



Presidents' Council

EURODEFENSE

Paris,

**Mrs Federica Mogherini
High Representative for Foreign affairs
and Security Policy**

Dear Mrs. Mogherini,

EURODEFENSE, 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 credible and effective European Defence, 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).

The leaks by Edward Snowden in 2013 of details concerning the surveillance by the US and allied intelligence agencies of private communications has prompted the debate about the relationship between the right to security and the right to privacy, and the controls that should exist on official surveillance of private communications, in particular of communications generated in another State.

The EURODEFENSE council then considers that some principles should underlie the practices of States in conducting surveillance of communications outside their sovereign territory and recommends guidelines that the European States should support in that domain. In that spirit I send you the joint WG17bis report on monitoring and surveillance electronic communications code of conduct for EU member states .This report completes the WG17 report we have already addressed to you in June2016.

Also, copies of the report will be sent to the *President of the European Council*, to the *President of the European Commission* and to the *President of the Security and Defence sub-committee of the European Parliament*. Moreover, copies will be sent, under adequate forms, to their national authorities by the presidents of the fourteen EuroDéfense associations of the EURODEFENSE network.

Yours sincerely,

Encl : WG Report
WG17bis Report

General Patrick Bellouard(retired)
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