

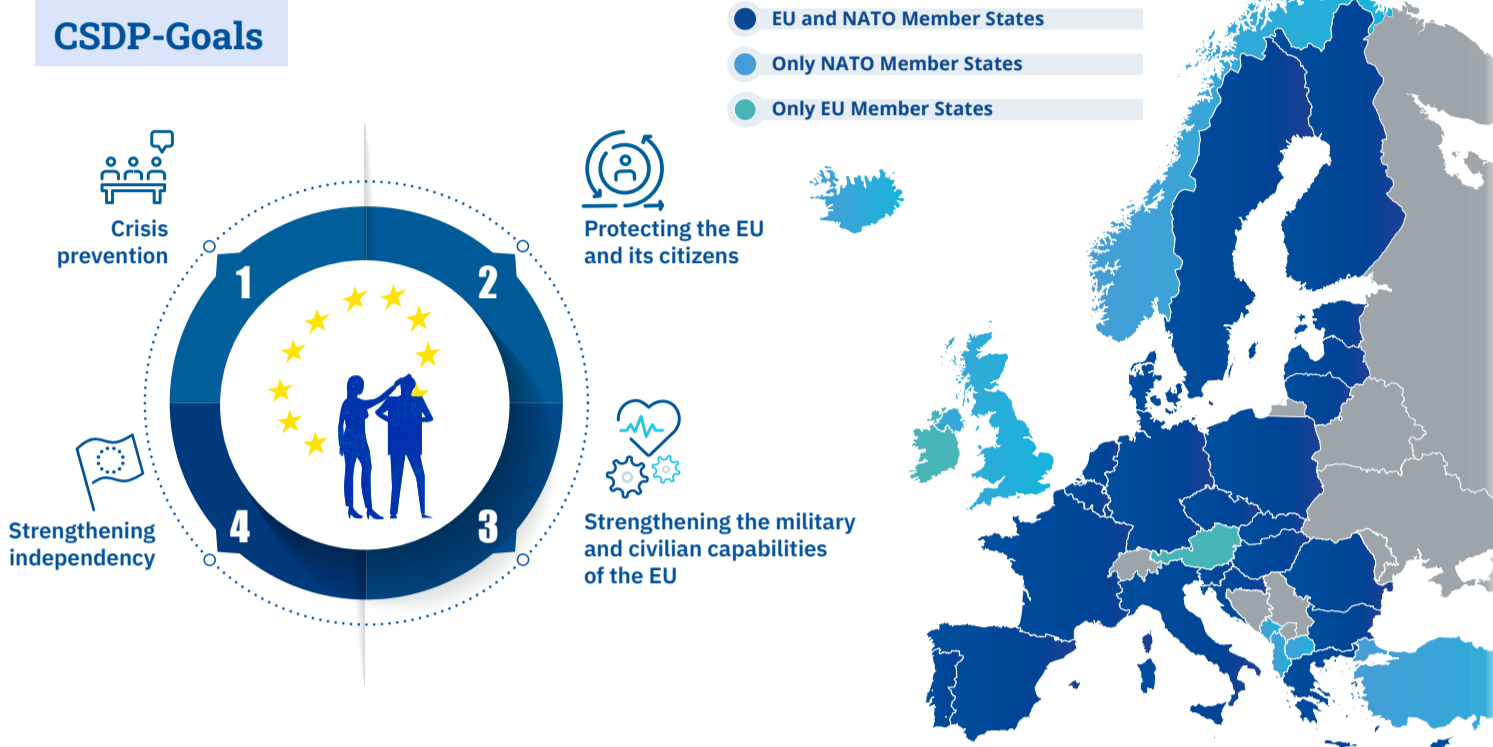
The Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) #EBDGrafik



The Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) is a policy area of the European Union and serves as the EU's military and security arm. It is part of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP). The CSDP enables the EU to independently conduct crisis management missions and military operations.



CSDP-Goals



Important Players

European Council	Provides strategic guidelines
Council of the EU	Ministers of Foreign Affairs or Defence, takes unanimous decisions
High Representative	Coordinates CSDP, chairs the Foreign Affairs Council
Political and Security Committee	Follows global developments, develops strategies, monitors crisis management
European Defence Agency	Supports the High Representative in foreign policy
Member States	Can submit proposals and initiatives
European Parliament	Only has consultation and information rights
Various committees	Support the decision-making processes

Means and structures within CSDP

- Battlegroups:** The EU Battlegroups are rapid response forces that have not yet been deployed. By 2025, a new rapid deployment capacity (EU RDC) with a target strength of 5,000 troops is to be established.
- PESCO (ongoing structured cooperation):** provides a platform for EU member states to jointly develop military capabilities and implement defence projects
- European Defence Agency (EDA):** supports EU countries in improving their military capabilities through co-operation in research, development and procurement.
- Coordinated Annual Review on Defence (CARD):** analyses the Member States' defence planning and identifies opportunities for enhanced cooperation
- European Defence Industrial Strategy (EDIS):** defines measures to strengthen the competitiveness and resilience of the European defence industry

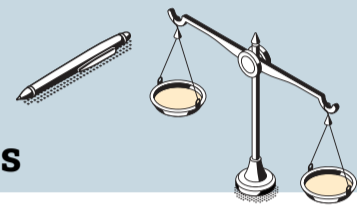
European Army

Milestones of the developing vision of a European Army:

- 1950** French PM proposes a European Defence Community (EDC) – vision of a joint army under a European defence minister.
- 1952** France, Germany, Italy, and the Benelux countries sign the EDC treaty.
- 1954** French National Assembly rejects the treaty – the plan fails.
- 2009** Treaty of Lisbon: The European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP) is renamed the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP). The basis for closer military co-operation.
- 2017** 25 Member States launch Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO) to boost defence collaboration.
- 2021** European Commission proposes a rapid deployment force to enhance crisis response.

Decision-making Rules

Decisions within the CSDP are taken unanimously with few exceptions. The CSDP is strictly intergovernmental in structure. The European Commission is involved through the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy. The European Parliament has only an advisory role and may issue recommendations.



Legal basis

- Treaty on European Union (TEU)**
 - Article 3 TEU – General provisions** - e.g. preservation of peace, territorial integrity
 - Article 15 TEU – The President of the European Council** - The President represents the EU externally, without prejudice to the powers of the High Representative, in matters of the CFSP/CSDP
 - Article 31 TEU – Principle of unanimity**
 - Article 42 TEU – Principles of the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP)** – Including the possibility of a common defence and the mutual assistance clause
 - Article 43 TEU – Petersberg tasks** (e.g. humanitarian missions, peacekeeping)
 - Article 44 TEU – Implementation of missions** – by a group of Member States
 - Article 45 TEU – Role of the European Defence Agency (EDA)**
 - Article 46 TEU – PESCO (Permanent Structured Cooperation)**

Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU)

Article 222 TFEU – Solidarity clause in the event of terrorist attacks or natural/man-made disasters

Current proposals for the further development of the CSDP:

800 Billion €

- The European Commission's "ReArm Europe" plan aims to mobilize up to **€800 billion**. It is based on five key measures:
- Fiscal flexibility:** Suspension of EU budget rules to allow Member States to increase defence spending.
 - Defence loans:** €150 billion in loans for joint defence projects, with debt issued collectively.
 - Budget reallocation:** Redirecting existing EU funds, including cohesion funds, to support defence investments.
 - Role of the European Investment Bank (EIB):** Lifting credit restrictions to support defence companies.
 - Savings union:** Mobilizing private capital for the defence industry and boosting investment in the sector.

Important to the EBD

- The EU must strengthen itself as a geopolitical player by expanding its military capabilities and developing a coherent common foreign policy. Key steps in this direction include:
- Introducing qualified majority voting in the Foreign Affairs Council
 - Strengthening the European Parliament's role in the Common Foreign and Security Policy
 - More joint procurement in European defence policy
 - Deepening defence policy cooperation among Member States
 - Pursuing the Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO) initiative with greater ambition