

## PRESS RELEASE

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### To improve European cooperation in Defence Technology and Capability development

**The European Defence Conference (EDC) will take place on October 9 to 10 2012 in Prague, Czech Republic. Main goal of the conference is to foster cross-border cooperation in the complex European Defence community. The conference is being developed and organised in close consultation with NATO, EDA, the European Commission (DG-ENTR) and ASD. Keynote speakers will be, among others, Dep. Director General Enterprise and Industry of the European Commission Dr. Paul Weissenberg, Dep. Assistant Secretary General Defence Investments of NATO Mr. Ernest Herold, Martin Hill of the NATO Industry Advisory Group and Mr. Krzysztof Lisek, Member of the European Parliament.**

In times of economic austerity European cooperation is becoming more and more important to maintain or improve our defence capabilities. This has been stated in many communications of NATO, EU, EDA, national governments and think tanks. The importance of cooperation – under the label “SMART Defense” – was even one of the main topics at the recent NATO summit in Chicago.

In defence technology and capability development, cross-border cooperation is more complex than in many other economic sectors. Security policies, issues related to interdependency and sovereignty, industrial interests and other factors contribute to this complexity. Many nations, industries and other players are trying to find the best options and opportunities for cooperation, but false starts and failures still occur too often. As an answer to this the 2nd edition of the EDC brings together representatives of governments, industry, multinational organisations and research organisations in order to find more effective solutions for European cooperation.

Apart from high level keynote speeches most of the conference is interactive. Cooperative project experience may be exchanged, new ideas developed and your network extended. Panel discussions and debate sessions will be held about benefits and risks of interdependency, major technical challenges in the near future, alternate financing of technology and capability development, etc. In “snap-shot and poster sessions” R&T results and project proposals will be presented in high paced presentations of 10 minutes or less.

IN COLLABORATION WITH



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In addition to the conference, a small exhibition will be held where companies and research organisations will show their innovations and innovative products.

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A limited number of free press accreditations are available for journalists who intend to publish about the EDC. Please contact Stefanie Abelmann to obtain your accreditation (E-Mail: [SAbelmann@eventlab.org](mailto:SAbelmann@eventlab.org) or Telephone: +49 341-24059671)

More information is available on: [www.defenceconference.eu/press](http://www.defenceconference.eu/press)

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