



## Long-term EU budget 2021-27 (MFF)

## **Defence**



"Germany is working with the High Representative to further develop the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) and to bolster its overall resilience and capability to act in civilian and military domains."

Programme for Germany's Presidency of the Council of the EU (p. 23)



## ✓ DBwVs's comment

"Certainly, there has been some amount of friction and nothing to give away in the EU budget. However, a quick look at the figures makes clear that security and defence are no priorities.

For instance, the large-scale military exercise "Defender Europe", which started in spring 2020, revealed blatant problems with the "relocation" of large military equipment within Europe. In order to improve military mobility, 6.5 billion euros had been proposed initially, but currently only 1.5 billion euros are left on the negotiation table.

Moreover, this amount is generally used for transport infrastructure under the "Connecting Europe" facility. It is therefore more than questionable whether these funds will actually be used to adapt infrastructure to military mobility in the end.

The expectations are clear: what is needed is an honest examination of the gap between Europe's security policy aspirations and its fiscal reality. Security in the EU and common defence for Europe does not come for free."



