



CHARTER EURODEFENSE

of

the « EuroDéfense » Associations

(draft of 15.03.2006 amended by Council 31.03.2006)

1 – FORM

The “EuroDéfense” associations make up a network called **EURODEFENSE**. There can be only one EuroDéfense association in each country. Each national EuroDéfense association is named by the word **EuroDéfense** followed by the hyphenated name of the country written according to the spelling chosen by the said association.

The present **CHARTER** is hereby established between the national associations EuroDéfense in order to settle the rules of procedure under which they agree to operate.

2 – OBJECTIVES

The objectives of EURODEFENSE are as follows :

2.1. within the EURODEFENSE network :

- 2.1.1.** to deepen the thinking on the concept of an European security and defence, to discuss it and to make proposals to the relevant parties,
- 2.1.2.** to analyse the vulnerabilities, threats and risks that Europe is now facing and those it will face in the future,
- 2.1.3.** to create opportunities for European meetings in the field of the European security and defence,
- 2.1.4.** to extend, according to the fixed rules (cf. appendix 1), the EURODEFENSE network to all EU countries and to those EU applicant countries whose integration date is officially scheduled,

2.2. in the European Countries :

to foster the awareness of common interests and to develop a greater sense of European defence,

2.3. to the national decision-makers and the European Union institutions :

- 2.3.1.** to keep in touch with these authorities,
- 2.3.2.** to promote the findings of EURODEFENSE,
- 2.3.3.** to formulate concrete proposals.

3 – ACHIEVEMENTS of the OBJECTIVES

In order to achieve these objectives, actions shall be taken in three main areas, namely :

3.1. Relationship within EURODEFENSE :

- 3.1.1. to set up and develop a methodology enabling the national associations to work together in an efficient manner,
- 3.1.2. to establish a programme of work for the associations to be performed within the “**EURODEFENSE Working Groups**” (EWGs) according to the fixed rules (cf. annex 2),
- 3.1.3. to emulate and manage the “**EURODEFENSE Working Groups**” (EWGs),
- 3.1.4. to elaborate a memorandum of major points, enabling the national associations to present and explain, outside the EURODEFENSE network, its proposals on security and defence matters ;

3.2. Activities about European security and defence issues :

- 3.2.1. to organize the following EURODEFENSE events :
 - 3.2.1.1. an annual meeting gathering as many members as possible from all national associations EuroDéfense and, according to possibilities, guests from EU countries. This meeting is arranged in turn by one of the associations of the network. It is called “**The Nth International meeting EURODEFENSE**” (IME) ;
 - 3.2.1.2. a meeting gathering the young members of all the national associations EuroDéfense. This meeting is organized every second year, in turn, by one of the associations of the network. It is called: “**The Nth Young Europeans EURODEFENSE Meeting**”;
 - 3.2.1.3. conferences, debates and seminars to which representatives from all national associations EuroDéfense are invited,

The working languages for these events are French, English and the language of the host country.

- 3.2.2. to participate in European or national events where EURODEFENSE proposals can be brought up.

3.3. EURODEFENSE Communication :

- 3.3.1. to circulate :
 - 3.3.1.1. at least once a year, an EURODEFENSE paper,
 - 3.3.1.2. regularly, upon request or according to the circumstances, papers produced together by several associations on specific subjects ;
- 3.3.2. to elaborate, to keep up date and to issue to the whole EURODEFENSE network :
 - 3.3.2.1. a members directory of all the EuroDéfense associations,
 - 3.3.2.2. contributions and articles whose authors are members of EURODEFENSE,
- 3.3.3. to make available and maintain up to date an EURODEFENSE website.

4 – ORGANISATION

The EURODEFENSE network is set under **EURODEFENSE Council** authority ; that Council is managed by a rotating Presidency and assisted by a Secretariat General.

4.1. EURODEFENSE Council :

4.1.1. Membership :

The Council is made up of all the EuroDéfense Associations Presidents together with the Secretary General EURODEFENSE ; the Presidency is entrusted in turn, each year from 1st January to the 31st December, to the President of the national association, which hosts and arranges the annual “International Meeting EURODEFENSE”.

4.1.2. Council meetings :

The Council meets at least twice a year. The first Council meeting is organized in the first four months of the year, according to an agreed planning. It is co-chaired by the acting President of EURODEFENSE and the President of the association hosting and arranging the Council. The second annual meeting is held in conjunction with the annual “International Meeting EURODEFENSE”. Other meetings might be called if needed.

The agenda of each Council meeting is proposed by the Secretariat General EURODEFENSE after taking in account the requests from the Presidents.

4.1.3. Decisions :

Every decision taken by the Council shall be by consensus. The statement of decisions is drawn up, in French and English, by the Secretariat General. It is submitted to the Presidents for their approval by the silent procedure.

Each year, the Council draws up the common working program of the associations and sets the list of the topics to be studied in priority.

The Council decides on admission or withdrawal of any association of the EURODEFENSE network

4.2. EURODEFENSE Presidency :

The EURODEFENSE Presidency is a rotating presidency (cf. § 4.1.1.). The acting President is in charge of :

- 4.2.1. arranging the annual « International meeting EURODEFENSE »,
- 4.2.2. arranging and chairing the meeting(s) held in conjunction with this annual meeting,
- 4.2.3. co-chairing the first annual Council meeting arranged by another association,

- 4.2.4. submitting to the European Authorities the findings approved by the Presidents, with mention of the reserves made by the associations if the consensus has not been reached,
- 4.2.5. making known, within and without EURODEFENSE, all the Council decisions.

He is assisted, upon request, by the Secretariat General EURODEFENSE.

4.3. Secretariat General EURODEFENSE :

The Secretariat General EURODEFENSE is assigned by the Council to one of the associations. The term of office is four years. It is renewable.

Under the authority of the Secretary General, who is designated by the in charge association, the Secretariat General is responsible for :

- 4.3.1. updating the list of the associations members of EURODEFENSE network, the EWGs list and the schedule of activities,
- 4.3.2. bringing its support, if needed, to the EURODEFENSE Presidency,
- 4.3.3. facilitating the preparation, the implementation and the taking advantages of the EURODEFENSE activities,
- 4.3.4. making sure, in connexion with the President, the communication within EURODEFENSE, particularly by putting together and issuing :
 - the EURODEFENSE directory, after annual updating.(each association being responsible for the content pertaining to itself),
 - documents produced by the various national associations,

4.4. Honorary members :

Following a proposal from a national association President, the EURODEFENSE Council may decide to appoint a personality as Honorary President, Honorary Secrétaire General or Honorary Member of EURODEFENSE.

5 – RESOURCES

If specific resources would be granted to EURODEFENSE, they would be to be managed by the Association in charge of the Secretariat General. This association would draw the budget and would provide for its execution in accordance with the Council decisions. The budget of the previous year and the estimated budget for the next year would be submitted to the Council.

The specific resources of EURODEFENSE would consist of :

- allocated grants,
- possible contributions from the national associations EuroDéfense,
- sums possibly got in return for the services produced by EURODEFENSE.

6 – MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the EURODEFENSE network is acknowledged to the Associations which commit themselves to comply with all the rules by ratifying the present Charter.

The terms of admission to the membership of EURODEFENSE, or of withdrawal, are fixed in annex 1.

7 – AMENDMENT TO THE CHARTER

This charter may be amended by the Council by consensus.

P.J. : Ce document comporte deux annexes.

Done in Athens, 4th November 2006

Président EuroDéfense-Austria
 Arch. DR. ERICH HOCHWETTER
 Président EuroDéfense-Belgique

[Signature]
 DR.L

Président EuroDéfense-Deutschland

Roman Holmich *DR. JOSEF RECHNER*

Président EuroDéfense-España

J. Sifuentes Artae

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Président EuroDéfense-Grèce

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Président EuroDéfense-Luxembourg

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Président EuroDéfense-Magyarország

Président EuroDéfense-Nederland

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[Signature]
 As Douglas - Bate

Annex 1

Membership of the EURODEFENSE network

1. – Commitment of the EURODEFENSE members

The objectives of EURODEFENSE, as set out in the Charter, are agreed upon by all the associations EuroDéfense, which commit themselves :

- 1.1.-** to stir up and develop their association within their own country ;
- 1.2.-** to participate in the Council meetings, the International Meetings EURODEFENSE (IME) and the Young Europeans EURODEFENSE Meeting ;
- 1.3.-** to arrange, according to an agreed planning :
 - the Council meetings,
 - the “International Meetings EURODEFENSE” gathering every year the members of the EuroDéfense associations, and the Council meeting(s) held after, or before, these “International Meetings EURODEFENSE”,
 - the “Young Europeans EURODEFENSE Meeting” gathering the young members (up to one week)
- 1.4.-** to manage and to stir up, according to an agreed plan, an “European Working Group (EWG)” (cf. annex 2).

For the various meetings, the two official languages of the network (French and English) are used (Council Decision 1997), thus implying the assistance of conference interpreters.

2. -Procédure d’admission d’une nouvelle Association EuroDéfense

Any request for membership of EURODEFENSE is submitted to the Council during its first meeting of the civil year. There are two distinct cases:

- either, an existing Association in a EU Country where there is not yet an EuroDéfense Association requests membership on its own initiative,
 - or, the creation of an Association is considered in a country, due to personal contacts made by members of the network,
- 2.1.-** In the two cases, the Council is seized on the request and, after discussion, decides to agree or to differ the admission to EURODEFENSE.
 - 2.2.-** Following the Council meeting, the acting President of EURODEFENSE sends a letter to the applying association to make known the Council decision. In this letter, which a copy of the Charter is attached to, the objectives and obligations of any Association EuroDéfense are recalled.
 - 2.3.-** If the applying association reply is positive, it is invited to the next International Meeting EURODEFENSE. Then, at the end of this meeting, if the request for membership is maintained, the Council officially decides the admission during its closing meeting.

3. -Withdrawal procedure for an Association leaving the EURODEFENSE network.

There are two distinct cases:

- either, an association does not fulfil its obligations. In that case, after consideration by the Council, the acting President of EURODEFENSE requests the Association to respect its duties or, if it is not in a position to do so, to leave the network,
- or, an association decides to leave EURODEFENSE. In that case, the President of the said association sends a letter to the acting President of EURODEFENSE to inform him of his decision. The Council is informed.

The withdrawal from the network results, for the leaving Association, in the loss of the EURODEFENSE label.

Annex 2

The EURODEFENSE Working Groups (EWGs)

The EURODEFENSE Working Groups (EWGs) constitute the working framework for the national associations. Its purpose is to provide members with the possibility to exchange views on the topics associated with the objectives of EURODEFENSE. It aims at :

- facilitating the development of a common and global vision on the essential and emerging themes,
- strengthening the links between EuroDéfense associations and taking advantage of this common understanding as an influential group, either at European or national level.

1. – General organisation.

1.1.- Every year, the Council defines the priority themes, with a maximum of 3 per year. Each theme is assigned to a EWG. The themes must be workable within a limited period of time (typically one year). If not, the Council may decide to carry on this theme. In that event, the topic may no longer be a priority item.

1.2.-Each GTE is managed by an association that, on a voluntary basis, assumes the responsibility for leading the work. The associations must endeavour to actively participate in at least one EWG.

1.3.-The report of each EWG is presented at the International Meeting EURODEFENSE.

1.4.-The Council of Presidents decides on follow-on actions for proposals and final results. Following the Council decision, the conclusions are:

- either recorded, if the Council has not got any consensus ; then the works may be carried on for one more year.
- or sent by the acting President of EURODEFENSE to the European Authorities, with mention of the possible reserves made by one or several Associations.

At the same time, the Presidents of the Associations may send these reports to their own national Authorities.

An association which has not provided an EWG with a representative cannot oppose the circulation of the report of this EWG in the name of EURODEFENSE.

2. - Organisation of work

- 2.1.**-Each EWG is identified by a number and a title referring to the theme (ex: EWG 1 - Concept).
- 2.2.**-The association in charge of the EWG designates a group leader ; this latter sets out the EWG program (objectives, schedule, specific methodology) and the way of work fitted to facilitate the cooperation and to get a consensus ; he leads the discussions and drafts the final report.
- 2.3.**-Each association participating in a EWG appoints its representative to the EWG leader.
- 2.4.**-The work is discharged mainly through electronic communication. However, the group leader may propose to meet ; in that case, the cost of the moves is to be supported by each association.
- 2.5.**-The final report is submitted to all EWG members for approval before being issued at the International Meeting EURODEFENSE.