



Member State Factsheet

# FINLAND

## ABOUT EDA

The European Defence Agency (EDA), supports its 26 Member States in improving their defence capabilities through European cooperation. Acting as an enabler and facilitator for Ministries of Defence willing to engage in collaborative capability projects, the Agency has become the 'hub' for European defence cooperation with expertise and networks allowing it to the whole spectrum of defence capabilities. Member States use EDA as an intergovernmental expert platform where their collaborative projects are supported, facilitated, and implemented. Member States can decide on a case-by-case basis whether to participate in projects, depending on their needs and interests. The core of what we do is offering a level of expertise and activities that cover the whole spectrum of defence cooperation. EDA has about 180 staff and an annual budget of 37.5 Million Euro.

### Finland @ EDA

Finland participates in **25 EDA projects and programmes**, worth some **117 million euros**. Finland also participates in five projects under the Permanent Structured Cooperation mechanism.

train and improve their cyber defence skills. The participating states of Finland, Austria, Belgium, Estonia, Germany, Italy, Latvia, and Sweden aim to develop, maintain, and improve cyber defences, as well as the levels of awareness and expertise of personnel. Finland is also involved in a similar PESCO project with Estonia, Bulgaria, France, Italy, Latvia, and Luxembourg.

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### Helicopter Exercise Programme (HEP)

**Role:** Participating Member State

The Helicopter Exercise Programme (HEP) was launched in 2009, with a formal programme arrangement signed in 2012. Today the HEP has 15 participating Member States and is one of the EDA's flagship training projects and programmes.

By enhancing the operating skills of helicopter crews across Europe, the HEP has played a part in increasing the deployable helicopter capability for contingency operations. The exercises focus on environmental and multinational training, increasing interoperability through practical experiences, standardisation using a Mentor Team composed of Helicopter Tactics Instructors, sharing operational experience and developing common tactics, techniques and procedures.

### IN THE SPOTLIGHT

A small selection of projects & programmes.



### CAPABILITY DEVELOPMENT Cyber Ranges Federation (CRF)

**Role:** Participating Member State

With cyberspace formally recognised as a domain of warfare, Finland has been at the forefront of the European Union's efforts to prepare for battles that are waged not only at sea, in the air and on land, but also on computer networks. Since 2017, the European Defence Agency has coordinated the Cyber Ranges Federation project to develop a more sophisticated and powerful platform for cyber training by connecting Member States' national cyber ranges to one another and enabling other countries, which do not have their cyber ranges, to





Photo: EDA Helicopter Exercise COLD BLADE 2016 in Finland, focused on flying in demanding environmental conditions. (Image C - Finnish Defence Forces)

HEP is a ten-year programme (2012-2022), a concrete indication that training together is an integral part of enhancing European helicopter capability and interoperability. The HEP along with EDA's other helicopter programmes are now mature enough to be transferred to the future Multinational Helicopter Training Centre (MHTC) in Sintra, Portugal by the end of 2023.

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## Maritime Surveillance (MARSUR)

**Role:** Participating Member State

Finland is part of one of the European Defence Agency's longest-running projects that aims to give European Union navies a clearer overview of activity on the seas.

By improving the common "recognised maritime picture", MARSUR facilitates the exchange of operational maritime information and services such as ship positions, tracks, identification data, chat and images, as well as the movements of civilian vessels. Finland is one of 19 Member States, plus Norway, in the project that avoids duplication of effort and makes better use of available technologies, data and information to enhance cooperation in a simple, efficient and low-cost way, supporting safety and security. The project entered a new phase at the end of 2020, focusing on the development of a next generation system that enhances information sharing.

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