R3 A2: Updated Young Green vision on European defense policy

Proposers

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Motion text

From line 11 to 21:

However, European security should not be a matter of mindless increase in military spending. It must be focused on ensuring the interoperability of European armies. In total European countries already invest a lot in their military. A new security architecture for Europe needs to be created to ensure strategic autonomy. This should give us the capability to defend ourselves. However, that is not the case, since almost all of this money is spent inefficiently, as our capabilities are spread across 27 different armies. Instead, new mechanisms are needed for the joint procurement of military vehicles and equipment that would allow for saving billions of euros. Other forms of closer cooperation are also required such as joint military research and development, joint acquisition, procurement, maintenance and training.

Nevertheless, we consider the Rearm Europe plan is a warmongering and reckless initiative.

The European Union was founded with the fundamental objective of safeguarding peace. History has repeatedly shown that peace is not achieved through the accumulation of weapons: si vis bellum, para bellum.

For its own defence, the European Union does not require increased military expenditure, but rather the coordination and rationalisation of existing national defence budgets. This should be accompanied by the establishment of a common command structure and a shared strategic doctrine.

To illustrate the point: in 2024, the combined military expenditure of the 27 Member States reached 547.5 billion international dollars, equivalent to 1.95% of GDP — a figure that exceeds Russian military spending by 18.6%.