



Germany’s successful and innovative **military aviation industry** is of strategic importance. It requires an industrial and procurement policy that both strengthen Germany’s and Europe’s sovereignty and enable technologies for subsequent applications in the civilian sector.

More than half of the over 200 predominantly medium-sized companies in the German aerospace industry are active in both the civil and military sectors. This military section of our industry is vital for Germany’s role as a center for technological innovation and the security of the federal republic. That is why our industry must be recognized as system-relevant. With our contribution to equipping the armed forces and civil security agencies, we make an immense contribution to sustainable living and economic activity. Our military portfolio is a strategic instrument for the federal republic of Germany to participate on par in joint future high-tech programs and thus to play a decisive role in shaping Europe’s industrial policy.

Recommended measures:

1. DEFINE, EXPAND AND SPECIFICALLY PROMOTE KEY TECHNOLOGIES

Essential strategic development capacities must be kept in Germany and Europe. Consequently, rotary- and fixed-wing aircraft must be defined as key European technologies with an indispensable national foundation. The same applies to weapon concepts appropriate to threats.

WHAT IS NECESSARY?

- Increased political commitment to developing key technologies
- Classification of the field of armament/effector systems as a national key technology for military aviation
- An explicit distinction between Europe and the world market in key technologies

2. DRIVING COOPERATIVE PROJECTS WITH POLITICAL VISION

Based on a clear national key technology portfolio supported by industrial policy, Germany must develop an ambitious industrial policy vision and represent it to its partners.

WHAT IS NECESSARY?

- Development of and advocacy for a holistic national industrial policy vision
- Backing up the programs with financial and human resources
- Support for cooperative programs with export arrangements such as bilateral export control agreements
- Harmonization of European export standards at the national level
- Instruments to facilitate export at the government level, analogous to Foreign Military Sales (FMS)

3. BUDGET FUNDS: ENSURE FINANCIAL PLANNING CERTAINTY

Our companies invest in research and development, in the qualification of their employees and in highly complex plants. This requires financial planning certainty and thus a longer duration for selected armament projects. Defense investment takes on an additional strategic, technological and economic dimension, as military technology programs increasingly influence civilian industries.

WHAT IS NECESSARY?

- A sustainably funded defense budget taking into account a Defense Planning Act
- An increase to the budget for research and development in Individual Plan 14

4. INTENSIFY COOPERATION WITH THE GERMAN ARMED FORCES

Support models in which industry assumes more responsibility for the operational readiness of weapons systems significantly increase their availability and ensure better predictability for users. Integrated career paths between the armed forces and industry help to retain highly skilled workers in jobs in which they can use their qualifications even after the end of their service. This further enhances the attractiveness of the Bundeswehr as an employer with long-term prospects.

WHAT IS NECESSARY?

- Expansion of cooperation between industry and the Bundeswehr in terms of logistical support and personnel models

