



I would like to welcome esteemed participants and visitors to the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the International Defence and Security Exhibition, DEFEA, to be held in Athens, between 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> May 2025, organized, for the 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive time, by ROTA Exhibitions Greece with the cooperation of the SEKPY, Hellenic Manufacturers of Defence Material Association.

DEFEA 2025 has been placed, once more, under the auspices of the Hellenic Ministry of National Defence, vividly demonstrating the importance that both the Greek State and the Ministry of National Defence attach to this international exhibition.

In today's rapidly evolving global landscape, characterized by geopolitical shifts and emerging security and defence challenges, the role of robust national defence capabilities has never been more crucial.

Emerging security threats and challenges encompass, among others, the resurgence of revisionism, cyber-terrorism, and the evolution of hybrid warfare tactics. This includes the extensive deployment of drones and the propagation of disinformation campaigns

The inaugural DEFEA 2021, despite being the first major trade show to take place amidst a worldwide pandemic, had been an absolute success attracting more than 12.000 visitors, with 315 leading defence firms participating from 22 countries and 45 official national delegations.

DEFEA 2023 had an even larger turnout with 346 enterprises from 28 countries with 10 national official kiosks being present.

DEFEA 2025 could not have come at a better time. A core component of Greece's defence strategy is the strengthening of the Hellenic Defence Industry. Through new legislation, we focus on developing a robust national defence industry ecosystem that will not only bolster our military readiness but will also contribute significantly to economic growth and technological innovation.

It is, therefore, a great pleasure to warmly welcome all visitors and participants to DEFEA 2025 and to wish them every success.

I am confident that DEFEA 2025 will exceed every expectation.

Nikolaos-Georgios Dendias

Minister of National Defence