



EURODEFENSE

Presidents' Council

Brussels, 19 November 2018

H.E. Federica Mogherini

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

Your Excellency,

In my capacity as President in Office of EURODEFENSE, I have the privilege to submit for your kind attention and evaluation the outcome of the EURODEFENSE President's Council meeting held in Brussels last month.

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 engaging in relations with national and European authorities for many years, taking up a clear and positive stance on the development of the Common Defence and Security Policy (CSDP). Our members have great expertise on security and defence policies and strategies, having been in the highest positions in their respective national defence organisations and with long experience in multinational, allied or EU operations and missions.

In the context of studies and research activities conducted by EURODEFENSE, the current role and responsibilities of the Military Planning and Conduct Capability (MPCC) have been analysed in depth and verified against the concrete experience of our expert Members. At this point of this work the EURODEFENSE Council concluded that, for the benefit of the European defence and security, it is time now to exploit the MPCC experience of the last eighteen months, and on that basis extend its responsibility to the operational planning and conduct of the EU's executive military operations. The advantages brought by this extended MPCC capability would be important not least to bring greater attention to the follow-up phase to a military engagement. Obviously, the resources for this new capability would have to be adjusted accordingly.

EURODEFENSE is willingly available to contribute, within the limits of its competences and capacities, to further explore how to improve the EU operational organisation and increase the effectiveness of the EU role to face new and evolving security challenges, in particular those concerning the coordination between civilian and military missions and operations.

Yours sincerely,

Admiral (Ret.) Willy Herteleer
President, EuroDefense-Belgium
President in Office, EURODEFENSE

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