

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002026/24
to the Commission
Fabio De Masi (NI)
(11 October 2024)**

Subject: Commission plans to classify armament plants and facilities as sustainable

1. How does the Commission justify its alleged plans ⁽¹⁾ to classify armament plants and facilities as sustainable in the future through modifications of the taxonomy and/or the regulation on sustainability-related disclosures in the financial services sector?
2. On the one hand, how does the Commission explain its plan, particularly in view of the fact that the manufacture of armaments and their use by the military results in the emission of significant quantities of greenhouse gases?
3. On the other hand, how does the Commission explain its plan when the build-up of military capacity can contribute to the escalation of (military) conflicts, which go hand in hand with the destruction of infrastructure and the loss of human life?

Submitted: 11.10.2024

**Answer given by Ms McGuinness on behalf of the European Commission
(28 November 2024)**

Under the EU Defence Industrial Strategy (EDIS) ⁽¹⁾, improving access to finance for the defence industry is a priority. As the Commission replied in Written Question E-003638/2023 ⁽²⁾, ‘the EU sustainable finance framework does not impose any limitations on financing the defence sector’.

Nor does it classify defence activities as sustainable under the EU Taxonomy ⁽³⁾ or the Sustainable Finance Disclosures Regulation ⁽⁴⁾.

The sustainable finance framework aims to incentivise investments in activities which contribute to the EU environmental objectives.

While defence activities are not covered in the Taxonomy, defence undertakings can for example report investments into greening their buildings or transport solutions under the Taxonomy, like any other sector.

In addition, to contribute to the green transition and strengthen its resilience and cost-efficiency, the Commission supports the efforts of the European defence sector to improve sustainability, reduce carbon emissions and increase circularity in resource use, e.g. via the European Defence Fund which includes a dedicated category ‘energy resilience and environmental transition’.

¹ ⁽¹⁾Source: <https://taz.de/Waffenlobby-in-der-EU/!6041646/>

⁽¹⁾ https://defence-industry-space.ec.europa.eu/eu-defence-industry/edis-our-common-defence-industrial-strategy_en

⁽²⁾ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2023-003638-ASW_EN.html

⁽³⁾ https://finance.ec.europa.eu/sustainable-finance/tools-and-standards/eu-taxonomy-sustainable-activities_en

⁽⁴⁾ Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 November 2019 on sustainability-related disclosures in the financial services sector, OJ L 317, 9.12.2019, p. 1-16.