

NATO Industrial Capacity Expansion Pledge

What is the NATO Industrial Capacity Expansion Pledge?

- Transatlantic defence industrial cooperation is critical to NATO's deterrence and defence and for our continued support to Ukraine.
- At the 2024 Washington Summit, NATO Heads of State and Government (HOSG) committed to accelerating the growth of industrial capacity and production across the Alliance.
- The creation of National Plans will facilitate Allied efforts to place orders with industry, improve Allied industrial capacity in the long run and strengthen Allied response in times of crisis and/or conflict.

Why does NATO need an industrial pledge?

- Put simply, there is no defence without defence industry.
- Our defence industry provides us with the equipment we need to fight, strengthens our technological edge and plays an important role in increasing the readiness and interoperability of our forces.
- With the Pledge, Allies commit to fostering an innovative, competitive and sustainable defence industry.

In Washington, Leaders agreed to:

- Enhance defence industry across the Alliance by fostering cooperation, openness, clear demand signals and contracting, in line with NATO's strategic military requirements.
- Take a more systemic approach to defence industrial development. Allies will develop and share National Plans to enhance industrial capability, capacity and responsiveness.
- Urgently deliver critical capabilities required for NATO's defence plans, with an initial focus on battle decisive munitions and air and missile defence.
- Increase large-scale, multinational procurement. Drive more joint procurement to bolster interoperability and interchangeability, and deliver better value for money.
- Accelerate adoption of new technologies. Harness the considerable potential of our small and medium-sized enterprises.
- Enhance cooperation with Ukraine by fostering and expanding defence cooperation between Allies and the Ukrainian defence industrial base to the fullest extent.
- Enhance cooperation with partners. Continue to take mutual steps with the EU to strengthen coherence and complementarity of respective efforts and relevant work. Enhance dialogue with partners including Australia, Japan, New Zealand and the Republic of Korea.
- Reinforce commitment to NATO standards and enhance interoperability and interchangeability, regularly reviewing progress with our Defence Ministers
- Protect our defence-critical supply chains. Take action to foster the responsiveness, strength, resilience and security of supply chains to protect our industries and ensure the Alliance develops military capabilities free from hostile influences.

This Pledge builds on the Defence Production Action Plan, agreed by HOSG at the Vilnius Summit in July 2023. Since Vilnius, Allies have made significant progress in boosting industrial capacity and ramping up production, including:

- Adopting or updating their national defence strategies and passing the necessary legislation to improve defence industrial cooperation and government-to-industry relationships
- Reviewing national defence procurement processes to identify how and where to compress timelines for acquisition and support more collaboration with Allies
- Making targeted investments in industrial defence production, focusing on reactivating or opening new production lines for ammunition and explosives
- Placing major, long-term contracts to bolster their defence capabilities, with significant investments in capabilities such as fighter aircraft, helicopters, Uncrewed Aerial Systems, main battle tanks, infantry fighting vehicles, battle decisive munitions, and air and missile defence systems
- Boosting their participation in joint procurement initiatives, bilateral defence cooperation agreements, and joint capability development initiatives

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