Coming soon: EUDIS Defence hackathon on 9 – 11 May 2025!

Overview

The **EUDIS Defence Hackathon is** one of the innovation tracks of the **European Union Defence Innovation Scheme** (EUDIS). EUDIS, integrated into the **European Defence Fund (EDF), aims** to strengthen **defence innovation** in the European Union. The EDF is the Commission's instrument to support Research and Development in defence. The Commission has contracted the implementation of EUDIS Defence Hackathons to a consortium led by Civitta.

- **Objective of EUDIS Defence hackathons:** Address defence challenges faced by EU Member States, Norway, and Ukraine defence-end users and defence industry through innovation and co-operation.
- **Significance:** Strengthen Europe's defence capabilities, attract new talent, and connect stakeholders across academia, industry, and defence organisations.

EUDIS Defence hackathon spring edition

The first-ever EUDIS Defence Hackathon debuted in 2024, spanning six locations across the EU. Building on this success, 2025 introduces two editions - Spring and Autumn - expanding its scope to **eight locations** per edition. The upcoming call aims to select **eight** EUDIS 2025 hackathon local organisers in eight EU Member States/Norway for the EUDIS Hackathon **Spring edition, which will take place on 9 -11 May 2025**. Additional resources, such as for prototyping, needs to be provided by the local organisers and their partners within the scope of the challenges.

- **Theme: Rapid Defence Solutions for the Ukrainian battlefield and beyond**[1]
- **Challenges:**
    - Enhanced Situational Awareness and Tactical Surveillance Systems
    - Cost-Effective Protective Gear for Frontline Defence
    - Advanced Medical Support for Frontline Care
- **Scope:** Host 400 participants (minimum 50 per hackathon location)
- **Hackathon dates:** 9- 11 May; 2.5 days over a weekend
- **Funding from us:** Up to €24,000 per local organiser in funding for implementation
- **Support:** Coaching and support for organisers, guides and templates for smooth implementation, and additional marketing support.

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[1] Some amendments may occur due to final approval of the wording of the theme and challenges – the full and final description will be published as soon as possible.

Eligibility criteria for the local organisers[2]

- Open to public/private entities in the EU or Norway, with no non-associated third-country control.
- Experience in organising at least 1 defence hackathon or any other form of open innovation program with a minimum of 30 participants.
- The team includes a minimum of three dedicated team members (project manager, marketing manager, and event production manager).
- Access to the region's key research & innovation stakeholders - especially in the defence sector.
- The ability for effective communication and participant recruitment.
- As the event incorporates a makeathon approach, local organisers and their partners are expected to provide additional resources and support relevant to the challenges, to ensure participants can effectively prototype and develop solutions within the scope of the challenges.

Key dates

- **Call opens:** 3 December 2024
- **Online info session:** 12 December 2024
- **Application deadline:** 26 January 2025 23:59 CET
- **Local organisers selection announced:** 3 to 7 February 2025)

In case of any questions, please contact us at contact@eudis-hackathon.eu. If you are interested in applying, let us know and we will be happy to share more information!

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[2] These are further detailed in the document "Guide for Applicants", available soon on our website www.eudis-hackathon.eu