

The Potential of a European Defence and Security Union – Values-Based or Interest-Driven?

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- Part I: Common Security and Defense Policy between Interests and Values – the Legal Framework**
- Part II: Values and Interests in EU Policy Documents**
- Part III: Towards a Security and Defence Union**

1. The values-based approach is enshrined in the TEU (and TFEU). The EU as a supranational organization is inherently more likely to pursue a values-based approach than nation states since a values-based approach is a prerequisite for deeper integration. That holds also true for the Common Security and Defense Policy.
2. There are perspectives to overcome the still prevalent intergovernmental approach. Art. 21 TEU can be seen as a central component within a horizontal constitutionalism (*A. v. Arnould*).
3. With Brexit an important actor left the Common Security and Defence Policy, potentially hindering the development towards a robust Security and Defence Union.
4. Several important developments towards a Security and Defence Union can be observed in the last few years including financial instruments, PESCO, the EU Strategic Compass and the Coordinated Annual Review on Defence to increase coordination among member states, finally a permanent command and control structure for planning and conducting non-executive military missions.
5. Reform Options: There is still remaining potential within the Treaty boundaries but at some point the decision mechanisms and the (formally almost non-existent) participation by the European Parliament would need to be revised (potential for a European Defense Budget or a European Army?).