

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003087/26
to the Commission
Piotr Müller (ECR)
(22 July 2026)**

Subject: Development of Ukrainian drone technologies in the European defence industry

The Commission and Ukraine have signed a letter of intent to combine Ukraine's drone experience with Europe's industrial potential.

This cooperation is to be based on a clear division in which Ukraine provides technologies, combat experience and know-how, while further development, standardisation, certification and essential production takes place on EU territory, involving companies from all Member States. Any production in Ukraine should be limited and ancillary.

This arises from considerations of security of supply, protection of intellectual property, control of EU funds and the high risk of corruption and non-compliance by Ukraine.

The case of the Polish company operating in Kyiv whose favourable ruling in an arbitration case has not been implemented by the Ukrainian side shows that, without hard guarantees, European companies may be deprived of real legal protection.

Given the above:

1. Will the Commission ensure that the bulk of technology development, production, licensing and transfer takes place in the EU?
2. How will the Commission ensure equal and non-discriminatory access to these technologies for all Member States and eligible companies?
3. What mechanisms for audits, anti-corruption, enforcement of arbitration awards and recovery will be established?

Submitted: 22.7.2026

**Answer given by Mr Kubilius on behalf of the European Commission
(14 September 2026)**

The Letter of Intent signed on 15 July 2026 by the President of the European Commission and the President of Ukraine reflects a political commitment to develop a strategic defence-industrial partnership and, together with the Member States, to establish an EU-Ukraine Defence Industrial Pact.

The partnership will be mutually beneficial and support the gradual integration of Ukraine's defence technological and industrial base into the EU's defence industrial ecosystem. It will promote joint production, co-production, joint ventures and stronger industrial capacity in the EU and Ukraine.

However, it does not establish a general right of access to technologies or intellectual property owned by other undertakings. Licensing, technology transfers and intellectual property sharing will remain subject to the consent of the parties concerned and to applicable intellectual property, security and export-control rules.

Participation in EU-supported activities will follow transparent and non-discriminatory eligibility and selection criteria of the relevant EU instruments and procurement procedures.

EU programmes supporting the Pact will be implemented in full compliance with their legal bases, eligibility and control requirements, and with the EU Financial Regulation ⁽¹⁾.

The Ukraine Support Loan Instrument ⁽²⁾ includes a dedicated control system and cooperation with relevant audit bodies to ensure the proper use of funds throughout the implementation chain, from disbursement to delivery to final users.

The Letter of Intent also identifies procurement integrity, regulatory alignment, reciprocal market access, and the protection and transfer of intellectual property rights as key elements of the future partnership.

⁽¹⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/2509/oj>.

⁽²⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2026/467/oj>.