



MILITARY MOBILITY

WHAT IS MILITARY MOBILITY ABOUT?

Military Mobility is an EU initiative to ensure swift and seamless movement of military personnel, materiel and assets – including at short notice and at large scale – within and beyond the EU. It aims to create a well-connected network, with shorter reaction times, and secure and resilient infrastructure.

The Action Plan on Military Mobility (2022-2026):



Investing in dual-use transport infrastructure along the trans-European transport network.



Accelerating, digitalising and streamlining national procedures and processes.



Strengthening the preparedness and resilience of transport infrastructure.



Enhancing cooperation with NATO and key partners.

WHY IS MILITARY MOBILITY VITAL FOR OUR SECURITY IN AN UNSTABLE WORLD?



It enables the military of the Member States to **react faster and more effectively** to crises erupting at the EU's external borders and beyond, whether for EU operations or deployments in other multilateral frameworks such as NATO.



It facilitates the **improvement of transport infrastructure** such as roads, railways, water ways and airports that are used by both civilian and military users, to avoid bottlenecks for large-scale movements due to insufficient height or load capacity of bridges and railways, for example.



It helps the Member States to **remove the delays when granting national permissions** for military transits across their borders, and other ways to harmonise, streamline and digitalise procedures so that we can react faster.



It increases synergies not only with existing Union policies but also with partners and Allies, including NATO, **to ensure our efforts are aligned.**

Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine calls for urgent measures to ensure swift military movements within the EU to enable our armed forces to respond quickly to threats or emergencies, and move military aid swiftly.



WHAT IS THE EU DOING TO ENHANCE MILITARY MOBILITY?

The EU's current framework for action is the **Military Mobility Action Plan 2.0** for the period 2022-2026. It opened a **new chapter** in the initiative since the EU launched it in 2017. Building on the progress made, it enlarges the range of actions in light of Europe's changed security situation.

The Action Plan 2.0 brings together relevant EU and national actors. Its comprehensive implementation requires contributions from the Commission services, the European External Action Service, including the EU Military Staff, and the European Defence Agency – in close consultation with the EU Member States. The first annual progress report was presented on 13 November 2023.

Military Mobility is also supported through the **Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO)**. The **PESCO Project on Military Mobility** brings together 25 Member States, as well as the United States, Canada and Norway as third state partners, to improve and speed up national procedures, while the **PESCO Project on Network of logistic hubs in Europe and support to operations (NetLogHubs)** sets up a multinational network based on existing logistic capabilities and infrastructure.



IMPROVING DUAL USE TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE ALONG THE TRANS-EUROPEAN TRANSPORT NETWORK

- The Council has approved the Military Requirements for Military Mobility including technical specifications. New steps are taken to identify the main corridors and logistical hubs along the TEN-T and include the fuel supply chain requirements for military transport.

The EU military requirements that drive the process of improving the dual use transport infrastructure are around 95% identical with those used by NATO.

- From the EU budget under the Connecting Europe Facility, we have invested a total of € 1,7 billion in dual-use transport infrastructure to co-fund 95 military mobility projects in 21 countries.
- A study is conducted to identify possibilities for short-notice large-scale movements to improve long-term infrastructure planning and optimal use of this infrastructure.

To be eligible for EU co-funding, transport infrastructure projects must be useful for both civilian and defence purposes and be planned along the trans-European transport network (TEN-T).



ENHANCING PREPAREDNESS AND RESILIENCE OF INFRASTRUCTURE

- Stepping up exercises to test our improvements and identify remaining hurdles.
- Protection against security risks in the transport sector, including cyber-attacks or other hybrid threats, while enhancing climate resilience and energy security.
- Employing EU space-based navigation, secure communication and Earth Observation to the benefit of military mobility.



ADDRESSING REGULATORY SUPPORT MEASURES TO REDUCE THE ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN AND SPEED UP MILITARY TRANSITS

- Optimising procedures to permit military transits across national borders through the European Defence Agency.

The Member States have pledged to reduce the time needed to permit military border crossings to maximum five working days with the ambition to reduce this further for rapid-reaction units.

- Streamlining and digitalising customs formalities to facilitate military cross-border movements.
- Developing a digital system for the quick and secure exchange of information related to military mobility with funding from the European Defence Fund worth €9 million.
- Defining a federated IT network to enhance efficiency for military logistics through the European Defence Agency.



ENHANCING PARTNERSHIPS

- Ensuring coherence and mutual reinforcement with NATO notably through regular staff-to-staff dialogue.
- Enhanced connectivity with regional bilateral partners and dialogue with strategic partners.

