EADUS
European Association
for Defence Unmanned Systems

PRESS RELEASE

EADUS launches to bring Combat-proven Unmanned Defence expertise into Europe's robotic warfare future

New pan-European platform connects frontline battlefield experience with European defence innovation to accelerate the development and deployment of autonomous and robotic capabilities.

London / Prague, 14 May 2026 — The European Association for Defence Unmanned Systems (EADUS) has officially launched as a new pan-European platform dedicated to advancing autonomous and robotic defence capabilities across Europe.

Built around direct battlefield experience from modern high-intensity conflict, EADUS aims to connect those who have operated and adapted unmanned systems in real war with the European companies, institutions and decision-makers shaping the future of defence technology.

The launch comes at a time when unmanned systems, battlefield autonomy and rapid technological adaptation have become defining factors in modern warfare. From air and land to maritime, underwater and space domains, defence capability is increasingly determined not by isolated platforms, but by interoperable systems, speed of decision-making and trusted human-in-the-loop autonomy.

EADUS was created to ensure that Europe's robotic defence future is informed by combat-proven reality — not theory.

"*Europe cannot afford to build the future of robotic defence in isolation from those who are already fighting the war of today*," said **Alex Fesyk, Director of EADUS**. "*EADUS exists to bring frontline experience directly into European defence innovation, procurement thinking and operational readiness. In real war, what works is not a matter of theory. It is a matter of survival.*"

From battlefield experience to European capability

EADUS will serve as a bridge between elite combat expertise and European defence innovation. Its mission is to help accelerate the identification, integration and scaling of autonomous and robotic systems that have proven their relevance in operational conditions.

The platform will focus on:

- connecting frontline unmanned systems expertise with European defence industry;
- supporting the integration of combat-tested technologies into interoperable operational ecosystems;

- strengthening the role of experienced human-in-the-loop autonomy;
- promoting European technological sovereignty and reduced dependence on non-European components;
- helping ensure that future defence capability reflects real operational requirements.

Rather than adding another layer of bureaucracy, EADUS is designed as a practical platform grounded in the realities of modern conflict - where technology, tactics and operational experience evolve at speed.

A new defence paradigm for Europe

Modern defence is no longer defined by individual systems alone. It is defined by how quickly capabilities can be adapted, connected and deployed across domains.

EADUS will work across air, land, maritime, underwater and space domains, supporting the development of scalable and interoperable defence ecosystems that transform individual technologies into operational power.

Its founding principle is clear: combat-proven experience must become a central part of how Europe designs, evaluates and deploys future defence technologies.

“Ukraine has shown that unmanned systems are not a future concept. They are already reshaping the battlefield,” added Fesyk. “Europe now has a responsibility to learn fast, act fast and build capabilities that can survive contact with reality.”

Prepared for what comes next

EADUS launches with a clear focus on strengthening Europe’s ability to respond to the changing character of warfare. By bringing together those who fight, those who build and those who shape defence priorities, the platform aims to help ensure that innovation is not detached from operational reality.

Further announcements will follow at Eurosatory Paris 2026.

About EADUS

The European Association for Defence Unmanned Systems (EADUS) is a pan-European platform advancing autonomous and robotic defence capabilities through the integration of combat-proven expertise and next-generation technology. Operating across air, land, maritime, underwater and space domains, EADUS connects battlefield experience with industrial innovation to support scalable, interoperable defence solutions for modern warfare.

Built in Europe. Proven in combat. Ready for what comes next.

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