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| From: | General Secretariat of the Council |
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Delegations will find in the Annex, for information, the four-column table on the above-mentioned proposal.

**Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on the
acceleration of permit-granting for defence readiness projects
2025/0172(COD)**

| | <small>CLEAN</small> Commission Proposal | <small>VS.EC</small> EP Mandate | <small>VS.EC</small> Council Mandate | <small>VS.EC</small> Draft Agreement |
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| Formula | | | | |
| 1 | 2025/0172 (COD) | 2025/0172 (COD) | 2025/0172 (COD) | |
| Document Stage | | | | |
| 2 | Proposal for a | Proposal for a | Proposal for a | |
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| 3 | REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL | REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL | REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL | |
| Document Purpose | | | | |
| 4 | on the acceleration of permit- granting for defence readiness projects | on the acceleration of permit- granting for defence readiness projects | on the acceleration of permit- granting for defence readiness projects | |
| Formula | | | | |
| 5 | THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION, | THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION, | THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION, | |
| Citation 1 | | | | |

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| 6 | Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 114 thereof, | Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 114 thereof, | Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 114 thereof, | |
| Citation 2 | | | | |
| 7 | Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission, | Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission, | Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission, | |
| Citation 3 | | | | |
| 8 | After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national parliaments, | After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national parliaments, | After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national parliaments, | |
| Citation 4 | | | | |
| 9 | Having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee ¹ , 1. _____ | having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee <u>of 18 September 2025¹</u> , <u>1. Not yet published in the Official Journal.</u> | Having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee ¹ , 1. _____ | |
| Citation 5 | | | | |
| 10 | Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure, | Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure, | Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure, | |
| Formula | | | | |
| 11 | Whereas: | Whereas: | Whereas: | |
| Recital 1 | | | | |
| 12 | (1) The Union is facing an acute and growing threat, as | (1) The Union is facing an acute and growing threat, as | (1) The Union is facing an acute and growing threat, as | |

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| | <p>underscored in the Joint White Paper on European Defence Readiness 2030¹, linked to the return of full-scale conflict in Europe. In response to this escalating challenge, it is imperative that the Union takes decisive action to bolster its defence readiness. There is urgency to ramp up European defence readiness to ensure that Europe has a strong and sufficient European defence posture by 2030 at the latest. Based on projections of gradual take-up of the instruments proposed under the ReArm Europe Plan/Readiness 2030, defence investment could reach at least EUR 800bn over the next four years. A crucial aspect of this effort is the need to ramp up the Union's defence production capacity, enabling it to respond effectively to emerging security threats. In order to achieve that goal, regulatory simplification and harmonisation are essential. By streamlining and aligning regulatory frameworks, the Union can create a more conducive environment for defence industries to operate, innovate, and produce</p> | <p>underscored in the Joint White Paper on European Defence Readiness 2030¹, linked to the return of full-scale conflict in Europe <u>in the context of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine and the associated hybrid activities targeting the Union and its Member States, including sabotage, cyberattacks, disinformation, economic coercion and hostile intelligence operations, as well as repeated violations of EU and NATO airspace, and also an evolving transatlantic security posture. Accordingly, the Union must reinforce its strategic autonomy and resilience.</u> In response to this escalating challenge, it is imperative that the Union takes decisive action to bolster its defence readiness <u>and overall societal resilience, while upholding the Union's values and democratic principles, taking into account the recommendations identified in high-level reports by Mario Draghi, Sauli Niinistö and Enrico Letta.</u> There is urgency to ramp up European defence readiness to ensure that Europe</p> | <p>underscored in the Joint White Paper on European Defence Readiness 2030¹, linked to the return of full-scale conflict in Europe. In response to this escalating challenge, it is imperative that the Union takes decisive action to bolster its defence readiness. There is urgency to ramp up European defence readiness to ensure that Europe has a strong and sufficient European defence posture by 2030 at the latest. Based on projections of gradual take-up of the instruments proposed under the ReArm Europe Plan/Readiness 2030, defence investment could reach at least EUR 800bn over the next four years. A crucial aspect of this effort is the need to ramp up the Union's defence production capacity, enabling it to respond effectively to emerging security threats. In order to achieve that goal, regulatory simplification and harmonisation are essential. By streamlining and aligning regulatory frameworks, the Union can create a more conducive environment for defence industries to operate, innovate, and produce</p> | |

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| | <p>the necessary capabilities to ensure European security and defence readiness.</p> <p>1. Joint White Paper for European Defence Readiness 2030, JOIN(2025) 120 final, 19 March 2025.</p> | <p>has a strong and sufficient European defence posture by 2030 at the latest. <i>Based on projections of gradual take-up of the instruments proposed under the ReArm Europe Plan/Readiness 2030, defence investment could reach at least EUR 800bn over the next four years. A crucial aspect of this effort is the need to ramp up the Union's defence production capacity, enabling it to respond effectively to emerging security threats. In order to achieve that goal, regulatory simplification and harmonisation are essential. By streamlining and aligning regulatory frameworks, the Union can create a more conducive environment for defence industries to operate, innovate, and produce the necessary capabilities to ensure European security and</i> <u>It is particularly important to close the most critical capability shortfalls, in particular those outlined in the Defence Readiness Roadmap 2030, ensuring that efforts to close such shortfalls are carried out in coherence and mutual reinforcement with activities carried out within NATO, while</u></p> | <p>the necessary capabilities to ensure European security and defence readiness. The European Council took stock of work aiming to decisively ramp up Europe's defence readiness by 2030. The European Council confirmed its determination to deliver at pace and at scale on this objective, so that Europe is better equipped to act and deal autonomously, in a coordinated way, and with a 360° approach, with immediate and future challenges and threats.²</p> <p>1. Joint White Paper for European Defence Readiness 2030, JOIN(2025) 120 final, 19 March 2025. 2. European Council meeting (23 October 2025) – Conclusions.</p> | |

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| | | <p><u>avoiding unnecessary duplications.</u></p> <p>1. Joint White Paper for European Defence Readiness 2030, JOIN(2025) 120 final, 19 March 2025.</p> | | |
| Recital 1a | | | | |
| 12a | | <p><u>(1a) Based on projections of gradual take-up of the instruments proposed under the ReArm Europe Plan/Readiness 2030, defence investment could reach at least EUR 800bn over the next four years. Such a level of investment also provides an opportunity to develop the European Defence Technological and Industrial Base (EDTIB) within the single market, by enabling competitive, innovative and diverse defence technology actors to participate effectively in the EDTIB, while ensuring fair participation in the defence market, including SMEs, and in full compliance with Union and national social, labour, safety and environmental standards. A crucial aspect of this effort is the need to ramp up the Union's defence production capacity, enabling it to respond effectively</u></p> | | |

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| | | <i><u>to emerging security threats. In order to achieve that goal, regulatory simplification and harmonisation are essential in a way that improves efficiency, transparency, and accountability. By streamlining and aligning regulatory frameworks, the Union can create a more conducive environment for defence industries to operate, innovate, and produce the necessary capabilities to ensure European security and defence readiness. At the same time, efforts to promote a coherent approach to standardisation should be encouraged in order to strengthen interoperability and support a more efficient and coordinated development of defence capabilities across the Union.</u></i> | | |
| Recital 2 | | | | |
| 13 | (2) In this context, defence readiness should be understood as the ability of Member States to anticipate, prevent, and respond to defence related crises, as referred to in Directive 2009/81/EC of the European Parliament and of the | (2) In this context, defence readiness should be understood as the ability of Member States to anticipate, prevent, and respond to defence related crises, as referred to in Directive 2009/81/EC of the European Parliament and of the | (2) In this context, defence readiness should be understood as the ability of Member States to anticipate, prevent, and respond to defence related crises, as referred to in Directive 2009/81/EC of the European Parliament and of the | |

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| | <p>Council¹ through a proactive and coordinated approach. This includes ensuring the availability of defence industrial capacity required to acquire and maintain the necessary resources, capabilities, and infrastructure with the aim of responding effectively to such crises.</p> <p>1. Directive 2009/81/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 July 2009 on the coordination of procedures for the award of certain works contracts, supply contracts and service contracts by contracting authorities or entities in the fields of defence and security, and amending Directives 2004/17/EC and 2004/18/EC (OJ L 216, 20.8.2009, p. 76, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2009/81/oj).</p> | <p>Council¹ through a proactive and coordinated approach. This includes ensuring the availability of defence industrial capacity required to acquire and maintain the necessary resources, capabilities, and infrastructure with the aim of responding effectively to such crises.</p> <p><u>Furthermore, defence readiness should also include broader preparedness, strengthening the resilience of society as a whole, to hybrid threats, disinformation campaigns, cyber attacks and other non-military forms of influence. This Regulation should apply solely to projects that contribute to the Union's and Member States' defence readiness and abide by the rules governing the internal market to ensure fair competition.</u></p> <p>1. Directive 2009/81/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 July 2009 on the coordination of procedures for the award of certain works contracts, supply contracts and service contracts by contracting authorities or entities in the fields of defence and security, and amending Directives 2004/17/EC and 2004/18/EC (OJ L 216, 20.8.2009, p. 76,</p> | <p>Council¹ through a proactive and coordinated approach including in order to protect citizens, property and the availability of key resources within the Union in reaction to dynamically changing threats and ensuring the ability to provide military support to partners. This includes ensuring the availability of defence industrial capacity required to acquire and maintain the necessary resources, capabilities, and infrastructure with the aim of responding effectively to such crises.</p> <p>1. Directive 2009/81/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 July 2009 on the coordination of procedures for the award of certain works contracts, supply contracts and service contracts by contracting authorities or entities in the fields of defence and security, and amending Directives 2004/17/EC and 2004/18/EC (OJ L 216, 20.8.2009, p. 76, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2009/81/oj).</p> | |

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| | | ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2009/81/oj). | | |
| Recital 3 | | | | |
| 14 | (3) Setting up or extending facilities, infrastructure and undertaking activities related to defence readiness often requires applying for several relevant permits and approvals. Existing permitting processes for assessments across various areas are often lengthy and cumbersome. Those procedures currently lack Union-wide provisions for fast-track processes specific to defence readiness activities, which impedes the ramp-up of defence production and related infrastructure in a timely manner and defence readiness activities and investments that are crucial for meeting emerging security demands. | (3) Setting up or extending facilities, infrastructure and undertaking activities related to defence readiness often requires applying for several relevant permits and approvals. Existing permitting processes for assessments across various areas are often lengthy and cumbersome. <u>Small mid-caps and SMEs in particular are disproportionately affected, which has negative consequences for the entire supply chain.</u> Those procedures currently lack Union-wide provisions for fast-track processes specific to defence readiness activities, which impedes the ramp-up of defence production and related infrastructure in a timely manner and defence readiness activities and investments that are crucial for meeting emerging security demands. | (3) Setting up or extending facilities, infrastructure and undertaking activities related to defence readiness often requires applying for several relevant permits and approvals. Existing permitting processes for assessments across various areas are often lengthy and cumbersome. Those procedures currently lack Union-wide provisions for fast-track processes specific to defence readiness activities, which impedes the ramp-up of defence production and related infrastructure in a timely manner and defence readiness activities and investments that are crucial for meeting emerging security demands. | |
| Recital 4 | | | | |
| 15 | (4) The national permit-granting process ensures that | (4) The national permit-granting process ensures that | (4) The national For that reason, permit-granting process | |

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| | <p>defence readiness projects are safe, secure and comply with environmental, social and other safety requirements. Union environmental law sets common conditions for the content of the national permit-granting process, thereby ensuring a high level of environmental protection and allowing for the sustainable exploitation of the Union's potential along the raw materials value chain.</p> | <p>defence readiness projects are safe, secure and comply <u>with</u> <u>carried out safely, securely and in full compliance with relevant</u> environmental, social, <u>labour</u> and other safety requirements <u>throughout all stages of the process</u>. Union environmental law sets common conditions for the content of the national permit-granting process, thereby ensuring a high level of environmental protection. <u>In light of the acute threat posed by Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine and the accompanying hybrid activities directed against the Union and its Member States, it is essential that the application of Union and national rules enables the rapid and efficient implementation of defence readiness projects, while remaining consistent with the Union's environmental acquis. This approach would enable-and allowing for the sustainable exploitation of the Union's potential along the and responsible development of Europe's defence industrial and raw materials value chain</u> <u>capacities, while avoiding</u></p> | <p>ensures that processes of the Member States for defence readiness projects, should be streamlined, while ensuring that such projects are safe, secure, environmentally sustainable, and comply with environmental, social and other safety requirements. Union environmental law sets common conditions for the content and process of the national permit-granting process, thereby ensuring a high level of environmental protection and allowing for the sustainable exploitation of the Union's potential along the raw materials value chain. This Regulation does not undermine any obligations arising from other relevant Union legislation.</p> | |

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| | | <u>unnecessary administrative delays that could hinder security preparedness.</u> | | |
| Recital 5 | | | | |
| 16 | (5) At the same time, the unpredictability, complexity and, often, excessive length of national permit-granting processes undermine the investment security needed for the effective strengthening of Member States defence readiness. The structure and length of a permit-granting process for relevant projects can also differ greatly between Member States. Therefore, to ensure and speed up their effective implementation, Member States should apply streamlined and predictable permit-granting processes to defence readiness projects. | (5) At the same time, The unpredictability, complexity and, often, excessive length of national permit-granting processes <u>procedures</u> undermine the investment security, <u>certainty and planning</u> needed for the effective strengthening of Member States defence readiness <u>and risk discouraging innovative SMEs and small mid-caps from entering into or scaling within the defence sector</u> . The structure and length of a permit-granting process for relevant projects can also differ greatly between Member States. Therefore, to ensure and speed up their effective implementation, Member States should apply streamlined and predictable permit-granting processes to defence readiness projects. | (5) At the same time, the unpredictability, complexity and, often, excessive length of complex and lengthy national permit-granting processes undermine the investment security needed for the effective strengthening of Member States defence readiness. The structure and length of a permit-granting process for relevant projects can also differ greatly between Member States. Therefore, to ensure and speed up their effective implementation, Member States should apply streamlined and predictable permit-granting processes to defence readiness projects. | |
| Recital 5a | | | | |
| 16a | | | (5a) In light of these challenges, it is appropriate to establish extraordinary measures to accelerate the | |

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| | | | permit-granting processes for defence readiness projects. Their use is justified by the urgent need to strengthen the Union's defence readiness and should be limited to cases where Member States identify defence readiness projects within the meaning of this Regulation. | |
| Recital 5a | | | | |
| 16b | | <i><u>(5a) Defence readiness projects, including related industrial and governmental activities can, where applicable, fall within the scope of existing Union provisions allowing derogations, including from Union environmental law, on grounds of “overriding public interest”, “public safety” or “crisis” response. Member States can therefore, where so provided under national law, assess on a case-by-case basis whether permit-granting procedures for defence readiness projects can rely on those existing derogations. Any such assessment should be carried out in accordance with the conditions set out in the relevant Union and</u></i> | | |

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| | | <u><i>national law. Where compensatory or mitigating measures are required in the framework of the permit-granting process, they should ensure that the interests of relevant sectors are safeguarded in a proportionate manner, while preserving all obligations and safeguards laid down in the applicable legal frameworks and with a view to the timely achievement of the Defence Readiness 2030 objective.</i></u> | | |
| Recital 5b | | | | |
| 16c | | | (5b) As clarified by the Commission in its Communication of 17 June 2025 on the Defence Readiness Omnibus, derogations already exist in various Union legislations and provide grounds of “overriding public interest”, “public safety” or in case of “crisis”, which Member States can use where appropriate for purposes of defence readiness activities and investments. In this context, compensatory or mitigating measures that may be required in the framework of | |

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| | | | the permit-granting process are tools aimed at ensuring that the interests of relevant sectors are safeguarded in a proportionate manner, with a view to timely achievement of the defence readiness 2030 objective. | |
| Recital 6 | | | | |
| 17 | (6) While certain Member States have taken or are likely to take measures to accelerate the permission-granting processes for the defence industry, this may be done in diverging ways which would result in barriers to the functioning of the internal market in the defence sector. Divergent national legislation, regarding the planning permit-granting process of defence projects have proven to become bottlenecks for European relevant defence products supply chains. To ensure the functioning of the internal market, it is necessary to establish harmonised rules for the acceleration of the permit-granting processes. | (6) While certain Member States have taken or are likely to take measures to accelerate the permission-granting processes for the defence industry, this may be done in diverging ways which would result in barriers to the functioning of the internal market in the defence sector. Divergent national legislation, regarding the planning permit-granting process of defence projects have proven to become bottlenecks for European relevant defence products supply chains. To ensure the functioning of the internal market, it is necessary to establish harmonised rules <i>and timelines</i> for the acceleration of the permit-granting processes. | (6) While certain Member States have taken or are likely to take measures to accelerate the permission-granting processes for the defence industry, this may be done in diverging ways which would result in barriers to the functioning of the internal market in the defence sector. Divergent national legislation, legislations regarding the planning permit-granting process of defence projects have proven to become bottlenecks for European relevant defence products supply chains. To ensure the functioning of the internal market, it is necessary to establish harmonised rules for the acceleration of the permit-granting processes. | |
| Recital 7 | | | | |
| 18 | (7) While Union institutions can provide guidance and | (7) While Union institutions can provide guidance and | (7) While Union institutions can provide guidance and | |

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| | frameworks, the responsibility for authorisation and facilitating fast-track permitting processes resides primarily with Member States. Member States are best positioned to implement changes that cater to their specific administrative and regulatory landscapes. | frameworks, the responsibility for authorisation and facilitating fast-track permitting processes resides primarily with Member States. Member States are best positioned to implement changes that cater to their specific administrative and regulatory landscapes. | frameworks, the responsibility for authorisation and facilitating fast-track permitting processes resides primarily with Member States. Member States are best positioned to implement changes that cater to their specific administrative and regulatory landscapes. | |
| Recital 7a | | | | |
| 18a | | <i><u>(7a) The application of this Regulation should fully respect the sole responsibility of the Member States for safeguarding their national security. Essential functions, including the defence of the territory, the maintenance of law and order and the protection of public security, remain within national competence and are not affected by this Regulation. Member States can maintain or introduce extraordinary national permitting procedures, provided that such measures do not undermine the functioning of the internal market for defence readiness projects within the scope of this Regulation.</u></i> | | |
| Recital 8 | | | | |

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| 19 | (8) There is a pressing need to reduce the complexity and duration of permitting processes for defence readiness projects. By establishing national permitting frameworks that prioritise these projects and ensure their rapid processing, the Union aims to enhance its defence production capacity and readiness by 2030 at the latest. | (8) There is a pressing need to reduce the complexity and duration of permitting processes for defence readiness projects, <u>while ensuring that such processes are accessible to mid-caps, small mid-caps and SMEs contributing to the development of new and emerging defence technologies</u> . By establishing national permitting frameworks that prioritise these projects and ensure their rapid processing, the Union aims to enhance its defence production capacity and readiness by 2030 at the latest. | (8) There is a pressing need to reduce the complexity and duration of permitting processes for defence readiness projects. By establishing national permitting frameworks that prioritise these projects and ensure their rapid processing, the Union aims to enhance its defence production capacity and readiness by 2030 at the latest. | |
| Recital 8a | | | | |
| 19a | | <u>(8a) In situations of supply chain crisis, uncertainty can hinder timely decisions and investment planning. Member States are therefore encouraged to publish and periodically update clear, accessible online information on relevant risks and bottlenecks, in line with national security and confidentiality requirements, in order to help companies anticipate and adjust their production, support the efficient allocation of scarce</u> | | |

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| | | <u>resources to strategically important projects and strengthen the Union's defence industrial resilience and strategic autonomy.</u> | | |
| Recital 9 | | | | |
| 20 | (9) In order to address these challenges, the defence industry should benefit of rules proven to be effective in streamlining industrial permitting processes. Aiming to reduce permitting deadlines for defence industry activities, including construction of new plants and related infrastructure, expansion of existing facilities, establishment of testing sites, training and certifying while also building on and broadening existing applicable provisions. | (9) In order to address these challenges, the defence industry should benefit of rules proven to be effective in streamlining industrial permitting processes <u>and boosting innovative defence industrial actors.</u> Aiming to reduce permitting deadlines for defence industry activities, including construction of new plants and related infrastructure, expansion of existing facilities, establishment of testing sites, training and , certifying, <u>and research and development, including prototype construction and technology transfer,</u> while also building on and broadening existing applicable provisions. <u>A more agile regulatory framework will free up resources for technological innovation, encourage production modularity and promote the establishment of cross-border consortia that can</u> | (9) In order to address these challenges, the defence industry should benefit of from rules proven to be effective in streamlining industrial permitting processes. Aiming to reduce permitting deadlines for defence industry activities, including construction of new plants and related infrastructure, expansion of existing facilities, establishment of testing sites, training and certifying while also building on and broadening existing applicable provisions. | |

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| | | <u>bridge capacity gaps more quickly.</u> | | |
| Recital 9a | | | | |
| 20a | | <u>(9a) To ensure that a streamlined permitting process and prioritisation processes cover the whole defence value chain, the concept of the defence industry should include not only undertakings manufacturing defence-related products within the meaning of Directive 2009/43/EC, but also undertakings providing services that directly enhance the defence readiness of one or more Member States. Furthermore, to address the principal bottlenecks in defence investments, the permit-granting process under this Regulation should cover all relevant permissions, including permits, approvals or licences required to build, expand, convert, operate or repurpose installations, equipment or activities for the manufacturing of defence products or components, or for other activities forming part of a defence readiness project.</u> | | |

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| | | <u><i>Bringing all such permissions into a single, coordinated and time-bound procedure, from the acknowledgement of the completeness of an application to the notification of the final decision by the single point of contact, reduces fragmentation, shortens procedural timelines and enhances legal certainty.</i></u> | | |
| Recital 10 | | | | |
| 21 | (10) Complying with Union law, including for instance in relation to water, waste management, air, ecosystems, habitats, archaeological, biodiversity and birds' protection, are integral part of the permit granting procedure, also for the defence sector. Such rules are an essential safeguard to ensure negative impacts are prevented or minimised. However, to ensure that permit granting procedures for defence readiness projects are predictable and timely, any potential to streamline the required assessments and authorisations while not lowering the level of, for instance, environmental protection, should be realised. In | (10) Complying with Union law, including for instance in relation to water, waste management, air, ecosystems, habitats, archaeological, biodiversity and birds' protection, are integral part of the permit granting procedure, also for the defence sector. Such rules are an essential safeguard to ensure negative impacts are prevented or minimised. However, to ensure that permit granting procedures for defence readiness projects are predictable and timely, any potential to streamline the required assessments and authorisations while not lowering the level of, for instance, environmental protection, should be realised. In | (10) Complying with Union law, including for instance in relation to water , waste management and to water , air, ecosystems, habitats, archaeological, and biodiversity and birds' protection , are integral part of the permit granting procedure, also for the defence sector. Such rules are an essential safeguard to ensure negative impacts are prevented or minimised. However, to ensure that permit granting procedures for defence readiness projects are predictable and timely, any potential to streamline the required assessments and authorisations while not lowering the level of, for instance, environmental | |

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| | that regard, it should be ensured that the necessary assessments are bundled to prevent unnecessary overlap. | that regard, it should be ensured that the necessary assessments are bundled to prevent unnecessary overlap. | protection, should be realised. In that regard, it should be ensured that the necessary assessments are bundled to prevent unnecessary overlap. | |
| Recital 10a | | | | |
| 21a | | | (10a) Each Member State should, in light of its administrative organisation and defence and national security needs, determine upon receipt of a complete permit-granting application, whether a project located on its territory qualifies as a defence readiness project. | |
| Recital 10a | | | | |
| 21b | | <i><u>(10a) Member States should ensure that permitting and assessment procedures required under national law are organised in a coordinated manner that complements those required under Union law, avoiding overlap, duplication and unnecessary administrative delays, while maintaining a high level of environmental protection. Where appropriate, such procedures should be coordinated or combined to provide an efficient, predictable and</u></i> | | |

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| | | <u>transparent process for project promoters.</u> | | |
| Recital 10b | | | | |
| 21c | | <u>(10b) To safeguard trust in the simplification of administrative processes, accelerated procedures and the internal market, Member States should ensure the impartiality of single points of contact and all competent national authorities involved in the permit-granting process, including through maintaining fair-competition and conflict-of-interest principles, transparency of decision-making, publication of non-confidential statistics on permit decisions. Those measures should ensure non-discriminatory access for SMEs and companies of all sizes across the Union. Member States and the Commission should ensure that appropriate measures are in place to prevent, detect, and correct any risk of fraud or corruption.</u> | | |
| Recital 10c | | | | |
| 21d | | <u>(10c) This Regulation clarifies that, when a project is subject to an environmental impact assessment pursuant to Directive</u> | | |

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| | | <i><u>2011/92/EU, the steps (i) and (ii) of the environmental impact assessment timeline should not be included in the duration of the permit-granting process established by this Regulation. This Regulation also requires single points of contact to provide information to project promoters about the requirement to carry out an environmental impact assessment, as well as the scope and level of detail of such assessment.</u></i> | | |
| Recital 11 | | | | |
| 22 | (11) To facilitate the efficient and timely processing of administrative permitting applications related to defence readiness activities and the scaling up of defence production, Member States need to ensure that the competent national authorities implement fast-track procedures. Those authorities should provide the most rapid legal treatment possible for such applications, thereby enabling timely responses to defence readiness needs. | (11) To facilitate the efficient and timely processing of administrative permitting applications related to defence readiness activities and the scaling up of defence production, <i><u>and supporting mid-caps, small mid-caps and SMEs</u></i> , Member States need to ensure that the competent national authorities implement fast-track procedures. Those authorities should provide the most rapid legal treatment possible for such applications, thereby enabling timely responses to defence readiness needs. <i><u>The</u></i> | (11) To facilitate the efficient and timely processing of administrative permitting applications related to defence readiness activities and the scaling up of defence production, Member States need to ensure that the competent national authorities implement fast-track procedures. Those authorities should provide the most rapid legal treatment possible for such permit-granting applications, thereby enabling timely responses to defence readiness needs. | |

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| | | <u>competent authorities have flexibility to prolong the standard fast-track timeline for the reasons of potential risks to health, safety, the environment, and national security. To ensure that these exceptional circumstances are treated in rigorous and transparent manner, it is essential that competent authorities do not merely assert the existence of exceptional circumstances but substantiate such claims with verifiable evidence.</u> | | |
| Recital 11a | | | | |
| 22a | | <u>(11a) In addition, in order to further accelerate and streamline the permit issuing process, the principle of tacit approval should apply to the application for a permit except where that principle is in contradiction with the existing national legal system of a Member State. Therefore, an application for a permit should be considered granted if the project promoter has not been informed by the single point of contact within the applicable deadline of the outcome of the permit-granting process.</u> | | |

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| Recital 11b | | | | |
| 22b | | <i><u>(11b) Where a permit for a defence readiness project is implicitly granted, such approval should not exempt the project promoter or the competent authority from full compliance with applicable Union and national law, including provisions on environmental protection and on the health and safety of workers.</u></i> | | |
| Recital 12 | | | | |
| 23 | (12) Establishing a single point of contact for industry applications regarding permits related to defence activities is intended to streamline communication, reduce administrative burdens and further expedite the permitting process with clear and legally binding deadlines, thereby providing efficient pathway for defence-related industrial applications. Moreover, it will provide certainty to investors by ensuring the rapid treatment of permit applications and limiting the risks to investments related to lengthy procedures. | (12) Establishing a one or more single point <u>points</u> of contact for industry applications regarding permits related to defence activities, is intended to streamline communication, <u>clarify responsibilities</u> , reduce administrative burdens and further expedite the permitting process with clear and legally binding deadlines, thereby providing efficient pathway for defence-related industrial applications. Moreover, it will provide certainty to investors by ensuring the rapid treatment of permit applications and limiting the risks to investments related to lengthy | (12) Establishing a single point of contact for industry applications regarding permits related to defence activities is intended to streamline communication, reduce administrative burdens and further expedite the permitting process with clear and legally binding deadlines, thereby providing efficient pathway for defence-related industrial applications. Moreover, it will provide certainty to investors by ensuring the rapid treatment of permit permit-granting applications and limiting the risks to investments related to lengthy procedures. | |

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| | | procedures. <u>Member States should provide their single points of contact, as well as any authority involved in the permit-granting process, with sufficient personnel and resources.</u> | | |
| Recital 12a | | | | |
| 23a | | | (12a) Member States should be able, in light of their internal organisation, to choose whether to establish or designate their single points of contact at local, regional or national level, or at any other relevant administrative level. Moreover, the relevant competent authorities should specify and make available to the single point of contact the requirements and extent of information requested of a project promoter before the permit-granting process commences. The single point of contact should be responsible for communicating that information to the project promoter of the defence readiness project. Defence readiness project promoters should be able to interact with a single point | |

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| | | | contact which is responsible for facilitating and coordinating the entire permit-granting process. It should be for Member States to decide by virtue of national law whether a single point of contact is also an authority that makes permitting decisions. To ensure the effective implementation of their responsibilities, Member States should provide their single points of contact, as well as any authority involved in the permit-granting process with sufficient personnel and resources. | |
| Recital 12a | | | | |
| 23b | | <i><u>(12a) In Member States with a federal or otherwise decentralised administrative structure, or where regional or local authorities are required to be involved in the approval process or to adopt the relevant decisions, the functions of the single point of contact may be exercised through a coordinating structure involving regional or local authorities, provided that it is ensured that project promoters have one clearly identified interface for</u></i> | | |

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| | | <u>each project, and that that interface is coordinated and streamlined. Member States should make best efforts to ensure that project promoters, in particular SMEs and small mid-caps, can easily identify and access the competent single point of contact for their specific project. Flexibility should be ensured to allow several competent authorities to operate as single points of contact where necessary, provided that clear coordination mechanisms are in place and that project promoters have one clearly identified coordinating authority acting as the sole interface for each project. Such arrangements should avoid duplication or fragmentation of procedures and preserve the efficiency and purpose of the single-point-of-contact system.</u> | | |
| Recital 13 | | | | |
| 24 | (13) To accelerate reaching full operational capacity of the single contact points Member States should, to the extent possible, take advantage of possible complementarity with existing | (13) To accelerate reaching full operational capacity of the single contact points Member States should, to the extent possible, take advantage of possible complementarity with existing | (13) To accelerate reaching full operational capacity of the single contact points Member States should, to the extent possible, take advantage of possible complementarity with existing | |

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| | <p>single contact points, for example those established under Regulation (EU) 2024/1735 of the European Parliament and of the Council¹ or Regulation (EU) 2024/1252 of the European Parliament and of the Council².</p> <p>1. Regulation (EU) 2024/1735 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 June 2024 on establishing a framework of measures for strengthening Europe's net-zero technology manufacturing ecosystem and amending Regulation (EU) 2018/1724 (Text with EEA relevance) (OJ L, 2024/1735, 28.6.2024, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1735/oj)</p> <p>2. Regulation (EU) 2024/1252 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 April 2024 establishing a framework for ensuring a secure and sustainable supply of critical raw materials and amending Regulations (EU) No 168/2013, (EU) 2018/858, (EU) 2018/1724 and (EU) 2019/1020 (OJ L, 2024/1252, 3.5.2024, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1252/oj)</p> | <p>single contact points, for example those established under Regulation (EU) 2024/1735 of the European Parliament and of the Council¹ or Regulation (EU) 2024/1252 of the European Parliament and of the Council².</p> <p>1. Regulation (EU) 2024/1735 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 June 2024 on establishing a framework of measures for strengthening Europe's net-zero technology manufacturing ecosystem and amending Regulation (EU) 2018/1724 (Text with EEA relevance) (OJ L, 2024/1735, 28.6.2024, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1735/oj)</p> <p>2. Regulation (EU) 2024/1252 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 April 2024 establishing a framework for ensuring a secure and sustainable supply of critical raw materials and amending Regulations (EU) No 168/2013, (EU) 2018/858, (EU) 2018/1724 and (EU) 2019/1020 (OJ L, 2024/1252, 3.5.2024, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1252/oj)</p> | <p>single contact points, for example those established under Regulation (EU) 2024/1735 of the European Parliament and of the Council¹ or Regulation (EU) 2024/1252 of the European Parliament and of the Council².</p> <p>1. Regulation (EU) 2024/1735 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 June 2024 on establishing a framework of measures for strengthening Europe's net-zero technology manufacturing ecosystem and amending Regulation (EU) 2018/1724 (Text with EEA relevance) (OJ L, 2024/1735, 28.6.2024, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1735/oj)</p> <p>2. Regulation (EU) 2024/1252 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 April 2024 establishing a framework for ensuring a secure and sustainable supply of critical raw materials and amending Regulations (EU) No 168/2013, (EU) 2018/858, (EU) 2018/1724 and (EU) 2019/1020 (OJ L, 2024/1252, 3.5.2024, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1252/oj)</p> | |
| Recital 14 | | | | |
| 25 | (14) Furthermore, Member States should provide the necessary administrative support to defence readiness projects located on their territory, to | (14) Furthermore, Member States should provide the necessary administrative support to defence readiness projects located on their territory, to | (14) Furthermore, Member States should provide the necessary administrative support to defence readiness projects located on their territory, to | |

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| | facilitate their timely and effective implementation, paying particular attention to the needs of small and medium-sized enterprises and mid-cap enterprises involved in those projects, by providing assistance regarding compliance with applicable administrative and reporting obligations, informing the public to increase acceptance of the projects and guiding project promoters through the permit-granting process. | facilitate their timely and effective implementation, paying particular attention to the needs of small and medium-sized enterprises and mid-cap enterprises involved in those projects, by providing assistance regarding <u>which often face higher relative compliance with applicable costs and limited administrative and reporting obligations, informing the public to increase acceptance of the projects and guiding project promoters through</u> capacity. To that end, the single point of contact should include dedicated support functions for SMEs and midcaps, such as helpdesks, harmonised templates and digital tools, offering clear guidance on documentation and compliance requirements and assistance throughout the permit-granting process, <u>so that smaller actors can participate effectively and without disproportionate administrative burden.</u> | facilitate their timely and effective implementation, paying particular attention to the needs of small and medium-sized enterprises and mid-cap enterprises involved in those projects, by providing assistance regarding compliance with applicable administrative and reporting obligations, informing the public to increase acceptance of the projects and guiding project promoters through the permit-granting process. | |
| Recital 14a | | | | |
| 25a | | <u>(14a) To ensure effective, transparent and comparable implementation, the performance</u> | | |

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| | | | | <i><u>of single points of contact should be assessed through common Union-wide indicators and data collected to be submitted by each Member State to the Commission annually.</u></i> | | | | |
| Recital 14b | | | | | | | | |
| 25b | | | | <i><u>(14b) Transparency and equal access to information are crucial for the effective implementation of permit-granting processes. Member States should ensure that all project promoters, regardless of their Member State of establishment, have support and equal access to centralised, easily accessible online information. This includes details on single points of contact, permit-granting procedures, dispute resolution mechanisms, financing and investment services, and available Union or national funding instruments.</u></i> | | | | |
| Recital 14c | | | | | | | | |
| 25c | | | | <i><u>(14c) To avoid the proliferation of uncoordinated administrative platforms, Member States should design digital tools supporting this Regulation that are interoperable in order to allow for</u></i> | | | | |

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| | | <u>reusing information already submitted under other Union or national procedures and offer a single, user-friendly digital interface, particularly benefiting SMEs and mid-caps.</u> | | |
| Recital 15 | | | | |
| 26 | (15) The Commission may offer capacity-building support to the single point of contact, including technical assistance, training, monitoring and evaluation, with the aim of developing and strengthening the abilities, processes and resources that the single points of contacts need to develop for the purposes of this Regulation. Such support may be requested by Member States and will fall within the scope of supporting actions under the European Defence Industry Programme [reference to be added once EDIP is adopted]. | (15) The Commission may <u>should, upon request by a Member State</u> offer capacity-building support to the single point of contact, including technical assistance, training, monitoring and evaluation, with the aim of developing and strengthening the abilities, processes and resources that the single points of contacts need to develop for the purposes of this Regulation. Such support may be requested by Member States and will fall within the scope of supporting actions under <u>Regulation (EU) 20XX/XXXX on</u> the European Defence Industry Programme [reference to be added once EDIP is adopted]. | (15) The Commission may offer capacity-building support to the single point of contact, including technical assistance, training, monitoring and evaluation, with the aim of developing and strengthening the abilities, processes and resources that the single points of contacts need to develop for the purposes of this Regulation. Such support may be requested by Member States and will fall within the scope of supporting actions under the European Defence Industry Programme [reference to be added once EDIP is adopted]. | |
| Recital 16 | | | | |
| 27 | (16) In order to ensure clarity about the permitting status of defence readiness projects and to limit the effectiveness of potential | (16) In order to ensure clarity about the permitting status of defence readiness projects and to limit the effectiveness of potential | (16) In order to ensure clarity about the permitting status of defence readiness projects and to limit the effectiveness of potential | |

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| | abusive litigation, while not undermining effective judicial review, Member States should ensure that any dispute concerning the permit-granting process for defence readiness projects is resolved in a timely manner. To that end, Member States should ensure that project promoters have access to simple dispute settlement procedures and that defence readiness projects are subject to urgent handling in all administrative, judicial and dispute resolution procedures relating to the projects to the extent that national law provides for such urgency procedures. | abusive litigation, while not undermining effective judicial review, Member States should ensure that any dispute concerning the permit-granting process for defence readiness projects is resolved in a timely manner. To that end, Member States should ensure that project promoters have access to simple dispute settlement procedures and that defence readiness projects are subject to urgent handling in all administrative, judicial and dispute resolution procedures relating to the projects to the extent that national law provides for such urgency procedures. | abusive litigation, while not undermining effective judicial review, Member States should ensure that any dispute concerning the permit-granting process for defence readiness projects is resolved in a timely manner. To that end, Member States should ensure that project promoters have access to simple dispute settlement procedures and that defence readiness projects are subject to urgent handling in all administrative, judicial and dispute resolution procedures relating to the projects to the extent that national law provides for such urgency procedures. | |
| Recital 17 | | | | |
| 28 | (17) In order to provide project promoters and other investors with the security and clarity needed to increase development of defence readiness projects, Member States should ensure that the permit-granting process related to such projects does not exceed set time limits. | (17) In order to provide project promoters and other investors with the security and clarity needed to increase development of defence readiness projects, Member States should ensure that the permit-granting process related to such projects does not exceed set time limits. <u>Completion within those time limits should take the form of a reasoned, written decision, whether granting or refusing the</u> | (17) In order to provide project promoters and other investors with the security and clarity needed to increase development of defence readiness projects, Member States should ensure that the permit-granting process related to such projects does not exceed set time limits. | |

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| | | <u><i>relevant permit, - notified by the single point of contact to the project promoter.</i></u> | | |
| Recital 17a | | | | |
| 28a | | | (17a) The permit-granting process should start when the single point of contact notifies the project promoter that the permit-granting application received is complete and end when the single point of contact notifies the project promoter of the outcome of the comprehensive decision. | |
| Recital 17b | | | | |
| 28b | | | (17b) Where an environmental impact assessment or other assessments are required by Union or national law as part of an authorisation process, a permit-granting application should only be considered to be complete for the purpose of this Regulation where the environmental impact assessment report or other assessments have been provided by the project promoter. Where relevant, obligations of the competent national authorities, such as for the purpose of | |

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| | | | <p>completing the environmental impact assessment pursuant to Directive 2011/92/EU, article 1 (2), point (g) (iii), (iv) and (v), are to be carried out before the end of the permit-granting process.</p> | |
| Recital 17c | | | | |
| 28c | | | <p>(17c) Where on expiry of these time limits, the project promoter has not been informed of the outcome of the permit-granting process, the permits concerned should be deemed to have been granted and the project promoter authorised to implement the defence readiness project. The single point of contact should have 10 days to inform the project promoter of the tacit approval and where relevant, specify the conditions and requirements which these permits are subject to, in accordance with applicable Union or national law. Such tacit approval is without prejudice to Member States' obligations to perform case-by-case examinations, assessment procedures or public</p> | |

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| | | | consultations, which are to be carried out pursuant to Union or national law. In order to take into account national specificities in the protection of public health, safety of workers, national security and the environment, Member States should be able to derogate from the general rule by allowing competent authorities not to apply the tacit approval to a specific permit-granting application where credible and grave risks are established. | |
| Recital 18 | | | | |
| 29 | (18) This Regulation is without prejudice to the obligations deriving from international law, where relevant. | (18) This Regulation is without prejudice to the obligations deriving from international law, where relevant. | (18) This Regulation is without prejudice to the obligations deriving from international law, where relevant. | |
| Recital 19 | | | | |
| 30 | (19) Since the objective of this Regulation cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States and can rather, by reason of the scale or effects of the action, be better achieved at Union level, the Union may adopt measures in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity as set out in Article 5 of the Treaty on the European | (19) Since the objective of this Regulation cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States and can rather, by reason of the scale or effects of the action, be better achieved at Union level, the Union may adopt measures in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity as set out in Article 5 of the Treaty on the European | (19) Since the objective of this Regulation cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States and can rather, by reason of the scale or effects of the action, be better achieved at Union level, the Union may adopt measures in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity as set out in Article 5 of the Treaty on the European | |

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| | Union. In accordance with the principle of proportionality as set out in that Article, this Regulation does not go beyond what is necessary in order to achieve that objective, | Union. In accordance with the principle of proportionality as set out in that Article, this Regulation does not go beyond what is necessary in order to achieve that objective, | Union. In accordance with the principle of proportionality as set out in that Article, this Regulation does not go beyond what is necessary in order to achieve that objective, | |
| Recital 19a | | | | |
| 30a | | | (19a) This Regulation is without prejudice to the Member States' responsibility for safeguarding national security and the specific character of the security and defence policy of certain Member States. National security remains the sole responsibility of each Member State, | |
| Formula | | | | |
| 31 | HAVE ADOPTED THIS REGULATION: | HAVE ADOPTED THIS REGULATION: | HAVE ADOPTED THIS REGULATION: | |
| Article 1 | | | | |
| 32 | Article 1 Definitions | Article 1 Definitions | Article 1 Definitions | |
| Article 1, first paragraph | | | | |
| 33 | For the purposes of this Regulation, the following definitions shall apply: | For the purposes of this Regulation, the following definitions shall apply: | For the purposes of this Regulation, the following definitions shall apply: | |
| Article 1, first paragraph, point (1) | | | | |

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| 34 | (1) 'defence readiness project' means set of activities, investments and measures aimed at enhancing the defence readiness of a Member State or several Member States, including through the development of the defence industry; | (1) 'defence readiness project' means set of activities, investments and measures aimed at enhancing <u>or measures primarily intended to enhance</u> the defence readiness of a Member State or several Member States <u>jointly</u> , including through the development <u>or modernisation</u> of the defence industry; | (1) 'defence readiness project' means set of activities, investments and measures aimed at enhancing the defence readiness of a Member State or several Member States , including through the development of the defence industry; | |
| Article 1, first paragraph, point (2) | | | | |
| 35 | (2) 'defence industry' means all undertakings engaged in the development, production, and manufacture of defence-related products as defined in Article 3(1) of Directive 2009/43/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council ¹ ; 1. Directive 2009/43/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 May 2009 simplifying terms and conditions of transfers of defence-related products within the Community (OJ L 146, 10.6.2009, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2009/43/oj). | (2) 'defence industry' means all undertakings engaged in the development, production, and manufacture <u>or supply</u> of defence-related products as defined in Article 3(1) of Directive 2009/43/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council ¹ <u>or in the provision of services that enhance the defence readiness of one or several Member States</u> ; 1. Directive 2009/43/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 May 2009 simplifying terms and conditions of transfers of defence-related products within the Community (OJ L 146, 10.6.2009, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2009/43/oj). | (2) 'defence industry' means all undertakings engaged in the research , development, production, and manufacture of defence-related products as defined in Article 3(1) of Directive 2009/43/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council ¹ ; 1. Directive 2009/43/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 May 2009 simplifying terms and conditions of transfers of defence-related products within the Community (OJ L 146, 10.6.2009, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2009/43/oj). | |
| Article 1, first paragraph, point (3) | | | | |

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| 36 | <p>(3) ‘defence readiness’ means the state of preparedness of a Member State or several Member States to respond to a crisis defined in Article 1, point (10) of Directive 2009/81/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council¹, which relates to defence;</p> <p>1. Directive 2009/81/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 July 2009 on the coordination of procedures for the award of certain works contracts, supply contracts and service contracts by contracting authorities or entities in the fields of defence and security, and amending Directives 2004/17/EC and 2004/18/EC (OJ L 216, 20.8.2009, p. 76, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2009/81/oj).</p> | <p>(3) ‘defence readiness’ means the state of preparedness of a Member State or several Member States to <u>anticipate, prevent or</u> respond to a crisis <u>as</u> defined in Article 1, point (10) of Directive 2009/81/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council¹, which relates to defence;</p> <p>1. Directive 2009/81/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 July 2009 on the coordination of procedures for the award of certain works contracts, supply contracts and service contracts by contracting authorities or entities in the fields of defence and security, and amending Directives 2004/17/EC and 2004/18/EC (OJ L 216, 20.8.2009, p. 76, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2009/81/oj).</p> | <p>(3) ‘defence readiness’ means the state of preparedness of a Member State or several Member States to anticipate, prevent or respond to a crisis as defined in Article 1, point (10) of Directive 2009/81/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council¹, which relates to defence;</p> <p>1. Directive 2009/81/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 July 2009 on the coordination of procedures for the award of certain works contracts, supply contracts and service contracts by contracting authorities or entities in the fields of defence and security, and amending Directives 2004/17/EC and 2004/18/EC (OJ L 216, 20.8.2009, p. 76, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2009/81/oj).</p> | |
| Article 1, first paragraph, point (4) | | | | |
| 37 | <p>(4) ‘middle capitalisation company’ or ‘mid-cap’ means middle capitalisation company as defined in Article 2, point (15), of Regulation (EU) 2021/697 of the European Parliament and of the Council¹;</p> <p>1. Regulation (EU) 2021/697 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2021 establishing the European Defence Fund and repealing Regulation</p> | <p>(4) ‘middle capitalisation company’ or ‘mid-cap’ means middle capitalisation company as defined in Article 2, point (15), of Regulation (EU) 2021/697 of the European Parliament and of the Council¹;</p> <p>1. Regulation (EU) 2021/697 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2021 establishing the European Defence Fund and repealing Regulation</p> | <p>(4) ‘middle capitalisation company’ or ‘mid-cap’ means middle capitalisation company as defined in Article 2, point (15), of Regulation (EU) 2021/697 of the European Parliament and of the Council¹;</p> <p>1. Regulation (EU) 2021/697 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2021 establishing the European Defence Fund and repealing Regulation</p> | |

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| | (EU) 2018/1092 (OJ L 170, 12.5.2021, p. 149, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/697/oj). | (EU) 2018/1092 (OJ L 170, 12.5.2021, p. 149, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/697/oj). | (EU) 2018/1092 (OJ L 170, 12.5.2021, p. 149, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/697/oj). | |
| Article 1, first paragraph, point (5) | | | | |
| 38 | <p>(5) ‘small mid-cap enterprises’ means enterprises as defined in the Annex to Commission Recommendation (EU) 2025/1099¹</p> <p>1. Commission Recommendation (EU) 2025/1099 of 21 May 2025 on the definition of small mid-cap enterprises (OJ L, 2025/1099, 28.5.2025, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reco/2025/1099/oj).</p> | <p>(5) ‘small mid-cap enterprises’ means enterprises as defined in the Annex to Commission Recommendation (EU) 2025/1099¹</p> <p>1. Commission Recommendation (EU) 2025/1099 of 21 May 2025 on the definition of small mid-cap enterprises (OJ L, 2025/1099, 28.5.2025, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reco/2025/1099/oj).</p> | <p>(5) ‘small mid-cap enterprises’ means enterprises as defined in the Annex to Commission Recommendation (EU) 2025/1099¹;</p> <p>1. Commission Recommendation (EU) 2025/1099 of 21 May 2025 on the definition of small mid-cap enterprises (OJ L, 2025/1099, 28.5.2025, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reco/2025/1099/oj).</p> | |
| Article 1, first paragraph, point (6) | | | | |
| 39 | <p>(6) ‘permit-granting process’ means a process that covers all relevant permits, including permits necessary to build, expand, convert and operate defence readiness projects and all the necessary administrative steps from the acknowledgement that the application is complete to the notification of the final decision on that application by the single contact point concerned;</p> | <p>(6) ‘permit-granting process’ means a process that covers all relevant <u>permissions</u> permits, including permits, <u>approvals or licences</u> necessary to build, expand, convert and operate <u>or repurpose any installation, equipment or activity for manufacturing defence products or components or for other activities forming part of a</u> defence readiness projects and all the necessary <u>project together with all</u> administrative steps from the acknowledgement that the <u>of</u></p> | <p>(6) ‘permit-granting process’ means a process that covers all relevant permits, including permits necessary to build, expand, convert and operate defence readiness projects and all the necessary administrative steps from the acknowledgement that the final comprehensive decision on that application the outcome of the process by the single point of contact point concerned;</p> | |

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| | | application is complete to the completeness to notification of the final decision on that application by the single <u>point of</u> contact point concerned ; | | |
| Article 1, first paragraph, point (7) | | | | |
| 40 | (7) ‘project promoter’ means any undertaking or consortium of undertakings developing a defence readiness project; | (7) ‘project promoter’ means any undertaking or consortium of undertakings developing a defence readiness project; | (7) ‘project promoter’ means any undertaking or consortium of undertakings developing a defence readiness project; | |
| Article 1, first paragraph, point (7a) | | | | |
| 40a | | | (7a) ‘comprehensive decision’ means the decision taken by competent authorities that determine whether a project promoter is authorised to implement a defence readiness project, without prejudice to any decision taken in the context of an appeal procedure; | |
| Article 1, first paragraph, point (8) | | | | |
| 41 | (8) ‘small and medium-sized enterprises’ or ‘SMEs’ means small and medium-sized enterprises as defined in Article 2 of the Annex to Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC ¹ . ¹ Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC of 6 May 2003 concerning | (8) ‘small and medium-sized enterprises’ or ‘SMEs’ means small and medium-sized enterprises as defined in Article 2 of the Annex to Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC ¹ . ¹ Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC of 6 May 2003 concerning | (8) ‘small and medium-sized enterprises’ or ‘SMEs’ means small and medium-sized enterprises as defined in Article 2 of the Annex to Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC ¹ . ¹ Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC of 6 May 2003 concerning | |

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| | the definition of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (OJ L 124, 20.5.2003, p. 36, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reco/2003/361/oj) | the definition of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (OJ L 124, 20.5.2003, p. 36, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reco/2003/361/oj) | the definition of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (OJ L 124, 20.5.2003, p. 36, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reco/2003/361/oj) | |
| Article 1a | | | | |
| 41a | | | Article 1a Designation of a defence readiness project | |
| Article 1a, first paragraph | | | | |
| 41b | | | Member States shall decide whether a project qualifies as defence readiness project for the purposes of this Regulation. | |
| Article 2 | | | | |
| 42 | Article 2 Single point of contact | Article 2 Single point <u>points</u> of contact | Article 2 Single point of contact | |
| Article 2(1) | | | | |
| 43 | 1. By ...[3 months after the date of entry into force of this Regulation], each Member State shall establish or designate one authority as single point of contact at the relevant administrative level. | 1. By ...[3 months after the date of entry into force of this Regulation], each Member State shall establish or designate one authority as single point of contact at the relevant administrative level. <u>The single point of contact shall operate as a single interface for each defence readiness project.</u> | 1. By ...[3 months after the date of entry into force of this Regulation], each Member State shall establish or designate one authority or more authorities as single point of contact at the relevant administrative level. The single point of contact shall be the sole point of contact per defence readiness project and can be an administrative authority or digital entity. | |

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| Article 2(1a) | | | | |
| 43a | | | 1a. Where a Member State establishes or designates more than one single point of contact pursuant to paragraph 1 of this Article, the Member State shall provide tools to help project promoters identify the appropriate single point of contact for a defence readiness project. | |
| Article 2(2) | | | | |
| 44 | 2. The single point of contact shall be responsible for facilitating and coordinating the permit-granting process for defence readiness projects and for providing information on streamlining the administrative processes in accordance with Article 3, including information to the project promoter on when an application is considered to be completed in accordance with Article 5(6). | 2. The single point of contact shall be responsible for facilitating and coordinating the permit-granting process for defence readiness projects and for providing information on streamlining the administrative processes in accordance with Article 3, including information to the project promoter on when an application is considered to be completed in accordance with Article 5(6). <u>At the request of the project promoter, the single point of contact shall also provide information whether the project could be considered a defence readiness project under this Regulation, as well as</u> | 2. The single point of contact shall be responsible for facilitating and coordinating the permit-granting process for defence readiness projects and for providing information on streamlining the administrative processes in accordance with Article 3, including information to the project promoter on when an application is considered to be completed in accordance with Article 5(6) Articles 3 and 5. | |

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| | | <u><i>information on the required documentation to be submitted as part of the final application.</i></u> | | |
| Article 2(3) | | | | |
| 45 | 3. The single point of contact established or designated pursuant to paragraph 1 shall be the sole point of contact for the project promoter in the permit-granting process for a defence readiness project. It shall notify the project promoter of the final decision in that process. | 3. The single point of contact established or designated pursuant to paragraph 1 shall be the sole point of contact for the project promoter in the permit-granting process for a defence readiness project. It shall notify the project promoter of the final decision in that process. | 3. The single point of contact established or designated pursuant to paragraph 1 shall be As the sole point of contact for the project promoter in the permit-granting process for a defence readiness project. It, the single point of contact shall coordinate and facilitate the submission of all relevant documents and information and shall notify the project promoter of the final comprehensive decision in that process. | |
| Article 2(4) | | | | |
| 46 | 4. Project promoters shall be allowed to submit any documents relevant to the permit-granting process in electronic form. | 4. Project promoters shall be allowed <u><i>and enabled</i></u> to submit any documents relevant to the permit-granting process in electronic form <u><i>via a secure, interoperable portal. Member States shall ensure the digital exchange of documentation between the national authority, the single point of contact and the project promoters.</i></u> | 4. Project promoters shall be allowed to submit any documents relevant to the permit-granting process in electronic form. | |

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| Article 2(4a) | | | | |
| 46a | | <u>4a. Where an interoperable online portal is not available at the moment of application of this Article, the single point of contact shall provide for an alternative submission channel without delaying the time limits under Article 5 and shall notify the Commission of a time-bound plan that should not exceed 6 months to achieve full e-processing capability. That alternative submission channel shall be one-stop physical or postal. Capacity-building for implementing this paragraph may be supported under Regulation (EU) 20XX/XXXX on the European Defence Industry Programme (EDIP) where applicable.</u> | | |
| Article 2(5) | | | | |
| 47 | 5. The competent authorities shall ensure that any relevant studies carried out, or permits or authorisations issued, for a given project are taken into account and that no duplicate studies, permits or authorisations are required, unless otherwise required under Union or national law. | 5. The competent authorities shall ensure that any relevant studies carried out, or permits or authorisations issued, for a given project are taken into account and that no duplicate studies, permits or authorisations are required, unless otherwise required under Union or national law. <u>The single</u> | 5. The competent authorities, in close coordination with the single point of contact , shall ensure that any relevant studies carried out, or permits or authorisations issued, for a given project and project promoters are taken into account and that no duplicate studies, permits or | |

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| | | <u><i>point of contact shall ensure the coordination among the competent authorities and those authorities shall have access to all relevant documents to facilitate the fast-track procedure.</i></u> | authorisations are required, unless otherwise required under Union or national law. | |
| Article 2(6) | | | | |
| 48 | 6. Member States shall ensure that the single point of contact and all competent authorities responsible for any step along the permit-granting processes, including all procedural steps, have enough qualified staff and sufficient financial, technical and technological resources necessary, including, where appropriate, for up- skilling and re-skilling, for the effective performance of their tasks under this Regulation. | 6. Member States shall ensure that the single point of contact and all competent authorities responsible for any step along the permit-granting processes, including all procedural steps, have enough qualified staff and sufficient financial, technical and technological <i>digital</i> resources necessary, including, where appropriate, for up- skilling and re-skilling, for the effective performance of their tasks under this Regulation. | 6. Member States shall ensure that the single point of contact and all competent authorities responsible for any step along the permit-granting processes, including all procedural steps, have enough qualified staff and sufficient financial, technical and technological resources necessary , including, where appropriate, for up- skilling and re-skilling, for the effective performance of their tasks under this Regulation. | |
| Article 2(7) | | | | |
| 49 | 7. The authorities involved in the permit-granting process and other authorities concerned shall specify and make available to the single point of contact concerned, the requirements and all information requested of a project promoter before the permit-granting process commences. | 7. The authorities involved in the permit-granting process and other authorities concerned shall specify and make available to the single point of contact concerned, the requirements and all information requested of a project promoter before the permit-granting process commences. | 7. The competent authorities involved in the permit-granting process and other authorities concerned shall specify and make available to the single point of contact concerned, the requirements and all information requested of a project promoter before the permit-granting process | |

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| | | <i><u>Single points of contact shall also make available relevant and necessary documents of the project promoter to the authorities, where necessary in the permit-granting process.</u></i> | commences. The single point of contact may engage in, participate and facilitate discussions between the project promoter and competent authorities prior to the permit-granting application without pre-empting the comprehensive decision. | |
| Article 2(8) | | | | |
| 50 | 8. Upon request by a Member State, the Commission may assist the authorities of that Member State with capacity building in support of implementation of this Regulation, notably in establishing or operating a single point of contact. | 8. Upon request by a Member State, the Commission may <i>shall</i> assist the authorities of that Member State with capacity building in support of implementation of this Regulation, notably in establishing or operating a single point of contact. <i><u>The Commission shall treat that request as a priority and commence implementation without undue delay in cooperation with the requesting Member State. Such assistance may include targeted technical and financial support, such as through Regulation (EU) 20XX/XXXX on the European Defence Industry Programme and cohesion policy instruments,</u></i> | 8. Upon request by a Member State, the Commission may assist the authorities of that Member State with capacity building in support of implementation of this Regulation, notably in establishing or operating a single point of contact. | |

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| | | <i><u>to help Member States with limited administrative capacity.</u></i> | | |
| Article 2(8a) | | | | |
| 50a | | <i><u>8a. In Member States with a federal or otherwise decentralised administrative structure, the obligation to establish a single point of contact shall be understood as ensuring a coordinated and streamlined interface for each defence readiness project. Member States may designate more than one competent authority as single point of contact, where this is necessary to reflect their administrative organisation, provided that effective coordination mechanisms are established and that project promoters have one clearly identified coordinating authority acting as the sole interface for each project.</u></i> | | |
| Article 2(8b) | | | | |
| 50b | | <i><u>8b. Where a defence readiness project is cross-border within the EU, prompt notification and coordination by the single point of contact with the single points of contact of</u></i> | | |

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| | | <i><u>other Member States concerned shall be ensured. Member States shall ensure that single points of contact have protocols for the timely exchange and referral of information in such cases, without prejudice to national security and confidentiality rules.</u></i> | | |
| Article 2(8c) | | | | |
| 50c | | <i><u>8c. The Commission, in cooperation with Member States, shall ensure the development of common indicators and methodologies to assess the performance of the single points of contact, based on the data reported annually pursuant to Article 8a. Member States shall ensure that the single points of contact collect, process and transmit relevant information in a consistent and timely manner, to contribute to the transparent and comparable monitoring of the implementation of this Regulation across the Union.</u></i> | | |
| Article 3 | | | | |
| 51 | Article 3 Online accessibility of information | Article 3 Online accessibility of information | Article 3 Online accessibility of information | |
| Article 3, first paragraph | | | | |

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| 52 | Member States shall provide public access to the following information on permit-granting processes relevant to defence readiness projects, online and in a centralised and easily accessible manner: | Member States shall provide public access to the following information on permit-granting processes relevant to defence readiness projects, online and in a centralised and easily accessible manner, <u>to the extent that such publication is without prejudice to national security and with due regard to confidentiality requirements</u> : | Member States shall provide public access to the following information on permit-granting processes relevant to defence readiness projects, online and in a centralised and easily accessible manner: | |
| Article 3, first paragraph, point (a) | | | | |
| 53 | (a) the single points of contact referred to in Article 2(1); | (a) the single points of contact referred to in Article 2(1); | (a) the single points of contact referred to in Article 2(1); | |
| Article 3, first paragraph, point (b) | | | | |
| 54 | (b) the permit-granting process, including information on dispute settlement concerning the permit-granting process including, where applicable, alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, if such procedures are provided for by national law; | (b) the permit-granting process, including information on dispute settlement concerning the permit-granting process including, where applicable, alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, if such procedures are provided for by national law; | (b) the permit-granting process, including information on dispute settlement concerning the permit-granting process including, where applicable, alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, if such procedures are provided for by national law; | |
| Article 3, first paragraph, point (c) | | | | |
| 55 | (c) financing and investment services; | (c) financing and investment services; | (c) financing and investment services for defence readiness projects ; | |
| Article 3, first paragraph, point (d) | | | | |

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| 56 | (d) funding possibilities at Union or Member State level; | (d) funding possibilities at Union or <u>and</u> Member State level; | (d) funding possibilities at Union or Member State level for defence readiness projects ; | |
| Article 3, first paragraph, point (e) | | | | |
| 57 | (e) business support services, including but not limited to corporate tax declaration, local tax laws or labour law. | (e) business support services, including but not limited to corporate tax declaration, local tax laws or labour law or <u>;</u> | (e) business support services, including but not limited to corporate tax declaration, local tax laws or, where relevant and in accordance with national practices, labour law, for defence readiness projects. | |
| Article 3, first paragraph, point (ea) | | | | |
| 57a | | <u>(ea) guidelines and templates provided by the Member States for standardised permit applications where available;</u> | | |
| Article 3, first paragraph, point (eb) | | | | |
| 57b | | <u>(eb) applicable environmental, health and safety laws.</u> | | |
| Article 4 | | | | |
| 58 | Article 4 Accelerating implementation | Article 4 Accelerating implementation | Article 4 Accelerating implementation | |
| Article 4, first paragraph | | | | |
| 59 | Member States shall provide administrative support for defence readiness projects located on their territory, paying particular attention to SMEs and mid-caps, | Member States shall provide administrative support for defence readiness projects located on their territory <u>to all project promoters, regardless of the Member States</u> | Member States shall provide administrative support for defence readiness projects located on their territory, paying particular attention to SMEs and mid-caps, | |

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| | including small mid-cap enterprises, involved in those projects, including by providing: | <u>in which they are established</u> , paying particular attention to SMEs and mid-caps, including small mid-cap enterprises, involved in those projects, including by providing: | including small mid-cap enterprises, involved in those projects, including by providing: | |
| Article 4, first paragraph, point (a) | | | | |
| 60 | (a) assistance regarding compliance with applicable administrative and reporting obligations; | (a) assistance regarding compliance with applicable administrative and reporting obligations, <u>including with Union and national health, environmental, safety, social and labour laws</u> ; | (a) assistance regarding compliance with applicable administrative and reporting obligations; | |
| Article 4, first paragraph, point (b) | | | | |
| 61 | (b) assistance to project promoters to inform the public; | (b) assistance to project promoters to inform the public; | (b) assistance to project promoters to inform the public; | |
| Article 4, first paragraph, point (c) | | | | |
| 62 | (c) assistance to project promoters along the permit-granting process, in particular for SMEs and small mid-cap enterprises. | (c) assistance to project promoters along the permit-granting process, in particular for SMEs and small mid-cap enterprises. <u>;</u> | (c) assistance to project promoters along the permit-granting process, in particular for SMEs and small mid-cap enterprises. | |
| Article 4, first paragraph, point (ca) | | | | |
| 62a | | <u>(ca) coordination and assistance to project promoters of defence readiness projects with cross-border dimension and</u> | | |

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| | | <u>coordination for core defence production assets;</u> | | |
| Article 4, first paragraph, point (cb) | | | | |
| 62b | | <u>(cb) SME support mechanisms within the single point of contact, which include a dedicated SME desk providing tailored guidance and early advisory services to SMEs, mid-caps, and small mid-cap enterprises.</u> | | |
| Article 4a | | | | |
| 62c | | | Article 4a Completeness check of the permit-granting application | |
| Article 4a(1) | | | | |
| 62d | | | 1. No later than 20 days from receiving the permit-granting application, the single point of contact shall acknowledge if the Regulation applies, whether the permit-granting application received is complete or request additional information. | |
| Article 4a(2) | | | | |
| 62e | | | 2. If information is missing from the permit-granting application, the single point of | |

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| | | | <p>contact shall request the project promoter to submit the missing information, specifying which information is missing. If the submitted permit-granting application is deemed to be incomplete for a second time, the single point of contact may, within 20 days of the second submission, make a second and final request for information. The single point of contact shall not request information in areas not covered in the first request for information and shall be entitled only to request further evidence to complete the identified missing information. If the submitted permit-granting application is deemed incomplete for a third time, the process shall be considered terminated for the purposes of this Regulation.</p> | |
| Article 4a(3) | | | | |
| 62f | | | <p>3. Where an environmental impact assessment report or other assessments are required as part of the permit-granting application, a permit-granting application shall be considered</p> | |

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| | | | to be complete for the purposes of this Regulation only once these assessments have been included in the permit-granting application by the project promoter. | |
| Article 4a(4) | | | | |
| 62g | | | 4. The date when the single point of contact notifies the project promoter that it has received a complete permit-granting application shall serve as the start of the permit-granting process. | |
| Article 5 | | | | |
| 63 | Article 5 Duration of the permit-granting process | Article 5 Duration of the permit-granting process | Article 5 Duration of the permit-granting process | |
| Article 5(1) | | | | |
| 64 | 1. The permit-granting process for defence readiness projects, including the granting of the relevant permit, shall not exceed [60] days. | 1. The permit-granting process for defence readiness projects, including the granting notification of the relevant permit <u>outcome of that process</u> , shall not exceed [60] days <u>50 working days from the date of the acknowledgement of the completeness of the permit-granting application by the single point of contact</u> . | 1. The permit-granting process for defence readiness projects, including the granting of the relevant permit, shall not exceed [60] 60 days. | |

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| Article 5(1a) | | | | | | | | |
| 64a | | | | | | 1a. The single point of contact shall, in close cooperation with the competent authorities, draw up a schedule for the permit-granting process, and share this schedule with the project promoter, at the start of the permit granting process. | | |
| Article 5(1a) | | | | | | | | |
| 64b | | | | <u>1a. Where a defence readiness project involves a modification or extension of an existing facility already authorised under national law, the competent authority shall determine whether the modification requires a new or updated permit, or whether it may proceed under the existing authorisation, provided that environmental, health and safety standards are not affected.</u> | | | | |
| Article 5(2) | | | | | | | | |
| 65 | | 2. Where a defence readiness project requires the construction of several facilities or units in one site, the project promoter and the single point of contact may agree on splitting the project into several | | 2. <u>In exceptional cases, and without prejudice to the ability of the competent authorities to fully and comprehensively assess compliance with Union or national law,</u> where a defence | | 2. Where a defence readiness project requires the construction of several facilities or units in one site, the project promoter and may, in agreement with the single point of contact may agree on | | |

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| | smaller projects for the purposes of complying with the applicable time limits. | readiness project requires the construction of several facilities or units in one site <u>requires several phases, whether located on a single site or across multiple sites</u> , the project promoter and the single point of contact may agree on splitting, where justified by the project into several smaller projects's technical or administrative characteristics, agree to process those components as separate sub-projects for the purposes of complying with the applicable time limits. | splitting, split the project into several smaller projects for the purposes of complying with the applicable time limits. | |
| Article 5(3) | | | | |
| 66 | 3. In exceptional cases, where the nature, complexity, location or size of the proposed defence readiness project so requires, a Member State may once extend the time limits referred to in paragraph 1 by a maximum of 30 days before their expiry and on a case-by-case basis. | 3. In exceptional cases, where the nature, complexity , location or size of the proposed defence readiness project so requires, a Member State may once extend the time limits referred to in paragraph 1 by a maximum of 30 <u>25 working</u> days before their expiry and on a case-by-case basis. | 3. In exceptional cases By way of derogation from paragraph 1 , where the nature, complexity, location or size of the proposed defence readiness project so requires, or where the project raises risks for the health and safety of workers or of the general population, a competent authority may may once extend the time limits limit referred to in paragraph 1 once or several times by a maximum of 30 days 90 days. In | |

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| | | | such case, the total duration of the permit-granting process shall not exceed 150 days. Any such extension shall be notified by the single point of contact to the project promoter in writing within a reasonable time before the expiry of the time limit. Any such notice shall include the reasons for the extension and the date when the final decision is expected and on a case-by-case basis. | |
| Article 5(4) | | | | |
| 67 | 4. Where a Member State considers that the defence readiness project raises exceptional risks for the health and safety of workers or of the general population, and where additional time is necessary to establish that measures to address identifiable risks have been put in place, it may extend the time limits referred to in paragraph 1 by 60 days, within 30 days of the start of the permit-granting process. | 4. Where a Member State considers that <u>there is evidence that the defence readiness project is of exceptional complexity,</u> raises exceptional risks for the health and safety of workers or of the general population, <u>raises an exceptional risk on the environment, or where a specific national security clearance is required,</u> and where additional time is necessary to establish that measures to address identifiable risks have been put in place, it may extend the time limits referred to in paragraph 1 by 60 <u>50</u> <u>working</u> days, within 30 <u>25</u> | <i>deleted</i> | |

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| | | <u>working</u> days of the start of the permit-granting process. | | |
| Article 5(5) | | | | |
| 68 | 5. In the application of paragraph 3 or 4, the single point of contact shall inform the project promoter in writing of the reasons for the extension and of the date when the final decision is expected. | 5. In the application of paragraph 3 or 4, the single point of contact shall inform the project promoter in writing of the reasons for the extension and of the date when the final decision is expected. | <i>deleted</i> | |
| Article 5(6) | | | | |
| 69 | 6. No later than 15 days from the receipt of the permit-granting application, the single point of contact concerned shall acknowledge that the application is complete and whether this Regulation applies or, if the project promoter has not sent all the information required to process the application, request the project promoter to submit a complete application without undue delay, specifying which information is missing. If the submitted application is deemed to be incomplete for a second time, the single point of contact may, within [15] days of the second submission, make a second request for information. The single point | 6. No later than 15 <u>12</u> <u>working</u> days from the receipt of the permit-granting application, the single point of contact concerned shall acknowledge that the application is complete and whether this Regulation applies or, if the project promoter has not sent all the information required to process the application, request the project promoter to submit a complete application without undue delay, specifying which information is missing. If the submitted application is deemed to be incomplete for a second time, the single point of contact may, within 15 <u>12</u> <u>working</u> days of the second submission, make a second request for information. The single | <i>deleted</i> | |

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| | of contact shall not request information in areas not covered in the first request for information and shall be entitled only to request further evidence to complete the identified missing information. The date of the acknowledgement of the completeness of the application from the single point of contact shall serve as the start of the permit-granting process for that application. | point of contact shall not request information in areas not covered in the first request for information and shall be entitled only to request further evidence to complete the identified missing information. The date of the acknowledgement of the completeness of the application from the single point of contact shall serve as the start of the permit-granting process for that application. | | |
| Article 5(6a) | | | | |
| 69a | | <u>6a. The applicable time limit for the permit-granting process shall commence on the date of the acknowledgment of the completeness of the permit-granting application. Where an environmental impact assessment is required, the application shall be considered completed when the information on the completion of the steps (i) and (ii) of the environmental impact assessment, according to the Directive 2011/92/EU, Article 1(2) points (g)(i) and (g)(ii), including the public consultation, if applicable, have been formally</u> | | |

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| | | <u><i>submitted and acknowledged as such in accordance with paragraph 6 of this Article.</i></u> | | |
| Article 5(7) | | | | |
| 70 | 7. The time limits set in this Article for any of the permit-granting processes shall be without prejudice to any shorter time limits set by Member States | 7. The time limits set in this Article for any of the permit-granting processes shall be without prejudice to any shorter time limits set by Member States | 7. The time limits set in this Article for any of the permit-granting processes shall be without prejudice to any shorter time limits set by Member States. | |
| Article 5(8) | | | | |
| 71 | 8. Where the single point of contact does not inform the project promoter of the outcome of the permit-granting process within the time limit set out in paragraph 1 and extended, where applicable, in accordance with paragraphs 3 and 4, the permits covered by the application shall be deemed to be granted. The single point of contact shall promptly deliver written confirmation to the project promoter, indicating that the permits have been implicitly granted based on the application submitted. | 8. Where the single point of contact does not inform the project promoter of the outcome of the permit-granting process within the time limit set out in paragraph 1 and extended, where applicable, in accordance with paragraphs 3 and 4, the permits covered by the application shall be deemed to be granted, <u><i>unless the principle of administrative tacit approval has been excluded for these types of procedures by the national legal system of the Member state concerned.</i></u> The single point of contact shall promptly deliver, <u><i>without undue delay but not later than within 3 working days,</i></u> <u><i>provide</i></u> written confirmation to the project promoter, <u><i>in writing or electronically</i></u> indicating that the | 8. Where the single point of contact does not inform the project promoter of the outcome of the permit-granting process within the time limit limits set out in paragraph 1 and extended, where applicable, in accordance with pursuant to paragraphs 3 and 41 to 3, the permits covered by the application comprehensive decision shall be deemed to be granted. The single point of contact shall promptly deliver written confirmation to the project promoter, indicating that the permits have been implicitly granted based on the application submitted. | |

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| | | permits have been implicitly granted based on the application submitted. | | |
| Article 5(8a), first subparagraph | | | | |
| 71a | | | 8a. Where permits are tacitly granted, the single point of contact shall within 10 days from the expiry of the time limits set out pursuant to paragraphs 1 to 3, inform the project promoter thereof and where relevant, specify the conditions and requirements which these permits are subject to, in accordance with applicable Union or national law. | |
| Article 5(8a), second subparagraph | | | | |
| 71b | | | Member States shall ensure that tacit decisions granting permits pursuant to this paragraph may be challenged by affected parties. | |
| Article 5(8b) | | | | |
| 71c | | | 9. Member States' national law may provide that, as a derogation to the general rule referred to in paragraph 8, tacit approval shall not apply in duly justified cases where substantiated evidence | |

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| | | | demonstrates the existence of a credible and grave risk to human health, the safety of workers, national security or the environment. Any decision to not apply tacit approval to a specific permit-granting application shall be adopted and notified to the project promoter before the end of the time limits set out pursuant to paragraphs 1 to 3. | |
| Article 6 | | | | |
| 72 | Article 6 Planning | Article 6 Planning | Article 6 Planning | |
| Article 6(1) | | | | |
| 73 | 1. National, regional and local authorities responsible for preparing plans, including zoning, spatial plans and land use plans, shall include in such plans, where appropriate, provisions for the development of defence readiness activities, projects as well as the necessary infrastructure. To facilitate the development of defence readiness projects, Member States shall ensure that all relevant spatial planning data is available online in accordance with Article 3. | 1. National, regional and local authorities responsible for preparing plans, including zoning, spatial plans and land use plans, shall include in such plans, where appropriate, provisions for the development of defence readiness activities, projects as well as the necessary <u>and their required infrastructure, and shall also take into account security considerations, including protection against cyber and hybrid threats targeting critical defence</u> infrastructure. To | 1. National, regional and local authorities responsible for preparing plans, including zoning, spatial plans and land use plans, shall include in such plans, where appropriate, provisions for the development of defence readiness activities, projects as well as the necessary infrastructure. To facilitate the development of defence readiness projects, Member States shall ensure that all relevant spatial planning data is available online in accordance with Article 3. | |

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| | | facilitate the development of defence readiness projects, Member States shall ensure that all <u>non-confidential</u> relevant spatial planning data is available online in accordance with Article 3 <u>as well as with applicable Union and national law</u> . | | |
| Article 6(2) | | | | |
| 74 | 2. Where plans include provisions for the development of defence readiness projects, and their required infrastructure, and are subject to an assessment pursuant to Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council ¹ and pursuant to Article 6 of Council Directive 92/43/EEC ² , those assessments shall be combined. Where applicable, the combined assessment shall also address the impact on potentially affected water bodies referred to in Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council ³ . Where relevant, the Member States are required to assess the impacts of existing and future activities on the marine environment, including land-sea | 2. Where plans include provisions for the development of defence readiness projects, and their required infrastructure, and are subject to an assessment pursuant to Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council ¹ and pursuant to Article 6 of Council Directive 92/43/EEC ² , those assessments shall be combined. Where applicable, the combined assessment shall also address the impact on potentially affected water bodies referred to in Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council ³ . Where relevant, the Member States are required to assess the impacts of existing and future activities on the marine environment, including land-sea | 2. Where plans include provisions for the development of defence readiness projects, and their required infrastructure, and are subject to an assessment pursuant to Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council ¹ and pursuant to Article 6 of Council Directive 92/43/EEC ² , those assessments shall be combined. Where applicable, the combined assessment shall also address the impact on potentially affected water bodies referred to in Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council ³ . Where relevant, the Member States are required to assess the impacts of existing and future activities on the marine environment, including land-sea | |

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| | <p>interactions, as referred to in Article 4 of Directive 2014/89/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council⁴ those impacts shall also be covered in the combined assessment. The fact that assessments are combined pursuant to this paragraph shall not affect their content or quality. The combined assessment shall be carried out within the time limits set out in this Regulation.</p> <p>1. Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 June 2001 on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment (OJ L 197, 21.7.2001, p. 30, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2001/42/oj).</p> <p>2. Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (OJ L 206, 22.7.1992, p. 7, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/1992/43/oj).</p> <p>3. Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2000 establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy (OJ L 327, 22.12.2000, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2000/60/oj).</p> <p>4. Directive 2014/89/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 July 2014 establishing a framework for maritime spatial planning (OJ L 257, 28.8.2014, p. 135, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2014/89/oj).</p> | <p>interactions, as referred to in Article 4 of Directive 2014/89/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council⁴ those impacts shall also be covered in the combined assessment. The fact that assessments are combined pursuant to this paragraph shall not affect their content or quality. The combined assessment shall be carried out within the time limits set out in this Regulation.</p> <p>1. Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 June 2001 on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment (OJ L 197, 21.7.2001, p. 30, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2001/42/oj).</p> <p>2. Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (OJ L 206, 22.7.1992, p. 7, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/1992/43/oj).</p> <p>3. Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2000 establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy (OJ L 327, 22.12.2000, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2000/60/oj).</p> <p>4. Directive 2014/89/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 July 2014 establishing a framework for maritime spatial planning (OJ L 257, 28.8.2014, p. 135, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2014/89/oj).</p> | <p>interactions, as referred to in Article 4 of Directive 2014/89/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council⁴ those impacts shall also be covered in the combined assessment. The fact that assessments are combined pursuant to this paragraph shall not affect their content or quality. The combined assessment shall be carried out within the time limits set out in this Regulation.</p> <p>1. Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 June 2001 on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment (OJ L 197, 21.7.2001, p. 30, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2001/42/oj).</p> <p>2. Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (OJ L 206, 22.7.1992, p. 7, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/1992/43/oj).</p> <p>3. Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2000 establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy (OJ L 327, 22.12.2000, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2000/60/oj).</p> <p>4. Directive 2014/89/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 July 2014 establishing a framework for maritime spatial planning (OJ L 257, 28.8.2014, p. 135, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2014/89/oj).</p> | |

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| Article 6(2a) | | | | |
| 74a | | <u><i>2a. Where a defence-readiness project is not covered by the plans referred to in paragraph 1, any environmental assessments required under Union or national law, including, where applicable, project-level assessments, shall be completed and taken into account prior to the final decision on the permit.</i></u> | | |
| Article 7 | | | | |
| 75 | Article 7 Priority status of defence readiness projects | Article 7 Priority status of defence readiness projects | Article 7 Priority status of defence readiness projects | |
| Article 7, first paragraph | | | | |
| 76 | All dispute resolution procedures, litigation, appeals and judicial remedies as well as all administrative proceedings related to defence readiness projects before any national courts, tribunals, bodies or panels, including with regard to mediation or arbitration, where they exist in national law, shall be treated as urgent if and to the extent to which national law concerning relevant permit-granting processes provides for such urgency procedures and | All dispute resolution procedures, litigation, appeals and judicial remedies as well as all administrative proceedings related to defence readiness projects before any national courts, tribunals, bodies or panels, including with regard to mediation or arbitration, where they exist in national law, shall be treated as urgent if and to the extent to which national law concerning relevant permit-granting processes provides for such urgency procedures and | All dispute resolution procedures, litigation, appeals and judicial remedies as well as all administrative proceedings related to defence readiness projects before any national courts, tribunals, bodies or panels, including with regard to mediation or arbitration, where they exist in national law, shall be treated as urgent if and to the extent to which national law concerning relevant permit-granting processes provides for such urgency procedures and | |

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| | provided that the applicable rights of defence of individuals or of local communities are respected. Project promoters of defence readiness projects shall participate in such urgency procedures, where applicable. | provided that the applicable rights of defence of individuals or of local communities are respected. Project promoters of defence readiness projects shall participate in such urgency procedures, where applicable. <u>The competent authorities shall guarantee that accelerated judicial and administrative procedures do not undermine the right to an effective remedy.</u> | provided that the applicable rights of defence of individuals or of local communities are respected. Project promoters of defence readiness projects shall participate in such urgency procedures, where applicable. | |
| Article 8 | | | | |
| 77 | Article 8 Applicability of UNECE Conventions | Article 8 Applicability of UNECE Conventions | Article 8 Applicability of UNECE Conventions | |
| Article 8, first paragraph | | | | |
| 78 | This Regulation is without prejudice, where relevant, to the obligations under the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters, signed at Aarhus on 25 June 1998, and under the UNECE Convention on environmental impact assessment in a transboundary context, signed at Espoo on 25 February 1991 and | This Regulation is without prejudice, where relevant, to the obligations under the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters, signed at Aarhus on 25 June 1998, and under the UNECE Convention on environmental impact assessment in a transboundary context, signed at Espoo on 25 February 1991 and | This Regulation is without prejudice, where relevant, to the obligations under the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters, signed at Aarhus on 25 June 1998, and under the UNECE Convention on environmental impact assessment in a transboundary context, signed at Espoo on 25 February 1991 and | |

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| | its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment, signed in Kyiv on 21 May 2003. | its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment, signed in Kyiv on 21 May 2003. | its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment, signed in Kyiv on 21 May 2003. | |
| Article 8a | | | | |
| 78a | | <u>Article 8a</u> <u>Monitoring and reporting</u> | | |
| Article 8a, first paragraph | | | | |
| 78b | | <u>1. For the purposes of transparency, ex-post monitoring and Union-wide comparability, each Member State shall submit to the Commission, annually, a statistical report on the application of this Regulation, including:</u> | | |
| Article 8a, first paragraph, point (a) | | | | |
| 78c | | <u>(a) the total number of received applications for permits for defence readiness projects;</u> | | |
| Article 8a, first paragraph, point (b) | | | | |
| 78d | | <u>(b) the total number of fast-track procedure permits granted;</u> | | |
| Article 8a, first paragraph, point (c) | | | | |
| 78e | | <u>(c) the total number of fast-track procedure permits granted tacitly, pursuant to Article 5(8);</u> | | |
| Article 8a, first paragraph, point (d) | | | | |

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| 78f | | <u>(d) the number of SMEs benefiting from fast-track procedures;</u> | | |
| Article 8a, first paragraph, point (e) | | | | |
| 78g | | <u>(e) specific measures adopted to support SMEs and mid-caps;</u> | | |
| Article 8a, second paragraph | | | | |
| 78h | | <u>2. The Commission shall make the aggregated results publicly available and, where appropriate, issue guidance to promote the consistent application of this Regulation across Member States.</u> | | |
| Article 8a, third paragraph | | | | |
| 78i | | <u>3. The Commission is empowered to adopt implementing acts to specify the template for the submission of above-mentioned information. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the advisory procedure referred to in Article 4 of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011.</u> | | |
| Article 8a, fourth paragraph | | | | |
| 78j | | <u>4. The single point of contact shall ensure digital traceability of all applications</u> | | |

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| | | <u>and decisions, guaranteeing transparency and preventing fraud. The data collected through all applications and decisions shall contribute to Union-level monitoring.</u> | | |
| Article 8a, fifth paragraph | | | | |
| 78k | | <u>5. The Commission shall evaluate the practices of the Members States regarding tacit approvals. In the case of a disproportionately high number of such approvals, the Commission shall request additional information from the Member State concerned and, where appropriate, issue recommendations on how to improve the permit granting process to ensure a uniform application of this Regulation. Information on tacit approval shall be made publicly available, without prejudice to the protection of sensitive information relevant to national security and confidentiality requirements.</u> | | |
| Article 9 | | | | |
| 79 | Article 9 | Article 9 | Article 9 | |

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| Article 9, first paragraph | | | | |
| 80 | This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the Official Journal of the European Union. | This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the Official Journal of the European Union. | This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the Official Journal of the European Union. | |
| Article 9, second paragraph | | | | |
| 81 | It shall apply only to permit applications for defence readiness projects submitted after that date. | It shall apply only to permit applications for defence readiness projects submitted after that date. | It shall apply only to permit permit-granting applications for defence readiness projects submitted 3 months after that date the entry into force . | |
| Article 9, third paragraph | | | | |
| 82 | This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States. | This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States. | This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States. | |
| Formula | | | | |
| 83 | Done at Strasbourg, | Done at Strasbourg, | Done at Strasbourg, | |
| Formula | | | | |
| 84 | For the European Parliament | For the European Parliament | For the European Parliament | |
| Formula | | | | |
| 85 | The President | The President | The President | |
| Formula | | | | |
| 86 | For the Council | For the Council | For the Council | |
| Formula | | | | |
| 87 | The President | The President | The President | |
