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To: EDA pMS NATIONAL DEFENCE INDUSTRY ASSOCIATIONS (NDIAs), AEROSPACE AND DEFENCE INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION OF EUROPE (ASD), EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY ORGANISATIONS (EARTO), EUROPEAN DEFENCE RESEARCH AND INNOVATION NETWORK (EDRIN)

Copy: Central PoCs, Brussels PoCs, R&T PoCs, CAP PoCs and NAD PoCs

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE FOR DEFENCE - EU WIDE DEFENCE DATA POOL, WORKSHOP WITH INDUSTRY

Annex: Call for Proposals

To pursue a more structured and focused dialogue with industry and to facilitate industry engagement in EDA activities as supported by the EDA Steering Board, EDA will organise a series of workshops with industry on a number of capability development and R&T areas in support of the OSRA, CDP/SCC and KSA activities.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has become a hot topic as many countries and entities are investing on it and it is in the top priorities for research and development of future systems and concepts. EDA has unfolded a number of activities on the subject, including papers and presentations to the EDA Steering Board, the development of a taxonomy, an AI action plan and a Strategic Research Agenda on AI for Defence.

Following the AI action plan and guided by the Strategic Research Agenda on AI for Defence, EDA is exploring the implementation of an EU wide defence data pool. Interaction with industry and academia is particularly important for identifying amongst others their view/ technical requirements/ best practices on the implementation of an EU defence data pool and to identify potential application scenarios.

In this perspective, **EDA is organising a workshop on 3 February 2022 to explore views on the implementation of an EU defence data pool** and invites EDA pMS NDIAs, ASD, EARTO and the EDRIN to reach out to their members and encourage them to respond to the associated questionnaire at Annex and send their proposals for the implementation options. Please note that an official invite and further details on the format and final agenda of the workshop will follow in due time.

Questionnaire responses and implementation proposals are to be submitted to the EDA at RTI@eda.europa.eu with a copy to Isidoros.MONOGIOUDIS@eda.europa.eu by **14 January 2022**.

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- Call for Proposals -

EU Defence Data Pool: Industry and Academia R&T&I focus

OBJECTIVE OF THE WORKSHOP

The workshop will kick-off with an introduction by EDA and a discussion of the answers received to the questions below. Industry representatives will be asked to present their view on the implementation of an EU defence data pool and discuss identified key aspects with the audience. Industry's inputs will benefit EDA in the first steps towards launching a pilot EU defence data pool project.

QUESTIONS

- What approach should be used for the data governance and management of an EU defence data pool, including but not limited to access, transfer, lifecycle, process and backup of data?
- How should data be classified in order to be shared properly to all participating member states?
- What hardware and software components (system architecture) should be used for an efficient data pool? Provide different architecture views.
- What kind of datasets should be used in an EU defence data pool? What should be the data's origin (real, simulated, other)?
- What verification and validation model should be used for the datasets input?
- What are the expected security requirements for the data pool infrastructure?
- What protocols or standards should be used for the datasets in order to provide proper interoperability and integration with the EU and national systems?
- What should be the functional and non-functional requirements for the data pool management platform?
- Can you provide state of the art solutions/examples from the civil/private sector that can be used as reference to the shared data pool concept?
- What use cases should be used and prioritized to test the recommended solution/infrastructure?

INSTRUCTIONS

Answers should not contain any commercially sensitive information. Answers may be made available as supporting material for the workshop.

Please send your response, linking answers to questions, to the EDA by e-mail to rti@eda.europa.eu with a copy to Isidoros.MONOGILOUDIS@eda.europa.eu by **14 January 2022**. Please clearly indicate a point of contact to coordinate possible participation in the workshop. Please note that an official invite

for the workshop with further details on the agenda and format will follow in due time. **Any questions may be addressed to Isidoros MONOGILOUDIS by e-mail.**

The EDA will collect all the responses and proposals according to relevance to the subject and the provided questions in order to use them as a reference for the workshop discussions and potential action items for future AI activities.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

European¹ – Submitters must represent European defence industry of European defence industrial interests (in the case of research institutes) and to be active in the area of AI.

Credibility – Lack of defence expertise will not be a criterion for exclusion but interested commercial actors must have a demonstrated track record of output and an effective market presence of AI in civil area.

Versatility – Submitters should be well versed in AI technology however participation is not limited to systems integrators and submissions from SMEs are encouraged.

¹ Based on the EDA Industry engagement policy, when engaging industries on matters related to EDA prioritisation tools, participation in this call for papers will be open only to industries, academia, research institutes and associations or groupings of industrial suppliers that are established in the EDA participating Member States (pMS) and that do not have limitations in terms of intellectual property rights, security of supply, security of information or export controls, stemming from mother companies or entities outside the EDS pMS.