



# EUROPEAN UNION RAPID DEPLOYMENT CAPACITY

With the Strategic Compass the EU set out the ambition to be a stronger and more capable security provider in its neighborhood and beyond. The EU needs to be able to protect its citizens and to contribute to international peace and security, by being able to react quickly, robustly and effectively to conflicts and crises outside its borders.

To that end, the EU is developing a Rapid Deployment Capacity (EU RDC). This capacity is a framework that can swiftly deploy up to 5,000 troops, composed of modified EU Battlegroups and/or pre-identified national modules, to respond to imminent threats and react to crisis situations outside EU territory. It can be tailored to different phases and scenarios, ranging from initial entry, to reinforcement or as a reserve force to secure an exit, depending on the mission, context or situation.

Preparations of the EU Rapid Deployment Capacity, including on the operational scenarios, forces and capabilities, preparedness (including first EU military live exercise held in October 2023), command and control structures (i.e., the Military Planning and Conduct Capability), as well as financial aspects have progressed. In line with the Strategic Compass, the EU RDC should reach full operational capability by 2025.

## COMPOSITION



**Modified EU Battlegroups**



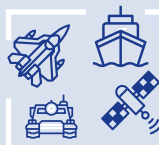
**Tailored force packages including air, land, maritime, space and cyber components**



**Different levels of operational readiness**



**Longer stand-by periods**



**Modules composed of Member States military forces and capabilities**



**Strategic enablers (e.g. strategic airlift, space-based communications, medical assets, cyber defence capabilities, ISR capabilities)**



**Allows tailoring the capacity to the mission**



## LIVEX 23: FORCES AND PARTICIPATION

In October 2023, the EU carried out its first ever EU live military exercise in Cádiz.



## BUILDING AN EU RAPID DEPLOYMENT CAPACITY

The new EU Rapid Deployment Capacity will benefit from the following elements:



**EFFECTIVE COMMAND STRUCTURES -  
A FULLY PREPARED MILITARY  
PLANNING AND CONDUCT CAPABILITY**



**COMMON FUNDING AND ENHANCED  
FINANCIAL SOLIDARITY**



**STRATEGIC ENABLERS**



**SECURE COMMUNICATIONS**



**SCENARIO-BASED PLANNING**



**MORE INTEROPERABILITY**



**REGULAR EXERCISES,  
INCLUDING LIVE EXERCISES**



**MORE RAPID DEPLOYMENT OF FORCES  
TAILORED TO A SPECIFIC SITUATION**

## TOWARDS AN EU RAPID DEPLOYMENT CAPACITY: KEY MILESTONES

### Roadmap

#### MARCH 2022

Agreement to  
develop EU RDC  
by 2025

#### 2023

First two EU RDC  
Coordination  
Conferences

#### 2024

Second EU live  
military exercise

#### OCTOBER 2023

First EU live  
military exercise

#### FIRST HALF 2024

Finalisation of  
the whole set  
of operational  
scenarios

#### 2025

Full operational  
capability

