

SMART DEFENCE AND DEFENCE RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

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Ever since the Chicago Summit in May 2012, the Euro-Atlantic community has been imprinted, from the security and defence perspective, by the launch of a new initiative known as smart defence, a concept referring to the need to improve the way in which defence spending is made at the Alliance's level. Smart defence also has a corollary at EU's level – i.e., pooling and sharing – the two notions referring, overall, to the same procedure and implying a crucial need for the two organizations to coordinate their efforts in this respect.

This article approaches the conceptual meaning of smart defence, with special emphasis on its management dimension regarding the defence resources. As a consequence, it is approached in connection with other similar concepts such as 'pooling and sharing', Planning, Programming, Budgeting, and Evaluation System (PPBES), and the Connected Force Initiative. The conclusions of this scientific demarche reveal the complexity of the smart defence concept and of its implications, its long-term applicability as well as the fact that smart defence is and presupposes an efficient management in close correlation with other innovative solutions launched recently or solutions which need to be brought to the fore, in the attention of the actors belonging to the Euro-Atlantic space.

Key-words: *smart defence; defence resources management; PPBES; prioritization; specialization; cooperation; complexity; Connected Force Initiative.*

Smart defence and pooling and sharing are two recent initiatives launched in the area of defence planning at NATO and EU levels. Essentially, the two initiatives presuppose an effort to make defence spending more efficient in the context created by the economic and financial crisis. Beyond them, there may be also identified geopolitical and geostrategic implications insofar as they reflect certain changes in world's power configuration, in the relations between different

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