

EN

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Answer given by Mr Kubilius  
on behalf of the European Commission  
(6.1.2026)

The Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO) is fully driven by participating Member States. Decisions on project proposals, participation, and implementation are taken by national governments within the Council framework, supported by the PESCO Secretariat (European External Action Service, including the EU Military Staff, and the European Defence Agency). The EU institutions cannot steer Greece's participation in PESCO, which is voluntary, and decision-making remains intergovernmental.

The Commission supports the broader efforts on defence through simplifying the regulatory environment for defence industry, and through instruments like the European Defence Fund (EDF). Other initiatives reinforcing the European Defence Technological and Industrial Base, such as the European Defence Industry Reinforcement through Common Procurement Act (EDIRPA)<sup>1</sup> and the Act in Support of Ammunition Production (ASAP)<sup>2</sup>, or the newly adopted European Defence Industry Programme (EDIP)<sup>3</sup>, offer financial support for Member States' collaborative defence efforts in view of strengthening defence readiness.

The EDF promotes participation of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and non-traditional defence actors, allocating around 20% of its work programme<sup>4</sup> to the EU Defence Innovation Scheme. A network of EDF National Focal Points<sup>5</sup> provides additional support. Around 100 Greek entities are participating in 137 of the 287 projects supported by the EDF and its predecessor programmes between 2017 and 2024, half of which are SMEs.

While EDIRPA applications are closed, joint procurement will be supported under EDIP, in line with the Defence Readiness Roadmap 2030<sup>6</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/2418/oj/eng>.

<sup>2</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/1525/oj/eng>.

<sup>3</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52024PC0150&qid=1765184118540>.

<sup>4</sup> [https://defence-industry-space.ec.europa.eu/eu-defence-industry/european-defence-fund-edf-official-webpage-european-commission\\_en](https://defence-industry-space.ec.europa.eu/eu-defence-industry/european-defence-fund-edf-official-webpage-european-commission_en).

<sup>5</sup> [https://defence-industry-space.ec.europa.eu/eu-defence-industry/network-european-defence-fund-national-focal-points-nfp\\_en](https://defence-industry-space.ec.europa.eu/eu-defence-industry/network-european-defence-fund-national-focal-points-nfp_en).

<sup>6</sup> [https://defence-industry-space.ec.europa.eu/document/download/9db42c04-15c2-42e1-8364-60afb0073e68\\_en?filename=Joint-Communication%20Defence-Readiness-Roadmap-2030.pdf](https://defence-industry-space.ec.europa.eu/document/download/9db42c04-15c2-42e1-8364-60afb0073e68_en?filename=Joint-Communication%20Defence-Readiness-Roadmap-2030.pdf).