

AIRBUS

To be answered.

AS

Guillaume Faury
Chief Executive Officer

Mr. Jiří Šedivý
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Dear Mr Šedivý,

On behalf of Airbus I would like to express my warmest congratulations on your recent nomination as Chief Executive of the European Defence Agency.

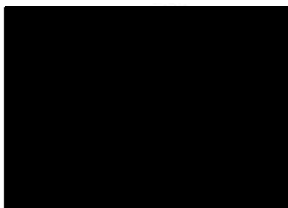
As you know, my company has been a staunch supporter of the Agency from the very outset and especially of its primary objective to better coordinate Member State defence procurement policies, strengthen the European Defence Industrial and Technological Base and boost European defence capabilities. I am aware of the resistance that often comes into play in this regard but remain optimistic that further progress can be achieved.

We, as Airbus, remain fully committed to enhance Europe's strategic autonomy further, and call on all Member States for a renewed effort in the acquisition or in the joint development of crucial capabilities that the Agency has identified as priority, such as Air-to-air Refuelling; Eurodrone; GovSatCom; and Cyber Defence but also on strategic airlift (A400M), space assets and on our next generation air combat system (FCAS).

Your appointment comes at a time when Europe is facing an unprecedented crisis while security challenges both internally and beyond its borders remain acute and are likely to inflate as our security environment further deteriorates.

You are best placed to know that our security and strategic autonomy require both investment and firm commitment, and I trust that peer pressure – under your guidance – will contribute to position Europe's level of ambition at the highest level.

Meanwhile, let me assure you that Airbus will continue to do its utmost to develop the key defence capabilities that the EU needs and will remain a solid and reliable industrial partner that EDA can count on.



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