



Presidents' Council

EURODEFENSE

Paris, June 6, 2019

H.E. Federica Mogherini

High Representative of the Union
for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy
Vice-President of the Commission

Your Excellency,

EURODEFENSE is a network of fourteen national not-for-profit Associations, working together, on the basis of its Charter of 2006, to promote and contribute to the setting up of a credible and effective European defence and security. It has been entertaining relations with national and European authorities for many years, taking up a clear positive stance concerning the development of the Common Defence and Security Policy (CSDP). Our members are recognised for their expertise on security and defence policies and strategies. Some of them have occupied the highest positions in the EU institutions or their respective governmental organisations. Others have acquired a strong experience in multinational, allied or EU operations or missions. EuroDefense-Romania holds the chairmanship of the network for the year 2019.

The representatives of the member associations of EURODEFENSE, meeting in Madrid on May 23, 2019, discussed the future actions which should follow the initiatives already taken during the last three years, since you obtained in June 2016 approval of the Member States on the Global Strategy for the European Union's Foreign and Security Policy, aiming at strategic autonomy. In particular, initiatives such as the European defence fund, which we heartily welcome, imply a new involvement of the European Commission in the defence domain, via industrial issues, and, as a result, require certain evolutions in European executive structures.

It is obvious that the establishment of the new Commission, following the recent European elections, constitutes the right moment to clarify some issues in the European structures, concerning the Council, the relationship between the Commission and the European defence agency, as well as the Commission's own organisation, all this obviously with full respect at this stage to the principles established by the Lisbon treaty.

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This is the reason for the attached EURODEFENSE declaration, which aims at showing that precise answers to a number of questions will urgently be required; otherwise the European Union will not be able to reach its objective of strategic autonomy which it has itself decided.

The EURODEFENSE network remains fully available to contribute within the limits of its competences and capacities to further discuss and explore these proposals.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Muresan', is written over a faint, light blue rectangular background.

Dr. Liviu Muresan
President, EuroDefense-Romania

Attachment: EURODEFENSE declaration