

Fast deployment and intervention at sea are critical in several defence scenarios, and manned and unmanned aerial vehicles are commonly used for fast exploration and response in these situations. The development of autonomous vehicles that bring together speed, flexibility and energy efficiency is, therefore, of critical importance.

SEAWINGS is a defence project funded by the European Defence Fund, action EDF-2021-OPEN-R-SME-2, which is developing unmanned wing-in-ground (WIG) effect vehicles designed to operate in the sea/air interface, to increase strategic preparedness and to perform defence-related operations and missions in Europe.

These vehicles can provide key advantages for ISR (Intelligence, Surveillance, Reconnaissance) activities such as border monitoring, surveillance of maritime traffic, and maritime search and rescue due to a unique set of characteristics: speed and energy efficiency, very high payloads, inexpensive, long-range, reduced infrastructure for take-off and landing, and stealthy.

SEAWINGS will conduct a series of complementary research, simulation, and assessment activities to confirm and demonstrate its potential capabilities for a range of well-defined military and defence scenarios.

In addition, pilot tests will demonstrate the vehicle's capabilities in representative environments.



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POTENTIAL SCENARIOS

Patrolling and surveillance

Threat: Piracy activities jeopardising GNSS signals.

Challenge: provide real-time data in a GNSS-denied environment, to be able to know the location of the craft when operating BVLOS (Beyond Visual Line of Sight).



Search and rescue

Threat: Defended air space, Enemy anti-aircraft artillery.

Challenge: locate and safely rescue a fighter pilot in an unknown location close to the air space and territorial waters of an enemy country.



VEHICLE TAILORED TO END-USER REQUIREMENTS

One of the key steps in the development of the vehicle is to gather vital information from potential end-users of the forthcoming solution, to understand what would be most useful and exploitable in terms of case scenarios, mechanical properties, autonomy, and other functions.



YOU CAN TAKE PART IN THIS INNOVATIVE JOURNEY WITHIN THE EUROPEAN DEFENCE SCENARIO!

We invite you to participate in our digital survey, in which we ask your insights and views regarding needs and constraints for the vehicle. Your time and dedication is greatly appreciated by the SEAWINGS team!

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