

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002723/25
to the Commission
Georgios Aftias (PPE)
(3 July 2025)**

Subject: Defence funding for non-EU countries in the new multiannual financial framework

The Commission plans to present the report on the multiannual financial framework, which includes European defence funding, on 16 July 2025. It is inconceivable — and beyond all logic — that a non-EU country, such as Türkiye, a country which directly or indirectly threatens Greece, an EU Member State, is allowed to participate in European defence funds with EU citizens' money.

Is the Commission going to finance the defence of Türkiye, a country which is not in the EU, which threatens Greece and which has not yet lifted the *casus belli* against my country?

Submitted: 3.7.2025

**Answer given by Mr Kūbilius on behalf of the European Commission
(10 September 2025)**

The EU budget supports the competitiveness of the European Defence Technological and Industrial Base via different programmes, supporting Member States or entities which are based and controlled in the EU. Neither Türkiye nor its defence industries are allowed to receive any funding from that source.

In the current multiannual financial framework, EU defence programmes do not allow for the participation of third countries except where the legislation explicitly provides this.

To this date, this has only been the case for countries being part of the European Free Trade Association that are also members of the European Economic Area (EFTA EEA), and for Ukraine.

The Security Action for Europe ⁽¹⁾ instrument provides financial assistance to Member States only. Based on the regulation, some third countries (acceding countries, candidate countries and potential candidates, and other third countries with whom the EU has entered a security and defence partnership) can participate in common procurement with Member States as any other third country which means that they are allowed to buy defence products originating from the EU or from Ukraine and EFTA EEA countries in common procurement with Member States.

This allows to increase the level of aggregation of the demand necessary to scale up the EU industrial capacity and at the same time ensures that Member States participating to the procurement obtain better prices.

However, Türkiye's industrial entities are not eligible for these acquisitions, unless an international agreement is concluded on this matter with the EU. So far, no such agreement has been concluded by the Council.

⁽¹⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2025/1106/oj/eng>.