



Poland Revives European Defense: The EDM Mechanism is Born

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Poland, leading the rotating presidency of the European Union for the first half of 2025, is strongly promoting a new intergovernmental project aimed at strengthening the continent's strategic autonomy: the *European Defence Mechanism* (EDM - *Meccanismo Europeo di Difesa*).

According to a recent report [published by the Belgian think tank Bruegel](#) and commissioned by Warsaw, the initiative could represent a turning point for integrating Europe's fragmented defense industries, stimulating competition and reducing production costs through market unification and a shared military demand.

"If we do not integrate defense markets, individual countries will continue to pay exorbitant costs to develop products like next-generation fighters," said Guntram Wolff, co-author of the report.

The document was presented in April to European Ministers of Economy and Finance during a meeting in Warsaw. The main goal is the creation of a common financing system for European armaments, capable of attracting new industrial players and consolidating the EU's technological competitiveness.

However, political and institutional challenges are not lacking: some member states, due to constitutional constraints or political orientations, may decide not to join the mechanism. There is also discussion about the possible inclusion of non-EU countries such as the United Kingdom, Norway, Turkey, and Canada.

Polish Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Andrzej Domański emphasized the importance of the issue by stating:

“Security and defense financing are today's priorities in Europe. This is why we strongly support the European Commission's ReArm Europe plan, which provides for up to 150 billion euros in dedicated loans.”

Poland: An Emerging Power in NATO

Since 2022, in response to Russian aggression against Ukraine, Poland has significantly increased its military budget, allocating approximately 186.6 billion zloty (49.6 billion dollars) to defense in 2025. This brings military spending to 4.7% of GDP, one of the highest values in the Atlantic Alliance.

A significant portion of the budget is allocated to the purchase of U.S. weapon systems such as F-35 fighters, Apache attack helicopters, Abrams tanks, and Patriot batteries. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Donald Tusk has expressed the desire to strengthen cooperation with European partners such as the United Kingdom and Turkey.

Towards a European-Led Defense

With the promotion of the EDM, Warsaw also aims to support joint projects like the **European Sky Shield Initiative**, led by Germany, with the goal of unifying acquisitions and protocols for air defense.

Europe, called to face new geopolitical challenges and reduce its dependence on the USA, could find in the European Defence Mechanism the tool for true strategic and industrial autonomy.