PROGRESS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGIC COMPASS

"In today’s volatile world, the European Union urgently needs to take more responsibility for its own security. Over the past two years, we have taken many concrete steps in that direction, guided by the Strategic Compass. We have demonstrated unity and resolve. However, much more action is required. We must build on the progress so far, and make a bold leap forward to take control of our own destiny."

JOSEP BORRELL
High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President of the European Commission

The Strategic Compass was adopted in March 2022, one month after the start of Russia’s war of aggression against Ukraine. It lists more than 80 concrete actions to translate even more the EU’s ambition in security and defence into reality. Two years after its adoption, the EU and its Member States have continued to make significant progress in its implementation.

ACT

We have reinforced our presence and invested in new engagements to support our partners.

- The EU Military Assistance Mission for Ukraine (EUMAM) trained over 40,000 Ukrainian soldiers
- New Security and Defence Initiative in support of West African countries of the Gulf of Guinea started operating in December 2023
- New maritime security operation EUVNAFOR ASPIDES in the Red Sea and Gulf region was launched in February 2024
- Extensive use of European Peace Facility, including €6.1 billion for military support to Ukraine
- Adoption of a new Civilian CSDP Compact in May 2023
- First ever live military exercise organised in October 2023 and reinforcement of Military Planning and Conduct Capability in support of the EU Rapid Deployment Capacity

SECURE

We are anticipating threats, securing our access to strategic domains and protecting our citizens.

- Development of the EU Toolbox to address Foreign Information Manipulation and Interference (FIMI)
- Implementing the EU Policy on Cyber Defence and revised Cyber Diplomacy Toolbox
- Strengthening resilience of critical infrastructure in key sectors, including through the work of the NATO Taskforce
- Updated EU Maritime Security Strategy, increase of joint naval exercises, port calls and exchanges with partners
- Adopted the first EU Space Strategy for Security and Defence
- EEAS Crisis Response Centre fully operational since September 2023
We have **progressed towards spending more, better, together and European.**

### INVEST

- **Increase of defence expenditure** in the EU estimated
  - 2022: €240 bn
  - 2023: €290 bn

- **Act in Support of Ammunition Production (ASAP)** adopted in July 2023 (€500 million) to address increased ammunition demand of Ukraine

- **European Defence Industrial Reinforcement Act (EDIRPA)** adopted in October 2023 (€300 million) to incentivise common procurement

- **2023 EU Capability Development Priorities (CDP)** adopted, reflecting the need to develop full-spectrum defence capabilities

### PARTNER

We have **stepped up our cooperation with bilateral, regional and multilateral partners.**

- **Strengthening cooperation with NATO** on areas such as cyber, space, climate, and critical infrastructure
- **Close cooperation with UN, OSCE, AU and ASEAN**
- **Tailored security and defence partnerships** with key bilateral partners, including US, Norway, Canada, Switzerland, Iceland

- **Expanding security and defence cooperation with countries in Eastern neighborhood, Africa, Indo-Pacific, Latin America**

- **European Peace Facility (EPF)** provides concrete support via assistance measures to 22 partners in the Eastern Partnership, Western Balkans, Middle East and Africa

- **First Schuman Security and Defence Forum** took place in March 2023. Next edition planned in May 2024

- **Expansion of the networks of military advisors and counterterrorism experts** in EU Delegations

Work will continue to **deliver on the commitments and ambitions of the Strategic Compass** to allow the EU to become a **more assertive, credible and decisive security provider** for our citizens and our partners.