



TOWARDS A STRATEGIC COMPASS

The EU is facing new and increasing threats and challenges. To counter them, protect its citizens, and enhance its strategic autonomy to become a stronger global partner, the EU needs to define what kind of security and defence actor it wants to be.

ADDRESSING THREATS TO THE EU'S SECURITY

As a first step to determine the direction of travel, the EU has conducted for the first time a comprehensive analysis on key threats and challenges to Europe, including:



Global and regional threats



Conflicts in our neighbourhood



Challenges by state actors



Threats by non-state actors

The Threat Analysis is a classified intelligence report identifying key trends:



Global level: slowdown of globalisation, growing economic rivalry between global powers, climate change and competition for resources, migratory pressures, and threats to the multilateral system.



Regional level: regional instability, conflict, state fragility, inter-state tensions, external influences, destabilising impact of non-state actors.



Threats against the EU: state and non-state actors targeting the EU with hybrid tools, including disruptive technologies, disinformation, and other non-military sources of influence; terrorist threat.

DEVELOPING A STRATEGIC COMPASS TO GUIDE OUR ACTIONS

The Strategic Compass will help strengthen a common European security and defence culture and help define the right objectives and concrete goals for our policies.

The Strategic Compass will address four different, inter-linked areas:



Crisis management missions



Resilience



Capabilities and Instruments



Working with partners

JUNE 2020

Tasking by Council

1ST HALF OF 2021

Strategic dialogue with Member States

MARCH 2022

Adoption of Strategic Compass

NOVEMBER 2020

Threat analysis

2ND HALF OF 2021

Development of Strategic Compass