



European Defence Fund

Call for experts for evaluations

Technical – ethical – expertise

Inge Ceuppens, DG DEFIS A3

Brussels/Ljubljana, 22 October 2021

Does not represent an official position of the European Commission and does not bind the Commission in any way

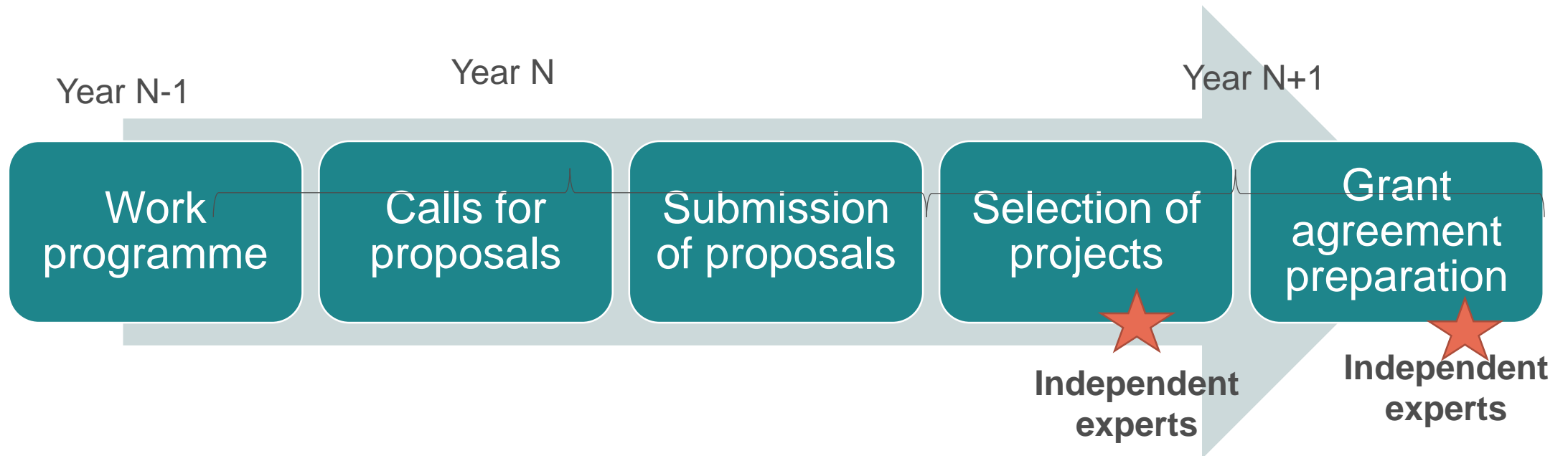
European Defence Fund (EDF): objectives

EDF Regulation (EU) 2021/697 of 29 April 2021

- Supports **collaborative and cross-border projects in research and development** on defence technologies and products
- Contributes to the **competitiveness and innovation capacity** of the EDTIB, including by encouraging **participation of SMEs** and other actors that are usually not active in the defence domain
- Strengthens **Europe's resilience and its strategic autonomy**, notably by **reducing EU technological dependencies** on third countries

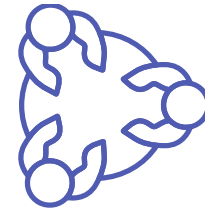
European Defence Fund: Life Cycle

- 2021-2027
- Annual work programmes and annual calls for proposals



European Defence Fund: features

- First calls published on 30 June 2021
- Calls opened on 9 September 2021
- 23 Calls in 2021
- Deadline for submission of proposals: **9 December 2021**
- Selection of proposals:
 - Evaluation against award criteria (technical evaluation)
 - Ethics screening
 - Financial assessment for grants with lump sum scheme



▶▶▶▶▶ **NEED FOR INDEPENDENT EXPERTS**

EDF - 2021 Work Programme

15 categories of actions

23 calls for proposals
37 Topics (R+D)

Submission deadline
9 December 2021

Total budget
€1.2 billion



Defence medical response, Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear (CBRN), biotech and human factors

68.5M€ - 2calls/2topics



Information Superiority

70M€ - 1call/1topic



Advanced passive and active sensors

38M€ - 1call/2topics



Cyber

33.5M€ 2calls/2topics



Naval combat

103,5M€ 2calls/3topics



Space

50M€ 1 call/2topics



Digital transformation

58,5M€ 2calls/2topics



Energy resilience and environmental transition

133M€ 1call/3topics



Materials and components

40M€ 1call/2topics



Disruptive technologies

70M€ 1 call/4topics + open call



Air combat

190M€ 2 calls/2topics



Air and missile defence

100M€ 1call/1topc



Ground combat

160M€ 2 calls/2topics



Force protection and mobility

50M€ 1 call/1topic



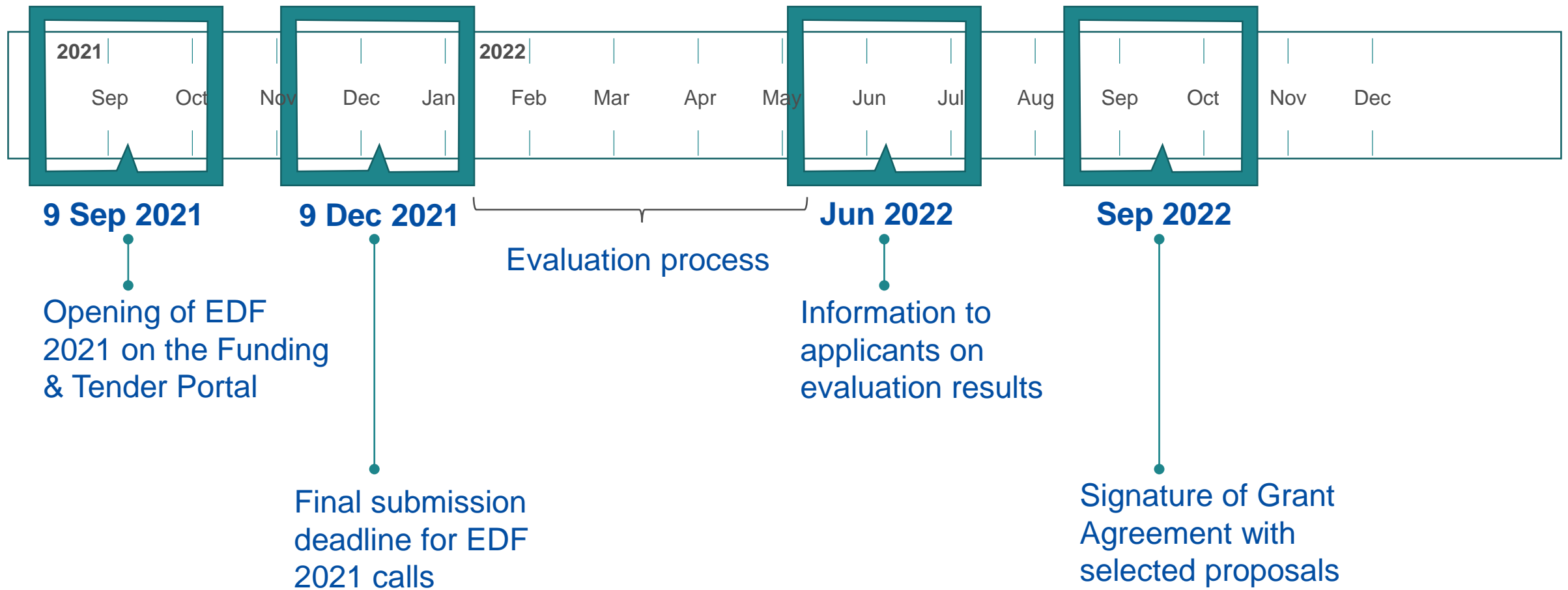
Open calls for innovative defence technologies

53,5M€ 2 calls

Funding and Tender portal: the EDF 2021 calls

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/programmes/edf>

Evaluation and grant agreement preparation



Independent experts for evaluation of proposals



Why?: To assist the Commission with the evaluation of the proposals



Who?: independent experts not representing their country or their employer

Experts are required to treat proposals equally and evaluate impartially based on their merits



What?: Experts evaluate the proposals individually + meet with other experts to discuss their assessment + seek consensus



When?: Availability for an average of 8-10 days

Conditions to be an expert



Tasks of an independent expert

Read background documents (calls, guide for applicants, guide for ethics...) + briefing

Preparation

Analysis

Read and analyse proposals

Write one individual expert report (IER) per proposal

Evaluation

With other experts in a consensus meeting and collectively agree

Meeting

Draft Consensus Report (CR)

Consensus Report

Expert contract

Expert signs a contract with the Commission – individual.

Model in:

[h2020-experts-mono-contract_en.pdf \(europa.eu\)](#)

Contract details fees per day, travel costs reimbursement, criteria for identifying Conflicts of Interest...

Venue of meetings: Brussels or remote or combination of both



Technical experts

Technical expertise



#CBRN #Biotech



#InformationSuperiority



#Cybersecurity #Space



#DigitalTransformation



#EnvironmentalTransition



#AirCombat #Energy



#Sensors



#GroundCombat #NavalCombat



#UnderwaterWarfare



#Simulation #Training



#Components #ForceProtection



#MissileDefence



#Mobility



#Materials



#Ethics

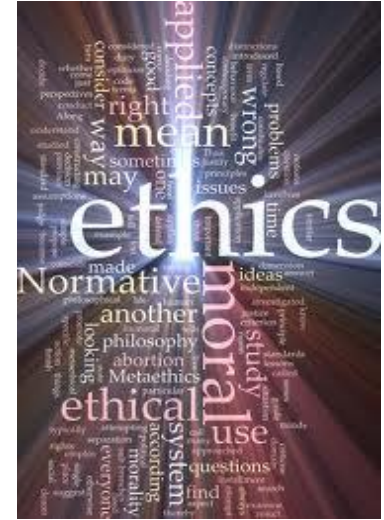


Ethics experts

Ethics

- ✓ For all activities funded by the European Union, **ethics** is an integral part of research and development from beginning to end.
- ✓ Proposals are meant to be ‘**ethical-by-design**’
- ✓ In EDF, all proposals considered for funding will be submitted to an **Ethics Review**
- ✓ All proposals must describe **ethical issues** raised & how they will be addressed so as to **conform to national, European and international regulations**.

**Guidance on ‘How to complete your ethics self-assessment’
is a key document**



Ethics expertise





Financial experts

Financial experts in EDF

- For the assessment of the budget in **lump sum proposals** only
- **Expected tasks:**
 - Check financial coherence and quality of proposed budget (best value for money)
 - Assess consistency of the effort of participants for each work package (lump sum break down) to achieve project objectives
 - Assess technical necessity of different cost items (equipment, number of trips, etc.) for the implementation of project
- **Output:** recommendations for adjusting (if necessary) proposed budget

Expertise sought



How to register as a defence expert

1. At any time: Register or **update** your profile in the EU experts database
<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/work-as-an-expert>

with relevant **fixed and free-text keywords**

2. Send an email with your CV + registration number to ec-edf-experts@ec.europa.eu

For more information, visit our website:

https://ec.europa.eu/defence-industry-space/calls-tenders/defence-industry-call-experts-assist-european-commission-evaluation-proposals_en

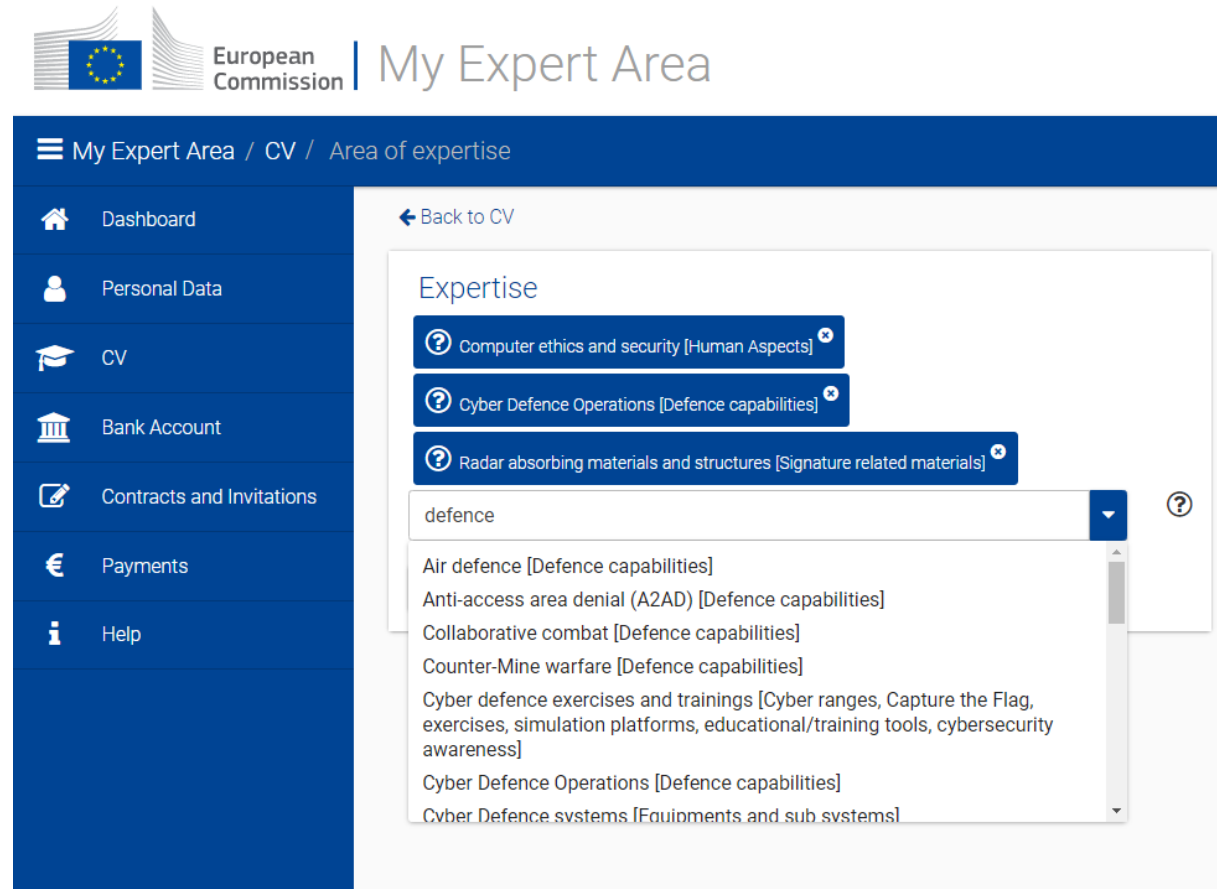
The screenshot shows the European Commission website. At the top, the text 'Funding & tender opportunities' is circled in red. Below it, the navigation bar includes 'SEARCH FUNDING & TENDERS', 'HOW TO PARTICIPATE', 'PROJECTS & RESULTS', 'WORK AS AN EXPERT' (highlighted in yellow with a red arrow), and 'SUPPORT'. The main content area is titled 'Work as an expert' and describes the role of external experts. A video thumbnail titled 'Being an expert for the European Com...' is visible. Below the video, there are sections for 'In particular, experts assist in:' and 'In addition, experts provide opinion and advise on:'. At the bottom, there is a blue button labeled 'Register as expert' with a red arrow pointing to it. The footer includes the European Commission logo and the text 'European Commission'.

How to register in the experts database (1)

- Go to: <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/work-as-an-expert>
- Create an ECAS account
- Step-by-step registration process (personal information, languages, employment, studies, link to CV, publications...)
- Importance: **Area of Expertise - keywords**

How to register in the experts database (2)

- Area of Expertise - keywords



The screenshot displays the 'My Expert Area' interface. At the top, the European Commission logo and the text 'My Expert Area' are visible. Below this, a navigation bar shows 'My Expert Area / CV / Area of expertise'. A left sidebar contains menu items: Dashboard, Personal Data, CV, Bank Account, Contracts and Invitations, Payments, and Help. The main content area is titled 'Expertise' and includes a 'Back to CV' link. Three expert areas are listed: 'Computer ethics and security [Human Aspects]', 'Cyber Defence Operations [Defence capabilities]', and 'Radar absorbing materials and structures [Signature related materials]'. A search dropdown is open for the keyword 'defence', showing a list of suggestions such as 'Air defence [Defence capabilities]', 'Anti-access area denial (A2AD) [Defence capabilities]', 'Collaborative combat [Defence capabilities]', 'Counter-Mine warfare [Defence capabilities]', 'Cyber defence exercises and trainings [Cyber ranges, Capture the Flag, exercises, simulation platforms, educational/training tools, cybersecurity awareness]', 'Cyber Defence Operations [Defence capabilities]', and 'Cyber Defence systems [Equipments and sub systems]'.

Which keywords?

Important to select keywords for expertise

New keywords in the expert database. Important to update profile with new keywords if relevant

Missile defence
Warheads



Sonar, radar, optical, ...
Sensor data fusion
Quantum sensors



C4 ISR
SDR
Signal
transmission



CBRN medical countermeasures
CBRN detection



Protection
Soldier systems



AI, evaluation of AI
Integrated circuits



Mobility, Logistics
Military bases

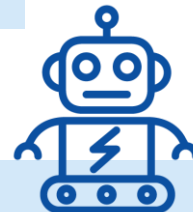
Shipbuilding
Naval architecture



Cyber Defence
Exercises and trainings



Unmanned Systems
Manned-Unmanned Teaming



Synthetic fuels
batteries



Collaborative combat, Fire support,
Armoured vehicles, Camouflage, PNT,
Electronic warfare, Aircraft configurations, ...





Thank you!

inge.ceuppens@ec.europa.eu