



EDINAF

PRESS RELEASE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY #5 OF EDF-FUNDED "EDINAF" PROJECT

22nd of May 2025, Trondheim, Norway



The partners of the European Digital Naval Foundation (EDINAF) project, funded by the European Commission (EC) under the European Defence Fund (EDF2021), were gathered in Trondheim, Norway, for the fifth General Assembly Meeting, from 20th to 22nd of May.

This event, hosted by SINTEF Ocean, SINTEF Digital and Kongsberg Defence & Aerospace, focused on the Integrated Use Case Demonstration and its long-awaited live presentation. The General Assembly welcomed representatives from the Ministries of Defence from France, Norway, Germany, the Netherlands, Spain and Sweden.

All the MoDs participated in a round table discussion focused on both their needs and expectations, and the current and future state of the EDINAF project. The main subject matters included considerations on the digital transformation envisioned by the EDINAF project, in addition to debates on how to foster the effectiveness of the reference architecture and the digital platform in cooperation with the European industry. Conclusions were made on the next steps and stages of the project.

The General Assembly featured several sessions including a tabletop demonstration focused on Decision Support for Autonomous UxV's and Enhanced Situation Awareness and Digital

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Twinning, a presentation of the most relevant advancements of the project over the last six months and a site visit of SINTEF Ocean's Tyholt laboratory.

The pivotal moment of this fifth General Assembly was the Integrated Use Case demonstration which marked an important milestone for the project before the final demonstration which will be held in Ferrol, Spain. The focus of the demonstration was to showcase the Reference Architecture, designed by the EDINAF consortium over the course of nearly three years, which was elaborated based on the suggestions and expectations expressed by the European MoDs and Navies.

In direct connection with both *Research Vessel Gunnerus* and *Elly*, which were utilized for the testing purposes of the demonstration, different scenarios were performed including: external and internal battle, resilience demonstrations and, cyber-attacks on database and infrastructure.

The results and execution of this first of the final two demonstrations was an undoubted success, especially due to the great collaborative efforts of the consortium towards a common and integrated approach to the Reference Architecture, despite the preconceived international competition bias.

This major step of the project will culminate in the next phase, hence the final demonstration in Ferrol, Spain, where further implementations and developments will be integrated as we will add an on-premise digital platform, answering the need for the shipboard to work in disconnected environments.

"This demonstration is the result of intense collaboration across borders and disciplines," said Juan Ignacio Silvera Vez, Project Coordinator of EDINAF. "It validates our shared vision of a unified reference architecture, developed in close dialogue with European Ministries of Defence and Navies and tailored to meet the operational challenges of tomorrow."

This General Assembly brought together the EDINAF partners, located across Europe: Navantia (Project Coordinator), AERTEC, B-COM, CETENA, Damen, Fincantieri, Fincantieri NexTech, Indra, Jotne, Kongsberg, Leonardo, Light Structures, MARIN, MBDA, the Netherlands Defence Academy (NLDA – Ministry of Defence of the Netherlands), Naval Group, Naval Group Belgium, QRelation Management Team, Renk Group, Rheinmetall, RH Marine, SAAB, SEA Europe, SINTEF, SINTEF Ocean, thyssenkrupp Marine Systems, Thales Netherlands, TNO, Università degli studi di Genova, Universidade da Coruna, and Université de Lorraine.

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