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PRESS RELEASE

COMPLEMENTS launches with successful kick-off meeting in Genoa to strengthen Europe's cross-sectoral skills for Security and Defence

European partners gather to launch a three-year Erasmus+ project supporting cooperation, skills intelligence and innovative training across the aerospace, automotive and digital sectors.

The partners of **COMPLEMENTS – Cross-sectoral Skills Strategy for Security and Defence** officially launched the project during a two-day kick-off meeting held on **18–19 March 2026** at Blue District in Genoa, Italy. Coordinated by **GISIG – Geographic Information Systems International Group Association**, the meeting brought together representatives from the project's partner organisations to establish a shared vision, align activities and lay the foundations for the successful implementation of the three-year Erasmus+ initiative.

The project brings together **nine partner organisations** from **six European countries** - [Geographic Information Systems International Group Association](#), [VSB-Technical University of Ostrava](#), [QUASAR - Human Capital](#), [Aristotle University of Thessaloniki](#), [Eupportunity - European Affairs Consultancy](#), [bavAIRia EV](#), [European Digital SME Alliance](#), [Fondazione E. Amaldi](#) and [Instituto Pedro Nunes](#).

The kick-off meeting marked the consortium's first face-to-face gathering since the project officially started on **1 March 2026**. During the two-day event, partners reviewed the project's objectives, governance structure and implementation roadmap, while establishing the collaborative framework that will guide the project over the coming three years.

COMPLEMENTS Cross-sectoral Skills Strategy for Security and Defence is an Erasmus+ funded project that addresses the need for cross-sectoral skills development in Europe's Security and Defence (S&D) domain by strengthening cooperation between the aerospace, automotive and digital ecosystems. Aligned with key EU policy initiatives, it supports Europe's strategic autonomy through a forward-looking upskilling and reskilling strategy.

The project focuses on enhancing cross-ecosystem collaboration, developing a strategic action plan, and designing modular, interdisciplinary vocational education and training (VET) programmes. It responds to challenges such as fragmented skills intelligence and the growing demand for dual-use competences in areas like artificial intelligence, cybersecurity and autonomous systems, with training modules co-created and tested in real-world settings.

For further information, click [here](#).