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# Arab Defense Industry Papers News Bulletin

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## The Big Picture

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### Egypt

*Daily News Egypt, 7 December 2018.* “Egyptian President Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi met with Sudan’s Minister of Defense Awad Bin Owf (...), to discuss bilateral relations (...). (...) Al-Sisi stressed the importance of continuing military cooperation and exchanging experiences between the armed forces in the two countries, particularly in training, security, and intelligence cooperation, as well as the defense industry” (<https://bit.ly/2QvAV Ae>).

### Iran

*Tehran Times, 2 December 2018.* “According to Amir Rastegari, Managing Director, Marine Industries Organization, Ministry of Defense, Iran’s Qadir-class submarine has been equipped with subsurface-to-surface missiles” (<https://bit.ly/2zWAZi6>).

*Jane’s Defence Weekly, 23 November 2018.* “A British man has been jailed for two-and-a-half years for smuggling fighter aircraft parts to Iran. Alexander George was sentenced in the Old Bailey, London, on 22 November after being found guilty of shipping parts to Tehran for Russian-built MiG and US-built McDonnell Douglas F-4 Phantom aircraft. Two co-defendants had previously received suspended jail sentences for their involvement” (<https://bit.ly/2PtNOW5>).

### Jordan

*Petra*, 28 November 2018. "His Majesty King Abdullah II of Jordan met in Tokyo with Japanese Defense Minister Takeshi Iwaya and discussed with him means to expand military cooperation between Jordan and Japan. The King and the Japanese Minister also reviewed regional and international efforts to fight terrorism within a holistic approach" (<https://bit.ly/2Ejp8gX>).

*Petra/WAM*, 22 November 2018. "His Majesty King Abdullah II, the Supreme Commander of the Jordan Armed Forces and the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the United Arab Emirates Armed (UAE) Forces Sheikh Mohammad bin Zayed al Nahyan, attended a ceremony, at al-Husseiniya Palace, to rename the Rapid Intervention Brigade to become the Brigade of His Highness Sheikh Mohammad bin Zayed al Nahyan/Rapid Intervention" (<https://bit.ly/2RY7hA3>).

### GCC

*Bahrain News Agency*, 9 November 2018. According to the Riyadh Declaration issued at the 39th GCC Summit, GCC members have agreed to appoint a commander for the joint military command and issued instructions to set up a Gulf Academy for Security and Strategic Studies. Details remain to be provided (<https://bit.ly/2zVrtLX>).

### Qatar

*Reuters*, 29 November 2018. "Qatar will more than double its naval forces (currently fewer than 3,000 members) by 2025 as a massive new base comes online and it expands a national service program amid a protracted dispute with neighbors which it says requires greater self-reliance. (...) Qatari defense officials said the buildup has been planned for several years, and predates a Saudi Arabia-led political and economic boycott imposed since June 2017 (...). But they also said the tensions underscored the need to boost domestic capabilities" (<https://reut.rs/2E4I5F4>).

*Gulf Times*, 26 November 2018. On the occasion of the fourth meeting of the Qatar-Turkey Supreme Strategic Committee in Istanbul both nations agree on cooperation in the field of electronic warfare and exchanging members of the armed forces for training purposes (<https://bit.ly/2P4bnVb>).

*Department of Defense*, 15 November 2018. The Defense Ministers of Qatar and the United States met in Washington, DC to "discuss a proposal for an inclusive strategic alliance. (Secretary Mattis) said the idea, which was proposed in the Middle East, would be one that brings together all partners to address shared challenges. 'We are committed to working by, with and through allies across the region to make this concept a reality and to deter hostile actors,' Mattis said" (<https://bit.ly/2UH62ay>).

### Saudi Arabia

*Reuters*, 22 November 2018. "Denmark has suspended future arms exports to Saudi Arabia amid the country's growing concerns over the conflict in

Yemen and the killing of a dissident Saudi journalist” (<https://bit.ly/2UCarLM>).

*Bloomberg*, 22 November 2018. “Finland won’t grant new arms export permits for sales to Saudi Arabia or the United Arab Emirates, citing an ‘alarming humanitarian situation in Yemen’” (<https://bloom.bg/2UGVCr4>).

*Reuters*, 19 November 2018. “Germany (...) pressured its arms manufacturers to stop authorized shipments, something a spokesman said meant: ‘there are currently no (arms) exports from Germany to Saudi Arabia.’ Germany already suspended issuing future export weapons export licenses to Saudi Arabia last month” (<https://reut.rs/2EqVeIA>).

*Jane’s Defence Weekly*, 14 November 2018. “The Saudi-led coalition announced on 10 November that its aircraft would no longer be refuelled by US Air Force (USAF) tankers, according to a statement published by the official Saudi Press Agency. The statement attributed the move to a recent increase in the coalition’s ‘capability to independently conduct inflight refuelling in Yemen’” (<https://bit.ly/2C92p61>).

*SPA*, 7 November 2018. Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz laid the foundation for several strategic projects upon visiting the King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology (KACST). Among other things, he laid “the foundation stone of a low-energy nuclear research reactor, the Kingdom’s first of this kind” (<https://bit.ly/2CaQBQI>).

### Syria

*TASS*, 7 November 2018. “Russian technical specialists have completed the reconfiguration of S-300PM/PM-2 air defense systems to the export version S-300PMU-2 Favorit and returned to Russia, a military-diplomatic source told *TASS*. (...) ‘All three battalions armed with S-300PMU-2 systems are ready for combat operation in Syria. Syrian military personnel is now to be instructed in their use,’ he added” (<https://bit.ly/2yZOuwN>).

### Turkey

*Al-Monitor*, 23 November 2018. “The Pentagon shared a classified version of the report with Congress on Nov. 16 that outlines possible delays the program would face from removing Ankara. Defense officials were quick to point out that the report would not impact the US military-to-military relationship with Turkey (...). Turkey builds the fuselage for the F-35 and is establishing engine depots for the airplane throughout Europe” (<https://bit.ly/2ROVO64>).

### United Arab Emirates

*WAM*, 7 December 2018. Mohammed bin Ahmed Al Bowardi, Minister of State for Defense Affairs, has been awarded the South Korean Order of National Security Merit for “outstanding meritorious services in the interest of national security” (<https://bit.ly/2UGBXrj>).

*WAM, 23 November 2018.* "His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, met (...) Florence Parly, Minister of the Armed Forces, and discussed with her ways of consolidating ties of friendship and cooperation between the UAE and France through joint military and defense coordination and cooperation" (<https://bit.ly/2rAOUG6>).

*Bloomberg, 6 November 2018.* "A United Arab Emirates military base in the self-declared republic of Somaliland will begin operating by June (2019) and include a coastal-surveillance system, according to a diplomat involved in talks for the facility" (<https://bloom.bg/2qvFWJu>).

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## Defense Industry

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### Egypt

*Al Defaiya, 10 December 2018.* "Russian Helicopters Holding Company (part of Rostec State Corporation) is completing the creation of Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) Center for Mi-8/17 helicopters based at the facilities of Helwan Factory for Developed Industries (HFDI) in Helwan (Egypt). The Holding Company plans to certify the MRO center in Egypt in 2019" (<https://bit.ly/2GqzNjF>).

### Israel

*Jane's Defence Weekly, 8 November 2018.* "Israel's Ministry of Defense (MoD) announced on 7 November that it has completed development of the Sahar unmanned ground vehicle, which detects and clears improvised explosive devices" (<https://bit.ly/2UE5UZ1>).

### Iran

*Jane's Defence Weekly, 11 December 2018.* "Brigadier General Amir Ali Hajizadeh, the commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Aerospace Force, confirmed to Iran's *Fars News Agency* on 10 December that a medium-range ballistic missile (MRBM) was recently tested" (<https://bit.ly/2UK31WW>).

*Jane's Defence Weekly, 5 December 2018.* "The frigate Sahand officially joined the Islamic Republic of Iran Navy (IRIN) during a ceremony held at the main naval base at Bandar Abbas on 1 December, more than five years after it was ostensibly launched. Classified as a destroyer by the IRIN, the vessel is the third of the navy's Mowj derivatives of the Alvand-class light frigates that were built in the UK for Iran in the 1960s" (<https://bit.ly/2EfEAut>).

*Jane's Defence Weekly, 21 November 2018.* "Iran is producing a copy of the Typhoon 4x4 mine-resistant ambush-protected (MRAP) vehicle made by the Streit Group, it was revealed on 20 November. The Iranian Ministry of Defence held a ceremony at the production facility for the Toufan (or Toofan) to unveil the new vehicle. Five completed Toufans were seen in the Iranian media coverage of the event and at least eight more were seen on the

production line. The *Fars News Agency* reported that the vehicles would be delivered to the Islamic Revolution Guards Corp (IRGC) Ground Force and the police” (<https://bit.ly/2zWQpmr>).

*Jane's Defence Weekly*, 7 November 2018. “Iran has formally launched production of an indigenously developed derivative of the Northrop F-5 Tiger II, known as the Kowsar. (...) While the Kowsar is clearly based on the US-built F-5E/F Tiger II, national media reports it has been equipped with fourth-generation avionics” (<https://bit.ly/2QuiqMo>).

### Oman

*Jane's Defence Weekly*, 24 November 2018. Bell and the Omani Authority for Partnership for Development have signed an agreement. Bell will partner with Techshop Global “to deliver a 1,000m2 makerspace modelling center at the Muscat Innovation Park.” The facility shall be ready by mid-2019 and will “focus on STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and maths) education” (<https://bit.ly/2RRKJkw>).

### Saudi Arabia

*Reuters*, 8 and 20 November 2018. “Saudi Arabia has made a \$1 billion bid for a broad partnership with South African state-owned defense group Denel that would include acquisition of a minority stake in a joint venture with Germany’s Rheinmetall, a source familiar with the offer said.” Although the company and the South African defense industry heavily depend on Saudi Arabian orders, the prospective deal is becoming a political issue in light of the Khashoggi affair. *Reuters* reports that the Democratic Alliance, South Africa’s main opposition party, rejects the deal (<https://reut.rs/2UD4nm9>, <https://reut.rs/2Eq8cX9>).

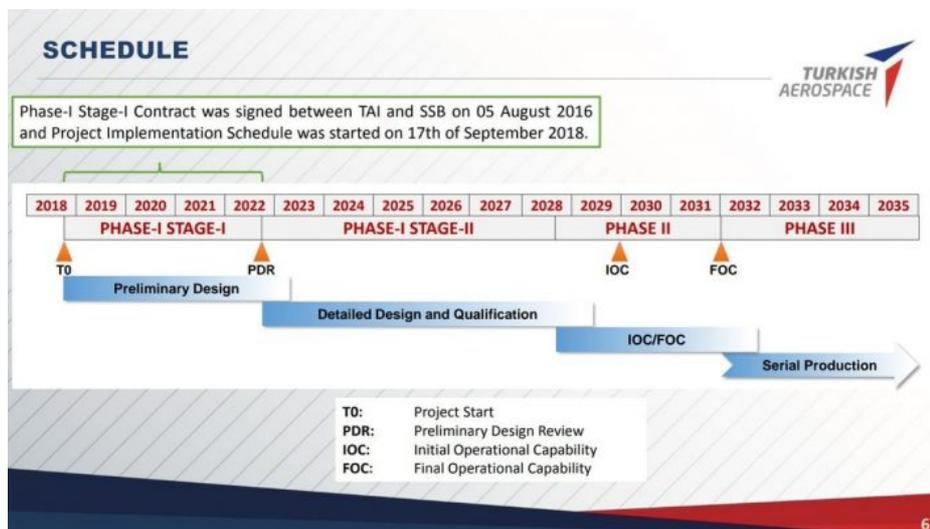
*Al-Arabiya*, 7 November 2018. “The Saudi Military Industries Company (SAMI) and the Spanish company Navantia for Marine Industries announced the launch of their joint venture under the name SAMI Navantia Naval Industries, following the agreement signed last April by the two parties to design and build five reinforced Avanti 2200 (vessels)” (<https://bit.ly/2SIhtNb>).

### Turkey

*Jane's Missiles and Rockets*, 16. November 2018. “Roketsan has disclosed initial details of a new 125 mm manportable short-range anti-tank guided missile (ATGM) that is currently in an accelerated phase of development. (...) Karaok is a single-use, shoulder-launched weapon system with a stated range of 1,000 m-plus. Weighing less than 25 kg (launcher and effector), Karaok is 110 cm long and features an aligned, cruciform fold-out wing and aft fin assembly.” The missile is designed for airborne infantry, amphibious assault units, and special operations forces (<https://bit.ly/2LaPZ04>).

*Defence Blog*, 12 November 2018. Turkish Aerospace Industries (TAI) has released the timetable shown below that outlines the development steps for the TF-X 5th generation fighter jet project. The first jet shall be delivered in

2032. According to Ismail Demir, Head of Turkey's Defense Industry Directorate (SSB), the "door remains open for international engine-makers to get involved" in the project (<https://bit.ly/2CaHDTI>).



Source: <https://bit.ly/2CaHDTI>.

*Jane's Defence Weekly*, 8 November 2018. "Burgazada, Turkey's third corvette built as part of the MILGEM (National Vessel) project, was delivered to the Turkish Naval Forces Command on 4 November. Completion of Kinaliada, the fourth and last MILGEM Ada-class corvette launched on 3 July 2017, is planned to be completed no later than 2020" (<https://bit.ly/2BdPyxn>).

*Reuters*, 2 November 2018. "Turkey's Defence Industry Directorate (SSB) has signed a deal with missile manufacturer Roketsan for the mass production of the country's first marine missiles, the SSB said on Friday. In a statement, the SSB also said Turkish defense electronics company Aselsan would produce launch control systems and other equipment for the missiles, which will be called ATMACA" (<https://reut.rs/2QuvFgc>).

*Jane's Defence Weekly*, 1 November 2018. "The Turkish Defence Industries Directorate (SSB) tweeted on 30 October that Turkey is developing a 20 mm cannon for its T129 attack helicopter. Under the project, a 20 mm cannon with three barrels will be produced locally, with applications for naval and land in addition to air platforms" (<https://bit.ly/2SCX3Fa>).

*Jane's Defence Weekly*, 1 November 2018. Roketsan and the Turkish Defense Industries Directorate (SSB) have signed a contract to produce the Precision Guided Stand-Off Munition. Tübitak and the Defense Industry Research and Development Institute are involved as well (<https://bit.ly/2rxAPZK>).

### United Arab Emirates

*Al Defaiya*, 22 November 2018. Frequentis, the Austrian supplier of "communication and information systems for control centers with safety-critical tasks (...) has officially opened its new UAE office in Abu Dhabi (...) reinforcing its position in the Middle East. The office will provide the region with a permanent sales and support service" (<https://bit.ly/2RWKaGi>).

*Al Defaiya*, 31 October 2018. The Emirates Defense Companies Council (EDCC), which currently has 63 members is “preparing to launch a new strategy that aims to bolster its role in enabling UAE’s defense and security industries, said Mohamed Helal Al Muhairi, Director-General of the Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce and Industry and member of the councils’ Board of Directors” (<https://bit.ly/2LcXN1q>).

## **Defense Exports**

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### **Israel**

*Jane’s Defence Weekly*, 10 December 2018. “The Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Cyprus has ordered a second Saar 62 offshore patrol vessel (OPV) from Israel Shipyards, Haifa, for delivery in early 2020, according to local press reports on 5 December, which a source also confirmed to *Jane’s*” (<https://bit.ly/2Lc4QaI>).

### **Turkey**

*Defense Aerospace*, 7 December 2018. The Air Force of the Philippines has selected the T129 Advanced Attack and Tactical Reconnaissance (ATAK) helicopter made by TAI and AgustaWestland. Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana said on 7 December 2018, that the Air Force “can only get less than 10, maybe eight” ATAK helicopters due to limited funds available. The Philippine Air Force also selected US Black Hawk helicopters to replace a canceled deal with Canada (<https://bit.ly/2ryuHAX>).

*Jane’s International Defense Review*, 26 November 2018. “An international consortium consisting of Indonesia’s PT Pindad, Turkey’s FNSS Savunma Sistemleri, and Belgian CMI Defence has developed the Tiger (or Harimau) medium tank (MT) for Indonesian Army. So far, two examples of Tiger MT have been built; Prototype 1 (P1) in Turkey and Prototype 2 (P2) in Indonesia. Both have been put through extensive firing and mobility trials in their respective countries. In the past this vehicle has also been referred to as the Kaplan Modern Medium Weight Tank (MMWT), but Indonesia refers to it as the Tiger MT. A complete hull and a full-scale mine prototype have also been built for ballistic and mine trials, which were completed in Indonesia” (<https://bit.ly/2Erhull>).

*Daily Sabah*, 18 November 2018. The Anka UAV of Turkish Aerospace Industries (TAI) made it on the short list of the Indonesian Ministry of Defense that wants to procure UAV. TAI is cooperating with PT Dirgantara Indonesia. The name of the contender was not disclosed (<https://bit.ly/2C6YN4a>).

*Defence Blog*, 6 November 2018. Ukraine has acquired an undisclosed number of Bayraktar TB2UCAV from Baykar Makina (<https://bit.ly/2SGCZBS>).

## Defense Modernization and Support

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### Bahrain

*Jane's Defence Weekly*, 20 November 2018. "The upgrade of the second of the Royal Bahrain Naval Force's (RBNF) two MGB 62-class corvettes has been completed, Leonardo announced on 16 November. (...) (T)he upgrade included a new weapon control system, training services, and logistics" (<https://bit.ly/2Pw9nVP>).

### Egypt

*Naval Group*, 6 December 2018. "On December 3rd, at the Egypt Defense and Security Exhibition (EDEX), Naval Group signed an agreement with the Egyptian Navy for the in-service support of the vessels provided by the group over the next five years. This milestone marks a new step in the long-term strategic partnership between Naval Group and the Egyptian Navy" (<https://bit.ly/2ryXFR1>).

*Al Defaiya*, 6 December 2018. "Boeing has announced new plans to launch a Stem centre targeting Egyptian youth between the ages of 12 and 16. The new centre will be established in 2019, to enhance teaching and learning in Stem subject areas, which are science, technology, engineering, and math, providing an array of hands-on extracurricular programs for students, as well as trainings for teachers. (...) The Stem centre will serve 12,060 community members through a combination of a hands-on Stem community events, intensive project-based courses, specialized workshops, and stakeholder events for three years" (<https://bit.ly/2Lgv1wT>).

*Jane's Defence Weekly*, 31 October 2018. "Egypt is to upgrade the engines of an unspecified number of its Lockheed Martin F-16 Fighting Falcon combat aircraft under a USD273.5 million contract announced by the US Department of Defense on 31 October." General Electric will Under the Foreign Military Sales (FMS) contract General Electric (GE) will upgrade the F110-GE-100 powerplants" (<https://bit.ly/2Py8sEA>).

## Defense Procurement

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### Bahrain

*Jane's Defence Weekly*, 15 November 2018. "Bahrain has confirmed the procurement of 12 Bell AH-1Z Viper attack helicopters to augment its fleet of recently upgraded AH-1 Cobras. A deal for the new helicopters was reported at the Bahrain Airshow on 15 November, six-and-a-half months after the US State Department approved the sale" (<https://bit.ly/2AyY2z8>).

### Egypt

*Defense Security Cooperation Agency*, 27 November 2018. "The State Department has made a determination approving a possible Foreign Military Sale to Egypt of forty-six thousand (46,000) M831A1 and M865 rounds and ten

thousand (10,000) APFSDS-T rounds for an estimated cost of \$201 million” (<https://bit.ly/2E4SIaP>).

*Defense Security Cooperation Agency, 27 November 2018; Defence Blog, 28 November 2018.* “The State Department has made a determination approving a possible Foreign Military Sale to Egypt of ten (10) AH-64E Apache Attack Helicopters for an estimated cost of \$1.0 billion.” Press reports suggest that the Apache purchase because the “country’s armed forces faced technical difficulties” with Russian Ka-52 helicopters (<https://bit.ly/2TSLXNI>; <https://bit.ly/2QqVhKS>).

*La Tribune, 5 November 2018; Jane’s Defence Weekly, 9 November 2018.* Egypt has reportedly ordered MekoA-200 frigates from thyssenkrupp Marine Systems. French newspaper *La Tribune* reported to deal was worth €2bn for four ships, whereas German newspaper *Handelsblatt* wrote the contract value was worth €1bn without indicating the number of ships. *La Tribune* also argued that Saudi Arabia was blocking the deal because of Germany’s decision to halt defense exports to the country (<https://bit.ly/2BbQ2Ew>; <https://bit.ly/2zXHLUO>).

### Israel

*Defence Blog, 21 November 2018.* “According to *Ynetnews* citing the Israeli Government, the purchase of advanced version of F-15 has already been approved by the government, and the first of the aircraft is expected to arrive in Israel as soon as 2023. In the meantime, the Israeli Air Force (IAF) will continue purchasing F-35 aircraft” (<https://bit.ly/2UER7gX>).

### Iran

*Defence Blog, 27 November 2018.* “The Islamic Republic of Iran Air Force is considering the purchase of Pakistani-made JF-17 Thunder fighter jets to progressively replace its ageing F-14 and MiG-29 fighter jets” (<https://bit.ly/2C9JUOI>).

### Kuwait

*KUNA, 6 November 2018.* “Kuwait is set to receive its first batch of Eurofighter Typhoon fighter jets in the fourth quarter of 2020, the Commander of the country’s Air Force said” (<https://bit.ly/2QLkZZW>).

### Lebanon

*Defence Blog, 27 November 2018.* As part of the French assistance program the Lebanese Army has received ten “VAB HOT Mephisto armored vehicles fitted with anti-tank missile launcher turret, 95 HOT powerful anti-tank missiles and two simulation systems” (<https://bit.ly/2QqbNuB>).

### Oman

*Jane’s Defence Weekly, 13 November 2018.* “Oman has been revealed as the potential customer for the desert-optimised K2 main battle tank that Hyundai

Rotem displayed during the DX Korea exhibition held in Seoul in September. Citing industry sources, South Korea's *Pulse* news website reported on 12 November that the tank had been tested in Oman in July as part of a bid to sell 76 tanks to the sultanate, a deal that could be worth up to KRW1 trillion (USD882 million). Oman is expected to make a decision regarding the eventual supplier in the second quarter of 2019" (<https://bit.ly/2zTWJv2>).

### Qatar

*Jane's Defence Weekly*, 27 November 2018. "The first of 36 Boeing F-15QA multirole fighters ordered by Qatar will arrive in the emirate in early 2021, Brigadier General Eisa al-Mohannadi, the Qatari Emiri Air Force (QEAF) officer heading the programme, told journalists during a press trip to Al-Udeid Air Base on 26 November. 'The aircraft deliveries to Qatar [will] begin in early 2021 and will be continued through late 2022, when all 36 aircraft will be in-country,' Gen Eisa said. The first delivery will consist of six F-15QAs and the entire fleet will be fully operational by 2023" (<https://bit.ly/2rybWx5>).

*Defense Security Cooperation Agency*, 27 November 2018. "The State Department has made a determination approving a possible Foreign Military Sale to Qatar of defense articles and services in support of a Direct Commercial Sale of the National Advanced Surface to Air Missile System (NASAMS) for an estimated cost of \$215 million" (<https://bit.ly/2FP108f>).

### Saudi Arabia

*Defence Blog*, 17 November 2018. "Lockheed Martin is being issued a \$282 million contract action modification for production of four Multi-Mission Surface Combatant ships (MMSC) for Saudi Arabia" (<https://bit.ly/2EkvU6l>).

*Jane's Navy International*, 9 November 2018. "The timetable for the delivery of five corvettes ordered for the Saudi Arabian Navy in July (2018) is to start in October 2021 (...). The remaining four will be handed over in four-month intervals, said Vicente Fernández Guerrero, head of Sociedad Estatal de Participaciones Industriales (SEPI), which controls shipbuilder Navantia" (<https://bit.ly/2zXVLh8>).

### Turkey

*Jane's International Defense Review*, 29 November 2018. "The Turkish armed forces have selected the Pulat hard-kill active protection system (APS), a local joint development of Aselsan and SSB, as part of an urgent operational requirement to improve survivability for its tank fleet following experience against anti-tank guided missiles (ATGMs) during Operation 'Euphrates Shield' and Operation 'Olive Branch'" (<https://bit.ly/2P6T8yo>).

*Jane's International Defense Review*, 26 November 2018. "Officials from Turkey's Presidency of Defence Industries (SSB) have revealed details of the three variants to be produced for the Altay main battle tanks (MBTs) programme by local company BMC. The total contract, which was announced as signed on 9 November, is for 251 units of the Altay MBT in three variants and includes lifecycle logistics support. Of this number, 40 will be the T1 variant, which is

similar to the four prototype models that have completed testing, and is scheduled to be in service with the Turkish armed forces in 2021. The next 210 vehicles will be of the Altay T2 standard, featuring increased protection and improved situational awareness systems. The T2 variant is expected to begin deliveries shortly after the tranche of T1 standard tanks have been handed over. A single T3 variant is to be built and will feature an unmanned turret with a bustle-mounted autoloader. This T3 variant, scheduled for qualification in 2024, is understood to be intended for further trials and technical evaluation rather than for service with the Turkish Armed Forces. Turkey is also planning to procure 60 armoured recovery and 50 mine clearance variants of the Altay, which will be based on the T1 variant's chassis" (<https://bit.ly/2QrLCUj>).

### United Arab Emirates

*Reuters, 30 November 2018.* The state-owned UAE defense company ADASI has cancelled a contract for eight unmanned P1.HH UAV from Italian manufacturer Piaggio Aerospace. According to Reuters, four drones have already been produced and were expected to be delivered to the UAE Air Force in January 2019. The cancellation of the UAE, the sole customer and majority owner of the company, is another blow for Piaggio Aerospace that sought protection from creditors recently (<https://reut.rs/2DY4raf>).

## Military Cooperation and Training

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### Egypt

*Al Defaiya, 13 December 2018.* "Egypt's and Jordan's military forces will start joint military exercise Aqaba 4 on 21 December, according to the Egyptian Ministry of Defense. The exercise will include infantry forces as well as commandos, paratroopers, the air force, and special navy units" (<https://bit.ly/2zVuJY2>).

*Daily News Egypt, 9 November 2018.* "Egyptian and French naval forces started a maritime training exercise in the northern Mediterranean on (7 December 2018). The training activities will provide ways to deal with the challenges facing maritime security, combating terrorism, protecting a vital sea target such as gas and oil ships. It will further include the implementation of sailing formations, signal-handling exercises, air attack prevention, training to protect a ship if crossing hazardous areas, and to inspect suspected vessels" (<https://bit.ly/2Pvr9st>).

### Oman

*AlArabiya, 5 November 2018.* The UK is to open a new joint military training base in Oman in March 2019, Defense Secretary Gavin Williamson said at the conclusion of Saif Sareea 3, the bilateral exercise that included 5,500 British military personnel (<https://bit.ly/2LaSeAs>).

## Cybersecurity and Space

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### Bahrain

*SpaceWatch Middle East, 22 November 2018.* “Bahrain is likely to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on space cooperation with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) in early 2019, in order to send Bahraini engineers to India for training in satellite technologies and manufacturing. The MoU, once signed, will further establish ISRO as a major player in Gulf Arab space ambitions” (<https://bit.ly/2BgMKzT>).

*SpaceWatch Middle East, 21 November 2018.* The United Arab Emirates Space Agency (UAESA) has signed a Declaration of Principles with Bahrain’s National Space Science Agency (NSSA), and the UAE’s Khalifa University (KU), for the training of the Bahrain Space Team” (<https://bit.ly/2Eb0zDy>).

### Iran

*SpaceWatch Middle East, 10 December 2018.* “Azerbaijan and Iran have concluded negotiations on space cooperation, to include the Iranian use of Azerbaijani communications satellites and the joint development of a remote sensing satellite” (<https://bit.ly/2GqxJkT>).

### Jordan

*AlBawaba, 4 December 2018.* Jordan has launched its first nanosatellite into orbit. JY1-SAT orbits the earth at 600km. JY1 was the call sign of the late King Hussein (<https://bit.ly/2Qtvq51>).

### Saudi Arabia

*Arab News, 7 December 2018.* Saudi Arabia’s earth-observation satellites Sat 5a and Saudi Sat 5b were launched from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center on 7 December 2018. The satellites were developed by the King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology and will be used to provide high-resolution images, inter alia, to support urban planning (<https://bit.ly/2Bgiy7E>).

### Syria

*SpaceWatch Middle East, 13 December 2018.* “The Syrian Minister of Communications and Technology, Iyad Khatib, has stated the need for Syria to develop a space programme and launch its first satellite into orbit” (<https://bit.ly/2RTDPLC>).

### Turkey

*SpaceWatch Middle East, 7 November 2018.* “Turkish defence contractor Roketsan and the Turkish Presidency of Defence Industries (SSB) have signed an agreement that intends to transform Turkey into a space launching state, as well as a satellite manufacturing hub” (<https://bit.ly/2QsxEl6>).

**About the ADIP News Bulletin**

The Arab Defense Industry Papers (ADIP) is a new professional series focusing on the role of the defense industry in Algeria Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, and the United Arab Emirates. The focus of the series is on the establishment of national defense industrial bases in these countries and joint collaborative defense projects as well as defense exports. The ADIP News Bulletin complements the analytical papers by providing information about current and upcoming developments relevant for the Arab defense industrial establishment. The ADIP News Bulletin is available by subscription. ADIP and the ADIP News Bulletin are joint initiatives of Borchert Consulting & Research AG and Verocy. For more information about ADIP, see: <http://www.arabdefenseindustry.com>.

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