

Expanding and Strengthening the European Naval Defence Industry with Non-Traditional Players

El Batel Congress Centre, Cartagena

Region of Murcia, Spain - 6th & 7th March 2025

Following the 2024 ENDR Conference on Europe's Naval Sector in Cherbourg, France, this Conference will build up on the knowledge gained and the networking achieved, adding a new specific perspective on SMEs/start-ups, and other non-traditional players in the European Defence & Security related to information technology, microelectronics, sensor technologies, radiofrequency devices or software products.

The event will allow to take stock of the first steps of the European Defence Industrial Strategy and update the industry trends, technologies and capabilities for the Naval sector and identify the main challenges in the framework of the EU technological sovereignty.

ENDR partners will be able to bring to the EU defence table new non-traditional players and link them to the major defence players, to contribute to expand the EU Defence ecosystem, promoting a bigger role in the EU defence industrial ecosystem for SMEs/start-ups, and other non-traditional players, following EUDIS objectives.

Four main topics have been identified and a dynamic panel structure in the conference's agenda will deal with them. Moreover, a **Technology Brokerage Event**, with the support of the Enterprise Europe Network, will allow participants to meet in 20-minute pre-scheduled meetings in order to match bilateral interests at European level. Finally, a **European Startup Area** will show the latest trends of Dual-use technologies provided by Non-Traditional Players to strengthen the European Naval Defence Sector.

This event is co-organised by DG DEFIS and the European Network of Defence-related Regions (ENDR) together with the Regional Development Agency of the Region of Murcia (INFO) and will be held in Cartagena (Region of Murcia, Spain), a major Naval Industrial Defence city on the Mediterranean coast whose most recent milestone has been the construction of S-81 Submarine.

Make your registration in [Home | ENDR Naval Industry Event 2025](#)

DAY ONE - Thursday, March 6th, 2025

08h45 – 09h10	Registration.
09h10 – 09h40	Opening.
09h40 – 10h45	<p>Policy Round Table: Setting the scene on EU Defence Industry Challenges.</p> <p>Moderator Joaquín Gómez Gómez. Director of the Instituto de Fomento, Regional Development Agency of the Region of Murcia (INFO)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Nicolás Pascual de la Parte. Member of the European Parliament. ▪ Krastio Preslavsky. DG DEFIS. European Commission. ▪ Alejandro Raboso. European Investment Bank (EIB). ▪ Salvador Álvarez. Grupo OESIA/TEDAE.
10h45 – 11h15 Networking Coffee	
11h15 – 11h30	<p>The Vision of the European Naval Industry.</p> <p>Fernando Miguélez García. Chairman of the European Naval Industry Group (ENIG). European Aerospace, Security and Defence Industry Association (ASD). Navantia.</p>
11h30 – 12h30	<p>PANEL I – Enhancing Naval Projection at Sea. <i>The panel will focus on system integration of new technologies for resilient Naval Platforms in different areas such as communication and information, weapons or navigation. Discussions will lead to identify technological needs for the future development of European naval platforms and proposed roadmap to transform the technologies into naval capabilities that will lay the foundations for the surface naval vessels that today form the backbone of European navies between 2030 and 2045. Initiatives may build up on the Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO) projects focused on those areas. SME and big players will be able to discuss technological developments in a wide spectrum of areas and integration issues.</i></p> <p>Moderator: setting the scene. Sidonie Robert. Naval Project Officer. SEA EUROPE.</p>

	<p>Experts panel topic I :</p> <p>Stanislas Gourlez de la Motte. EU Affairs & NATO Director, CEO's naval advisor. NAVAL GROUP.</p> <p>Peter Van Terwisga. Director R&D and Innovation. DAMEN.</p> <p>Pablo Pavón. Managing Director. E-LIGHTHOUSE.</p> <p>Q&A from the Floor.</p>
<p>12h30 – 13h30</p>	<p>PANEL II – Underwater Observation, Detection, Acquisition & Communication (ODAC). <i>The underwater dimension is becoming a highest priority in the naval domain when considering, for instance, the need to protect 24/7 critical infrastructures (e.g., underwater pipelines and communication cables, wind farms) against new threats including the expansion in the use of Unmanned Underwater Vehicles (UUVs). We will address promising technologies and solutions for seabed operations and underwater warfare.</i></p> <p>Moderator: setting the scene.</p> <p>CN. José María Seijo Casal. Spanish Navy Diving Centre Director.</p> <p>Experts panel topic II:</p> <p>Eng. Capt. Mirko Stifani (Italian Navy, retired). Project House Underwater. FINCANTIERI.</p> <p>PhD. Francisco Javier Rodrigo Saura. Chief Operating Officer. SOCIEDAD ANÓNIMA DE ELECTRÓNICA SUBMARINA.</p> <p>Luis Sánchez Ricart. Principal Researcher. SIMIDEA R&D.</p> <p>Q & A from the Floor.</p>
<p>13h30 – 14h30 Lunch</p>	
<p>14h30 – 15h30</p>	<p>PANEL III – Energy Generation, Storage & Distribution for future naval platforms. <i>Energy is a key element in the future development of naval vessels and systems. There is a need to move to green, resilient and efficient energy models while the adoption on board of new energy intensive weapons and sensors will affect the complete design and configuration of future naval platforms. The speakers will present different challenges and solutions for the most sustainable and effective energy generation, storage, and distribution on- and off board.</i></p>

	<p>Moderator: setting the scene. Noelia Ortega. General Director. MARINE TECHNOLOGICAL CENTRE REGION OF MURCIA.</p> <p>Experts panel topic III: Julien Moresve. EU R&D Sales. NAVAL GROUP. Álvaro Fernández Sánchez. Project Controller. INTEGRALIA ENERGÍA. José Javier López Cascales. Managing Director. HIDROGREEN ENERGY.</p> <p>Q & A from the Floor.</p>
16h00	<p>Buses departure for the Study Visit NAVANTIA (Submarine S-81).</p> <p>REGISTRATION IS CLOSED.</p> <p><i>Due to a limitation of capacity, a selection of the applications received will be made. You will be sent confirmation by email if your application is accepted. Entrance is not allowed without this confirmation.</i></p>
<p align="center">20h00 – NETWORKING DINNER / Cocktail ESPACIO CUARENTAYTRÉS. Calle Muelle Alfonso XII, s/n. (close to EL BATEL Auditorium and Congress Centre)</p>	

DAY TWO - Friday, March 7th, 2025

09h00 – 09h40	<p>New funding opportunities for Defence Industry in 2025 under the European Defence Fund. <i>DG DEFIS will provide potential applicants with first-hand information on the calls for proposals under Work Programme 2025: topics, novelties, eligibility criteria, tips, and other relevant matters. The presentation will be followed by a Questions and Answers (Q&A) session with the audience.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Francisco Casaldueiro. Programme Manager – Defence Research and Development Programmes. DG DEFIS. European Commission.
09h40 – 11h00	<p>Networking Coffee & BILATERAL MEETINGS with the support of the Enterprise Europe Network (EEN)</p>
11h00 – 12h00	<p>PANEL IV – Automation & Uncrewed Naval Systems. The increasing complexity of naval warfare scenarios recommends an increase in the use of unmanned vehicles. Unmanned and autonomous platforms, whether surface, underwater or aerial, are omnipresent in the naval domain. This panel will focus on the uncrewed naval vehicle evolution addressing key aspects like the development of required automation standards, the crewed-uncrewed teaming, or swarming operation modes and capabilities.</p> <p>Moderator/Rapporteur: setting the scene. Javier López San Román. European Affairs Director. NAVANTIA.</p> <p>Expert panel topic IV: Christer Heideman. Director European Naval R&D M.SC EE. Business Area KOCKUMS. Humberto Martínez Barberá. Professor at University of Murcia & Entrepreneur DESARROLLO EMPRESARIAL KAGARASHI, SL. Dr. César Martínez Fernández. CEO & Co-Founder. UTEK. Marc Carreras Pérez. CEO. IQUA ROBOTICS.</p> <p>Q & A from the Floor.</p>

12h00	<p>Closing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Admiral Aniceto Rosique. General Director of Armament and Material. DIGAM. SPANISH MINISTRY OF DEFENCE.

For those who registered:

16h00 – 18h00	<p>Cultural Agenda ROMAN THEATER Guided Visit</p> <p><i>You will be sent confirmation by email. Entrance is not allowed without this confirmation.</i></p>
----------------------	---

About the Region of Murcia – ENDR member

The Region of Murcia is represented in the ENDR via the Regional Development Agency of the Region of Murcia, Instituto de Fomento (INFO), which is responsible for the [CAETRA](#) programme on dual-use technologies. INFO/Region of Murcia will collaborate closely with the key regional naval stakeholders such as NAVANTIA, the Spanish company reference worldwide in the design and construction of high technology military and civilian vessels, and the Marine Technology Centre, CTN. Also, the Spanish Ministry of Defence will support the event at institutional and technology level and with EDF and Horizon Europe National Contact points.

The City of Cartagena (Region of Murcia, Spain)

Three thousand years of history, a close and historical relationship with the Armed Forces, key actor in the CAETRA ecosystem, particularly in the field of specialized training and skills in the naval defense industry for SMEs.