
Türkiye, UK deepen defense ties with Eurofighter MoU



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ISTANBUL — In a significant move to advance defense collaboration, Türkiye and the United Kingdom signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on Wednesday concerning Türkiye's future role as an operator of the Eurofighter Typhoon combat aircraft.

The agreement was formalized by Turkish Defense Minister Yasar Guler and UK Defense Secretary John Healey during the 17th International Defense Industry Fair (IDEF) in Istanbul. According to Türkiye's Ministry of National Defense, the MoU represents a key step toward finalizing a comprehensive agreement that would bring Türkiye into the circle of Eurofighter Typhoon users. "This document codifies the relationship between the countries, taking them one step closer to a full agreement on Typhoon," the ministry said, highlighting the shared ambition to conclude necessary arrangements swiftly.

The two ministers reaffirmed the enduring strength of Türkiye–UK defense cooperation, emphasizing its foundation in NATO and expanding bilateral ties in defense industry and security. Both sides committed to deepening their strategic partnership in support of the alliance's collective deterrence.

Progress on the export of the Eurofighter Typhoon was noted as encouraging. Welcoming Türkiye into the Typhoon program is expected to bolster long-standing NATO cooperation and significantly enhance Türkiye's advanced combat air capabilities.

The MoU is seen as the beginning of a new era in bilateral defense collaboration, opening doors to greater capability sharing and reciprocal procurement of high-end defense technologies.

The signing underscores both nations' determination to strengthen industrial partnerships and

security cooperation, reinforcing their positions within NATO and the global defense landscape.