

AIRBUS

Position paper

Civil aviation

Strategic importance of aerospace

- Aerospace is a key strategic industry in Germany and Europe.

Fair competition worldwide

- Germany and the EU should step up their efforts to promote fairness and a level playing field worldwide. The world of politics and industry should seek a close alliance.
- Especially given the trade conflict with the US, there is a need for concerted countermeasures on the part of European politics. The EU should acknowledge and underpin the strategic importance of the sector (for example in trade policy, economic diplomacy and research and innovation policy). Economic success, especially in exports, depends not least on political support.

Continue to promote research and technology at a high level

- The Federal Government is committed to strengthening Germany as an innovation location. The aviation research programme (LuFo) should be continued at a high level.
- If Germany intends to permanently surpass the 3% R&D expenditure target, a tax incentive of at least 10% should be introduced for all companies in addition to the increase in direct funds.

Inclusion of aviation in a mobility concept of the future/promotion of alternative propulsion technologies (hybrid/electric propulsion)

- E-mobility does not just apply to cars. Electric and hybrid engines are also playing an increasingly important role in aviation. This should be promoted accordingly by the Federal Government. It is important to ensure that the balance between climate protection and competitiveness is maintained.

Military aviation

Strategic importance of the defence industry

- The security and defence industry is of strategic national interest not only from an economic, but also a technological and security perspective.

Franco-German cooperation as the engine of European defence policy

- With the Franco-German Declaration of 13 July 2017, both nations stressed the importance of a European Common Security and Defence Policy. The aim is to improve European defence capability and secure long-term industrial expertise and R&D capabilities. The "Lead Nation" organisational concept should serve as a guideline, as should the involvement of interested European partner nations in combining needs and budgets and avoiding parallel initiatives. A prerequisite for the successful implementation of the projects is to gain early clarity about export opportunities. This requires the alignment of existing export regulations between the two countries.