

EUROPEAN EXTERNAL ACTION SERVICE



PERMANENT STRUCTURED COOPERATION (PESCO)

*These slides accompany the explanation of the acquis to Albania and North Macedonia and can only be used for that purpose.
Their content is subject to further development of the acquis and interpretation by the Court of Justice of the European Union.*

Brussels, 26 September 2019

Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO)

Where does PESCO come from?

- **Article 42(6) of the Lisbon Treaty on European Union (TEU)**

“Those Member States whose military capabilities fulfil higher criteria, and which have made more binding commitments to one another in this area, shall establish a permanent structured cooperation within the EU framework (...).”

- **Article 46 (3) of the Lisbon Treaty on European Union (TEU)**

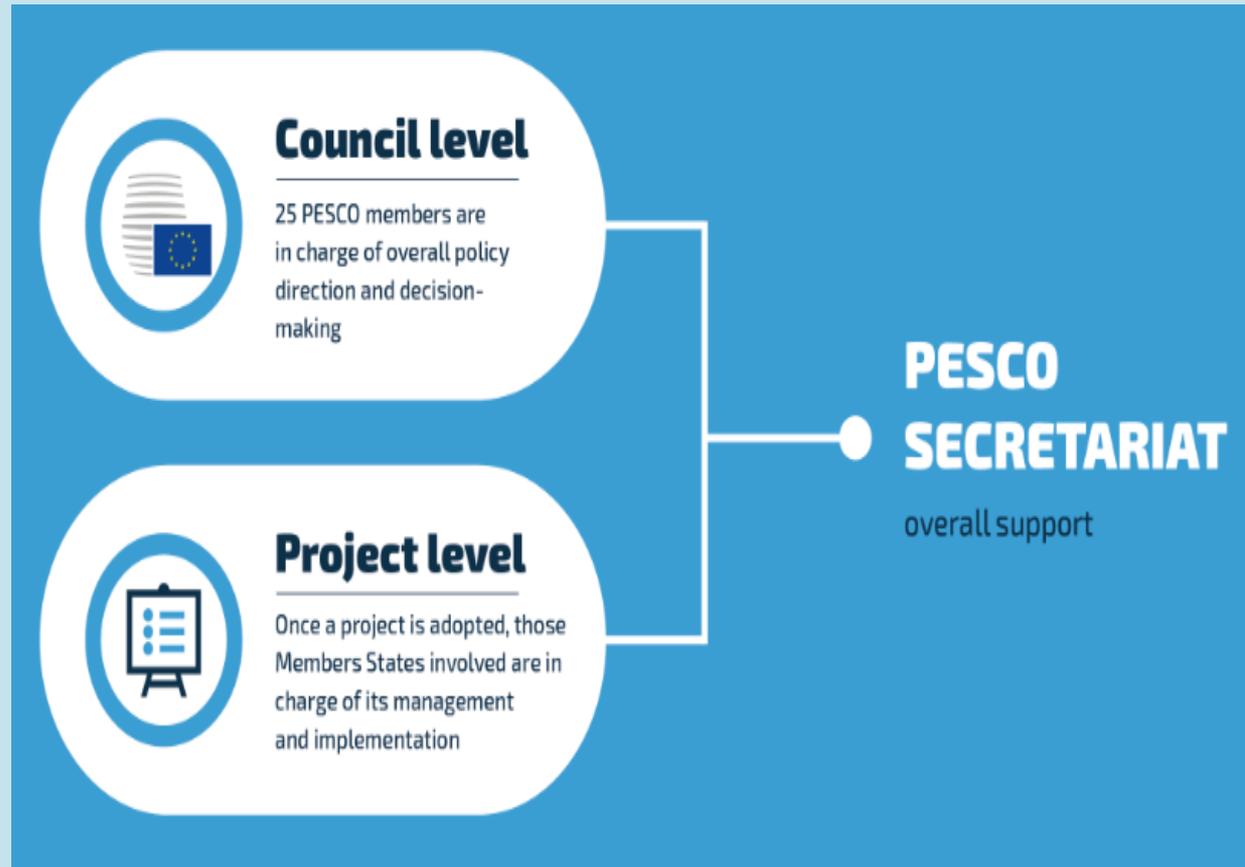
“Any Member State which, at a later stage, wishes to participate in the permanent structured cooperation shall notify its intention to the Council and to the High Representative.

The Council shall adopt a decision confirming the participation of the Member State concerned which fulfils the criteria and makes the commitments referred to in Articles 1 and 2 of the Protocol on permanent structured cooperation. The Council shall act by a qualified majority after consulting the High Representative. Only members of the Council representing the participating Member States shall take part in the vote”.



Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO)

- PESCO is a **Treaty-based framework** for enhanced defence cooperation in the EU framework
- 25 MS decided to **participate** in PESCO
- It has a **two-level governance structure**.



Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO)

PROTOCOL N°10 ON PESCO – AREA OF COMMITMENTS

- **Investment in defence**

*"(a) cooperate, as from the entry into force of the Treaty of Lisbon, with a view to achieving approved objectives concerning the **level of investment expenditure on defence equipment**, and regularly review these objectives, in the light of the security environment and of the Union's international"*

- **The capability view**

*"(b) bring their **defence apparatus into line** with each other as far as possible, particularly by **harmonising the identification of their military needs**, by **pooling** and, where appropriate, **specialising their defence means and capabilities**, and by encouraging cooperation in the fields of training and logistics."*

*"(d) **work together** to ensure that they take the necessary measures to make good, including through **multinational approaches**, and **without prejudice** to undertakings in this regard within the **North Atlantic Treaty Organisation**, the shortfalls perceived in the framework of the '**Capability Development Mechanism**."*

*"(e) take part, where appropriate, in the development of major joint or European equipment programmes in the **framework of the European Defence Agency**."*

- **The operational view**

*"(c) take concrete measures to **enhance availability, interoperability, flexibility and deployability of their forces**, in particular by identifying common objectives regarding the commitment of forces, including possibly reviewing **their national decision-making processes**"*

Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO)

Council Level:

- The participating MS entered into **20 'more binding commitments'** between one another to step up joint investment, development and operational use of capabilities.
- pMS **report annually** on how they are each contributing to the fulfilment of these commitments through **National Implementation Plans**.
- The NIPs are subject to an **assessment** by the PESCO Secretariat (EEAS including EUMS and EDA) that is transmitted by the HR in an **Annual PESCO report** to the Council.



Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO)

Project Level:

- PESCO project proposals (once per year) are screened by the **PESCO secretariat** (EDA, EEAS, including the EUMS) based on a set of criteria (Capability Development Plan, level of maturity, coherence with NATO, operational perspective...).
- There are currently **34 PESCO** projects put forward by MS, 25 of which also address NATO priorities.
- These include projects in the areas of **capability development** and in the **operational dimension**. Projects include for instance the development of an **EU drone**, an **Armoured Infantry Fighting Vehicle**, the establishment of a **European medical command** as well as the development of capabilities in the area of **cyber** (e.g. Cyber Rapid Response Teams) and **maritime security**
- Military capacities developed within PESCO remain in the hands of MS that can also make them available in other contexts such as NATO or the UN.



Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO)

Institutional development



- ✓ **Launch** → Council Decision, 11 Dec 2017
- ✓ **Projects 1st set** → Council Decision, 6 March 2018
- ✓ **Roadmap on implementation** → Council Recommendation, 6 March 2018
- ✓ **Governance rules/ PESCO projects** → Council Decision, 25 June 2018
- ✓ **Roadmap on sequencing the commitments** → Council Recommendation, 15 Oct 2018
- ✓ **Projects 2nd Set** → Council Decision, 19 Nov 2018
- ✓ **Assessing progress made to fulfil commitments** → Council Recommendation, 14 May 2019

Open issues (to be decided): *Third State participation*

Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO)



Decision on the new list of projects to be taken by the Council on November each year.

Thank you for your attention.

