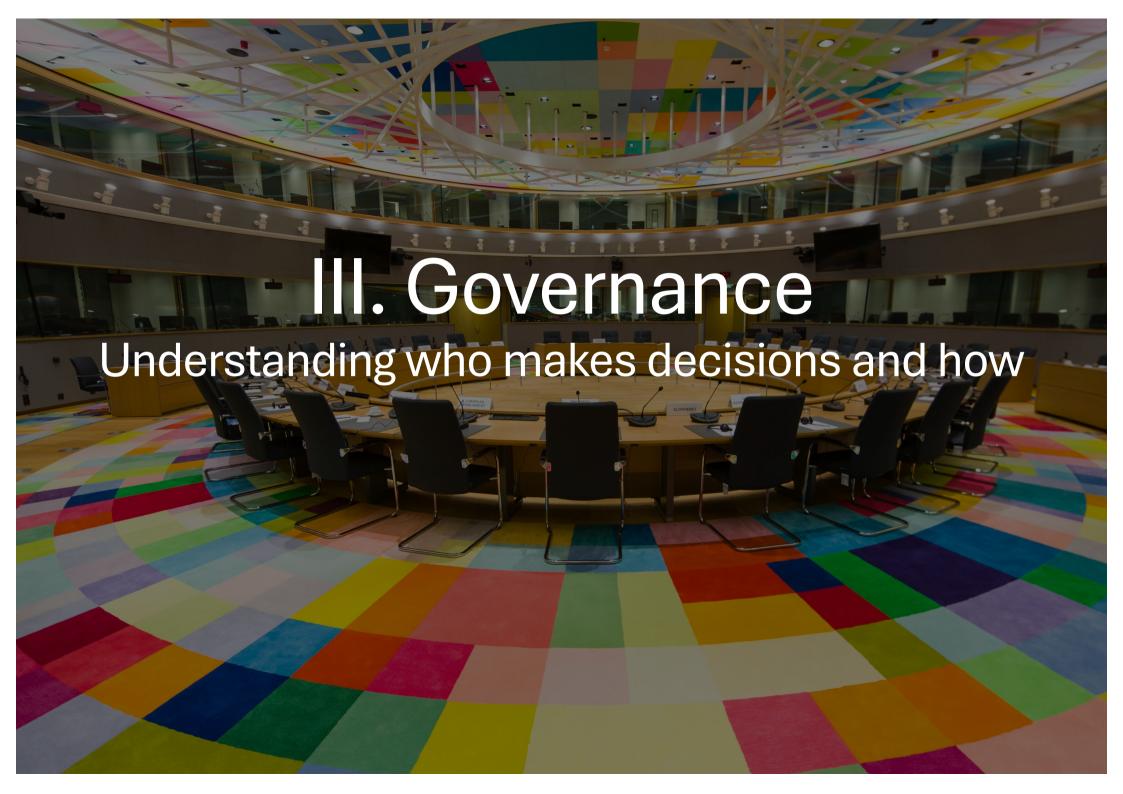
# Beyond the CSDP (and the EU): Military instruments for the coordinated deployment of national forces in Europe in the post-Cold War context

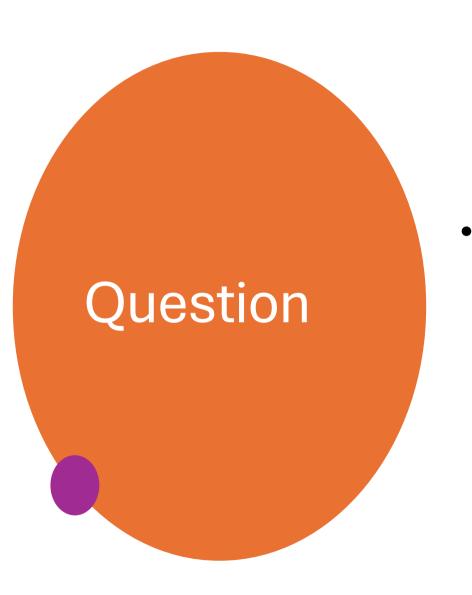
Instrument	Creation	Context	Objective	Format	Planned staffing levels	Planned staffing levels	Operational status
EU Battlegroups	2004	Post-Iraq 2003 EU initiative to strengthen joint rapid response capabilities	Joint battle groups that can be rapidly deployed in crises	Multilateral – EU (rotational participation by Member States)	~1,500 soldiers per battle group	Approximately 1,500 soldiers per group (rotational)	Never deployed in actual operations
EU Rapid	Announced in	Strengthening of the	Rapid, flexible,	EU (volunteer EU Member States)	Up to 5,000	Under construction,	Not yet deployed, under development
Deployment Capability (EU RDC)	2022 (operational target 2025- 2027)	CSDP within the framework of the EU Strategic Compass	projectable force of up to 5,000 soldiers for autonomous interventions		soldiers	variable voluntary participation	

## Beyond the CSDP (and the EU): Military instruments for the coordinated deployment of national forces in Europe in the post-Cold War context

Instrument	Creation	Context	Objective	Format	Planned staffing levels	Planned staffing levels	Operational status
Franco-German Brigade (BFA)	1989	Bilateral initiative to strengthen Franco- German military cooperation after the Cold War	Integrated combat force for joint Franco-German and European operations	Bilateral (Germany and France)	~5 600 soldiers	~5 600 soldiers	Deployed several times, but rarely as a fully integrated force (including Bosnia and Herzegovina, EUFOR Althea, 1997- 2004; Kosovo, KFOR, NATO, from 1999; Mali, Operation Serval then Barkane, 2013-2021)
EU Battlegroups	2004	Post-Iraq 2003 EU initiative to strengthen joint rapid response capabilities	Joint battle groups that can be rapidly deployed in crises	Multilateral – EU (rotational participation by Member States)	~1,500 soldiers per battle group	Approximately 1,500 soldiers per group (rotational)	Never deployed in actual operations
NORDEFCO	2009	Enhanced Nordic cooperation for military effectiveness and interoperability	Force coordination, joint exercises, operational cooperation	Minilateral (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden)	No permanent force defined	Ad hoc deployments (joint participation in EU/NATO operations))	Deployed on an ad hoc basis in joint missions such as the air surveillance mission in the Baltic States
Combined Joint Expeditionary Force (CJEF)	2010 (Lancaster House Treaty)	Post-2008 bilateral Franco-British agreement for rapid military cooperation	Joint expeditionary force capable of acting outside NATO/EU	Bilateral (France and United Kingdom)	Up to 10,000 soldiers	Capacity varies depending on mobilisation (partial availability)	Deployed in exercises, never in operations
Joint Expeditionary Force (JEF)	2014	British initiative to strengthen rapid military cooperation post-UK Brexit	Multinational joint expeditionary force for regional defence and crises	Multilateral – Outside the EU (United Kingdom, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden)	~10,000 soldiers	Variable capacity, mobilisation for regular exercises	Deployed on an ad hoc basis for joint missions, such as in the Baltic states in the context of the war in Ukraine
European Intervention Initiative (EII)	2018	French initiative to develop a common strategic culture outside the EU	Facilitating rapid deployments, information sharing and capabilities	Multilateral – Outside the EU (France, Germany, United Kingdom, Spain, Italy, Belgium, Portugal, Netherlands, Denmark, Finland, Norway, Estonia, Sweden)	No permanent force	No permanent force, coordination framework	In preparation phase, occasional deployments envisaged
EU Rapid Deployment Capability (EU RDC)	Announced in 2022 (operational target 2025- 2027)	Strengthening of the CSDP within the framework of the EU Strategic Compass	Rapid, flexible, projectable force of up to 5,000 soldiers for autonomous interventions	EU (volunteer EU Member States)	Up to 5,000 soldiers	Under construction, variable voluntary participation	Not yet deployed, under development







 How are decisions made in the field of defence within the EU and by whom?

#### 1) An intergovernmental governance

- At the heart of the decision-making process, national political actors:
- European Council
- (informal) EU Council
  - Since 2001: Political and Security Committee (COPS), EU Military Committee (CMUE), EU Military Staff (EMUE)
  - Since 2004: European Defence Agency (EDA)
- Unanimity as a decision-making principle

#### 2) News: European Council, October 2025

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#### 5 things we learned from the EU's summit in Copenhagen

From proposing a "drone wall" to using frozen assets, the agenda was long and detailed. The results, less so.

October 1, 2025 7:33 pm

NETTE NÖSTLINGER

#### Talks focused on 'governance' of defense

Leaders extensively discussed how the bloc would proceed on common defense issues, an EU official said.

While countries in essence welcomed the Commission's proposals, they insisted on having a clear say going forward — that's why, in future, meetings between the bloc's 27 defense ministers and the EU's top diplomat Kaja Kallas will happen more frequently, the official added.

The question of what to do with the frozen Russian assets and Ukraine's EU accession process were also part of this afternoon's talks.



#### 2. Leaders tell the Commission: We're still in charge of defense

The two hours on the schedule for talking about common defense ended up taking twice that long.

While countries broadly welcomed the Commission's proposals, leaders insisted on having a bigger say.

Given the need for further discussion, meetings among the bloc's 27 defense ministers and the EU's top diplomat Kaja Kallas will happen more frequently, said an EU official with knowledge of the summit proceedings.

The EU still needs to work out the details of the so-called drone wall, which didn't see agreement on Wednesday. This will be "an anti-drone system that is able to do swift detection, interception and of course, if necessary, neutralization," von der Leyen said.

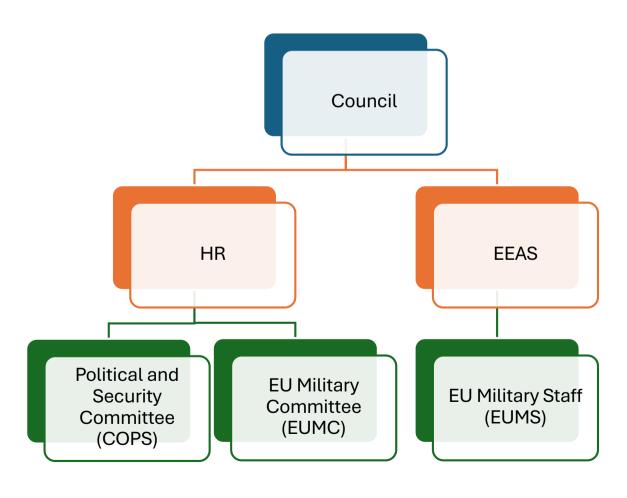
European heavyweights France and Germany expressed skepticism of a drone wall managed by the Commission, while southern countries are pushing for a broader concept that will also protect their borders.

#### 3) Danemark: opt-out until 2022



## 4) Decision-making process: chaired by the EEAS, led by the Council

- Decisions relating to the CSDP are taken by the Council (Foreign Affairs), chaired by the High Representative of the Union, and are prepared, supported and implemented by the EEAS
- Member State ministers take decisions under the chairmanship of the HR and with logistical support from the EEAS in their implementation

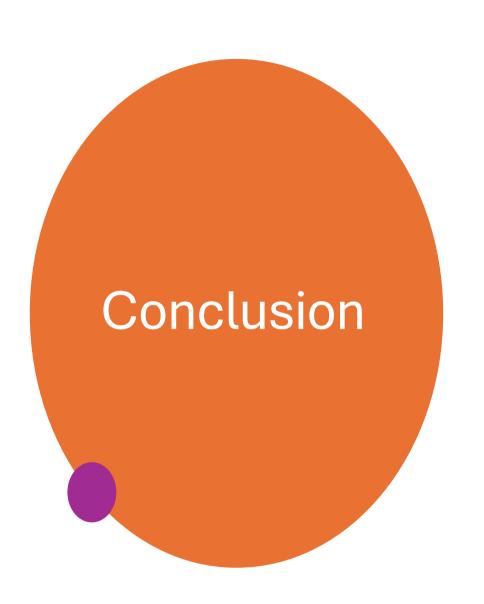


## 5) How to deploy a CSDP mission or operation?

- Decision-making to launch a mission/operation
  - Decision taken at the request of the partner country to which assistance is provided and/or based on a UN Security Council Resolution
  - Always in full respect of international law
  - Then, it needs the approval of all 27 MS
- Decision-making during a mission/operation
  - Military operation: An operationel headquarter is provided by a MS as a framework nation
  - Civilian mission: Commanded by the EU Civilian Operations Commander who is supported by the Civilian Planning and Conduct Capability (CPCC) within the EEAS

#### 6) What about supranational institutions?

- European Parliament: advisory role ('committee' security and defence)
- European Commission: no legislative initiative
- EU Court of Justice: no prerogatives



- The governance of European defence policy is intergovernmental
  - Member States are at the heart of the system
  - with institutional support from the EEAS in implementation
  - supranational institutions are secondary actors

#### To go further

https://www.youtube.com/watch ?v=uj385Rq\_66I





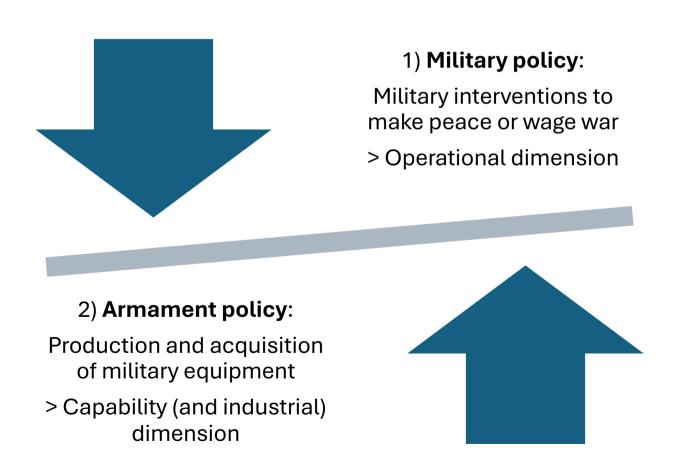
# Session 3 – The European Union: A militaro-industrial entrepreneur

#### Outline

- I. Definiton
- II. Policy instruments
- III. Governance



## 1) From military to armament policy: The EU's other role in defence



#### 2) The various areas of application



#### 3) Two types of policy instruments

#### 1) Regulatory instruments

> Development of an internal market

#### 2) Budgetary instruments

> Developement of an industrial policy

EU armaments policy



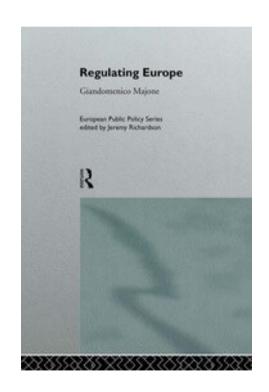
1) Two steps: 2009 & 2017

1) The institutionalisation of a 'regulatory state' by the market (since 2009)

2) The development of the EU's own budgetary resources (since 2017)

## 2) The institutionalisation of a 'regulatory state' by the market (since 2009)

- 'Regulatory state' (Majone, 1996)
- 'Market-making' (Scharpf, 2000)
  - liberalisation/deregulation at national level to build a transnational economic area through the production of standards
- 2009: 'defence package' > 2 directives
  - Public Security and Defence Market (PSDM, 2009/81/EC)
  - Intra-Community Transfers (ICT, 2009/43/EC)



## 3) The development of the EU's own budgetary resources (since 2017)

- 'Supranational security state'; 'state building' (McNamara, 2023)
- 'Market-correcting' (Scharpf, 2000)
  - Beyond deregulation and standards, the rise of EU's own capabilities including budgetary resources?
  - From Liberalisation to industrial policy: A geoeconomic turn (Fiott, 2024)
- 2017: European defence fund (EDF)
  - 8 billions euros on the 2021-2028 MFF

#### 4) Scope of application

Planning	Research	Development	Production	Acquisition	Maintenance	Transfer
	European defe	nce fund (2017)		Public Security and Defence Market Directive (2009)		Intra- Community Transfers Directive (2009)

### 5) Before and after 2022: The others policy instruments

Scope of application	Before 2022	After 2022	
Planning	CARD (2017)		
Research	EDF (2017)		
Development			
Production		ASAP (2023)	
		EDIP (2024)	
		SAFE (2025)	
Acquisition	Defence package (2009)	EDIRPA (2023)	
		EDIP (2024)	
		SAFE (2025)	
Maintenance	EPF (2021)		
Transfer	Defence package (2009)		

- CARD: Coordinated Annual Review on Defence
- EPF: European Peace Facility
- ASAP: Act in Support of Ammunition Production
- EDIP: European Defence investment Programme
- SAFE: Security Action for Europe > 'ReArm Europe Plan'
- EDIRPA: European Defence Industry Reinforcement through common Procurement Act

