
Airbus and SkyFall form strategic alliance to advance European and Ukrainian defence innovation

Berlin, Germany, 12 June 2026 – At this year's International Aerospace Exhibition (ILA) in Berlin, Airbus Defence and Space and leading Ukrainian technological defence company SkyFall signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to launch a strategic partnership. As a drone pioneer, SkyFall combines rapid prototyping with serial manufacturing to deliver advanced unmanned aerial systems for combat missions, logistics, and military reconnaissance. The signing took place in the presence of German Federal Minister of Defence Boris Pistorius.

The partnership reinforces the protection of Ukraine's airspace against drone and missile strikes and strengthens Ukraine as a leading European centre for defence innovation. The initiative will accelerate the European defence ecosystem by combining extensive Western systemic defence expertise with battle-proven technological agility and effectiveness to foster next-generation defence frameworks.

"Countering new threats by affordable saturation attacks with drones and other effectors across the European airspace requires technological agility, multinational interoperability, and the deployment of battle-tested capabilities," said Michael Schoellhorn, CEO of Airbus Defence and Space. "This alliance with SkyFall bridges the gap between traditional defence systems and rapid-cycle innovation. Combining Airbus' system-of-systems and C2-expertise - especially in integrated air and missile defence (IAMD) - with Ukraine's invaluable combat insights and field-proven technologies, is another building block in creating a resilient, multi-layered air defence ecosystem - at the speed of the modern battlefield."

"SkyFall interceptors have already neutralised over 10,000 Russian drones in live combat environments, validating the effectiveness of Ukrainian solutions in countering aerial threats. Partnering with Airbus, we are developing the next generation of technologies to establish a multi-layered air shield that will bolster the protection of Ukrainian skies and European airspace," commented Mykola Makovieiev, CEO of SkyFall.

The joint initiative directly supports the overarching goals of the European Sky Shield Initiative (ESSI), Europe's joint air defence framework, and underscores the vital importance of European technological sovereignty. Furthermore, the alliance strengthens collective deterrence and long-term industrial solidarity by bringing advanced Ukrainian defence technologies to the European market.

Follow us



If you wish to update your preferences to Airbus Communications, media@airbus.com
If you no longer wish to receive communications from Airbus, media@airbus.com



Michael Schoellhorn, CEO of Airbus Defence and Space, and Mykola Makoviev, CEO of SkyFall, sign the Memorandum of Understanding at the ILA Berlin Air Show in the presence of German Federal Minister of Defence Boris Pistorius. - © Airbus Defence and Space GmbH 2026

[@AirbusDefence](#) [#SkyFall](#) [#ILABerlin](#) [#ESSI](#) [#AirDefence](#) [#DefenceMatters](#)

About Airbus

Airbus pioneers sustainable aerospace for a safe and united world. The Company constantly innovates to provide efficient and technologically-advanced solutions in aerospace, defence, and connected services. In commercial aircraft, Airbus designs and manufactures modern and fuel-efficient airliners and associated services. Airbus is also a European leader in space systems, defence and security. In helicopters, Airbus provides efficient civil and military rotorcraft solutions and services worldwide.

Follow us



If you wish to update your preferences to Airbus Communications, media@airbus.com
If you no longer wish to receive communications from Airbus, media@airbus.com

About SkyFall

SkyFall is a Ukrainian technology and defence company, operating a comprehensive corporate ecosystem that effectively integrates an advanced R&D center, scalable production lines, and the specialized SkyFall Academy, that provides expertise in deploying its own combat-proven solutions. SkyFall develops and manufactures the legendary “Vampire” drone – a bomber that the enemy nicknamed “Baba Yaga” and that became the foundation of the Ukrainian military’s unmanned force. The company also manufactures Shrike FPV drones, P1-SUN “Shahed” interceptors, communication systems, and components – high-tech engineering solutions that operate effectively on the front line. Using SkyFall drones, Ukrainian defenders have already destroyed enemy personnel and equipment worth tens of billions of dollars.

Newsroom

Contacts for the media

Maximilian Mayr

Airbus Defence and
Space

+49 1605044058

maximilian.mayr@airbus.
com

**Head of
Communications**

SkyFall

+38 0673889498

partners@skyfall.ua

**Communications
Specialist**

SkyFall

+380638056090

partners@skyfall.ua

Follow us



If you wish to update your preferences to Airbus Communications, media@airbus.com
If you no longer wish to receive communications from Airbus, media@airbus.com