



Military Unification has been on the European Union's policy agenda for decades. In the past twelve months, the pressure to complete the task has accelerated the process, particularly since the Bratislava Summit of September 2016.

There, the 27 leaders of the EU decided to "give a new impetus" to European external security and defence.

They set as a target the December 2016 European Council to formalise an implementation plan.

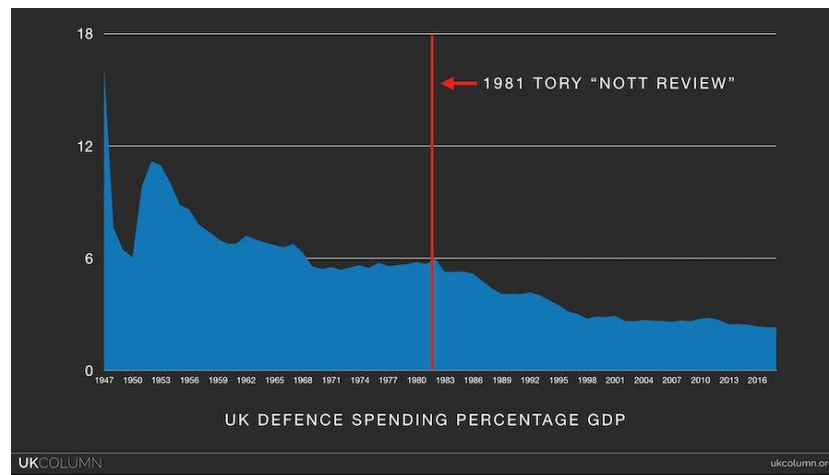
To quote one commentator, "European Union Defence plans are associated with the eventual formation of a European Federal State. Under the current system of unaccountable governance, this means they will be run by an unelected oligarchy. A nation state that contracts out its defence has ceased to be."

## 1981

7  
July

### **UK government publishes the 'Nott Review'**

The UK government publishes a White Paper on 'The United Kingdom Defence Programme: The Way Forward' (Cmnd. 8288), beginning a process of cuts which sees spending reduced from just under 6% GDP to 2% GDP over the next thirty years.



## 1984

25-26  
June

### Tory high command forces acquiescence in EEC plans for military union

European Commission President Jacques Delors tells a summit of European Economic Community heads of government at Fontainebleau that the first and foremost of his three big ideas for relaunching European political integration is “military union” (une défense commune), the others being currency union and the abolition of member states' vetoes. Mrs Thatcher refuses all three ideas in private at the summit with “No! No! No!” but is forbidden by her party bosses from even mentioning the phrase, or the military union proposal, until she defiantly uses the phrase (without its military context) in her last month as Prime Minister.

## 1991

9-10  
December

### The foundations are laid for a Common Foreign and Security Policy

The European Council in Maastricht lays the foundations for a political Union with the creation of a Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) and the beginnings of a common defence policy (ESDP/CSDP, a major component of the CFSP), as the second pillar of the Treaty of Maastricht.

The text is signed in February 1992 and comes into force in November 1993.

## 1998

4  
December

### Chirac signs Blair up for a Franco-British core of EU military union

British Prime Minister Tony Blair and French President Jacques Chirac sign the **Saint-Malo Declaration** to make the **Franco-British axis** the motor of the EU's Common Security and Defence Policy. Twenty EU military interventions have since been launched under the CSDP. Chirac and Blair foresee a military future increasingly independent of the USA, Canada and NATO.

## 1999

3-4  
June

### Launch of the European Security and Defence Policy

At the European Council in Cologne, the EU 15 decide to reinforce the Common Foreign and Security Policy.

## 2002

16  
December

### Signature of Berlin Plus

The 'Berlin Plus' arrangement is signed, allowing the use of NATO structures, mechanisms and assets to carry out ESDP missions.

## 2003

12-13  
December

### European Security Strategy adopted

The summit in Brussels adopts a European Security Strategy. The aim of the document is to achieve a secure Europe in a better world, identify the threats facing the EU, define its strategic objectives and set out the political implications for Europe.

## 2004

12  
July

### **Creation of the European Defence Agency**

The European Defence Agency is established to support the member states and the European Council to improve European defence capabilities in the field of crisis management and to sustain ESDP.

## 2007

1  
January

### **EU Battlegroups reach full operational capacity**

Eighteen battlegroups under direct control of the Council of the European Union reach full operational capacity. Battlegroups consist of a battalion-sized force (1,500 troops), plus support personnel. Two are ready for deployment at all times.

## 2009

20  
February

### **Creation of Synchronised Armed Forces Europe (SAFE)**

The European Parliament votes in favour of the creation of SAFE as a first step towards a true European military force.

15  
October

### **First Franco British Council Roundtable**

Quentin Davies MP, Minister for Defence Equipment, attends the first Franco British Council Roundtable on integrating British and French military.

1  
December

### **The Treaty of Lisbon comes into force. The CSDP succeeds the ESDP**

The Treaty of Lisbon, signed in 2007, enters into force, renaming ESDP to Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP). It provides for the creation of the European External Action Service. Commission delegations in countries outside the EU become EU delegations.

## 2010

9  
March

### **Second Franco British Council Roundtable**

The Franco-British Council (FBC) and the Royal United Services Institute (RUSI) host the second Franco British Council Roundtable on bilateral defence "cooperation" at the French Embassy in London.

The purpose of this meeting is twofold. Firstly, it aims to extend the FBC's "Britain, France and Defence" initiative of October 2009.

Secondly, ahead of the May 2010 General Election, they feel it important to "resume discussions before the formation of a new government and a reassessment of British strategic priorities".

6  
October

### **Third Franco British Council Roundtable**

The Franco-British Council (FBC) and the Royal United Services Institute (RUSI) host the third Franco British Council Roundtable on bilateral defence "cooperation" at the residence of the British Ambassador in Paris.

Speakers include Gisela Stuart MP, Contre Amiral Pascal Ausser, Edward Leigh MP, Amiral Alain Coldefy, Françoise Hostalier, depute, Kevin Taylor of BAE systems and Vice Admiral Paul Lambert.

The event is sponsored by BAE Systems.

2  
November

### **Lancaster House Treaties - A Fifty Year Defence Pact Between Britain and France**

British Prime Minister David Cameron and French President Nicolas Sarkozy sign two defence treaties at 10 Downing Street.

The announcement is made by the two leaders following a summit meeting held at Lancaster House. No debate is held in Parliament.

## 2013

29

April

## 2013 French White Paper on Defence and National Security

The White Paper is prefaced by Francois Hollande, President of France. It states:

Although the Lisbon Treaty's inclusion of solidarity and collective defence clauses was a recognition of the fact that the Member States are equally concerned by most threats, their perceptions, strategic cultures and national ambitions remain very diverse. The specific history of each Member State is reflected in the links forged in every continent, and sometimes in their contrasting visions of the role of military force in international relations. This diversity can be an asset, inasmuch as each country brings its own experience to the common project, but it can also be a source of mutual suspicion and make any hopes of rapid integration appear unrealistic. In this respect, the slow progress of the European defence and security policy shows that national perceptions cannot be transformed by institutions alone. The support of the people is essential. It can only be created through democratic debate, a common political will, shared experience and an awareness that we all have interests and strategic priorities in common. In the economic sphere, the crisis has confronted the European Union with difficult choices, giving rise to lively debate in all its Member States. Under the pressure of events, significant progress towards greater integration now stands to be achieved in

budgetary and financial matters. This closer policy integration should eventually extend to security and defence. France sees this as a key objective, and it is in this perspective that it envisions its future and the exercise of its sovereignty.

20  
December

### Priority actions for defence set out

For the first time since the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty, the European Council discusses defence and identifies priority actions for stronger cooperation:

- increasing the effectiveness, visibility and impact of Common Security and Defence Policy
- enhancing the development of capabilities
- strengthening Europe's defence industry

## 2015

8  
March

### Jean-Claude Juncker calls for an "EU Army"

Jean-Claude Juncker, President of the European Commission calls for an "EU Army".

"You would not create a European army to use it immediately," Juncker tells the Welt am Sonntag newspaper.

"But a common army among the Europeans would convey to Russia that we are serious about defending the values of the European Union."

Juncker makes many similar statements throughout 2015, and makes it clear to David Cameron that military union would be a condition of any "new settlement" between Britain and the EU.

June

## European Political Strategy Centre publishes White Paper on military unification

Jean-Claude Juncker's defence advisor Michel Barnier **issues a white paper** through the European Political Strategy Centre, the EU's in-house think tank, calling for military union.

Europe needs to move from the current patchwork of bilateral and multilateral military cooperation to gradually increased defence integration. The Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO), provided in the Lisbon Treaty, could become a game changer in European security by enabling willing Member States to move forward.

## 2016

4  
February

### Germany and the Netherlands step up their military cooperation

Minister Jeanine Hennis-Plasschaert and her German colleague Ursula von der Leyen sign two agreements on far-reaching cooperation measures. The signing takes place on board the Karel Doorman, which is moored in Amsterdam's harbour.

Included in the agreement are the integration of the German Naval Force Protection Battalion (Seebataillon) into the Royal Netherlands Navy, the integration of the 43rd Mechanized Brigade into the German 1st Armoured Division, and agreements on joint air defence.

28  
June

### Presentation of the European Union global strategy

High Representative Federica Mogherini presents the EU global strategy on foreign and security policy to EU leaders, meeting in Brussels at the EU summit.



The High Representative was mandated to prepare the new strategy by the European Council in June 2015. The strategy, under the title 'Shared vision, common action: a stronger Europe' reflects the collective views expressed in the process and offers a strategic vision for the EU's global role. In these challenging times, both for Europe and globally, the strategy highlights common ground and presents a way forward.

8  
July

### **Signing of the EU-NATO joint declaration**

At the NATO summit in Warsaw, the President of the European Council, the President of the European Commission and NATO Secretary-General sign a joint declaration on EU-NATO cooperation.

The declaration aims to further strengthen EU-NATO cooperation at a time of unprecedented security challenges from the East and the South.

16  
September

### **Informal meeting of the 27 heads of state or government in Bratislava**

The heads of state or government of the 27 **meet in Bratislava** to begin a political reflection on further development of an EU with 27 member countries.

Leaders agree on the **Bratislava Declaration and Roadmap**, in which they state an intention to decide on a concrete implementation plan on security and defence and on how to make better use of the options in the Treaties at the European Council meeting in December.

They also agree to start implementing the joint declaration with NATO immediately.

14  
November

### **Implementation plan on security and defence**

EU foreign and defence ministers discuss the implementation plan on security and defence under the EU global strategy. They set out the level of ambition and the way forward on the future development of EU security and defence policy.

November

## European Defence Action Plan presented by the European Commission

European Defence Fund and other actions aim to support member states' more efficient spending in joint defence capabilities, strengthen European citizens' security and foster a competitive and innovative industrial base.

6  
December

## Common set of proposals to implement the EU-NATO joint declaration

The Council adopts conclusions on the Implementation of the EU-NATO Joint Declaration, endorsing 40 proposals in the 7 areas. These proposals are endorsed on the same day by the North Atlantic Council.

15  
December

## European Council stresses the need to strengthen Europe's security and defence

The European Council reaffirms its commitment to the European Union Internal Security Strategy 2015-2020. It addresses the strengthening of EU cooperation on external security and defence and focuses on:

- the EU Global Strategy in the area of security and defence
- the European Defence Action Plan
- implementation of the common set of proposals which follow up on the EU-NATO Joint Declaration signed in Warsaw in July 2016
- HRVP/Head of the EDA proposals on the scope, modalities and content of a **Coordinated Annual Review on Defence (CARD)**.

## 2017

6  
March

## Council reviews progress and agrees to improve support for military missions

The Council adopted conclusions setting out the progress achieved in implementing the EU global strategy in the area of security and defence.

The Council also approved a concept note on the operational planning and conduct capabilities for CSDP missions and operations. One of the measures foreseen is the establishment of a military planning and conduct capability (MPCC) for the planning and conduct of non-executive military missions.

14  
March

### Royal United Services Institute hosts 'Defence Implications of Brexit'

RUSI hosts 'Defence Implications of Brexit'. The conference "explores how the UK and EU can maintain a long-standing defence and security relationship after Brexit."

During the conference, Prof. Beatrice Heuser of the University of Reading says:

This is the earliest document that I can find that actually proposes European cooperation and integration: Clement Attlee, British Prime Minister. I haven't found an earlier document in the European archives.

#### Prof. Beatrice Heuser: Earliest document o...



At the same conference, the European Council on Foreign Relations' Nick Witney calls for a joint Anglo-French nuclear deterrent.

ECFR's Nick Witney: A joint



20  
March

### **Britain announces bilateral "defence pact" with Germany**

Theresa May announces that Britain and Germany will form a defence pact immediately following formal invocation of Article 50 of the Lisbon Treaty.

The Ministry of Defence says it is working with Germany "on a joint vision statement on future co-operation".

17  
June

### **UK and Netherlands agree closer defence ties**

Defence Secretary Michael Fallon agrees a joint vision statement - a commitment to strengthen co-operation in areas including hybrid and cyber warfare and counter-terrorism - with Jeanine Hennis-Plasschaert, Minister of Defence for the Netherlands.

The agreement will include a pledge to work more closely across defence and security policy, intelligence and joint exercises. It will also see the exchange of personnel and work towards a UK-Netherlands Amphibious Force.

22  
June

### **European Council calls for the launch of a permanent structured cooperation**

At the June European Council, EU leaders agree on the need to launch an inclusive and ambitious permanent structured cooperation (PESCO) to strengthen Europe's security and defence.

Within three months, member states will agree a common list of criteria and commitments, together with concrete capability projects, in order to start this cooperation.

"It is a historic step, because such cooperation will allow the EU to move towards deeper integration in defence. Our aim is for it to be ambitious and inclusive, so every EU country is invited to join," says Donald Tusk at the European Council press conference.

12  
September

### **UK Government publishes "Foreign policy, defence and development" Brexit White Paper**

UK Government publishes "Foreign policy, defence and development".

Despite "Brexit", the U.K. will continue its contribution to CSDP missions and operations if it can participate in both the mandate development and detailed operational planning stages of the process (PESCO).

12  
October

### **Boris Johnson and Michael Fallon meet Polish counterparts to progress Defence and Security Cooperation Treaty**

Defence Secretary Michael Fallon and Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson meet their Polish counterparts to discuss security and defence cooperation.

Fallon and Polish Defence Minister Macierewicz discuss increasing military ties and co-operation, including working towards a "Defence Capability and Industrial Partnership" to strengthen cooperation between the UK and Polish defence industries.

They also discuss the Defence and Security Cooperation Treaty, which the Prime Minister will sign at the next UK-Poland Inter-Governmental meeting in December.

15  
October

### **Boris Johnson meets Foreign Ministers at Chevening House**

Boris Johnson is joined by the foreign ministers of Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia at Chevening House to discuss "shared challenges" and the UK's "continued commitment" to EU security and defence.

19-20  
October

### **European Council discuss PESCO**

Heads of state or government resume discussions on the permanent structured cooperation (PESCO) on defence at the European Council meeting, attended by Theresa May.

24  
October

### **Donald Tusk announces EU Treasury**

During opening statements by the European Council and European Commission to assess the state of Brexit negotiations, Donald Tusk announces his determination to create a European Monetary Fund, part an EU Treasury:

I will do everything in my power to take the first very concrete steps, by June [2018], towards establishing the European Monetary Fund and strengthening the stability of the Banking Union. I still believe that it is possible. In June it will become clear if I am in incurable optimism, but one thing I can promise you today: if we don't reach agreement by June, I will say precisely why it wasn't possible, and who is responsible.

25  
October

### **Jean-Claude Juncker announces creation of EU Finance Minister role**

Jean-Claude Juncker announces publication of the **European Commission Work Programme 2018** "with a 2025 perspective". In it he announces "a deeper and fairer economic and monetary union", including:

- Completing the economic and monetary union
- Completing the banking union
- Creation of a permanent and accountable European Minister of Economy and Finance

26  
October

### **Dutch Officer commands German Panzer Battalion for first time**

A Dutch officer becomes commander of the German Army's Panzerbatallion (Tank Battalion) 414 for the first time. The Bundeswehr describes his command as "historic" and the Dutch Ministry of Defence says it is "a next step" in the integration of the Dutch Army's 43 Mechanised Brigade into the German 1st Panzer Division.

13  
November

### **EU military established with signing of joint notification on PESCO**

23 member states sign a joint notification on Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO), establishing an EU military and single point budget. Signatory nations are legally obliged to take part in PESCO operations, with no possibility of national electorates preventing national involvement.

The 23 nations are Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden.

The UK does not sign. It is possible for the UK and other member states to join at a later stage.

16-17  
November

### **European Defence Agency workshop on PESCO project proposals**

Member States experts meet at the European Defence Agency (EDA) for a workshop to assess PESCO related project proposals. The workshop is co-chaired by the

EDA and the EU Military Staff, making up the PESCO secretariat.

The aim of the workshop is to establish a technical expert-level common understanding on:

- the scope of PESCO related project proposals
- the practical aspects of implementing these projects
- the assessment methodology to be adopted for all PESCO projects
- the proposed way ahead

*Despite not signing the PESCO Joint Notification, the United Kingdom participates.*

20  
November

### **House of Commons Library publishes PESCO briefing paper**

The title of the report is "**EU Defence: the realisation of Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO)**"

The report states the UK position on PESCO as:

The UK Government did not sign the Joint Notification on 13 November 2017. As such it will remain outside of PESCO. In doing so the UK will have no decision making rights over PESCO governance or any veto over the future strategic direction of PESCO, which has been openly acknowledged as greater EU integration in the field of defence.

23  
November

### **Federica Mogherini opens European Defence Agency Annual Conference**

The European Defence Agency Annual Conference 2017 entitled 'Security in the digital age: the added value of European cooperation' is opened by the Head of the Agency, Federica Mogherini.



Addressing a 400-strong audience representing the whole European defence spectrum - governments, armed forces, industry, EU institutions, NATO, think tanks and media - Mrs Mogherini says the conference is taking place “at the most important moment for European defence in decades” with bold new initiatives such as the Coordinated Annual Review on Defence (CARD), the Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO) and the European Defence Fund (EDF) creating an unprecedented momentum for enhanced cooperation.

Today, we are building a European Union of security and defence. It's not a plan, not a dream anymore, but a reality (...) All the building blocks of a security and defence union are finally there.

5  
December

### **NATO Foreign Ministers Meeting focusses on EU Defence Cooperation**

NATO foreign ministers meet in Brussels seeking to increase cooperation with the European Union.

Stoltenberg says foreign ministers, including Boris Johnson, would explore means of expanding cooperation - which is already at “an unprecedented level” - between NATO and the European Union.

7  
December

### **Two more countries join PESCO, bringing the total to 25**

Ireland and Portugal declare that they will join the EU's Permanent Structured Cooperation, bringing the total number of member states involved to 25.

This raised huge questions for Ireland over its historic neutrality.

11  
December

### **European Council establishes Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO)**

The European Council formally adopts a decision establishing Permanent Structured Cooperation

(PESCO), less than a month after receiving a joint notification by member states of their intention to participate.

The 25 member states participating in PESCO are: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Spain and Sweden.

12  
December

### **European Council agrees its position on the European Defence Industrial Development Programme**

The European Council agrees its position (general approach) on the proposed regulation which will establish the European Defence Industrial Development Programme (EDIDP).

According to Jüri Luik, Estonian Minister for Defence:

European security is a core priority for our citizens. This is now being matched with a real increase in defence cooperation among EU members. The European Defence Industrial Development Programme will make our defence industry more competitive and innovative. This is crucial both for the security of our citizens and for the viability of our industry.

2018

18  
January

### **UK and France hold summit at Sandhurst**

The 35th UK France Summit is held at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst. Theresa May and Emmanuel Macron **agree significant further tightening of Franco British relations**, including **the creation of a UK-France Defence Ministerial Council**, creating a permanent and regular forum in which UK and French Defence

cooperation can be discussed by the two Defence Ministers.

Theresa May says:

The President and I agree on the importance of the UK-France relationship, not just to our security but to European security ... It is incumbent upon us to demonstrate leadership in meeting the great challenges of our time, and upholding the international rules-based system.

1  
March

### **UK and Germany work towards stronger defence relationship**

Defence Secretary Gavin Williamson hosts his German counterpart Ursula Von der Leyen in the UK for the first time. They meet to discuss strengthening defence ties. Gavin Williamson says:

The UK and Germany face the same intensifying threats to our way of life and we work closely together to protect our citizens from harm.

Germany is one of our closest allies and I look forward to even closer cooperation.

22  
May

### **Theresa May refuses to confirm Britain will remain a 'top tier' military power**

Reports across mainstream media of 'clashes' between Theresa May and Defence Secretary Gavin Williamson over the question of Britain's status as a defence power.

A 'Tier One' defence power is one with full spectrum capability from conventional forces across all services to nuclear weapons. Her refusal to confirm Britain as a top tier power lends credence to suggestions of a merging of British and French nuclear deterrents.

May

## Department for Exiting the EU publishes 'Technical Note' on defence

The Department for Exiting the EU publishes its 'Technical Note' on defence which spells out the Government's ambitions for a 'deep and special partnership' with the EU in Defence and Security after Brexit.

29  
June

## Gavin Williamson signs Joint Expeditionary Force (JEF) Comprehensive Memorandum of Understanding

Defence Secretary Gavin Williamson signs the Joint Expeditionary Force (JEF) Comprehensive Memorandum of Understanding alongside counterparts from the eight partner nations.

The agreement marks the end of the establishment of the JEF framework and is a key milestone in preparing the force for action.

Made up of nine northern European allies Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, The Netherlands, Norway and Sweden, the MoD says:

The JEF is more than a simple grouping of military capabilities. It represents the unbreakable partnership between UK and our like-minded northern European allies, born from shared operational experiences and an understanding of the threats and challenges we face today.

9  
July

## EU NATO issue Joint Declaration on future co-operation

Joint Declaration on EU-NATO Cooperation is published by the President of the European Council, the President of the European Commission, and the

Secretary General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation.

*It welcomes "EU efforts to bolster European security and defence to better protect the Union and its citizens and to contribute to peace and stability in the neighbourhood and beyond. The Permanent Structured Cooperation and the European Defence Fund contribute to these objectives."*

10  
August

### German Foreign Office tweets confirmation of EU Defence Union

They quote the German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas, who says:

We are in the process of transforming the EU into a genuine security and defence union. We remain convinced that we need more and not less Europe.



**GermanForeignOffice**   
@GermanyDiplo



FM [@HeikoMaas](#): We are in the process of transforming the EU into a genuine security and defence union. We remain convinced that we need more and not less Europe.

“We Europeans have to look out for ourselves more”  
Foreign Minister Heiko Maas talks to the “Rhein-Neckar-Zeitung” about the new world order, transatlantic relations,...

[auswaertiges-amt.de](#)

10:24 AM · Aug 10, 2018 

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 387  1.1K people are Tweeting about this

30  
August

## British Military deployed under EU command and control

British troops arrive in Bosnia and Herzegovina to join forces from Austria, Hungary, Italy and Romania for **Exercise Quick Response 2018**. All proudly wear EU insignia on their arms.



19-20  
September

## Franco-British Council holds its seventh Defence Conference

The Franco British Council holds its **7th Defence Conference** at the Residence of the French Ambassador in London. Leading guests were invited to speak on the state and direction of the Franco-British Defence relationships.

The event is supported by the UK and French Ministries of Defence and is funded by the UK Ministry of Defence together with generous commercial sponsorship from MBDA.

Antoine Bouvier, CEO of MBDA, says:

The longstanding relationship between France and the UK in defence terms was one of the major factors leading to the creation of Matra Bae Dynamics in 1996 and MBDA in 2001 ... it was clear then as it is now, that the critical mass required to design, develop and produce the most advanced defence capabilities required by the armed forces of the two countries could never be obtained working independently.

8  
October

### **UK Germany sign Joint Vision Statement on defence relationship**

Gavin Williamson, alongside his German counterpart Ursula von der Leyen, sign a 'Joint Vision Statement', deepening the *"already strong UK-German relationship and increasing defence cooperation across a range of areas, from tackling violent extremism to building new military capabilities."*

The 'Vision Statement' says:

We are determined to deepen and strengthen our relationship in order to achieve our common defence and security goals.

24  
October

### **Netherlands becomes first nation to join UK carrier group**

The King and Queen of the Netherlands visit Downing Street for the first time. They announce that the Netherlands has become one of the first nations to announce they intend to sail alongside the Queen Elizabeth aircraft carrier in her first deployment in 2021.

Theresa May acknowledges that UK's defence and security cooperation with The Netherlands is going from strength to strength, as the UK continues to

negotiate "a deep security partnership with the EU post-Brexit".

6  
November

### French President Emmanuel Macron calls for EU Military

Emmanuel Macron calls for the creation of a "true European military". He says:

We have to protect ourselves with regard to China, Russia and even the United States of America.

We will not protect Europeans unless we decide to have a true European Military.

13  
November

### Angela Merkel calls for 'real, true' European army

Angela Merkel calls for 'real, true' European army days after Emmanuel Macron's demands for EU military. She says:

We should work on a vision of one day establishing a real, true European army ... Such an army would not undermine the US-led military alliance NATO but could be complementary to it.

13  
November

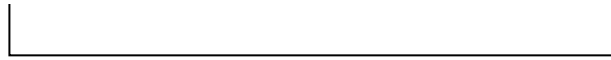
### Guy Verhofstadt: EU Military Unification is 'our project'

Guy Verhofstadt, MEP and leader of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe tells that organisation that EU Military Unification is 'our project' during a speech in which he decries the fact that the EU has only 10-15% of the efficiency of the US military, despite having 45% of the budget.

Guy Verhofstadt: EU Militar...







15  
November

### **Theresa May presents Brexit to Parliament including hints of future defence relationship**

Theresa May's Brexit deal includes a difficult to find 'Outline of the political declaration setting out the framework for the future relationship between the European Union and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as agreed at negotiators' level on 14 November 2018'.

The framework on the future relationship includes participation by the United Kingdom on a case-by-case basis in Common Security and Defence Policy missions; collaboration by the United Kingdom in relevant current and future projects of the European Defence Agency; participation of United Kingdom entities in European Defence Fund supported projects and collaboration by the United Kingdom in Permanent Structured Cooperation projects.

20  
November

### **Jens Stoltenberg attends EU Foreign Affairs Council**

NATO secretary general Jens Stoltenberg attends EU Foreign Affairs Council to discuss the NATO EU relationship. Speaking to reporters as he arrives at the event, Stoltenberg says:

Good morning ... I'm really looking forward to meet EU defence ministers, and in a few weeks, at the beginning of December, High Representative Federica Mogherini will attend the NATO foreign ministerial meeting, and I think this just reflects the unprecedented level of close cooperation between NATO and the European Union.

Jens Stoltenberg arrives for...



30  
November

## IISS and GDAP publish report arguing that EU military 'out of its depth' without Britain

The International Institute for Strategic Studies and the German Council on Foreign Relations publish their report '**Protecting Europe: meeting the EU's military level of ambition in the context of Brexit**'. They state that most of the military scenarios that they tested, the EU would fail to meet capability requirements without the UK:

- Of the IISS–DGAP scenarios, only the rescue and evacuation operation and the support to humanitarian-assistance operation did not generate any capability shortfalls. If the United Kingdom is omitted, the humanitarian-assistance operation faces a shortfall in the naval domain.
- The scenarios concerning peace enforcement, conflict prevention, and stabilisation and support to capacity-building would all create significant capability shortfalls, even when the current 28 EU member states (EU 28) are

considered. Without the UK, the EU 27 would face much greater shortfalls. Under those circumstances, a successful implementation of the operation is doubtful.

- If the peace-enforcement scenario is combined with the rescue and evacuation scenario, notable capability shortfalls emerge across all domains for the EU 28. Without the UK contribution, additional shortfalls would arise in the land and naval domain and with regards to enablers.
- If up to seven of the smaller operations are combined – which corresponds to the EU level of ambition – the EU 28 is out of its depth. There are extensive capability gaps across all domains and often less than one-third of the force requirement would be met. Removing the UK from the picture renders a bad situation much worse.
- Improvements in the maritime and air domains across the EU 28 are likely by 2030. However, these will not close the

identified capability shortfalls, and ageing equipment will increasingly become a problem.

- As of 2018, EU strategic autonomy is limited to the lower end of the operational spectrum. Brexit will make it even more necessary to find a constructive combination of European partnerships and transatlantic engagement.

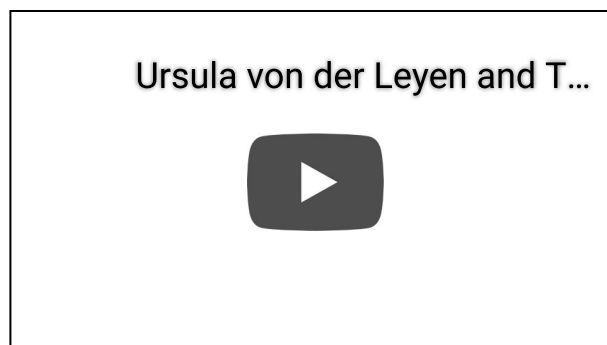
The paper discusses the capability of the EU28 (therefore including Britain) until 2030.

## 2019

14  
February

### **Ursula von der Leyen and Tony Blair at the Munich Security Conference**

German Defence Minister Ursula von der Leyen and former British Prime Minister Tony Blair express identical policy aims on the fringes of the Munich Security Conference.



## Emergency Briefing: EU Military Unification

Presentations from the emergency briefing held in Totnes on 3 November 2018.

**David Ellis**

**Alex Thomson**

50:10

37:59

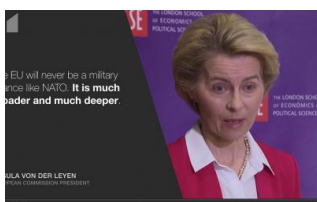
### Insight: EU Military Unification

Recorded in August 2016, Mike Robinson and Patrick Henningsen speak to David Ellis from Strategic Defence Initiatives and Brian Gerrish from the UK Column about EU Military Unification.



### Brexit: A Deal Not Done

Far from being a 'done deal' as Boris puts it, the second phase of Brexit negotiations look like they will pull UK back in.



### EU Defence Union Command and Control: The Smoking Gun

A document has come to light which spells out EU military command and control structures, and gives the lie to UK

government denials that British troops would fall under EU control.



## EU Defence Union: What is EI2?

Those following the progress of European Defence Union will have heard of PESCO, the Permanent Structured Cooperation on Security and Defence. Termed the sleeping beauty of the Lisbon treaty, it aims to deepen defence cooperation among EU nations. You may be aware the UK has not formally signed up to this legally binding agreement; but is nevertheless involved in many of its constituent parts, such as the drive to improve military mobility. But have you heard of the opposite pole of European Defence Union? It is called the European Intervention Initiative or EI2.



## Has Boris Misled Parliament on UK Involvement in Defence Union?



## EU Defence Union: Who's really steering UK Government policy?



## Foreign Affairs: British Government collaboration in EU Global Strategy

EU Defence Union has been the subject of parliamentary questions and speeches in

both the House of Lords and the European Parliament. Yet, in the mainstream media and on the floor of the House of Commons, there is silence. Behind the scenes, however, British government ministers have attended meetings to discuss these matters in detail. One of many such meetings occurred in Brussels, on 19 November, 2018.



## 'Hero of Brexit' Lord James of Blackheath Threatened over EU Defence Union

Lord James of Blackheath has been threatened with the police, told to retract the comments he made in the House of Lords on EU Defence Union, and is facing demands to resign and remain silent on the issue from now on.



## The Policies of the new German Minister of Defence

Germany has had to choose a new Defence Minister following the 'election' of Ursula von der Leyen to the post of President of the European Commission. They chose Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer.



## EU Defence Union Spelt Out By New President of the Commission

Last week, Ursula von der Leyen, serving German Defence Minister, spelled out her vision for EU Defence Union. In response, the two Tory leadership candidates, the Brexit Party, as well as the rest of British politics and the media, said absolutely nothing.



## European Defence Union - Parliamentary Written Questions

Without any fanfare, or public statements, parliamentarians are starting to ask questions about European Defence Union and what it means for British self-determination and national sovereignty. In this article we decode the answers.



## Lord James: Remaining in the EU will constitute perjury by the Queen

Lord James of Blackheath, the man who spotted the first lead that revealed British and Israeli involvement in the Iraqi Supergun affair and who in 2010 became just about the only peer of the realm to raise the issue of the national debt in proper terms in the House of Lords, has released this paper, which calls upon the Lords to prevent the Crown shattering the Constitution by acting in breach of the Monarch's oath of office to uphold the Declaration of Rights 1689.



## Brexit: The UK Will NOT Leave

Francois Fischer, Head of the Intelligence Analysis Division, European Union Intelligence and Situation Centre, comments on Brexit.



## Why are Tories pursuing Tony's Blair's "essential" policy of EU Defence Union?



"Mr Blair, I want to know what your point of view is regarding a European Army, and do you think this might be an additional incentive for a Brexit?"



## The Aachen Treaty: Germany and France become all but a single state

The UK Column publishes what we believe is the only English translation of the full text of the Aachen Treaty which Germany and France will sign this week.



## Will the New Treaty of Aachen make the EU Dream Come True?

The great 20th Century political philosopher, Marvin Gaye, once said "To make a dream come true; It just takes two". Will Merkel and Marcon's forthcoming Treaty of Aachen be a dream come true for those who would see a single European super-state? With the German Federal Government acknowledging that the Treaty includes the "design of the European Defence Union", and signs of much more besides, we focus on the 22 January signing of the new Aachen Treaty.



## Military Union: British Government Policy Since 1948

As pressure builds for the issue of EU Military Union to enter the Brexit debate, government becomes ever more vociferous that Britain will not be part of any such project. Strangely, though, history seems to suggest that Military Union was British policy from the beginning. Is it credible that Britain

would not be part of something it has spent so much effort building?



## Franco British Council Says Bye Bye British Armed Forces 'Allo EU Military Unification

What has the Franco British Council been doing to help us get along with the French in a charitable way?



## Imminent risk of EU control of British defence procurement, industry and training

On Monday 24 November 2017, Strategic Defence Initiatives UK submitted the following report to the Defence Select Committee of the House of Commons.



## How the Dutch press reports EU military union

It appears to be easier to tell the truth about EU military union in Rotterdam than in London.



## The EU Has Its Military

Today was an "historic" day, according to EU High Representative Federica Mogherini. Today she got her military, her single point military budget, and her ability to prosecute wars overseas without the need to get the approval of national electorates.



## Brexit: Theresa May's CARDS Are On The Table

The government and mainstream media here in Britain would have us believe Brexit is a chaotic disaster. Yet, behind the scenes, the military unification policy is progressing as planned, and at pace.



## Why Are There "Huge Gaps In Britain's Defences"?

The top brass offer highly unconvincing explanations for the brand destruction of the British military.



## Exclusive: EU To Take Control Of British Nuclear Deterrent

A briefing by Strategic Defence Initiatives on the EU's subversion of the British military.



## Rolls-Royce and BAE Systems: Going Cheap

LONG READ: Under cover of the Brexit trade negotiations, the real trade deal has just happened. Nobody said anything about it; nobody knew about it.



## Evidence To The Defence Committee On EU Military Union

Strategic Defence Initiatives' submission to MPs describes at length how HM Armed Forces have been betrayed, how they are

being denied workable British equipment by MoD policy, and how they continue to be amalgamated into EU military union despite the irrelevance of Brexit.



## Michael Fallon Confirms EU Military Integration

British Defence Secretary Michael Fallon met his German counterpart yesterday to firm up Britain's defence "partnership" with Germany.



## EU: Military Union Is Budgetary Union

Not an "EU Army" but EU military union: The EU is desperately requiring control of its member states' militaries and budgets. Nobody in Parliament is bothering to mention this.



## Tory MP Sajid Javid's EU takeover British military gaff exposes dark actors in Defence

Javid's military gaff was a golden nugget for those watching treason unfold at UK government level - and no ifs or buts - to leave the nation defenceless is treason....



## The Franco British Council Plan To Destroy Britain's Military Capability

We are to be stripped of the military power to act alone, our military command and control structures are to be weakened and confused by French 'collaboration' and 'partnering', and we are to be stripped of nuclear weapons. The security of Britain is being destroyed under the cloak of Cameron's Franco British Defence Treaty.

## UK Column

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