

Proposed Mandate for a EuroDefense Working Group on Unconventional Warfare

At the London EuroDefense President's Council on 13th November 2023 it was agreed that EuroDefense UK would submit a mandate for the establishment of an EWG on unconventional warfare. Interested members of EuroDefense are invited to participate.

Mandate

- To examine current thinking to establish a useful working definition of 'unconventional warfare' and its application in the defence and national security policy realms.
- To explore how 'unconventional warfare' is being understood and how doctrines and policies are being applied by the EU, NATO and allied countries.
- To consider the risk posed by 'unconventional warfare' by state and non-state actors intent on undermining the Article 5 guarantee embodied in the Washington Treaty, particularly as regards the Baltic region.
- To consider the risk posed by 'unconventional warfare' to states that are currently candidate members of the EU.
- To engage with stakeholders at the European level, to further discussion on 'unconventional warfare' and to remain abreast of evolving developments.

Working method

- Promulgation by the EWG of discussion papers which will form the basis for seminars (either on line, hybrid or In Real Life).
- Invitations to interested parties and stakeholders – to participate in the activities of the EWG.
- Publication of articles and op-eds in journals, to maintain awareness of the risks to democracies posed by state and non-state actors (proxies)

Timetable

- Once a mandate is agreed, an initial scoping paper will be drafted which will inform an initial on line seminar to gather opinions.
- A draft document will be prepared for consideration at the May President's conference.

Proposal

- That an EWG be established to examine how best Europe can respond to the advent of 'unconventional warfare'
- That the EWG on 'unconventional warfare' produces an initial scoping document, and subsequently engages with stakeholders to explore best practice,
- To raise awareness of the risks to national security and civic society posed by 'unconventional warfare' as practised by state and non-state actors.

London 14 01 24