

The new European project CASSATA advances covert multi-modal sensing technologies for enhanced Intelligence, Target Acquisition, and Reconnaissance

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The CASSATA project, a research project funded by the European Union under the **European Defence Fund (EDF)**, is set to enhance European defence capabilities by developing advanced covert multi-modal sensing concepts, technologies, and platforms. The project, spanning **36 months** from December 1, 2023, to November 30, 2026, brings together a consortium of **27 organisations across 9 EU Member States** (Greece, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, Austria, Sweden, and Bulgaria). This consortium includes industrial entities, universities, research institutes, and SMEs, collaborating to push the boundaries of passive and covert sensing technologies.

The project's primary focus is on identifying new and disruptive technology opportunities that can provide a strategic advantage in defence by enhancing **(i) optronics, (ii) acoustics/seismic sensing, (iii) RF and radar systems, and (iv) adaptive and collaborative sensing technologies, data fusion and AI**. This effort aims to foster and enable the digital transformation of the EU defence capabilities by analysing and designing systems, solutions and integrated concepts that will enable superior operational and tactical level information gathering, evaluation processes and situational awareness while being difficult to detect, track and intercept utilising Covert Sensing Technologies (CST). While CASSATA's focus remains a research area, it nonetheless has the potential to create capabilities in the long run.

CASSATA adopts a **use case-driven approach**, addressing operational defence scenarios and challenges in the **land, air, and maritime domains**. Leveraging passive and covert sensing systems, multi-sensor platforms, and advanced processing techniques, the project aims to provide European Member States Armed forces with enhanced situational awareness, target sensing, early warning, and decision support technologies/capabilities. These expected outcomes are poised to contribute to the strategic autonomy of the EU, ensuring that European Armed Forces are equipped

with state-of-the-art sensing technologies that are covert, effective, and interoperable, thereby underscoring the EU's commitment to innovation and collaboration in defence technology.

The **kick-off meeting for the CASSATA project was held**, marking the initiation of this pioneering endeavour.

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Project Duration: 1 December 2023 - 30 November 2026 (36 months)

Partners



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