

STRONGER TOGETHER IN AN UNSTABLE WORLD

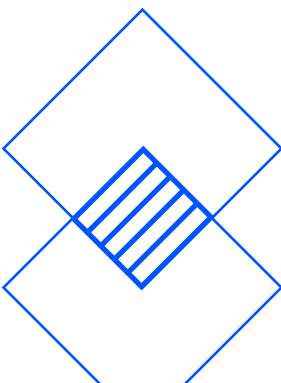


20-21 March Brussels

Confronted with an increasingly complex and volatile geopolitical context, the European Union (EU) is committed to strengthening security and stability while defending the rules-based international order as defined by the UN Charter. Through its support to mediation and conflict prevention, crisis response, capacity building, notably to increase resilience and cyber security, deliver humanitarian aid, the EU is a responsible, relevant and capable actor in the world. In today's shifting geo-political context, mutually beneficial security and defence partnerships are essential to uphold the rules-based international order and effective multilateralism, achieve common goals and contribute to peace and security around the world. **Cooperation with partners is a key pillar of the EU security and defence agenda.**

Flowing from the 2022 EU Strategic Compass, the inaugural Schuman Security and Defence Forum (Schuman Forum) seeks to maintain a **high level of ambition in security and defence** for the EU while also paving the way for **more coherent, consistent, and comprehensive dialogue and partnerships**. The Schuman Forum will be held on a biennial basis to collectively gauge the evolving geopolitical context, as well as to take stock of security and defence partnerships. Specifically, it aims at facilitating dialogue and strategic reflection on international security and defence between the EU and its partners. It will **bring together politicians, senior decision-makers, military representatives, civil society, thought leaders and opinion formers to examine trends, issues and initiatives in security and defence.**

The Schuman Forum will consist of keynote speeches, high-level panels, roundtables, and plenary sessions. The high-level panels will provide an opportunity for politicians and senior decision-makers to express their visions for partnerships in security and defence, and the roundtables will focus on a mix of geographical and thematic issues and challenges. Overall, the Schuman Forum sessions will shed light on **how on-going and potential partnerships can contribute to international peace and security.**





**DAY 1, 20 March 2023,
CLOSED DOOR MINISTERIAL MEETING**

18:00-19:00 **COCKTAIL**

19:00-21:30 **DINNER**

WELCOME WORDS

Josep BORRELL FONTELLES High Representative for the Union's Foreign and Security Policy / Vice President of the European Commission

DISCUSSION: A CHANGING WORLD – MANAGING COMMON CHALLENGES TOGETHER

Master of ceremony: Dr Gustav Lindstrom, Director EU ISS

Introductory remarks by Dr Comfort Ero, International Crisis Group President and CEO

Key issues/guiding questions: We face a period of transition, marked by major geopolitical and economic power shifts. In the field of security, how do we assess the main trends, challenges and threats that will determine the course of world politics in the years to come? Which initiatives can we take together to best respond to them and shape our common environment?

Interventions

Tobias Billström, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sweden

Catherine Colonna, Ministre de l'Europe et des Affaires étrangères, France

Bjørn Arild Gram, Minister of Defence, Norway

Slavjanka Petrovska, Minister of Defence, North Macedonia

Boris Pistorius, Minister of Defence, Germany

Major General Albert Murasira, Minister of Defence, Rwanda

Discussion with interventions from participants

DAY 2, 21 March 2023

08:00-08:50 **DOORSTEP AND WELCOME COFFEE**

09:00-09:15 **KEYNOTE SPEECH**

Josep BORRELL FONTELLES High Representative for the Union's Foreign and Security Policy / Vice President of the European Commission

09:15-09:20 **WELCOME**

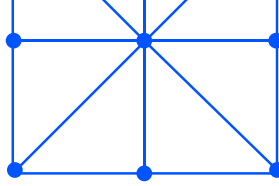
David McALLISTER MEP Chair, Committee on Foreign Affairs (AFET), European Parliament

09:20-10:15 **PLENARY SESSION**

Spaak building, meeting room 3C50 (3rd floor)

**HIGH LEVEL PANEL DISCUSSION: BUILDING SECURITY AND DEFENCE TOGETHER
– LEVERAGING OUR PARTNERSHIPS**

Key issues: Competition is inherent to international politics. But when states purposely undermine each other and competition turns into rivalry, peace and stability are at risk. Cooperation remains the best way to manage tensions between states and jointly address common challenges. Where do partnerships bring added value for the EU and its partners in the field of security and defence? Which lessons can we identify? In which areas and how can we better work in an increasingly collective and coordinated manner?



DAY 2, 21 March 2023

09:20-10:15

Continuation: **HIGH LEVEL PANEL DISCUSSION: BUILDING SECURITY AND DEFENCE TOGETHER – LEVERAGING OUR PARTNERSHIPS**

Moderator: Nicole Gnesotto, Vice-President, Jacques Delors Institute

Pål Jonson, Minister of Defence, Sweden

Oleksiy Reznikov (VTC), Minister of Defence, Ukraine

Toshiro Ino, State Minister of Defence, Japan

Alkassoum Indatou, Minister of Defence, Niger

Stéphane Dion, Prime Minister's Special Envoy to the EU and Europe and Ambassador to France, Canada

Julianne Smith, Permanent Representative to NATO, United States of America

10:15-10:45

COFFEE BREAK

10:45-11:45

SIMULTANEOUS BREAK-OUT SESSIONS

ROUNDTABLE 1: RESPONDING TO CRISIS TOGETHER

Spinelli building, meeting room 3E2 (3rd floor)

Key issues: New dimensions of warfare do not replace older ones, but are added to them: as warring parties confront each other in cyberspace, so do their soldiers in the battlefield. Under such scenarios, how do we best prepare and mobilise our capacities to respond to high intensity threats and crisis – including in domains such as cyber space or outer space? Which are the potential drivers and consequences of future crises that may necessitate military action? What are the implications for our military forces? What are EU/EU Member States/partners' approaches? Where and how can we better prepare together, including through our partnerships?

Moderator: Dr Nicole Koenig, Head of Policy, Munich Security Conference

Kajsa Ollongren, Minister of Defence, the Netherlands

Margarita Robles, Minister of Defence, Spain

Aden Duale, Cabinet Secretary for Defence, Kenya

Niko Peleshi, Minister of Defence, Albania

Peter Van Praagh, President of the Halifax Forum

ROUNDTABLE 2: BUILDING OUR COLLECTIVE RESILIENCE

Spaak building, meeting room 3C50 (3rd floor)

Key issues: Even in peacetime, some states use a variety of hybrid instruments to undermine the sovereignty of those they see as their rivals. Non-state actors too can pose a threat to our security. Building resilience against all types of hybrid threats is essential to maintain the functioning of our societies and the sovereignty of our state. How do we best prepare and respond to evolving threats, including hybrid threats, terrorism, and destabilising actions by non-state actors? How can we reinforce our resilience and deterrence? How should we strengthen the role played by women and youth in security and defence? Which lessons can be drawn from EU/EU Member States/partners' approaches? Where do we see potential areas for future increased partnerships? Which actions can we undertake together?

Moderator: Dr Heather Grabbe, Senior Advisor, Open Society Foundations

Jutta Urpilainen, European Commissioner for International Partnerships

Anatoli Nosatii, Minister of Defence, Republic of Moldova

Hanno Pevkur, Minister of Defence, Estonia

Albert Kan-Dapaah, Minister for National Security, Ghana

Nathalie Loiseau MEP, Chair Sub-Committee on Security and Defence, European Parliament

DAY 2, 21 March 2023

ROUNDTABLE 3: SECURING OUR SEAS AND MARITIME SPACE TOGETHER

Spaak building, room 5B01 (5th floor)

Key issues: The oceans and the seas are key for present and future economic development and prosperity for all nations – including their security. The relevance of maritime security cannot be understated and it is of particular strategic importance, even beyond the maritime domain as it interlinks with other areas (economy, energy, transport, tourism, access to and conservation of marine natural resources, and critical infrastructures). Maritime security is nevertheless affected by a growing number of challenges arising from traditional (e.g., piracy, geopolitical rivalries, overfishing) and new or non-traditional threats (organised crime, various forms of illicit activities taking place at sea like smuggling), all of which require multiple forms of cooperation to enable enduring responses. How do we best prevent, deter, and counter these multiple security threats and challenges, with a view to ensuring free, safe and open seas and enhancing a rules-based order at sea? Which lessons can be drawn from EU/EU MS/ partners' various approaches? What are potential areas for future enhanced partnerships?

Moderator: Dr Daniel Fiott, Head of the Defence and Statecraft Programme at the Centre for Security, Diplomacy and Strategy of the Brussels School of Governance

Helena Carreiras, Minister of Defence, Portugal

Bjørn Arild Gram, Minister of Defence, Norway

Maya Fernández Allende, Minister of National Defence, Chile

Abdulkadir Mohamed Nur Jama, Minister of Defence, Somalia

Vice Admiral Abdullah Khamis Al Raisi, Chief of Staff, Sultan's Armed Forces, Oman

Vice Admiral José M. Núñez Torrente, EUNAVFOR Atalanta Operation Commander, EU

11:50-13:00

PLENARY SESSION

Spaak building, meeting room 3C50 (3rd floor)

HIGH LEVEL PANEL DISCUSSION: UPHOLDING MULTILATERALISM AND RULES-BASED INTERNATIONAL ORDER

Key issues: In the ongoing period of geo-political transition, relations between major powers are increasingly confrontational and unilateralist. Competing visions and agendas on the global order are at play, which challenge established multilateral rules and organisations. Yet growing global challenges call for more multilateral governance and rules-based international cooperation. How can we strengthen it together?

Moderator: Dr Rosa Balfour, Director of Carnegie Europe

Helga Schmid, Secretary General, OSCE

Prabowo Subianto, Minister of Defence, Indonesia, Chair of ASEAN

Jean Pierre Lacroix, UN Under Secretary General Department of Peace Operations

Mircea Geoana, Deputy Secretary General NATO

Hossam Zaki, Assistant Secretary General, League of Arab States

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Josep BORRELL FONTELLES High Representative for the Union's Foreign and Security Policy / Vice President of the European Commission

13:00-14:00

LUNCH

13:00

PRESS CONFERENCE WITH HR/VP JOSEP BORRELL FONTELLES