

The EU OCEAN 2020 Project

It was announced from Aarhus on 9 February that Danish aerospace, defence, and security company Terma will take part in the EU-funded project, OCEAN2020. This project will boost technological research in the maritime domain.

Terma will contribute to the consortium within areas of interoperability requirements analysis, system design, decision support analysis, and operator task analysis.

In the words of Kristoffer Groth Jakobsen, Vice President for Market Development, Europe: *‘Terma’s participation in the Leonardo led consortium is of high importance as it allows us to develop technologies and systems in close collaboration with European key industrial partners. Our unique contribution to the project highlights our role as a key European defence company at a time when Europe will start investing more in defence. We add to the security of Europeans.’*

Terma’s contribution will build on strong competencies within surveillance and mission systems and provides opportunity to strengthen the company’s position as developer and system integrator of C4ISR systems.

OCEAN2020 came out as the winning proposal under the EU Preparatory Action on Defence Research (PADR) programme. The competitive selection was conducted by the European Defence Agency (EDA) and will be contracted in the coming weeks.

The OCEAN2020 team, which will be led by Leonardo, comprises 42 partners from 15 European countries. These include the Ministries of Defence of Italy, Greece, Spain, Portugal and Lithuania, with additional support from the Ministries of Defence of Sweden, France, the UK and Estonia and The Netherlands.

European industrial partners include Indra, Safran, Saab, MBDA, PGZ/CTM, Hensoldt, Intracom-IDE, Fincantieri and QinetiQ. A number of research centres include Fraunhofer, TNO, CMRE (NATO) and IAI.

OCEAN2020 will see unmanned platforms of different types (fixed wing, rotary wing, surface, and underwater) integrated with naval units’ command and control centres, allowing for data exchange via satellite, with command and control centres on land. The joint and cooperative use of both manned and unmanned vehicles will also be demonstrated as part of the project.

The project involves two live demonstrations of maritime surveillance and interdiction operations, conducted by European fleets using unmanned aircraft, surface vessels, and underwater systems. The first demo is scheduled to take place in the Mediterranean Sea in 2019. The second demonstration will take place in 2020 in the Baltic Sea. The data collected will be evaluated by the EU.

The EU intends to launch a European Defence Research Programme (EDRP) with a proposed budget of €500 million per year. The aim is to improve the competitiveness and innovation in the European defence industry and to stimulate cooperation amongst Member States and industry. PADR tests the ability of the industry for such cooperation.