

EU funding on skills relevant for the defence sector

Investing in people and their skills is one of the EU's top priorities. The total EU investment on skills proposed for 2021-2028 is €146 billion.

A variety of EU funds relevant for the defence sector are available to support activities aimed at developing skills at all levels.

<p><u>EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND+</u></p>	<p>Will support better market relevance of education and training systems in Member States and regions, lifelong learning and flexible upskilling and reskilling pathways, including apprenticeships and dual education. Can support the development of education and training programmes for workers in specific sectors</p>
<p><u>EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND (ERDF)</u></p>	<p>Helps Member States develop skills for the implementation of smart specialisation strategies, build learning facilities, improve the safety and accessibility of such facilities and provide them with modern equipment, and support the development of ecosystems (e.g. cybersecurity ecosystem in Bretagne with both civ/mil dimension)</p>
<p><u>MARIE CURIE ACTIONS</u></p>	<p>Fund cross-border mobility – inside or outside academia – and skills development of researchers</p> <p>Actions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Networks for doctoral candidates – Post-doctoral fellowships – Staff exchanges – Programmes creating synergies at regional, national and international level – Science festivals across Europe
<p><u>SECTOR SKILLS ALLIANCES</u></p>	<p>Tackle skills gaps and ensure better alignment of vocational and educational training (VET) with labour markets</p>
<p><u>KNOWLEDGE ALLIANCES</u></p>	<p>Foster innovation in and through higher education together with businesses, and beyond, contributing to new approaches to teaching and learning, entrepreneurship in education, and the modernisation of higher education systems</p>

ErasmusPRO	Supports long-duration work placements of apprentices abroad. Helps companies and organisations access foreign skills and know-how and improve their overall performance, in particular SMEs, boost individual skills, enhance cooperation between companies and VET institutions
<u>INTERREG</u>	Supports cooperation across borders to jointly tackle common challenges and find shared solutions among other in in education & training, employment and mobility.
CENTRES OF VOCATIONAL EXCELLENCE	Will build skills ecosystems for innovation, regional development and social cohesion to tackle skills gaps challenges Will boost opportunities for the mobility of VET learners and staff by establishing long-term sustainable cooperation platforms among training providers and companies, in particular SMEs
STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS	Support innovation in a sector and join initiatives to promote cooperation, peer-learning, and the exchange of experiences
<u>SINGLE MARKET PROGRAMME</u>	Will promote skills development and innovation to make European industry, in particular SMEs, more competitive
<u>DIGITAL EUROPE</u>	Will reinforce Europe’s capacities in digital technology by supporting the design and delivery of specific courses to boost digital skills for students, IT professionals, but also targeted training opportunities for entrepreneurs, SMEs and the workforce, as well as on-the-job training and traineeships for students, young entrepreneurs and graduates
<u>InvestEU</u>	The “Social investment & Skills Window” will attract public, private and individual investments in skills development of individuals with the support of the European Investment Bank
<u>EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES</u>	Will support transnational alliances that will become universities of the future, promoting European values and identity, and revolutionising the quality and competitiveness of higher education

Apprenticeships are mainly funded by ErasmusPRO, ESF, Interreg, Digital Europe and Marie Curie Actions.

Main programmes with gender dimension are ESF, ERDF and InvestEU.