

FACTSHEET

The Road to the EU Army

“We need a true European Army to protect the continent-with respect to China, Russia and even the United States of America.”

*President Emmanuel Macron, Agence France-Presse
7/11/2018*

“There should be a true, real European Army” and “Called for qualified majority voting to replace unanimity on defence initiatives.”

Chancellor Angela Merkel, Politico 14/11/18

“The CIA provided 53% of the finance for the European Movements in 1958.”

The Daily Telegraph, 27/4/2017

The road to the creation of a European Union with its own Army has its roots in the Cold War and has long been supported by the US and its NATO allies. This Factsheet outlines the major steps towards its formation and its links with NATO.

May 1945

The unconditional surrender of the German Nazi European Empire to the Allies, (the USA, USSR & the British Empire) and the start of the Cold War.

September 1948

Establishment of the Western Union, which includes a common defence clause by Belgium, France, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, and the UK, later the Western European Union in 1954.

April 1949

Foundation of NATO by the US and 11 European States with its common defence clause Article 5 and its commitment to first use of nuclear weapons. Greece & Turkey joined in 1952, West Germany in 1955, (leading to the formation of the USSR-dominated Warsaw Pact), Spain 1982.

The purported reasons for NATO's formation was to deter an invasion by the USSR; prevent the rise of nationalist militarism; and encourage European political integration (NATO website).

May 1950

France proposed to pool French and West German coal and steel resources. May 9 now marks 'Europe Day'.

June 1952

Belgium, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Luxembourg & the Netherlands establish the European Coal & Steel Community.

January 1958

The six countries establish the EEC with the clause 'Ever Closer Union'.

January 1963

France vetoes UK membership of the EEC. The US had objected to Ireland's membership because it was not in NATO when it was also considering joining the EEC.

January 1966

EEC agrees unanimity rule where vital national interests are at stake.

June 1966

France leaves the military structures of NATO because of the concerns over US domination and all foreign troops leave France.

January 1973

Denmark, Ireland and the UK formally join the EEC. The Norwegian people had, via a referendum, rejected a proposal to join.

In the referendum on EEC membership held in 1972 the result was: Yes - 83%, No 17%. The Irish Government White Paper had said Irish Neutrality had not been affected.

July 1987

Single European Act comes into force mentioning a joint European Foreign Policy. In Ireland the Irish Supreme Court, in the Crotty Judgement, ruled that as power over Irish Foreign Policy was being transferred away from the Irish people, from whom all power derives (Article 6 of the Irish Constitution) there had to be a referendum.

Ireland becomes unique in the EU, in that every time power is transferred from the Irish people to the EU there is a legal obligation to hold a referendum. Result of the referendum on ratification of the Single European Act was 70% yes, 30% no.

1988-1991 -

Collapse of the USSR

The disintegration of the USSR and the Warsaw Pact (March 1991) included promises to Russia by the USA that NATO (apart from East Germany which merged with West Germany) would not expand eastward.

1999-2017

Poland, Hungary, Czech Republic, Estonia, Lithuania, Bulgaria, Romania, Montenegro join NATO.

1999-2017

Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Estonia, Lithuania, Czech Republic Slovenia, North Macedonia, Cyprus and Malta join the EU.

November 1993

Denmark, by referendum, rejects the Maastricht Treaty and gains a number of legally binding Protocols. One significant protocol was that Denmark was excluded from joining the militarization of the EU before signing it.

December 1996

PANA is founded following a meeting in the Royal Marine Hotel, Dun Laoghaire. In every subsequent Treaty debate PANA has campaigned for a similar Protocol to be applied to Ireland.

April 1997

Irish troops deployed on NATO-led missions in Europe.

March-June 1999

NATO war on Yugoslavia. Kosovo becomes separate state. Major US/NATO base (Bondsteel) built in Kosovo.

1999

NATO's Partnership for Peace founded. Ireland joins NATO's PfP without a promised referendum.

May 1999 **Amsterdam Treaty**

PANA campaigned against the Amsterdam Treaty seeking to ensure a Protocol similar to that achieved by the Danes, to exclude Ireland from the militarization of the EU. Result 62% yes 38% no. PANA and affiliated groups dominated the No campaign.

2001/2 Nice Treaty I **and Nice Treaty II**

PANA again campaigns for a No vote on the same basis as Amsterdam and, in the first referendum, won with a 54% versus 46% result.

In the second referendum the Nice Treaty was passed 63% to 37%.

February 2003

Bill to enshrine Neutrality into the Constitution defeated in the Dáil by Fianna Fáil / Fine Gael alliance, despite the fact that over 150,000 marched against the Iraq war in Dublin and Belfast.

2001-2019 **Shannon Airport**

The Irish Government destroys the policy of neutrality (as set down in International Law through the 1907 Hague Convention) by allowing over three million US troops land in Ireland to take part in perpetual wars of the US.

July 2004

Ireland joins the newly established European Defense Agency.

2007-2019 **EU Battle Groups**

Ireland participates in the EU Battle Groups which are heavily armed military formations of 1,500-3,000 troops, operational for six months. Two Battle Groups can operate at any one time and are able to go to war anywhere in the world with a mere 5-15 days' notice. Each Battle Group needs nine back-up troops for every one soldier at war which aggregates out to a 50,000 strong EU army.

2001 – 2005 **Draft European** **Constitution**

The Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe was signed in Rome on October 29 2004, following planning which had gone on since December 2001.

However, in May 2005 the French people rejected the treaty by 55% to 45% on a referendum turnout of 69% and, in June, the Dutch people rejected the treaty by 61% to 39% on a turnout of 62%.

2007 **Lisbon Treaty**

After these referendum defeats the draft EU constitution was withdrawn and repackaged as the Lisbon Treaty. The Lisbon Treaty was adopted by EU heads of state in December 2007, but now, only in Ireland will the people decide the issue by referendum.

🕒 2008 - 2009

Lisbon Treaty Referendum I & II

In June 2008 the Lisbon Treaty is defeated in the first referendum, 53.4% to 46.6%.

In October 2009 the Lisbon Treaty is accepted, 67% to 33%, in a second referendum.

In December 2009 the Lisbon Treaty enters force.

The Lisbon Treaty: allows groups of EU states to establish Permanent Military Formations via PESCO; agrees Common Defence (war) provisions; creates an EU Foreign/Defence Minister with Foreign/Defence Department. This treaty provides the legal foundations of an EU Army for an EU Empire.

🕒 2011

War on Libya

NATO, led by the US/UK/France and with the involvement of fourteen other EU/NATO states plus Sweden, deliberately destroys Libya creating a massive refugee crisis in Europe and elsewhere.

🗓️ 2011-2019

War on Syria

The allies and US go to war with Syria, provide military equipment to terrorists, and the EU imposes an economic boycott, leading to another massive wave of refugees.

🗓️ 2013-2020

In 2013 Ireland joins the European Union Training Mission (EUTM) in Mali and not the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA). In 2018 EUTM was again extended to at least May 2020. The government is now considering sending the elite Army Rangers Corps to Mali.

🕒 2017

Further EU Militarisation

Ireland supports the establishment of Military HQ, signs up to PESCO, the European Defence Fund, and Operation Sophia. MEPs from Fine Gael vote to increase EU-wide military expenditure to 2% of GDP. In Ireland's case this means an increase from 0.3% to 2% or, in money terms, an increase from €946 m to €3billion.

From 2021 to 2027 a budget of €13Bn is proposed for EU military funding. There is another so-called 'Peace Facility' of €10.5 billion currently in the pipeline to provide weapons to non-EU countries.

🕒 June 2018

The EU Parliament, including all Fine Gael members, vote 441-182 with 57 abstentions, to ensure that the EU and NATO act in a 'truly coordinated' manner.

🗓️ November 2018 European Military Intervention Force

Ten states, Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and the UK agree to establish an army, outside EU structures, to invade other countries.

🗓️ 2019

Ireland supports the EU/NATO Status of Forces Agreement

🗓️ 2019 Venezuela

The US and many EU states, including the UK, France, Spain and Ireland, in total contravention of international law, recognize Juan Guaido (who never even stood for President) as President of Venezuela. This powerful grouping has also imposed sanctions in preparation for supporting yet another war. The coming war on Venezuela is ensuring the EU becomes a global military force.



The Peace & Neutrality Alliance was founded in 1996 to focus on opposing Ireland's integration into the emerging EU army and the EU/NATO/US war machine. It is a member of the World Peace Council and the No to War - No to NATO network.

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