

Russia's war on Ukraine: Bilateral delivery of weapons and military aid to Ukraine

In a united response to Russia's war on Ukraine, which started on 24 February 2022, EU Member States agreed to supply Ukraine with military equipment, including equipment designed to deliver lethal force. As of 16 May, Member States had agreed to make available €1.5 billion through the European Peace Facility (EPF) to fund assistance measures aimed at supporting the capabilities and resilience of the Ukrainian armed forces. A further €500 million in assistance was proposed on 13 May 2022 and is likely to be adopted very soon, bringing the amount up to €2 billion. Accordingly, the EPF will pay for some of the equipment Member States have provided or will provide to Ukraine. This is a first in the EU's history, which has never jointly financed the provision of weapons to a third country.

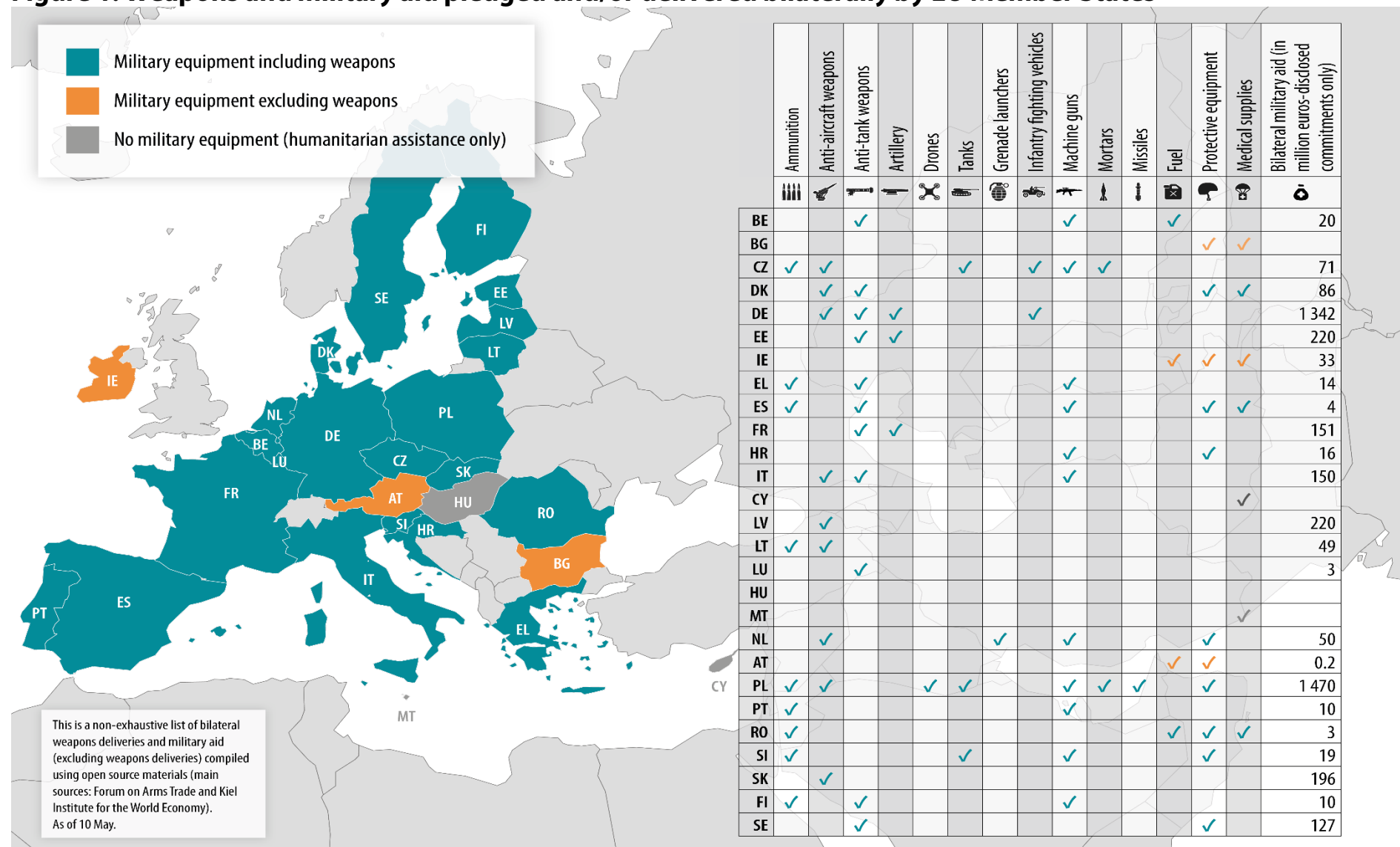
Weapons and military aid pledged or delivered bilaterally by EU Member States: the issue of whether to supply Ukraine with [heavy](#) weapons (e.g. tanks) or [light](#) weapons (e.g. machine guns) or no weapons at all has sparked fierce [debates](#) in capitals across Europe. While [countries](#) such as Czechia, Poland and Slovenia have reportedly delivered heavy weaponry including [T-72](#) tanks, others such as Austria and Ireland have decided to provide exclusively non-lethal equipment, in line with their policies of [neutrality](#). So far, only Hungary, Malta and Cyprus have decided not to supply Ukraine with any military equipment at all. In addition to military equipment, many Member States have provided significant [military aid](#).¹ The graphic (Figure 1) and table (Annex I) below seek to provide an overview of the [weapons](#) and [military aid](#) (other than weapons deliveries) pledged or delivered bilaterally to Ukraine by Member States.

In order to coordinate supply and demand, the EU Military Staff within the European External Action Service have set up a [clearing house mechanism](#), which coordinates supply and demand. Ukraine submits requests to this clearing house for the equipment needed. The requests are then checked, validated and matched with supply. Subsequently, each Member State delivers the available equipment and arms individually. These are predominantly taken from existing stocks, due to the urgent nature of the deliveries. Some of the military equipment that EU Member States have delivered to Ukraine may be eligible for reimbursement through the [European Peace Facility](#) – a new off-budget fund of €5.69 billion in current prices, operational since 1 July 2021. However, the process of validating Member States' requests for reimbursement has not yet been finalised. Therefore, for the time being, it is not possible to establish the extent to which Member States will be reimbursed – through the EPF – for the military equipment/weapons they have delivered to Ukraine. Even if only some weapons will be reimbursed, the fact that they will be is groundbreaking, as it is the first time [ever](#) that the EU is financing the provision of weapons to a third country from a joint fund. According to EU High Representative Josep Borrell, this represents the breaking of a [taboo](#).

On 1 March 2022, the European Parliament adopted a [resolution](#) calling for the EPF to be used to allocate significant additional funding to provide Ukraine with defensive military equipment and called for its immediate implementation. In a recent draft [report](#), the Parliament noted that, on the follow-up of the adoption of the Strategic Compass, the EU must draw lessons from the use of the EPF in supporting Ukraine, increase its funding and build on the clearing house mechanism that was first implemented for Ukraine.

Disclaimer: The graphic (Figure I) and table (Annex I) below are non-exhaustive lists of weapons, non-lethal equipment and military aid delivered bilaterally to Ukraine by Member States, which have been compiled using exclusively open-source information. They do not in any way claim to represent a complete picture.

¹ According to the Kiel Institute for the World Economy, this includes: 'all types of military aid, including financial commitments for military purposes that have not been disbursed or used for actual weapon shipments [...] it includes bilateral military aid, including financial commitments for military purposes (e.g. loans or grants to buy weapons)'.

Figure 1: Weapons and military aid pledged and/or delivered bilaterally by EU Member States

Sources: [Forum on the Arms Trade](#); [Kiel Institute for the World Economy](#); [Euractiv](#); [Bloomberg](#); [Cyprus Mail](#); [Reuters](#); [Euractiv](#); [Malta Daily](#); [Deutsche Welle](#) (all 2022).

ANNEX I: Overview of type of military equipment pledged or delivered to Ukraine by Member States

Member State	Type of military equipment pledged or delivered to Ukraine <i>Main source: Forum on the Arms Trade, if not specified otherwise</i>
Austria	No weapons , but 10 000 helmets, fuel, protective equipment
Belgium	200 anti-tank weapons, 5 000 automatic rifles/machine guns and fuel
Bulgaria	No weapons , but bullet proof vests, helmets and medical supplies
Croatia	Rifles and machine guns, protective equipment
Czechia	T-72 tanks, infantry fighting vehicles, man-portable anti-aircraft weapons, 20 machine guns, 132 assault rifles, 70 submachine guns, 108 000 bullets, 4 000 mortars, 30 000 pistols, 7 000 assault rifles, 3 000 machine guns, sniper rifles
Cyprus	No weapons or military equipment, but medical supplies
Denmark	2 700 anti-tank weapons, 300 Stinger missiles, protective vests
Estonia	Javelin anti-tank missiles, nine howitzers, €220 million military aid
Finland	2 500 assault rifles, 150 000 cartridges, 1 500 single-shot anti-tank weapons
France	MILAN anti-tank guided missile systems, CAESAR artillery howitzers, plus unspecified defence equipment
Germany	50 Gepard anti-aircraft tanks, 56 infantry fighting vehicles, 1 000 anti-tank weapons, 500 Stinger missiles, armoured howitzers
Greece	Portable rocket launchers, ammunition, Kalashnikov rifles
Hungary	No weapons or military equipment, but medical supplies
Ireland	No weapons , but fuel, helmets, vests and medical supplies
Italy	Pending parliamentary approval – Stinger missiles, anti-tank weapons, heavy machine guns, light machine guns, counter-IED systems
Latvia	Stinger anti-aircraft missiles
Lithuania	Stinger anti-aircraft missiles and ammunition
Luxembourg	100 Next Generation Light Anti-Tank Weapons, Jeep Wrangler 4x4 vehicles, non-lethal equipment
Malta	No weapons or military equipment, but medical supplies
Netherlands	200 Stinger missiles, 3 000 combat helmets, 2 000 fragmentation vests, 100 sniper rifles, ammunition, 400 rocket-propelled grenade launchers
Poland	200+ T-72 tanks, Piorun man-portable air defence weapons, pledges to supply ammunition, further air defence systems, light mortars, and reconnaissance drones
Portugal	Grenades and ammunition, G3 automatic rifles, and other non-lethal equipment
Romania	Fuel, bulletproof vests, helmets, ammunition, military equipment and medical supplies
Slovakia	S-300 air defence system
Slovenia	T-72 tanks (reported), undisclosed amount of Kalashnikov rifles, helmets and ammunition
Spain	1 370 anti-tank grenade launchers, ammunition, light machine guns, medical supplies, helmets, flak jackets
Sweden	10 000 AT4 anti-tank weapons, helmets, and body shields

