



Press Release

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EUDEX and JAPCC Highlight the Importance of European Defence Cooperation

Essen, 22 September 2026 – During the opening press conference of the inaugural Euro Defence Expo (EUDEX), Lieutenant General Thorsten Poschwatta, Executive Director of the Joint Air Power Competence Centre (JAPCC), underlined the growing importance of cooperation among military organizations, industry, academia and policymakers in strengthening European security.

In his remarks, Lieutenant General Poschwatta emphasized that the co-location of the long-established JAPCC Conference and the first-ever EUDEX represents a strong signal of the need to combine strategic thinking with technological innovation.

"Security today is built through cooperation. From great-power competition and the increasing military significance of space to disruptive technologies such as artificial intelligence and autonomous systems, today's challenges require new forms of collaboration," Poschwatta stated.

As a NATO-accredited Centre of Excellence, the JAPCC provides independent analysis, studies and concepts supporting the future development of Alliance air and space power. EUDEX complements this role by showcasing cutting-edge technologies and industrial capabilities.

"The combination of the JAPCC Conference and EUDEX creates added value far beyond what either event could achieve individually. Strategy without technology remains theory. Technology without strategy lacks direction," Poschwatta said.

The joint event aims to strengthen dialogue between military stakeholders, industry leaders and political decision-makers while accelerating innovation and enhancing Europe's defence capabilities.

Media Contact:

contact@japcc.org