

# Defence Forces Review 2026 Call for Papers

## Securing Europe Together: Defence Cooperation and Ireland's Contribution to European Security and Resilience

How can Europe enhance its collective security through cooperation, capability development, and operational effectiveness—and how can Ireland contribute to these shared goals in order to enhance our national resilience?

In association with Maynooth University.



**Ollscoil  
Mhá Nuad**  
Ollscoil na hÉireann  
Má Nuad



**Óglaigh  
na hÉireann**  
IRISH DEFENCE FORCES

This year's edition of the Defence Forces Review examines the theme of Securing Europe Together: Defence Cooperation and Ireland's Contribution to European Security and Resilience. This theme addresses a critical and timely issue for Europe and for Ireland, particularly in the context of Ireland's forthcoming EU Presidency. Ireland's security environment is embodied by increased contestation and volatility. The return of war to Europe, in addition to broader global and geopolitical shifts are challenging the Rules Based International Order. Malign actors will continue to threaten our way of life using a variety of sophisticated means employed below the threshold of armed conflict.

Europe's security environment continues to evolve in response to geopolitical instability, renewed great-power competition, hybrid threats, and pressures across the maritime, air, land, cyber, and information domains. Enhancing collective security increasingly depends on effective cooperation, sustained capability development, and shared resilience across the European Union and its partners. While larger states play a significant role, the meaningful participation of smaller and militarily neutral states is essential to a credible and inclusive European security architecture.

This edition of the Defence Forces Review seeks to explore how Europe can strengthen its collective security through cooperation, capability development, and operational effectiveness, and how Ireland—through its Defence Forces, Defence policy frameworks, and operational experience can contribute constructively to these shared objectives while enhancing national resilience.

Submissions are invited on topics that address the central theme, including but not limited to:

- Europe's evolving defence and security architecture
- Ireland's Defence Forces and European defence cooperation
- Maritime, land, air, space, and cyber security in a shared European operating environment
- Capability development, interoperability, and resource sharing
- Peace support operations, crisis management, and civil–military cooperation
- Economic benefits and opportunities associated with enhanced defence and security cooperation
- Strategic foresight and security policy for a militarily neutral states
- National and European Resilience

Submissions should address these or related issues through a strategic, operational or tactical lens. They may take as their focus any one, or a combination of the issues and themes. However, in all cases topics should be relevant to our central theme and must be of interest to the audience for the Defence Forces Review.

The 2026 Defence Forces Review will be published in collaboration with Maynooth University and we are delighted to have as part of the joint editorial team: Dr Laura Brown and Dr Jeremy Maxwell, Lt Col Barry Hannon and Comdt Kenneth O'Rourke. The Defence Forces Review will be launched in November/December 2026.

Based on the above, the editorial team are inviting contributions to the Defence Forces Review 2026. In the first instance, 300-word abstracts and a brief biographical note (no more than 200 words), should be submitted no later than **15 May 2026**. Based on the review of abstracts, the editorial team will invite final contributions. Final submissions should not exceed 3,000 words, should be referenced in accordance with the Chicago Referencing Style (using foot notes in notes style, not bibliography), be in Word (.docx) or equivalent format, and are due no later than **03 August 2026**. Final contributions will be subject to a full peer review process and the editorial team will make all final editorial decisions. All abstracts and subsequent final submissions should be directed to [dfreview@military.ie](mailto:dfreview@military.ie) and by the deadlines stated above.