

EURODEFENSE

PRESIDENTS' COUNCIL

BRUSSELS

17:19 october 2018

Chaired by: Eurod fense-Belgium

List of decisions

(initial version 10/11/2018-non approved by the presidents)

- Encl : 1.- Attendance list for the Council meeting in Brussels.
2.- Planning of EURODEFENSE activities (*ed. 30 10 2018*).
3.- List of European working groups (EWGs) (*ed. 30 10 2018*).
4.- EURODEFENSE Network

The Council regrets very much the absence of ED members from Greece, Luxembourg and CZ.

1.- Approval of the list of decisions of the Prague Council

The List of decisions –dated 15 06 2018- of the Presidents' Council of 24/26 may 2018 in Prague is approved.

2.- EURODEFENSE organisation and functioning

2.1.- National associations.

2.1.1.- EuroD fense-Italia

Professor Fabrizio W Luciolli confirm that EuroDefense-Italia is now organized. The board will be completed for the end of the year.

2.1.2.- EuroD fense-Gr ce

President Theodossis Georgiu had apologized for not being able to participate at this Council.

2.1.3.- EuroD fense-Luxembourg

Unfortunately, EuroDéfense-Luxembourg had not answered any attempts at making contact.

2.2.- Extension of the network.

2.2.1.- Estonia

Robin Ashby is in contact with the Estonian defense attaché who spoke to a former Estonian Chief of Defence. To be invited in Madrid if it is confirmed.

2.2.2.- Latvia

Contact with the Latvian defence attaché in Great Britain.

2.2.3.- Finland

Contacts through WEU parliamentary Assembly former members.

2.2.4.-Poland

Still good contact with senator Bodgan Klich

2.3.- Brexit consequences on ED-UK

ED-UK will continue as a member of EURODEFENSE at least during the transition period for Brexit and was therefore expected to attend the Presidents meeting in Spain and the international conference in Romania in 2019. Membership after the transition period would be influenced by the closeness of the future defence and security relationship between the EU and the UK, yet to be determined.

It has been noted that the EURODEFENSE chart does not say that the members have to be in the EU but in Europe.

3.- Activities EURODEFENSE 2018-2020.

3.1.- Meetings

3.1.1.- Spring 2019 presidents Council

EuroDefense-Espana confirms its Madrid invitation for the 23/25 may 2019.

The day 24 will be devoted to industrial visits.

3.1.2.- Autumn 2019 IME

EuroDéfense-Romania confirm its invitation for the autumn 2019 IME .

3.1.3.-Young Europeans EURODEFENSE Conference (YEEC)

EuroDefense-Italia consider organizing the Young European EURODEFENSE Conference in 2020.

3.2.-Activities planned for after 2018 (see Annex 2)

3.2.1.- Presidents' Council:

2019, EuroDéfense-Espana

2020 EuroDefense-Nederland

2021

3.2.2.- International Meeting EURODEFENSE - (IME)

2019, EuroDefence- Romania

2020, EuroDefense-Austria

EuroDefense-Portugal consider to organize IME in 2021 (simultaneity with the EU presidency)

4.- Work in the EURODEFENSE network.

4.1- Permanent groups/Observatories

4.1.1- Mediterranean basin Observatory

EuroDéfense-Espana has presented a report:” The situation in the Middle East and the EU”. It will be posted on the EURODEFENSE web site.

4.1.2- EURODEFENSE website

EuroDefense-UK and EuroDéfense-France linked their websites.

EuroDéfense-France develop the social nets use (Twitter, LinkedIn and Facebook). It has been decided not to pay the 900 euros asked for the EURODEFENSE site name protection.

4.1.3.- EWG 17 (ED-UK) “Cyber security”

At the end of the working meeting, EuroDefense-UK has proposed to write a new mandate for taking into account the commentaries made during this meeting. The Brussels meeting participants (FR and NL) will made a report.

4.1.4.- EWG22 (ED-Deutschland) Migrants and refugees

After the working group meeting (FR, GE, POR, SP) EuroDefense-Deutschland propose to circulate a document with proposals in the migration’s security domain.

4.1.5.- Arctic (ED-Deutschland)

EuroDefense-Deutschland has circulated an interesting document from Admiral Lutz Feldt document. EuroDéfense-France intend to give commentaries.

4.2.- EURODEFENSE Working Groups (EWGs)

4.2.1.- EWG 18 (ED-France) – EDEM – EDTIB

EWG18 is closed, but EuroDéfense-France keep in contact with some Commission members to keep an eye on the situation evolution.

4.2.2.-EWG25 “Energy transition” (ED-NL)

ED-NL has sent a modified mandate and wait for written answers to its questions. Jan Wind inform the Council of a conference on this matter in the European Parliament in February 2019.

5.- Current European issues

5.1.- “Too many ways for European cooperation”

The discussion on the “Permanent Structured Cooperation” and the “European Intervention Initiative” lead to the need of EU executive missions planning and conduct capacities. It has been decided to rapidly send to the High Representative a document requesting the MPCC mandate extension to the executive missions and to organize a working group on this matter.

5.2.- Blockchain and Defense

The Romanian confirm its works on the Blockchain technology consequences in the defense domain in the NATO or EU framework and announce a next document.

5.3- Brexit

It is noted that there is nothing new because negotiations are still going on. The British White Paper wish a close cooperation, participation to CSP, policy and internal cooperation, a participation in industrial projects and to stay in Galileo.

5.4.- Permanent Structured Cooperation

It is noted that PESCO will allow to develop industrial cooperations to acquire missing capacities in Europe.

But it is reminded that this PESCO should allow to group member states willing to be able to react rapidly together in case of crisis, and for that the EU need a permanent operations planning and conduct capacity.

6.- Associations activities

ED-Espana : EuroDefense-Espana activities are much growing (visits, conferences...); Spring Presidents Council preparation is the main one.

ED-France : Preparation of a conference : "Europe 30 years after the Berlin wall fall" for the 8 november 2019.

ED-Nederland : Meetings every 6 weeks. Study on PESCO. Contact with the new minister. Effort towards the youngs.

ED-Deutschland: Good contact with the MOD. Follow on GE/FR dialogue and the capacity projects cooperation.

ED-Romania : Contact with authorities to prepare autumn 2019 IME Effort towards the youngs. And cooperation with the European Defense College. Blockchain, cyber, and Black sea submarine security studies.

ED-Austria : Document for ministry of Defence on European military cooperation. 9 November conference on European Defence

ED-Portugal : Contact with the new minister and links with industry. Preparation of a conference for the youngs lined with universities.

ED-UK : Contact with MOD, study of Brexit consequences.

ED-Magyarország ; Contact with industry. Interest for PESCO and Cyber defence.

7.- Any other business

In concluding the meeting, the president Wilhem van Eekelen for the Council thanked EuroDefense-Belgium for the success of this Brussels meeting, with its very warm welcome and excellent organization, and the very interesting visit to Thales-Industrie Tubize.

Gilles Combarieu
Secretary General EURODEFENSE
secretairegeneralnet@eurodefense.net