

HIGH LEVEL EU CONFERENCE

**THE EUROPEAN DEFENCE FUND – DRIVING FACTOR  
FOR DEFENCE RESEARCH AND INNOVATION**

NEW WAYS – NEW MEANS – NEW FUNDS

VIENNA, 2 OCTOBER 2018



## INVITATION

**The Austrian Presidency of the Council of the European Union invites you to the  
HIGH LEVEL EU CONFERENCE:**

**THE EUROPEAN DEFENCE FUND – DRIVING FACTOR FOR DEFENCE RESEARCH  
AND INNOVATION**

The European Union has launched several new initiatives to boost and strengthen European security and defence. Among the most prominent ones are the Coordinated Annual Review of Defence (CARD), the Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO) and the European Defence Fund (EDF). The EDF, the core element, is entering a decisive phase during the Austrian EU Presidency.

The conference will be dedicated to discuss the European Commission's legislative proposal for a regulation of the EDF, contributing to the current negotiation process and enabling a sustainable basis for this unprecedented programme. It offers a timely opportunity and ideal platform for a comprehensive discourse between high level representatives and various stakeholders from government, industry, the research community and the armed forces.

Keynote speeches and two panels will focus on the reasoning behind the Commission's ambition, addressing the perspectives of the European Parliament, the European Defence Agency and representatives from industry and research. The conference is also designed to support stakeholders in developing strategies to benefit from the opportunities provided, but also to tackle possible challenges.

The registration and further information on all matters of the conference are available on our website [www.edf-vienna2018.at](http://www.edf-vienna2018.at). If you have any requests or need further information (e.g. accommodation to reduced rates, side events, etc.) please do not hesitate to contact us under [edf-vienna2018@koop.at](mailto:edf-vienna2018@koop.at).

Please note that registration is mandatory for gaining access to the venue. Due to security reasons, a successful accreditation does not automatically grant access to the venue. You will receive a separate confirmation email within two weeks after registering on the website.

**Registration Period: 09<sup>th</sup> July 2018 – 03<sup>rd</sup> September 2018**

*This event is linked to an Industry Matchmaking Workshop on the European Defence Industrial Development Programme (EDIDP) on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, hosted by the Austrian Chamber of Commerce and AeroSpace and Defence Industries Association of Europe (ASD). More information to the event is available on our website.*



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