

EUROPEAN UNION RAPID DEPLOYMENT CAPACITY

With the Strategic Compass the EU set out the ambition to be a stronger and more capable security provider in its neighborhood and beyond. The EU needs to be able to protect its citizens and to contribute to international peace and security, by being able to react quickly, robustly and effectively to conflicts and crises outside its borders.

To that end, the EU is developing a Rapid Deployment Capacity (EU RDC). This capacity is a framework that can swiftly deploy up to 5,000 troops to respond to imminent threats and react to crisis situations. It can be tailored to different phases and scenarios, ranging from initial entry, to reinforcement or as a reserve force to secure an exit. The EU Rapid Deployment Capacity will be developed based on specific operational scenarios.

Preparations of the EU Rapid Deployment Capacity, including on its detailed tasks, composition, and financial aspects, have progressed throughout 2022 and 2023, with the aim of reaching full operational capability by 2025.

COMPOSITION



Modified EU Battlegroups





Different levels of operational readiness



Longer stand-by periods



Modules composed of available Member States military forces and capabilities



Strategic enablers (e.g. strategic airlift, spacebased communications, medical assets, cyber defence capabilities, ISR capabilities)



Allows tailoring the capacity to the mission

BUILDING AN EU RAPID DEPLOYMENT CAPACITY

The new EU Rapid Deployment Capacity will benefit from the following elements:



TOWARDS AN EU RAPID DEPLOYMENT CAPACITY





