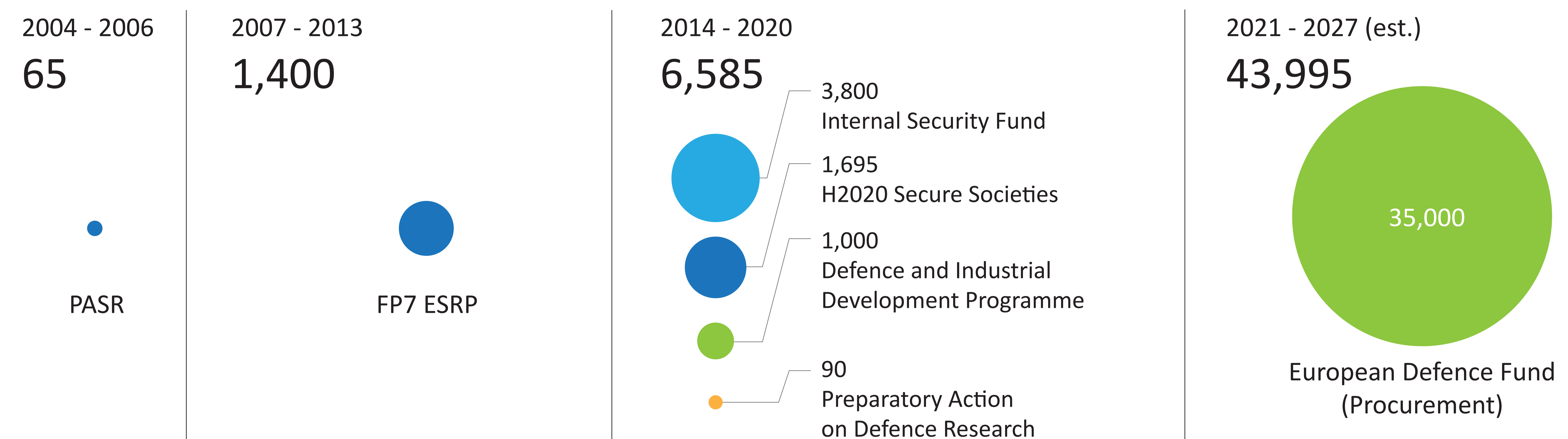


In 2020 the Irish Defence budget will exceed €1,000,000,000 (€1 billion). There are 8,750 personnel in the Irish Defence Forces. That works out as €114,285 per member of the IDF, which means we spend more money per member than any other country in Europe. It's not the personnel who are receiving it. The annual basic pay for a recruit is €15,446 which increases annually. However even allowing for overtime etc, members of the Defence Forces will never get anywhere near €114,285 each. The money is being spent on military equipment compatible with NATO and the emerging EU Army via PESCO. The figures below show a massive annual increase in military expenditure planned for 2021-2027 by the EU. This will result in a massive increase in Irish military expenditure and balancing cuts in health, housing, and pensions and other social expenditure to pay for it. Ireland can end its role in PESCO and emerging EU Army by a decision of Dáil Éireann.

Funding to EU security/defence (all figures in million euros)



Average p/a funding to security/defence (all figures in million euros)

