





# EDF CALLS FOR PROPOSALS 2026

## DEVELOPING TOMORROW'S DEFENCE CAPABILITIES












**10 calls**  
**€1 billion**

The European Defence Fund is the Commission's instrument to support collaborative Research and Development in defence. It is implemented through annual work programmes.

The **sixth** European Defence Fund (EDF) Work Programme addresses **31 topics** in total, organised around **7 thematic calls**, **3 non-thematic calls**, one action to focus on threats from hypersonic glide vehicles, and two actions in support of the EU Alliance for defence medical countermeasures.

CATEGORIES		TOPICS	BUDGET (in million euros)
	Defence medical support, CBRN, biotech and human factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Defence medical countermeasures alliance – Research and Development actions (2 topics)</li> <li>CBRN decontamination systems and technologies</li> </ul>	40
	Advanced Passive and Active Sensors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multidomain sensors demonstrator and test</li> <li>Enhanced cognitive EW system with intelligent RESM CESM signal analysis</li> </ul>	44
	Cyber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quantum secured tactical networks</li> </ul>	14
	Space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integration of Galileo PRS receivers on weapon systems and NAVWAR operational centres in military C2</li> </ul>	50



CATEGORIES		TOPICS	BUDGET (in million euros)
	Digital Transformation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AI-based tactical situational awareness using swarms of small robots and drones – participation in and organisation of a technological challenge (2 topics)</li> <li>Military multi-domain operations cloud services</li> </ul>	70
	Energy Resilience and Environmental Transition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New turbofan engine</li> <li>High-performance energy systems</li> <li>Ammunition Waste Collection and Disposal Unmanned Platform</li> </ul>	50
	Materials and Components	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Smart and multifunctional textiles</li> </ul>	20
	Air Combat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Autonomous and automatic air-to-air refuelling</li> <li>Self-protection systems</li> <li>Smart technologies for next generation fighter systems</li> </ul>	69
	Air & Missile Defence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Countering hypersonic glide vehicles</li> <li>High-end endo-atmospheric interception</li> </ul>	168
	Ground Combat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multiple rocket launcher</li> <li>Future main battle tank platform systems</li> </ul>	150
	Force Protection and Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Future multirole light aircraft</li> <li>Secure digital military mobility system</li> </ul>	24
	Naval Combat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhanced medium-size semi-autonomous surface vessels</li> </ul>	90
	Underwater Warfare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development and validation of models predicting flow-related underwater noise</li> <li>Layered critical seabed infrastructure protection</li> </ul>	40
	Simulation and Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Modelling &amp; simulation supported AI framework for military decision-making and training</li> </ul>	16
	Disruptive Technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New abilities in over-the-horizon sensing</li> <li>Non-thematic actions targeting disruptive technologies for defence</li> </ul>	57
Non- thematic calls for innovative and future-oriented defence solutions focused on SMEs		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Call for proposals dedicated to SMEs and research organisations</li> <li>Call for proposals dedicated to SMEs</li> </ul>	65
Other actions*		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Business Coaching for SMEs</li> <li>Defence Equity Facility under InvestEU for SMEs and Mid-Caps</li> <li>EUDIS Defence hackathons</li> <li>EUDIS Business Accelerator</li> <li>EUDIS Matchmaking Services</li> </ul>	39

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#### EU Defence Innovation Scheme (EUDIS):

The EDF's 2026 Work Programme allocates nearly €60 million to disruptive technologies and over €60 million to non-thematic calls for proposals for SMEs, This year EUDIS will also offer a number of support services, such as 1 technological challenge to improve AI-based technologies for tactical situational awareness, 2 spin-in call topics to allow for smooth adaptation of civilian technologies to defence requirements, financial support options for smaller players, and two EUDIS Defence Hackathons.

