



European
Commission

Defence

STATE OF THE UNION
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#SOTEU



The EU is working with NATO on a new EU-NATO Joint Declaration to be presented before the end of 2021

In future, the EU also needs to be able to do more on its own:

- To provide stability in our neighbourhood
- To deal with new and emerging threats; hybrid/cyber attacks, the arms race in space
- Because Europe is a unique security provider, with a long history of peacebuilding

The EU and NATO need to invest in our joint partnership and to draw on each side's unique strength.





***We have started to develop a European Defence ecosystem.
But what we need is the European Defence Union.***

Europe needs to:



improve collective decision-making and intelligence cooperation



consider its own joint Situational Awareness Centre



improve interoperability – we are investing in common platforms, from fighter jets to drones to cyber



consider waiving VAT when buying European-made defence equipment



a European Cyber Defence Policy, including legislation on common standards, under a new European Cyber Resilience Act



Presidents Macron and von der Leyen will convene a European Defence Summit in Toulouse under the French EU Presidency – first half of 2022

