

# The European Defence Union is official EU policy Even the EU now calls it “the European Army”

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From official EU and UK Government sources, for MPs and for ordinary members of the public

**There is no longer any pretence from the EU – they are preparing their own army. This is no longer hidden.**



Coat of arms,  
EU Military Staff



Angela Merkel

**“It took us a few weeks. And we decided it together, still at 28, and we did it.... Over this past year our common [EU] defence has advanced *more than in the previous 60 years.*” - Federica Mogherini, EU Commission Vice-President & de facto Defence & Foreign Secretary, Jun 2017**

**“The first missions under EU flag were launched already back in 2003. Since then, *34 EU missions have operated on three continents.*” - EU’s ‘European External Action Service’, 24 Aug 2018**

**“We need to be ready to redefine our decision-making and sometimes to *wave unanimity.... We need to create a European Security Council... We need to create a European Deployment Force with which Europe can act quickly... We should work on the vision one day to create a true European Army.... Jean-Claude Juncker said it four years ago: ‘A common European army’*” - German Chancellor Angela Merkel, speech to EU Parliament, 13 Nov 2018**

**“Europe is forming an army. A united EU military is becoming a reality.” – Ursula von der Leyen, former German Defence Minister and new EU Commission President, in her own article in the German press, 10 Jan 2019**

## These are not just words – they mean it. Look at the money being spent

- EU defence budgets rocketing – a **50-fold increase** in the defence budget starting Jan 2021
- Defence budget will rise from €0.5bn (2014-2020) to €31.3bn (2021-2027)
- Includes an **‘off-budget’ fund of €10.5bn**, controlled by the EU’s de facto Defence Secretary
- Under the Government’s new Withdrawal Treaty **the UK will keep paying billions**

## Parliament hasn’t been properly informed

UK Government has quietly been signing up the UK to EU defence structures since the Referendum. One example: On 22 June 2017, PM attended the EU Council, and **defence was the top item.**

### European Council Summit Conclusions



#### SECURITY & DEFENCE was the first section:

Mrs May approved the ‘European Defence Fund’, the ‘European Defence Industrial Development Programme’, the funding of EU Battlegroups, and more.

### Mrs May's Commons Statement



#### BLANK ON DEFENCE

#### Mrs May failed to mention DEFENCE to MPs at all

It was as if it hadn’t even been discussed, when in fact it was the no.1 item at the EU Summit of 22 June 2017



## Prime Minister Boris Johnson’s new Withdrawal Treaty

This gives the EU an effective veto on our foreign policy. We will not be allowed to undertake “**any action or initiative**” which the EU thinks might damage the EU's interests, and it positions UK defence under the EU Global Strategy. (Articles 129, 132, 156-157)

## UK shipbuilders will still lose out: The awarding of UK defence contracts must still obey EU rules

Tendering is currently open for the MOD’s support-ship contract, potentially providing work for shipyards from the Clyde to Portsmouth. Post-Brexit, still under EU rules, the UK can keep only a small proportion of sensitive defence contracts in the UK.

## An independent United Kingdom must have complete independence over defence of the realm

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For more information: [https://facts4eu.org/news/2019\\_nov\\_brexit\\_initiative\\_factsheet\\_10](https://facts4eu.org/news/2019_nov_brexit_initiative_factsheet_10)