



Session européenne des responsables d'armement

The "Session européenne des responsables d'armement" has been established in 1989. The aim of the SERA is to broaden the links between European nations which are planning to co-operate on military procurement programmes and to set up, at European level, an informal forum. This forum dedicated to issues of armament and capital equipment for defence and security, is unique by its level of recruitment and its mode of operation.

Aim

- ✓ Providing attendees better understanding of current European defence issues, particularly armaments and defence economic aspects.
- ✓ Promoting joint reflection between auditors crossing their experiences and diverse professional backgrounds.
- ✓ Fostering open-mindedness through diversity in recruiting and activities.

Audience

The SERA aims to strengthen the links between European, state and industrial leaders of the armaments community. It is open to the EU Member States, Switzerland, Norway, Turkey, and the UK, in case no longer EU member state, nationals and EU nationals from EU institutions and agencies as well as European intergovernmental organizations (e.g. OCCAR).

A specific attention will be paid to binational attendee-candidates (non-European citizenship).

Each session brings together approximately sixty-five attendees, **ages 35-50**, all high-potential managers, already involved in European matters in the defence equipment field, **to serve for at least 10 more years**:

Contact

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- ✓ Directorates of the country concerned or belonging to other ministerial departments which are involved with Defence matters
 - ✓ Generals or colonels from the service staffs either with operational functions or who have responsibilities involving the definition of military requirements or plans
 - ✓ Directors and senior managers from companies directly linked to equipment manufacturers (prime contractors, but also major co-operative partners, subcontractors and equipment manufacturers), and sometimes from financial institutions involved in defence equipment activity.
- ✓ **25%** Committee sessions: an opportunity for attendees, within committees mixing origins and profiles, to consider armaments and defence economics related challenges,
- ✓ **25%** Military, industrial and research sites visits.

The working language during the course is **English**.

Access to e-learning modules on EU and defence economics issues will be given to the participants prior to the session. Their reading is recommended.

It behoves to each participating State to train its candidates and participants before the start of the session.

Schedule

The session runs from March to June, for 20 days, in France and in two other European States. Weeks organized in France are held at the Military Academy site in Paris.

July-October

Opening registration
Applications should be addressed to one's NAD or through the relevant institution or agency (AED, OCCAR, ASD...).

Late November
Registration closed

November-January
Auditors selection

An active participation to the 4 SERA weeks is required, as to the activities (committee works, lectures, visits).

Educational content

Each year, a general theme is chosen for each session, according to armament and defence economics issues at European and international level, including their cooperation dimension. The theme for the next SERA 31 is: **The future of "European Defense: how to foster self-determination and counter detrimental influences.**

The training course consists of:

- ✓ **50%** Conferences and debates covering economics and defence industry, European Union issues, common defence and security policy, security, and armed forces equipment.