



EUROMIL Recommendations

**A more inclusive Europe for
military personnel**

In view of the European elections
2024



What is EUROMIL?

The European Organisation of Military Associations and Trade Unions (EUROMIL) is an umbrella organisation representing professional military associations and supports the concept **#CitizenInUniform**, according to which military personnel should be entitled to the same rights and obligations as any other citizens.

Main goals of EUROMIL:

- Advocates for the right of European soldiers to form and join military professional associations or trade unions.
- Promotes the inclusion of professional military associations and trade unions into a regular social dialogue.
- Provides a common forum of debate for member associations to exchange information, to formulate guidelines and best practice on social and professional matters of military personnel.
- Supports the inclusion of military service personnel into the social and labour legislation of the European Union.
- Follows developments in NATO and the EU to provide its member associations with updated information and support the further European defence integration.



Security and Defence

The European Parliament on its 2022 Annual Report on CSDP *"urges the EU to provide personnel engaged in missions and operations with **adequate equipment and training** [...]and take into account the **social and working rights of military personnel** when they are trained and deployed together in an EU framework".* Also, the European Parliament Resolution "EU Rapid Deployment Capacity, EU Battlegroups and Article 44 TEU: the way forward" underlines that *"the EU RDC will be made up of forces that will train and work together and that **as long as they are under EU command, the troops assigned to the EU RDC should enjoy equal working and social rights**".*

EUROMIL calls for:

- The Member States to immediately take under consideration the CSDP Annual Report and the Resolution on the Rapid Deployment Capacity and work towards the protection of the social and working rights of military personnel when trained and deployed together under a European framework
- Adequate equipment, training and capabilities to deal with emerging threats and challenges, as climate change
- Timely implementation of the Strategic Compass
- More common exercises, trainings and courses to build a common military culture
- Gender Equality and diversity in the Armed Forces

Thus, the EU will move towards further defence integration and take the necessary steps into building a **European Defence Union**.



Social Affairs

The military is a unique institution that requires special attention when it comes to social policies. These **policies are crucial in improving the lives** of the thousands **of people who serve in the armed forces** of EU member states.

From fair pay and benefits to access to healthcare, housing, education, and support for families, social policies for military personnel cover a wide range of issues. These policies should be **designed to address the unique challenges that military personnel face due to the nature of their work**, such as long deployments, exposure to danger, and potential health problems.

EUROMIL calls for:

- Equal rights and treatment of soldiers
- Right to form and join trade unions
- Inclusion of military personnel into EU social and labour legislation and participation in social dialogue
- Fair and equitable pay and benefits for all military personnel
- Consistent application of working time regulations across all military
- Access to high-quality healthcare, including mental health services
- Support for the transition of military personnel to civilian life, including access to education, training, and employment opportunities

Overall, EUROMIL aims to promote social policies that improve the well-being and quality of life for military personnel and their families.

