

SECURITY HAS A SOCIAL DIMENSION

RECOMMENDATIONS IN A VIEW OF THE EUROPEAN ELECTIONS 2019



EU COOPERATION ON SECURITY AND DEFENCE

1991-93

The foundations are laid for a Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP)

1999

Launch of the European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP)

2002

Signature of Berlin Plus

2003

European Security Strategy adopted

2004

Creation of the European Defence Agency (EDA)

2009

The Treaty of Lisbon enters into force, renaming ESDP to Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP)

2013

Priority actions for defence set out

2016

Presentation of the European Union Global Strategy

Signature of the EU-NATO Joint Declaration

European Defence Action Plan presented by the European Commission

Common set of proposals to implement the EU-NATO Joint Declaration

2017

EU Global Strategy: Council conclusions on security and defence

Council establishes the Military Planning and Conduct Capability

Launching the European Defence Fund (EDF)

Establishing the Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO) with 25 member states participating

2018

Implementation of PESCO roadmap

Provisional agreement on the European Defence Industrial Development Programme (EDIDP)

Council adopts conclusions on strengthening civilian CSDP

Nine EU countries signed the letter of intent on creating the European Intervention Initiative (EII)



Since the last European Elections, European citizens have faced new asymmetric threats that put the **SECURITY AND DEFENCE** among the most important matters in the EU policies.

Europe needs a strong and active **COMMON SECURITY AND DEFENCE POLICY (CSDP)**, which in turn requires a more competitive and efficient defence and security sector.

NO EU MEMBER STATE CAN RESPOND TO TODAY'S SECURITY THREATS - INTERNAL OR EXTERNAL - ON ITS OWN.

During the inter-election period, we have witnessed true milestones: the joint declaration between the EU and NATO paving the way for substantive future collaboration between these two organisations, the creation of the **EUROPEAN DEFENCE FUND (EDF)**, activation of the **PERMANENT STRUCTURED COOPERATION (PESCO)** on security and defence, creation of the **EUROPEAN DEFENCE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (EDIDP)** boosting innovation in the European defence industry and the **COORDINATED ANNUAL REVIEW ON DEFENCE (CARD)** which helps identify opportunities for new collaborative initiatives.

CSDP MISSIONS & OPERATIONS

6 military missions & operations

10 civilian missions

Over **5,000** people deployed to:

Bosnia and Herzegovina, Central African Republic, Georgia, Iraq, Kosovo, Libya, Mali, Mediterranean Sea, Niger, Palestinian Territories, Somalia, Ukraine



SOCIAL DIMENSION OF SECURITY AND DEFENCE

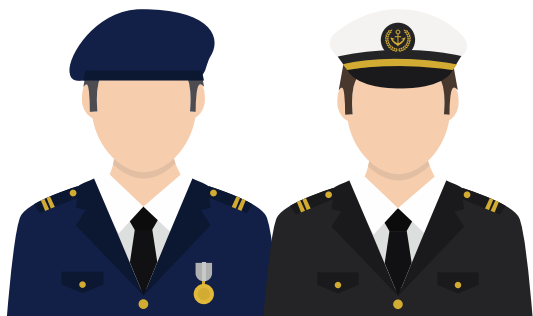
The first time the European Parliament called on Member States to grant servicemen and –women the right to freedom of association was in 1984, in its resolution on the rights of members of the armed forces to form associations. Since then, the Parliament has repeatedly promoted the fundamental rights and freedoms of military personnel.

Nonetheless, although DEFENCE AND SECURITY have become top priorities of the European policies, it is often forgotten that there are always men and women behind these notions who use their skills and put lives in danger to make fellow citizens feel safe and secure.

EUROMIL supports a comprehensive and indivisible approach to security, which includes, among other things, a HUMAN and SOCIAL dimension. EUROMIL calls upon the European leaders to not only show their ambition when it comes to military projects but also with regards to GUARANTEEING FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS for military personnel, harmonising working conditions and social protection of the men and women who protect Europe's security.

The European Parliament Resolution on the European Defence Union of 22 November 2016 includes the essential element EUROMIL is calling for, namely a reference to the social dimension of a future European defence. More particularly, the text, in §12:

“[...] Calls on the Member States to particularly recognise the right of military personnel to form and join professional associations or trade unions and involve them in a regular social dialogue with the authorities; invites the European Council to take concrete steps towards the harmonisation and standardisation of the European armed forces, in order to facilitate the cooperation of armed forces personnel under the umbrella of a new European Defence Union.”





MEDICAL CARE

Best possible and free medical and psychological care before, during and after the mission abroad. Long-term medical surveillance and treatment of returning soldiers and veterans fully guaranteed through military medical facilities and/or the civilian healthcare system.



LEGAL SECURITY & PROTECTION

Legal security for soldiers by reality checked mandates, caveats and rules of engagement. Legal protection in the execution of their function also during missions abroad.



TRAINING

Extensive training as joint forces, including comprehensive education on languages, national and international laws as well as cultural awareness; training and exchange initiatives aimed at enhancing the interoperability and the development of a common strategic culture.



EQUAL WAGES

Equal wages financed from the EU budget to increase solidarity and motivation (in multinational and more particularly CSDP missions).



EQUIPMENT

Provision of appropriate personal combat equipment and high standard of armour protection of vehicles, effective and appropriate logistic supply structures considered priorities, especially in CSDP missions. The emphasis put on the safety of soldiers using the equipment: a high-quality one means better protection!



SOCIAL SECURITY

Reintegration in the civilian labour market for military personnel with short-term contracts, harmonisation and standardisation of the living and working conditions of the military personnel. PTSD recognised as an occupational sickness of peace-keeping veterans.

EUROMIL

EUROMIL strives to secure and advance the human rights, fundamental freedoms and socio-professional interests of military personnel of all ranks by monitoring and advocating at the European level.

WHAT DO WE DO?

ADVOCATE the right of European soldiers to form and join military professional associations or trade unions

PROMOTE the inclusion of professional military associations and trade unions into a regular social dialogue

PROVIDE a common forum of debate for member associations and support them in their national lobbying work

SUPPORT the inclusion of military service personnel into the social and labour legislation of the European Union

FOLLOW developments in NATO and the EU to provide its member associations with updated information



Founded in **1972**

Represents approx. **500,000**
soldiers and their families

34 military associations and trade
unions from **23** countries



CITIZENS IN UNIFORMS

As citizens in uniforms, armed forces personnel are entitled to the same rights and freedoms as all other people, subject to certain limitations imposed by military service.

The citizen-in-uniform concept should be the essential mechanism for safeguarding the democratic control of armed forces. It helps to prevent the military from becoming a state within a state by the adoption of laws, policies, and a military mindset that underlies the integration between the armed forces and society.

Soldiers are highly skilled employees who have the same legitimacy to promote their social and professional interests as other employees do. The rapidly advancing technical development of armed forces and increasing sophistication of modern weapon systems set growing educational and training demands on the soldiers of today. European soldiers are also expected to serve in increasingly challenging crisis management operations.

This demands from all ranks (officers, non-commissioned officers and privates) language skills, cultural awareness as well as capacity for independent situational judgment and constructive interaction with civilian actors. Besides traditional fighting skills, soldiers are expected to function as mediators and even social and development aid workers with highest moral integrity and sensibility.

And educated, highly specialised experts tend to demand a say in their employment conditions.



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