

Building a European defense system has been a recurring ambition in Europe since the end of the Second World War (see infographic “Defending Europe: Episode 1 - Key Dates”). From the Treaty of Brussels and the establishment of the Western European Union, to the Treaty of Washington and the creation of NATO and later, the Pleven Plan for a European Defense Community, successive initiatives have sought to organize Europe's security and defence. Over time, these efforts have mobilized a wide range of actors - states, regional and intergovernmental organisations, industrial stakeholders – across all levels of strategic planning.



Strategic level – collective defense



Diplomatic level



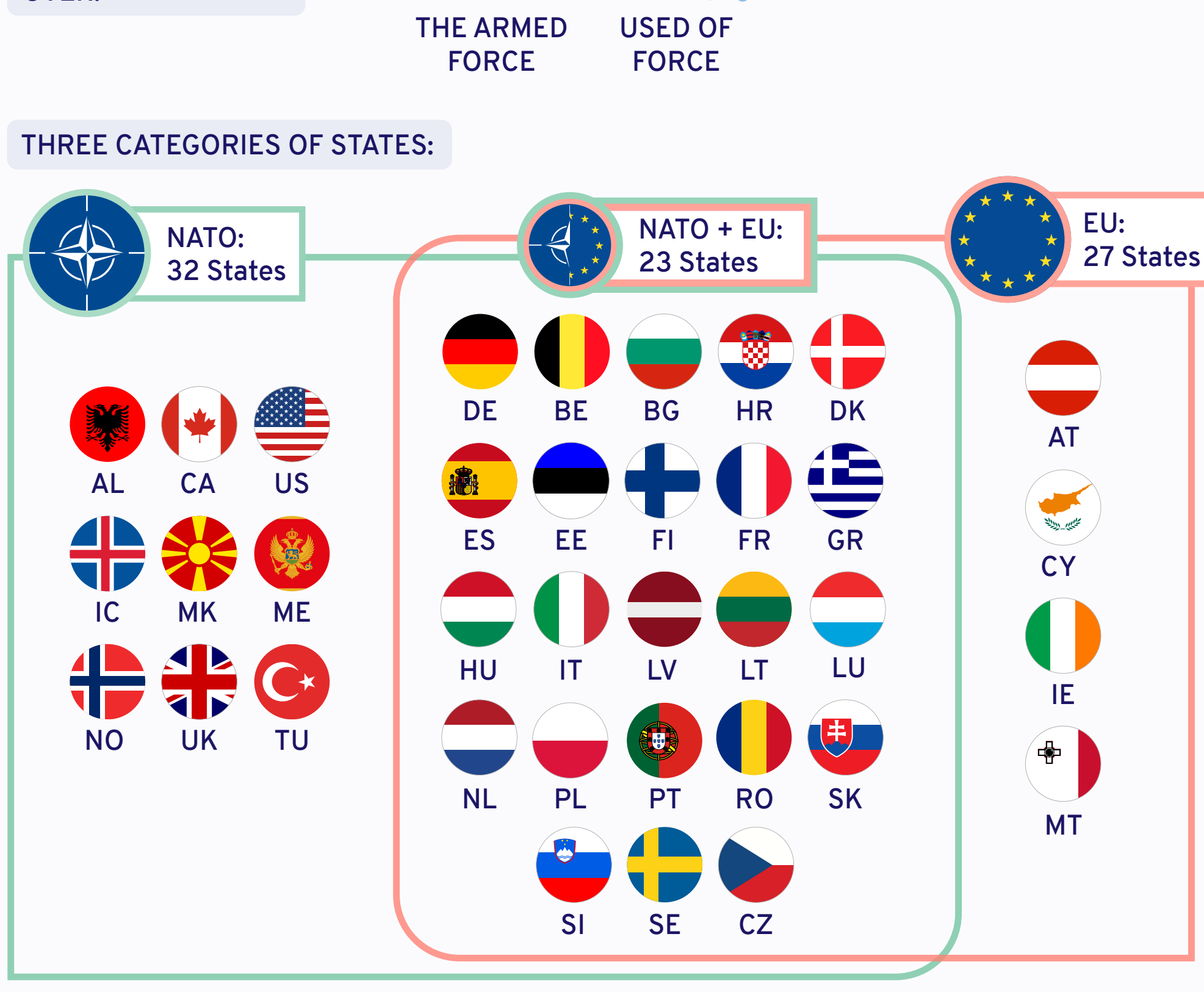
Military operational level (command & missions)



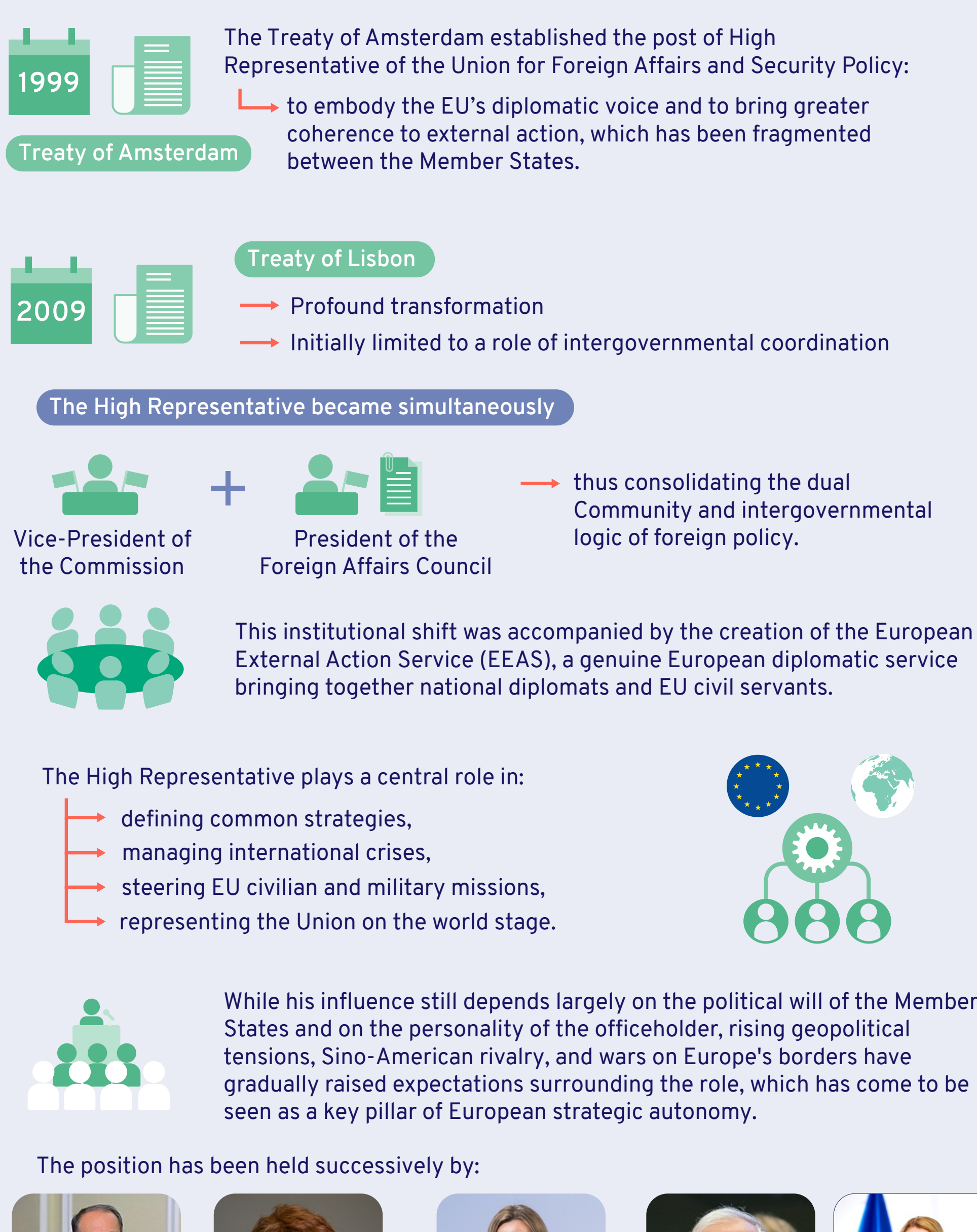
Capability/industrial/armaments level



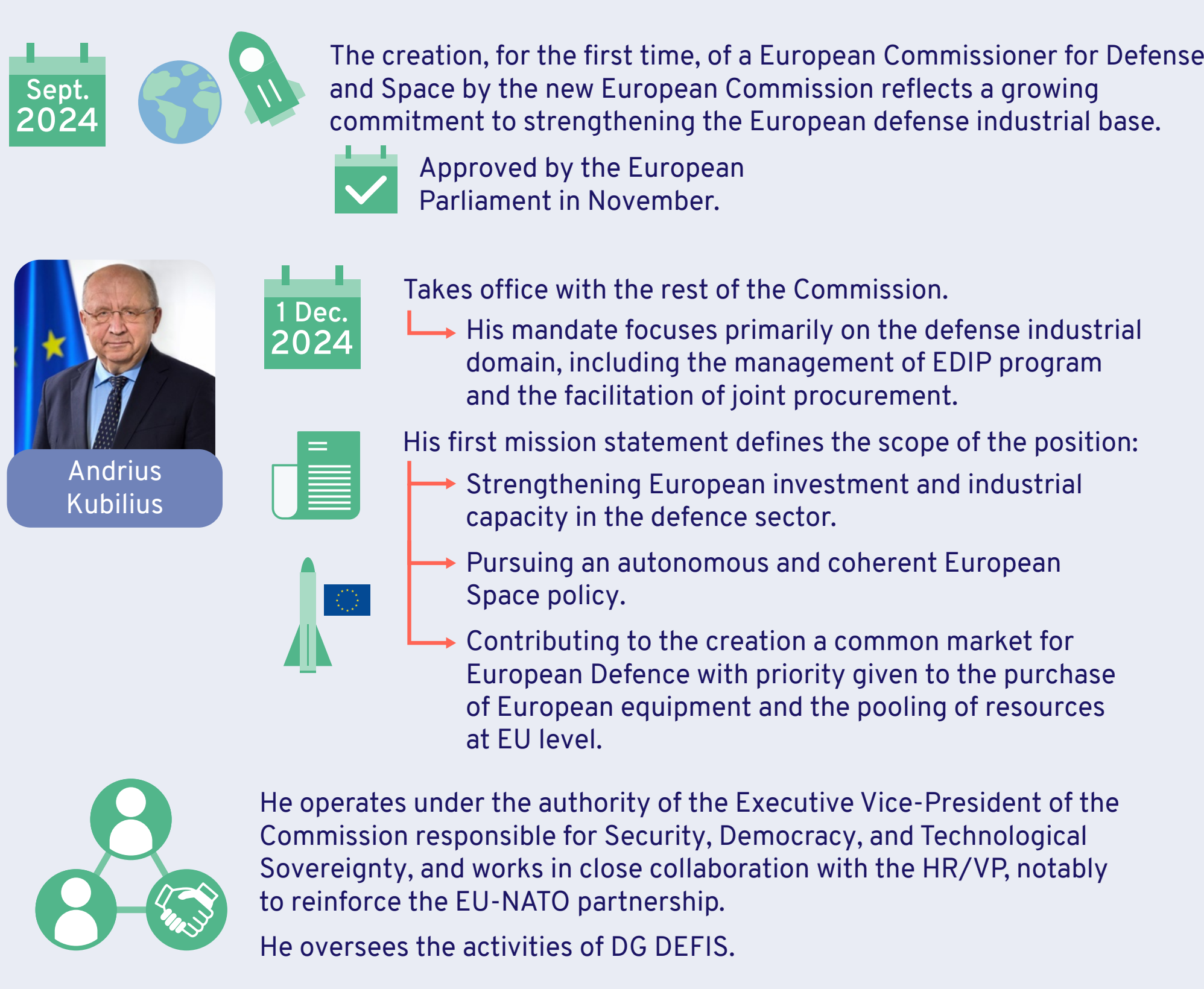
Member States



High Representative



European Commissioner for Defense and Space



Glossary of acronyms

Acronym	Literal form in English
ASAP	Act of support for ammunition production
AU	African Union
CPCC	Civilian Planning and Conduct Capability
CSDP	Common Security and Defence Policy
DG DEFIS	The Directorate-General for Defence Industry and Space
EDA	European Defense Agency
EDF	European Defense Fund
EDIP	Program for the European defense industry
EDIRPA	Instrument for strengthening the European defense industry through joint procurement European Strategy for Defense Industry
EDIS	European strategy for the defense industry
EEAS	European External Action Service
ESDP	European Security and Defence Policy
EUMS	European Union Military Staff
HR	High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy
MPCC	Military Planning and Conduct Capability
NAC	North Atlantic Council
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
OCCAR	Joint Armament Cooperation Organization
PESCO	Permanent Structured Cooperation
SAFE	Security Action for Europe
SHAPE	Integrated Military Command