



**EUDIS**

# EU DEFENCE INNOVATION SCHEME



## For European Defence Innovators



# €1.5 billion

## FOR DEFENCE INNOVATION IN THE EU

Through the European Defence Fund (EDF), the EU Defence Innovation Scheme (EUDIS) provides targeted R&D calls and support measures to help European defence innovators develop and scale their solutions.

### WHY EUDIS

Innovation is crucial to strengthening Europe's defence capabilities and readiness, enhancing operational superiority, reducing strategic dependencies, and ensuring long-term competitiveness. The EU Defence Innovation Scheme (EUDIS) fosters a dynamic European defence innovation ecosystem, helping startups, scale-ups, and SMEs to develop cutting-edge defence technologies.

EUDIS offers multiple tracks of support, including R&D grants, business acceleration and coaching services, testing and validation, and access to equity, helping defence technology founders bring their solutions to the market and integrate into the European defence sector.

Whether you are a start-up, scale-up, SME, innovator, investor, large enterprise, end-user or defence expert, EUDIS offers tailored opportunities to support and shape the future of European defence innovation.

### HOW TO BENEFIT



#### EQUITY INVESTMENTS

Receive an investment from the EIF into your Private Fund to invest in defence and dual-use innovation.



#### HACKATHONS, TECH FORGES & TEST CAMPAIGNS

Transform breakthrough concepts into deployable solutions at our hackathons. From the second half of 2026, validate them in tech forges and test campaigns.



#### EDF R&D CALLS

Access grant funding through non-thematic SME calls, Technological Challenges, Spin-in initiatives, and cascade funding opportunities to bring your innovations to the next level.



#### MATCHMAKING

Benefit from tailored matchmaking opportunities to enhance access to capital and connect with strategic partners.



#### BUSINESS ACCELERATOR

Strengthen your understanding of the defence sector, enhance your business development and market strategy through targeted training and mentoring.



#### BUSINESS COACHING

Gain expert, personalized guidance tailored to your unique business challenges. Select from 10 coaching packages designed to propel your success.

# EUDIS ACTIONS IN 2026

EUDIS actions made possible through EDF funding



## GRANTS & COACHING for SMEs

- Non-thematic R&D calls for SMEs & RTOs (€5-6 M per project)
- Thematic calls, including:
  - Technological Challenges
  - Spin-in EU civil R&D
  - Calls with acceleration services for start-ups
  - Disruptive Technology calls



## TECH FORGES and TESTING & VALIDATION (upcoming)

- Under BraveTech EU initiative to support rapid development and testing
- Vouchers for iterative technology development



## DEFENCE EQUITY FACILITY (FOR INVESTORS)

- €175 M equity support for European private funds investing in defence and dual-use technologies
- Deployed by the European Investment Fund



## BUSINESS ACCELERATOR

- 8-month programme for start-up & scale-up companies
- Non-dilutive seed funding (€120,000) per company and additional reward voucher to the top performing companies
- Two annual calls select 20 companies per cohort



## HACKATHONS

- Held annually in Spring and Autumn
- Winning teams receive mentoring & financial prizes



## MATCHMAKING

- 7 onsite events across the EU bringing together innovators, investors, end-users & corporates
- Online matchmaking platform
- Online capacity building events

Access EDF calls for proposals page >>>



Visit EUDIS info page >>>



© European Union, 2026

Reuse of this document is allowed, provided appropriate credit is given and any changes are indicated (Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International license). For any use or reproduction of elements that are not owned by the EU, permission may need to be sought directly from the respective right holders.

All images © European Union, © Adobe Stock.