



EDINAF

PRESS RELEASE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY #6 OF EDF-FUNDED "EDINAF" PROJECT

25th November 2025, Ferrol, Spain



The partners of the European Digital Naval Foundation (EDINAF) project, funded by the European Commission (EC) under the European Defence Fund (EDF2021), are gathering in Ferrol, Spain, for the sixth and final General Assembly Meeting, from 25th to 27th of November.

Navantia is hosting from today until Thursday the sixth and final General Assembly of the EDINAF project (European Digital Naval Foundation), a strategic initiative funded by the European Defence Fund that has defined the digital architecture to be integrated into future European warships. The meeting is being held at the Navantia COEX Digital Twin facilities in Ferrol, the centre of excellence responsible for designing Navantia's digital twins, which forms part of the Navantia COEX Network tasked with implementing the company's Innovation Strategy.

In this framework, **Navantia and EDINAF partners unveil the future digital architecture for European military vessels** with a technical demonstration that will showcase how the platform will be able to integrate sensor data, combat systems and logistics platforms in real

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This project has received funding from the European Defence Fund (EDF)
under grant agreement 101103273 - EDINAF- EDF-2021-NAVAL-R-2.



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time. **The project is built on three pillars:** defining the reference architecture, the digital platform on which systems are deployed, and interoperability between navies within the NATO environment.

Over the coming days, representatives from the European defence industry, technology companies and multilateral organisations will gather here, including Naval Group, Fincantieri, Damen, SAAB, Kongsberg, Thales, Leonardo and Indra. Delegates from the European Commission and academic and institutional authorities are also attending the final demonstration, such as the President of the Provincial Council of A Coruña, Valentín González Formoso; Admiral Vicente Rubio Bolívar of the Ferrol Arsenal; Margarita Ardao, Director General of Strategy and Industrial Land for the Regional Government of Galicia; Martina Aneiros Barros, Regional Delegate for the Regional Government; and the Vice-Chancellor of the Ferrol Industrial Campus (University of A Coruña); as well as fifteen representatives from the seven European navies participating in the project.

Real-time simulation

On the second day, a technical demonstration will show how a digital ship connects with its naval base through on-board and shore-based platforms to carry out a real mission.

The exercise will involve planning the operation and deploying the unmanned surface vehicle (USV) *Poniente* to inspect a suspicious vessel in the Ferrol estuary, combining sensors, combat systems and logistics solutions in real time. At the same time, the platform will come under a simulated cyberattack designed to test the resilience of the operation and its ability to recover from critical failures. The aim is to demonstrate how the digital architecture responds to facilitate decision-making, anticipate risks and optimise resources in evolving asymmetric scenarios.

A key project for the digitalisation of European naval defence

EDINAF is one of the most ambitious projects under the European Defence Fund. Led by Navantia, 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.

The project is based on three core principles: interoperability between European systems to ensure seamless joint operations, cybersecurity against increasingly sophisticated threats, and, finally, connecting the platform to the Naval Combat Cloud – a cornerstone for collaborative defence.

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This meeting will also define the next steps to consolidate this digital architecture, so that future European frigates, corvettes, submarines and auxiliary vessels share a common technological framework that reduces costs and development times, enhances sector competitiveness and strengthens Europe's strategic sovereignty.

This General Assembly, therefore, marks the conclusion of three years of collaborative work that has delivered an integrated digital platform to drive interoperability between navies, automation and NATO-standard compatibility in the naval domain, while, at the same time, reducing costs and crew requirements on board.

"EDINAF represents a qualitative technological leap for European naval defence," emphasised Ana Moya, Navantia's Director of Technology and Digital Transformation. "This digital architecture will enable the progressive integration of advanced capabilities, ensure operational resilience even in critical scenarios, and accelerate collaboration among allies to strengthen Europe's strategic sovereignty," she concluded. The Assembly will finally conclude on Thursday with the presentation of the roadmap to implement the project's conclusions and set milestones for 2026.



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