

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000875/26
to the Commission
Thomas Pellerin-Carlin (S&D)
(3 March 2026)**

Subject: The role of batteries in the defence sector

As the war in Ukraine shows, the electrification of the battlefield is profoundly transforming the ways in which armed forces operate. The accelerated development of drones, in particular short-range and tactical drones, as well as the widespread use of on-board electronic equipment for soldiers (radios, night vision devices, GPS systems, etc.) and for ground, air and space platforms, are redefining supply constraints on armies.

There is no universal battery suitable for all these uses. The technologies and chemicals used vary according to usage requirements (energy density, power, durability, etc.), as well as the operational constraints of the different theatres of operation.

In this context, and in view of the strategic challenges related to industrial sovereignty and the resilience of EU supply chains:

1. Can the Commission specify what measures have been taken at EU level to secure supply chains for military-use batteries?
2. Does the work done on interoperability within NATO and the European Union help to reduce these vulnerabilities, in particular through better standardisation or harmonisation of European equipment?

Submitted: 3.3.2026

**Answer given by Mr Kubilius on behalf of the European Commission
(11 May 2026)**

Advanced storage technologies from batteries to supercapacitors have important dual civilian and military use. Establishing a strong and resilient battery supply chain while reducing external dependencies is therefore of strategic importance for the EU, as reflected in the Battery Booster Strategy ⁽¹⁾.

The EU also supports technological innovation and innovators ecosystems in the Strategic Energy Technology Plan ⁽²⁾ and in the Startup and Scaleup Strategy ⁽³⁾.

In terms of defence policy, the European Defence Fund ⁽⁴⁾ supports defence sector interoperability in energy-efficient solutions and green technologies that meet NATO and EU standards, notably energy storage systems like customised batteries, fuel cells and multi-source energy systems.

The BraveTech EU initiative ⁽⁵⁾ established between EU and Ukraine will also contribute to this objective by considering the lessons learnt in the battlefield.

The European Defence Industry Programme ⁽⁶⁾ supports resilient European defence supply chains through cross-border industrial cooperation, procurement actions, strategic reserves and industrial reinforcement actions.

It includes measures to anticipate and mitigate serious disruptions in the supply of defence and non-defence products, which the Commission is currently implementing in consultation with Member States through the Defence Security of Supply Board.

In addition, the Commission is working with Member States, industry and civilian standardisation stakeholders to prepare a landscape and gap analysis for defence and dual-use standardisation, to further reinforce the efficiency and interoperability of the EU defence market.

⁽¹⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/C/2026/682/oj/eng>.

⁽²⁾ https://energy.ec.europa.eu/topics/research-and-technology/strategic-energy-technology-plan_en.

⁽³⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:52025DC0270>.

⁽⁴⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/EN/legal-content/summary/european-defence-fund-2021-2027.html>.

⁽⁵⁾ https://defence-industry-space.ec.europa.eu/eu-defence-industry/bravetech-eu_en.

⁽⁶⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2025/2643/oj/eng>.