



Council of the European Union
General Secretariat

**REDACTED DOCUMENT
ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
(08.01.2026).**

**ONLY MARGINAL PERSONAL DATA HAVE
BEEN REDACTED.**

Brussels, 26 November 2025

WK 16192/2025 INIT

LIMITE

**POLMAR
POLGEN
POLMIL
PROCIV
MAR
COMAR**

**JAI
CSDP/PSDC
CFSP/PESC
RELEX
HYBRID
TRANS
PECHE**

This is a paper intended for a specific community of recipients. Handling and further distribution are under the sole responsibility of community members.

MEETING DOCUMENT

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Working Party on Maritime Issues - EU Maritime Security Strategy (EUMSS)

Subject: Common capacity building and capability development
- Presentation by the European Defence Agency

Delegations will find attached a presentation from EDA on common capacity building and capability development for the Working Party on Maritime Issues - EU Maritime Security Strategy (EUMSS) meeting of 26 November 2025.



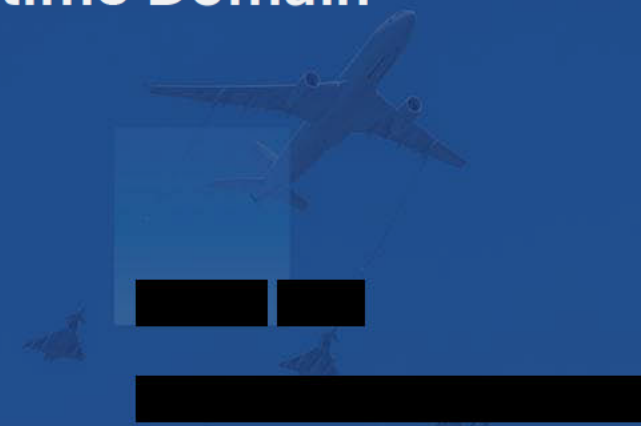
EUROPEAN DEFENCE AGENCY

Stefano CIONI,
Project Officer MDA, Maritime Domain Unit, CAP Directorate
26 November 2025

PUBLIC

EUMSS WP

Insights on EDA Capability development activities in the Maritime Domain



3 main work strands

2023 Capability Development
Priorities



Underwater & Seabed Warfare



Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA)

1

Underwater Situational Awareness and Protection of Critical underwater Infrastructure

Cat B project CSIP
Critical Seabed Infrastructure
Protection



Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA)

2

Enablement of a complete classified (up to EU Secret) Recognised Maritime Picture

Cat B project MARSUR III

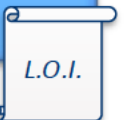


Naval Combat & Maritime Interdiction

3

Family of modular warships

European Combat Vessel
(ECV)

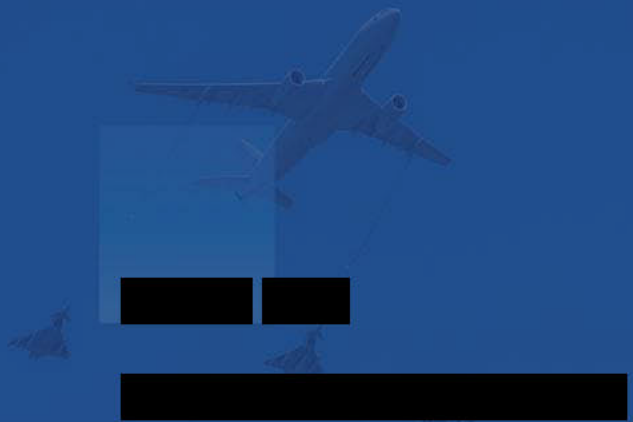




CSIP

Critical Seabed Infrastructure Protection

PUBLIC



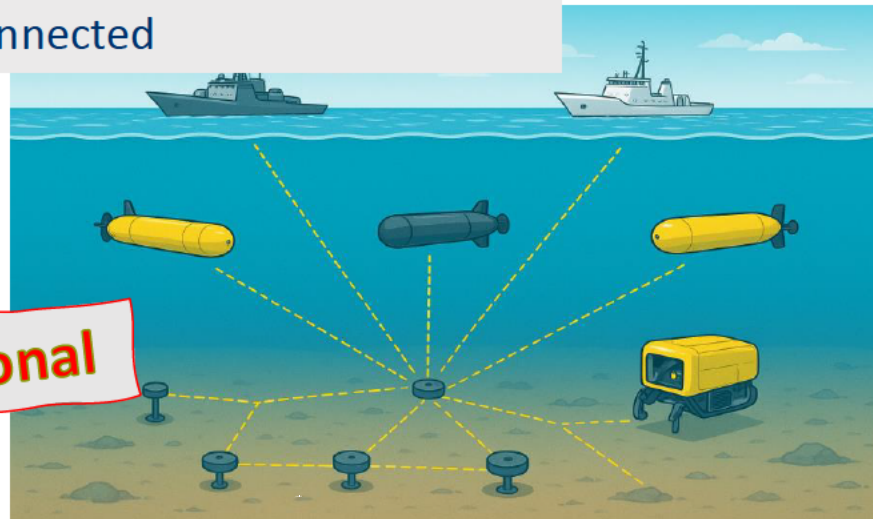
PESCO Critical Seabed Infrastructure Protection (CSIP)



in a nutshell

- pMS: Belgium, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Portugal, Spain, Sweden – Observers: Bulgaria, Denmark, Finland, Estonia + the Netherlands (in the process to join)
- Since August 2025 is an EDA Ad-Hoc Cat B project
- AIM: increase the EU's operational efficiency in the protection of critical maritime infrastructure from natural events, intentional attacks and deliberate sabotage by making best use of current, and the development of future, underwater assets.
- KEY **enabling** element: development of an **Underwater Situational awareness**

Through a strong **underwater network** cyber secured by design composed by a **mix** of resident and deployable elements (Unmanned systems, fixed sensors, naval units) interconnected



PROJECT'S MAIN BREAKDOWN

3 phases → (1)short, (2)medium, (3)long term

Phase 1 (2030) → readiness 2030

Initial Underwater Situational awareness (UWSA) using **existing** technologies

Phase 2 (2035)

Advanced UWSA – enhance the initial capability achieved with new technologies (R&D activities)

Phase 3

Integrated UWSA-integration with effectors


The project in "bricks"

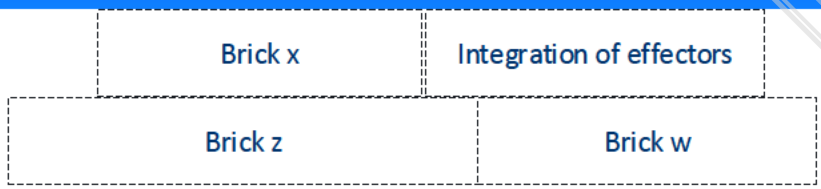
a different perspective



PUBLIC

 Possible EU Supporting instrument

End phase 3  Integrated UWSA

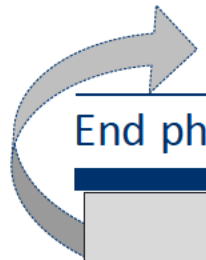


End phase 2  Advanced UWSA

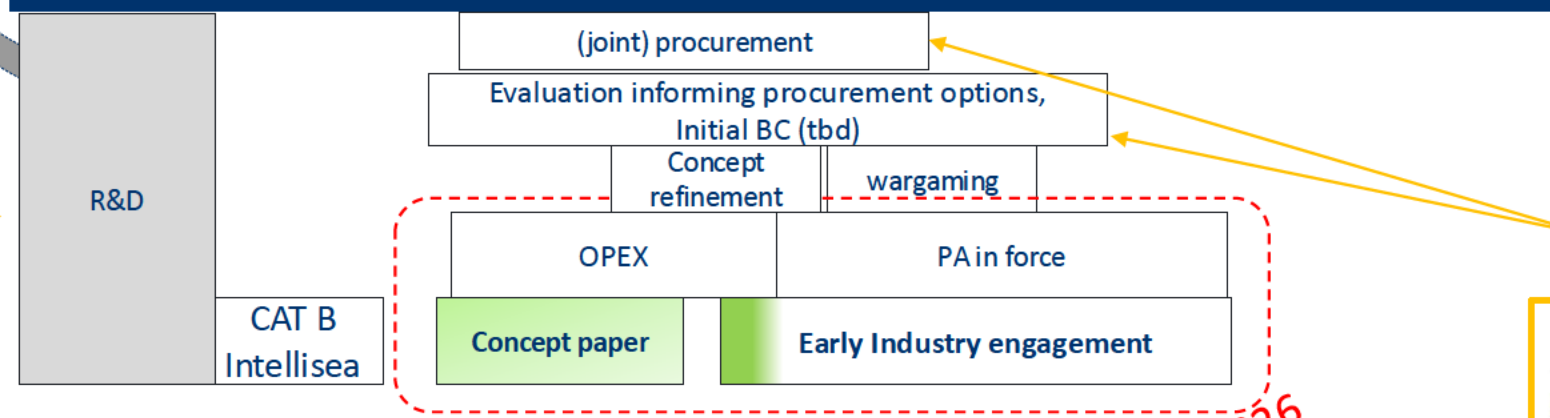


End phase 1  Initial UWSA through existing technologies 2030 

Align to EU defence Readiness 2030



 EDF



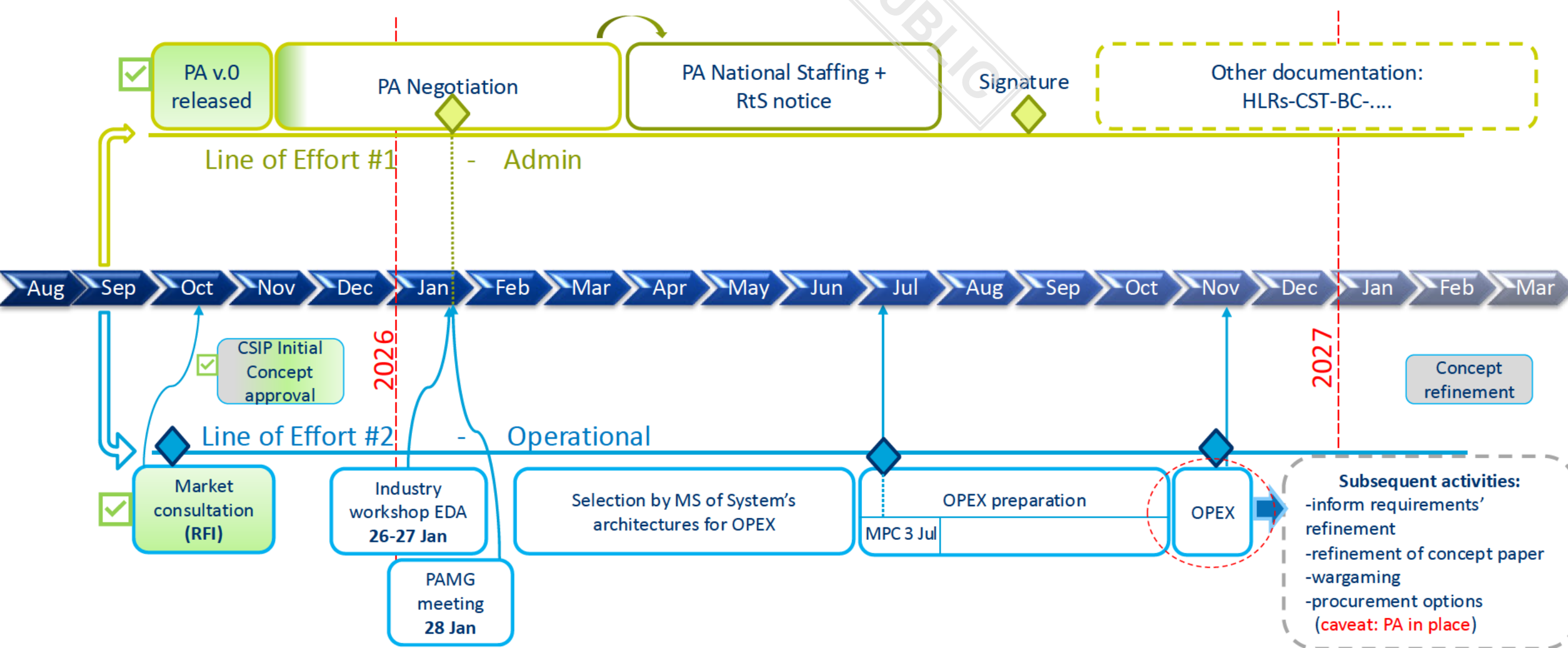
We are here 

2026

Timeline 2025-2027



PUBLIC



MARSUR III

*MARSUR Networking - Operational Support
and Development*

PUBLIC



MARSUR III



Project Snapshot

✓ EDA Category B “MARSUR Networking - Operational Support and Development (MARSUR III)” project (Dec 2020 - Nov 2028).

💰 Funded by 16 contributing MS (BE, BG, CY, DE, EL, ES, FI, FR, IE, IT, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE) and supported by the EU Satellite Centre (SATCEN) - DK is expected to join the project by Q1-2026 as the 17th contributing MS.

⚓ Governed by a Project Arrangement Board (PAB) under the framework and chairmanship of the EDA.

🎯 To enable and improve the maritime info-exchange between EU navies (MOCs) **including CSDP missions and operations.**

||||| Initial MARSUR capability mainly focused on enhancing the white shipping picture.

⚙️ Implementation of an **EU Secret layer for complete classified RMP management.**

MARSUR III

2026 Roadmap



The **data and video streaming capability** to enable real-time sharing of data streams (e.g. videos from drones) by [March 2026](#)



Development of **SOPs** to enable MARSUR III to function as a **maritime surveillance network** by [June 2026](#)



EDA participation in **CWIX 2026** to put MARSUR III through interoperability tests ([June 2026](#)).



EDA participation in **REPMUS 2026** to employ MARSUR III at the operational level, connecting to tactical CTU tasking and collecting information from **UxVs** ([September 2026](#)).



Implementation of EU SECRET Layer in MARSUR III for Full RMP Integration (**EU OPS WAN integration option under evaluation**).



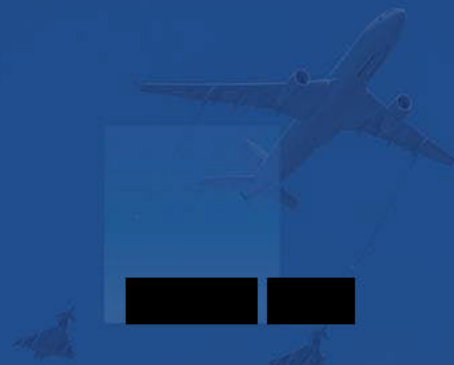
Integration of the MARSUR network with **additional data sources** (airborne and underwater) and **collective databases** with a system of systems approach (ships, UUV, aircraft and satellites operate in coordination).



Amendment of Bilateral Agreement EEAS/EUMS - EDA

European Combat Vessel (ECV)

PUBLIC



European Combat Vessel

Key elements

Family of next generation multi-mission modular Surface Combat Vessels LOI signed by 7 MS during the SB MOD in Nov 2024

- EDA AHWG established in Dec 2024
- Coherence with the approach “**from systems to the hull**” and **exploiting synergies with PESCO 4E** → ‘Essential Elements of European Escorts’
- Requirements in coherence with NATO
- **Family of Ships:** small (<3.000 ton), medium (4.500-6.000 ton), large (7.000-8.000 ton)

Steps 2026-2027

- High Level Requirements (HLR) endorsement within Q1 2026
- Early engagement with Industry → Workshop based on the HLR (Q2-26) → support development of Initial Business Case (Q4-26)
- Exploit PESCO framework
- Elaboration CST and CSR

Steps 2028+

- Feasibility/de-risking studies
- Prototype (2035)





Thank you!

PUBLIC



Project Officer MDA