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P-003527/2025

Answer given by Mr Kubilius
on behalf of the European Commission
(19.11.2025)

In the State of the Union speech on 10 September 2025¹, the President of the Commission announced that, building upon Ukrainian ingenuity and experience in drone warfare, the EU will form a Drone Alliance with Ukraine.

The Defence Readiness Roadmap 2030², presented on 16 October 2025 sets concrete timelines and milestones. The roadmap focuses on strengthening EU and Ukrainian capacities in drones and counter drone technologies to meet real operational needs. The Commission has already invested over EUR 1 billion in 52 projects through EU defence industrial programmes, while the new BraveTech EU initiative will further accelerate drone innovations³.

The Commission and the High Representative/Vice-President also propose a set of initial European Readiness Flagships including: the European Drone Defence Initiative, building on lessons from Ukraine on innovative drone and counter-drone ecosystems, linking Research and Development with scalable production capacity, continuous technological development and the Eastern Flank Watch, to strengthen Eastern border Member States' capacity to face hybrid threats, Russia's shadow fleet and potential aggression.

The Commission will also advance implementation of its counter-drone programme set out in the Communication of 18 October 2023⁴ focusing on harmonising Member States' frameworks and upgrading the Joint Research Centre living lab into a Counter-Drone Centre of Excellence. The Commission will expand EU-funded training, pool and share capabilities, and set common performance standards and testing methods.

¹ https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/state-union/state-union-2025_en.

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52025JC0027>.

³ https://defence-industry-space.ec.europa.eu/eu-defence-industry/bravetech-eu_en.

⁴ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52023DC0659>.