



# Public input – secret output: challenges of managing research of sensitive nature

**Getter Oper**

Deputy Head of Innovation Department

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# Principles of defence R&D

## **New R&D&I policy (2022):**

- Clearer impact of R&D for policy and decision-making
- Stronger focus on technological and applied research
- Experimentation and testing of new technologies
- Supports national capability development

## **Main elements:**

- Strengthens links with industry and academia (triple-helix)
- Raises the impact of military sciences and PhD studies in defence forces
- Fosters cooperation with allies in NATO and EU



# Main actors and roles

- **MoD:** R&D policy, Industry policy, Science for policy, International R&D, R&D with other ministries.
- **Defence Forces:** Military capabilities related R&D, Testing, End-users
- **Military Academy (+Applied Research Center):** Military education and R&D (
- **CR14:** Cyber security and cyber technologies
- **War Museum:** Military history
- **Defence League:** Testing, End-user
- **Centre for Defence Investments:** Procurement related R&D

In addition, central Coordinator in MOD is Scientific Advisor,  
R&D Committee has a steering and advisory role



# R&D activities in MOD



Support for international R&D cooperation and capacity building:

- Digital twin, NATO STO, EDF/EDA, research infrastructure (cyber, EW, war medicine)
- R&D Project competition- coordinated by Scientific Adviser

R&D support for policy making:

- Legal (resilience to hybrid conflicts, voluntary self-defence concept, legal and ethical aspects of new technologies)
- Strategies (military AI, new technologies)

R&D support for decision making:

- Human resources (public opinion and defence readiness, conscripts and reservists studies)
- Infrastructure protection



# Examples of cooperation with Academia

- R&D projects for capabilities and international cooperation
- European Defence Fund
- NATO STO and NATO DIANA

## R&D for policy making:

- Environmental and Climate Policy: e.g. CO2 reduction, resource efficiency, biodiversity and land use, water and soil waste and circular economy, chemicals and hazardous substances;
- Military practicing areas planning and developing: e.g. Environmental impact assessment
- Sustainment of operational capabilities: Wind farms disruption (the operation of air and sea surveillance radars and other military systems) mitigations; solar parks





# Challenges and lessons learnt

- Priorities based on capability development gaps (real military needs) vs academic priorities/ areas?
- Level of cooperation and understanding military-public sector-academic world?
- Short time frame
- Budgetary-issues
- How to be a smart customer?
- Basic research vs applied research
- Sensitivities (non-EU staff, secured environment, security screening)