



Council of the European Union  
General Secretariat

**Brussels, 20 April 2023**

**WK 5162/2023 INIT**

**LIMITE**

**CONOP  
COARM  
CFSP/PESC**

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## **MEETING DOCUMENT**

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Working Party on Non-Proliferation Working Party on Conventional Arms Exports
Subject:	The EU Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Consortium promoting the European Network of Independent Non-proliferation and Disarmament Think Tanks - presentation

Delegations will find attached presentation given by the Chair of the EU NPD Consortium at CONOP and COARM meetings on 18-19 April.

# **The EU Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Consortium**

promoting the

## **European Network of Independent Non-proliferation and Disarmament Think Tanks**

**Sibylle Bauer, Chair, EU-Nonproliferation Consortium**

Brussels, 18-19 April 2023

**EU Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Consortium**

*Promoting the European network of independent non-proliferation and disarmament think tanks*



# History

**EU New Lines for Action 2008:** “EU action to counter proliferation could benefit from the support provided by non-governmental non-proliferation network”

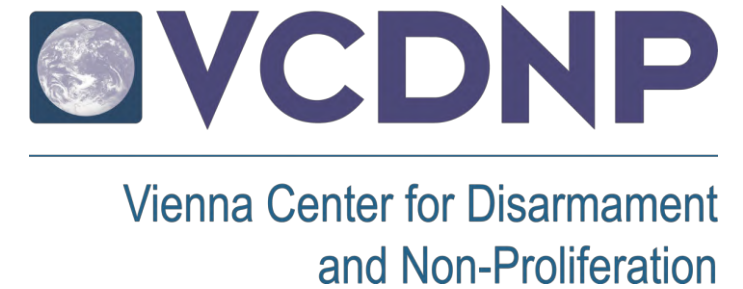
**Phase I:** Establishment of European network of non-proliferation think-tanks (CD 2010/430/CFSP)

**Phase II:** Mandate of Consortium and Network renewed (CD 2014/129/CFSP)

**Phase III:** Mandate renewed until May 2022 (CD 2018/299/CFSP and no-cost extension due to pandemic); explicit focus on disarmament

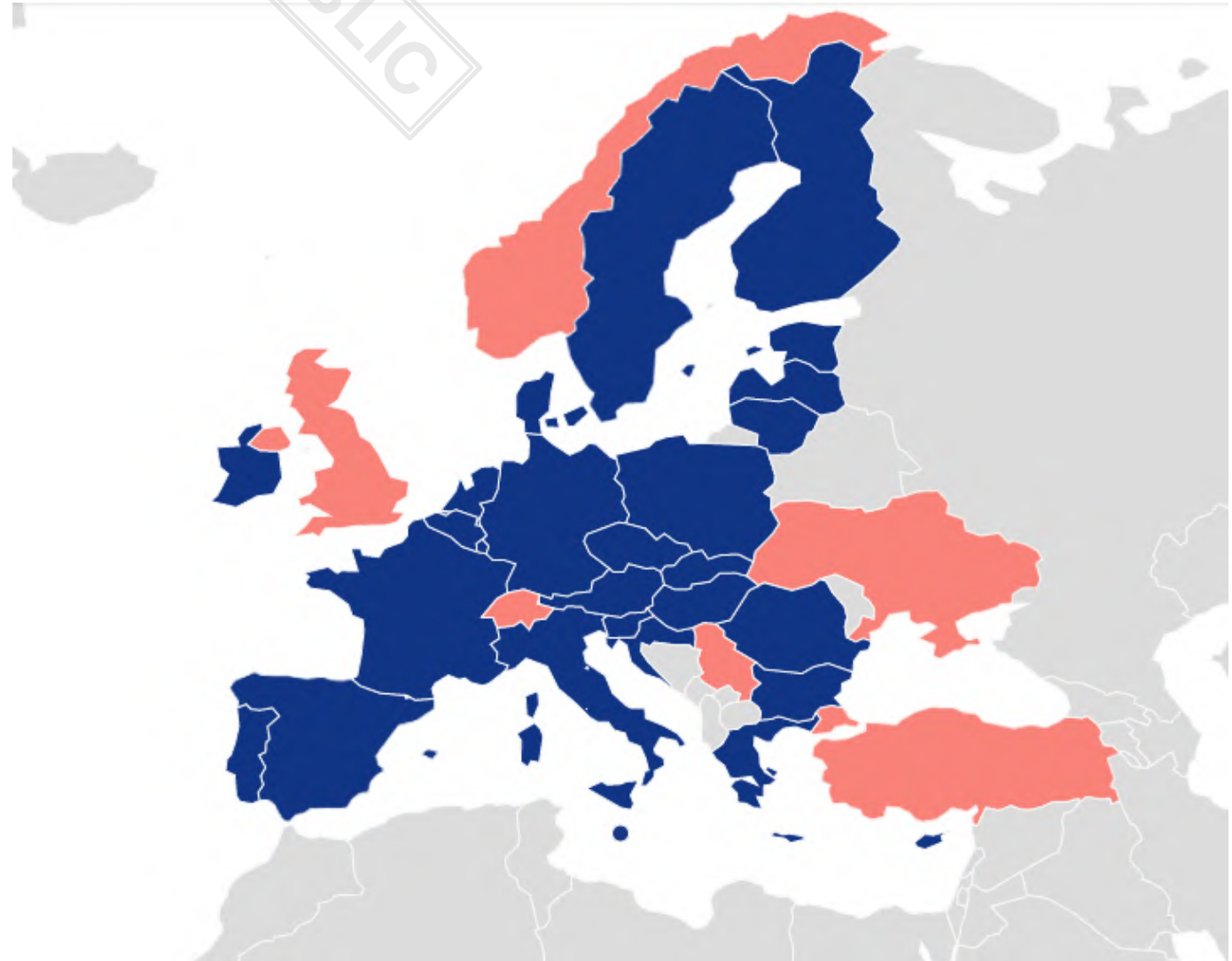
**Phase IV:** Funding until 2025: CD 2022/597 of 11 April 2022

# The Consortium



# The European Network of Independent NPD Think Tanks

- 107 members (101 + 6 Consortium members)
- Since 2018 all EU MS represented
- Members from non-EU, associated countries (currently: Norway, Serbia, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine and UK)
- Network growing in numbers, interdisciplinarity and geographical diversity
- Almost half are university-affiliated



# Activities managed by...

## **SIPRI**

- General management and coordination
- EUNPD policy papers
- Proliferation awareness training pilot courses

## **FRS**

- Website and interactive platform
- 3 consultative meetings

## **IAI**

- 3 annual conferences
- Newsletter

## **IISS-Europe**

- Arms Control, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Podcast

## **PRIF**

- E-learning
- Internship coordination
- Teaching clinic

## **VCDNP**

- 3 Brussels study visits for UN Disarmament Fellows

## **VCDNP jointly with IAI:**

Mentorship programme /next gen activities

## **Depending on topic and availability**

9 ad hoc seminars and oral/written briefs

Participation e.g. in EU sponsored side events



# Engagement with policy-makers and diplomats

## Annual Consultative Meeting



## EU Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Annual Conference



# Engagement with policy-makers and diplomats



**UN Disarmament Fellows' visit to Brussels  
(every year in September)**



# EU Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Papers

EU Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Consortium

Promoting the European network of independent  
non-proliferation and disarmament think tanks

NON-PROLIFERATION AND DISARMAMENT PAPERS

No. 82 April 2023

## ARMED CONFLICT AND NUCLEAR SECURITY: IMPLICATIONS FOR EUROPE

MUHAMMED ALI ALKİŞ

### I. INTRODUCTION

Nuclear security is among the European Union's (EU) priority issues.<sup>1</sup> As a result, the EU aims to maintain a high level of nuclear security and works towards strengthening international standards in this area.<sup>2</sup> The EU itself does not have a nuclear security mandate because the responsibility for nuclear security rests entirely with EU member states.<sup>3</sup> Nevertheless, member states understand that any failure of nuclear security measures may have implications beyond national borders. These include, but are not limited to, radiation leaks that could be carried downwind beyond borders, causing harm to humans and the environment. Such leaks could result, for example, in the radioactive contamination of soil and underground water systems that could endanger ecosystems, agriculture and food security, increase short- and long-term risks of disease and death, and cause mass displacement of populations. For these reasons, states need to cooperate and look beyond their borders. However, although the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the main United Nations (UN) organization for promoting the peaceful use of nuclear technology, offers assistance

### SUMMARY

The traditional approach to nuclear security is unlikely to be effective against the full spectrum of current threats, including those posed by state actors. The lessons learned from the Russian occupation of Ukrainian nuclear power plants, the potential radiological consequences of armed attacks against nuclear facilities and the potential increase in the number of nuclear power states in the future underscore the need for a strong international framework to address nuclear security challenges.

The European Union (EU) is committed to implementing the highest international standards for nuclear security and may therefore be in a position to lead efforts to address threats of armed attacks against nuclear installations. This paper provides a range of potential policy recommendations and actionable steps that the EU and its member states could take at legal, institutional and operational levels to minimize the nuclear security threats posed by armed conflict in the future. While they may appear politically challenging or even unrealistic at present, the conflict in Ukraine highlights the very real need for the types of actions recommended by this paper.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Muhammed Ali Alkış (Türkiye) is a Research Affiliate and the Gender Champion at the Odesa Center for Nonproliferation. In addition, he is the World Institute for Nuclear Security (WINS) Ambassador to Türkiye and a PhD candidate at Hacettepe University, Türkiye. His research interests are nuclear security, non-proliferation and nuclear terrorism, as well as Turkish nuclear and foreign policies.

<sup>1</sup> For example, European Commission Decision on the Conclusion of a Memorandum of Understanding for a Partnership between the European Atomic Energy Community and the International Atomic Energy Agency on Nuclear Safety Cooperation, C(2013) 5641 final, 5 Sep. 2013, p. 2.

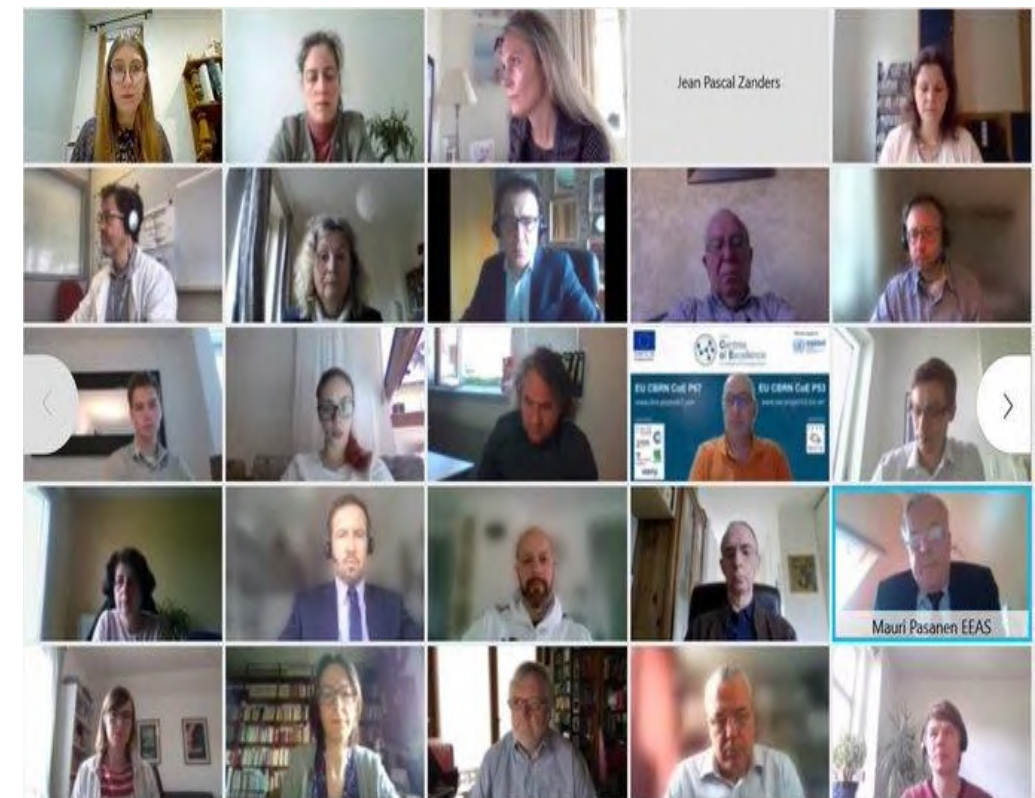
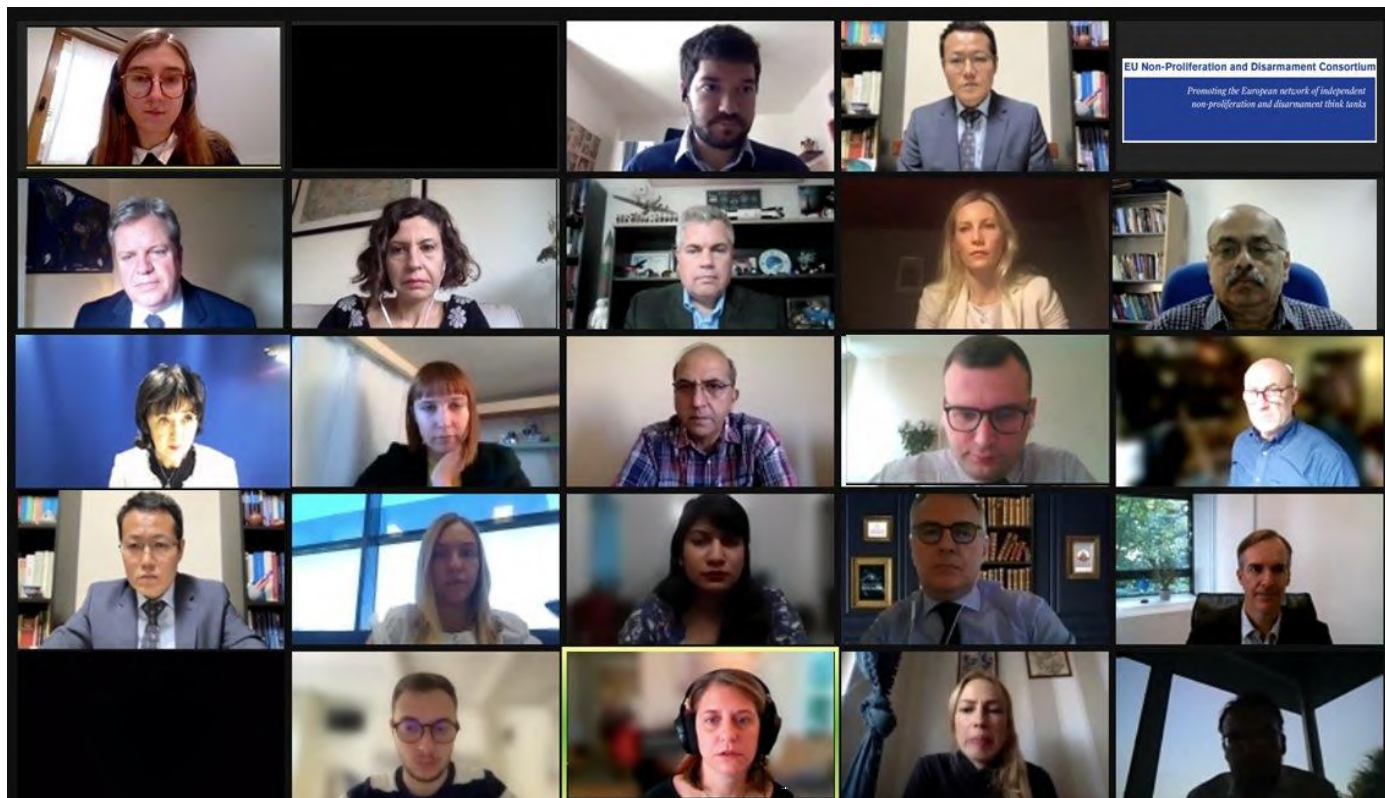
<sup>2</sup> European Commission, 'EU efforts to strengthen nuclear security', Joint Staff Working Document, SWD(2014) 107 final, 13 Mar. 2014; European Commission, 'EU efforts to strengthen nuclear security', Joint Staff Working Document, SWD(2016) 98 final, 16 Mar. 2016; and European External Action Service, Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations in New York, 'EU statement: 10th Review Conference on the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons: General Statement', 1 Aug. 2022.

<sup>3</sup> International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), *Objective and Essential Elements of a State's Nuclear Security Regime*, IAEA Nuclear Security Series no. 20 (IAEA, Vienna, 2015).

- Cover wide range of topics in the field of disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation
- Provide policy recommendations for EU policy makers
- 82 papers published by experts from the Network since 2011; 13 more by 2025
- All Papers publicly available

# Ad Hoc Seminars

- 9 in total over 3 years
- 3 in-person, 6 virtual
- Can cover the full range of topics within the Consortium mandate



# Oral and written briefs

- Oral briefings to CONOP/COARM and other EU bodies (by Consortium/Network representatives)
- Written ad-hoc briefs associated with the 9 ad-hoc seminars
- 4 stand-alone written briefs, at request of EEAS



# Next generation of experts: Proliferation Awareness Courses for Natural Sciences

- 1 in-person, 1 virtual course per year
- Next virtual course in May; next in-person course Nov/Dec 23 at SIPRI



# Next generation of experts: EUNPDC Internship Programme



**30 internships** for  
graduate students and  
young diplomats (EU and  
extra-EU) in Network  
members



# Next generation of experts

## Webinars focused on the next generation



## Young Women in Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Mentorship Programme



- Second round of mentees Sep 22 - May 23
- Soon: next round of applications

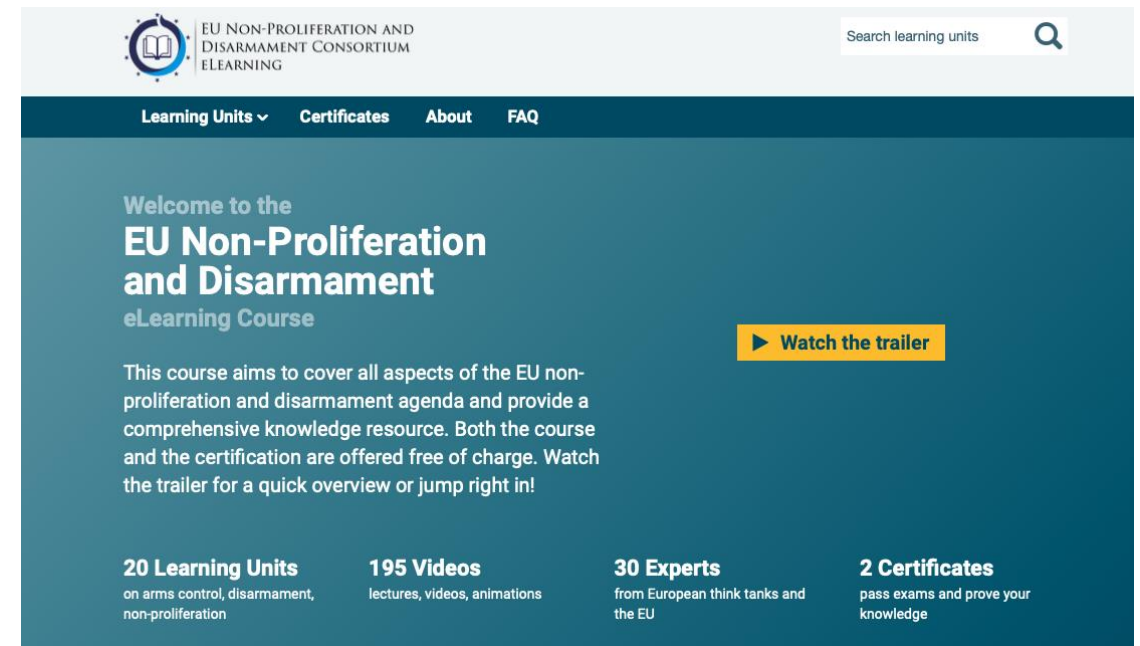
# Next Generation Workshop



- Discuss pressing issues on the non-proliferation, arms control and disarmament agenda
- Present fresh ideas on how to address challenges
- Open environment: young speakers exchange views with experts and EU officials


# EU Non-Proliferation and Disarmament eLearning Courses

- 20 learning units covering all relevant NPD aspects, e.g. arms control, WMD, SALW, humanitarian arms control, emerging technologies, export control
- 195 short videos, 30 experts
- Freely accessible at <https://nonproliferation-elearning.eu>



# Teaching 'clinic' – teaching resource hub


- Depository of curricula for professors and lecturers
- Short summaries of key literature
- Curriculum mapping and analysis



**Syllabi**

The syllabi section contains course outlines from scholars around the world. Early-career academics may find those a useful source of inspiration for their own classes. Topics range from arms control, non-proliferation and disarmament more broadly to nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction more specifically.


[Find out more »](#)



**Recommended readings**

In our recommended readings section, we suggest a collection of readings which can form the foundation for university instructors who would like to arrange their own courses on non-proliferation and disarmament issues. These recommended readings are not limited to timeless arms control classics, but also include more recent and critical literature.


[Find out more »](#)



**Online material**

The online material section features a collection of videos, games, tools, courses, and other external resources available online that can enrich university classes dealing with non-proliferation and disarmament issues.

[Find out more »](#)



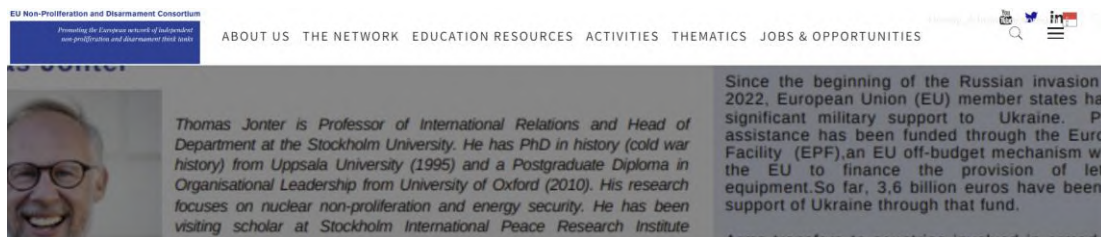
**Evaluation**

Our evaluation aims to offer insights into how non-proliferation and disarmament issues are taught in practice. By analyzing numerous course outlines, we identify the most common topics, blind spots, and diversity issues in non-proliferation and disarmament education.

[Find out more »](#)



# Website and interactive platform



The EU Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Consortium is a network bringing together foreign policy institutions and European research centres to encourage political and security-related dialogue.

**Website with information on all activities, many resources including job opening section and podcast series**



**New digital collaborative platform for the EUNPDC Network**



# EUNPDC Podcast



**Focused on explaining existing and significant arms control, disarmament, and non-proliferation agreements, combining the history of the agreements, their significance, and how they relate to current events (e.g. MTCR, HCOC, Vienna Document, INF Treaty, New START, NPT, CWC, BWC)**

# E-newsletter

FEBRUARY 2023, ISSUE 45

## EU Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Consortium

Promoting the European network of independent  
non-proliferation and disarmament think tanks

E-newsletter of the European Network of Independent Non-Proliferation and  
Disarmament Think Tanks

### The non-proliferation and disarmament challenges of the Swedish Presidency of the EU, an interview with Thomas Jonter



*Thomas Jonter is Professor of International Relations and Head of Department at the Stockholm University. He has PhD in history (cold war history) from Uppsala University (1995) and a Postgraduate Diploma in Organisational Leadership from University of Oxford (2010). His research focuses on nuclear non-proliferation and energy security. He has been visiting scholar at Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), Stanford University, and Cornell University.*

### Addressing arms diversion in Ukraine

Since the beginning of the Russian invasion in February 2022, European Union (EU) member states have delivered significant military support to Ukraine. Part of this assistance has been funded through the European Peace Facility (EPF), an EU off-budget mechanism which enables the EU to finance the provision of lethal military equipment. So far, 3,6 billion euros have been allocated in support of Ukraine through that fund.

Arms transfers to countries involved in armed conflict bear higher risks of diversion. While this makes concerns about diversion in Ukraine legitimate, the issue has also been instrumentalized. Several alleged reports of diversion in the media were found to be the result of disinformation efforts.

**Published monthly with updates from Network, Consortium and EU**

PUBLIC

[www.nonproliferation.eu](http://www.nonproliferation.eu)  
[eunpdc@sipri.org](mailto:eunpdc@sipri.org)