



INTERACT PADR Project: INTERoperability Standards for Unmanned Armed ForCes SysTems

A 24-month project aiming to create a basis for a future European interoperability standard for military unmanned systems

On **June 21, 2021** nineteen project partners from **eleven European countries** (*i.e. Germany, Netherlands, Greece, Sweden, Spain, Italy, France, Denmark, Lithuania, Romania, Poland*) got together virtually to launch the **INTERACT project** and outline the actions to be carried out per work package during the upcoming period. The INTERACT project is funded under the **Preparatory Action on Defence Research (PADR)** with **24 months** of lifecycle and it is led by the **Fraunhofer Institut für Optronik, Systemtechnik und Bildauswertung IOSB** (*Germany*).

About the Project

INTERACT aims to create a basis for a future **European interoperability standard** for **military unmanned systems**. It will be achieved by **integrating** the **technical knowledge** and **operational experience** available in Europe on control, monitoring, and application of unmanned systems for the concept definition of a future European cross-industry interoperability standard for military unmanned systems.

This standard will allow **unmanned assets** to be deployed flexible in different configurations, such as singular deployment, in manned-unmanned teaming, in hand over modes or as autonomous swarms, all this independent of organizational or national provenance. For this an **INTERACT EXPERT GROUP** containing all dominant European manufacturers of unmanned systems (*air, ground, surface and underwater*) accompanied by a number of leading organisations from all over **Europe** in specific expert fields has been created. The interchangeability of assets will **increase responsiveness** and **flexibility** and hence the warfighting capability of European armed forces, individually and in international joint operations.

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At a Glance

Acronym: INTERACT

Title: INTERoperability Standards for Unmanned Armed ForCes SysTems

Call identifier: PADR Call US-03-2019

Maximum Foreseen EU Contribution: € 1.500.000

Project duration: 24 months

Start Date: 1st June 2021

Project Coordinator:

Fraunhofer Gesellschaft zur Förderung der Angewandten Forschung e.V, IOSB, Germany

Preparatory Action on Defence Research (PADR)

Within the Research strand of the European Defence Fund, the Commission has earmarked 90 M€ for the [Preparatory Action on Defence Research](#) (PADR).

The PADR implementation is run by the European Defence Agency (EDA) following the mandate of a Delegation Agreement between the Commission and EDA signed on 31st May 2017 and as amended on 29th January 2019 and on 21st December 2020. By this agreement the Commission entrusts EDA with the management and implementation of the research projects to be launched within the PADR.

The budget for the PADR related actions is split in three years as follows: 25 M€ in 2017; 40 M€ in 2018; 25 M€ in 2019.

The Preparatory Action on Defence Research is a concrete step aimed at assessing and demonstrating the added-value of EU supported defence research and technology (R&T). The relevant results are expected to further deepen European defence cooperation, addressing capability shortfalls, and to strengthen European defence stakeholders.

The European Commission launched the PADR with a view of developing the future European Defence Fund as part of the EU's next Multiannual Financial Framework (2021-2027).

INTERACT Consortium:

- Fraunhofer Gesellschaft zur Förderung der Angewandten Forschung e.V, IOSB, (Germany);
- Nederlandse Organisatie Voor Toegepast Natuurwetenschappelijk Onderzoek TNO, (Netherlands);
- Institute of Communication and Computer Systems, (Greece);
- Totalforsvarets Forskningsinstitut, FOI, (Sweden);
- Airbus Defence And Space SA, (Spain);
- Seastema SPA, (Italy);
- Societe d'Ingenierie de Recherches et d'Etudes en Hydrodynamique Navale, (France);
- INTRACOM SA Defense Electronic Systems, (Greece);
- Indra Sistemas SA, (Spain);
- Leonardo - Societa per Azioni, (Italy);
- MBDA France, (France);
- Stichting Nationaal Lucht-en Ruimtevaartlaboratorium, NLR, (Netherlands);
- Green Communications SAS, (France);
- Safran Electronics & Defense, (France);
- Terma A/S, (Denmark);
- Thales SA, (France);
- Baltijos Pazangiu Technologiju Institutas, BPTI, (Lithuania);
- Institutul National De Cercetare-Dezvoltare Aerospatiale "Elie Carafoli" - INCAS Bucuresti, (Romania);
- PCO SA, (Poland).

Editorial content

INTERACT Communication and Dissemination Leader
Institute of Communication and Computer Systems (ICCS)



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This project has received funding from European Union's Preparatory Action for Defence Research under grant agreement No. 884270. Content reflects only the authors' view and the European Defence Agency (EDA) is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information it contains.

