

**Opinion of the Romanian Chamber of Deputies on the  
Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing  
the European Defence Fund (Text with EEA relevance)**

**COM(2018) 476**

The Chamber of Deputies supports a greater flexibility and openness of the European Union's Research and Innovation Framework Programme (Horizon Europe), in order to attract cooperation projects of SMEs in the field of defence.

The Chamber of Deputies manifests its concerns regarding the fact that estimated share of European collaboration in the earlier stage of defence research was of only 7,2% against a benchmark of 20% and recommends the initiation of measures for stimulating the achievement of the benchmark, including by supporting the collaboration of military education units and of those from the Member States which are under the collaboration average. It recommends measures for improving the resilience of the European defence community by multiplying the widely used communication channels and communication technologies, by technologically diversifying the communication networks and by initiating parallel communication networks which should be less dependent on ground infrastructure, in order to be usable in defence and response to natural disasters strategies.

Finally, the Chamber of Deputies recommends support actions for the long term research and development priorities concerning technological impulse and innovation, in the spirit of the cohesion policy.