

## **Statement on the University's approach to relationships with organisations operating in the defence sector**

We recognise the complexity of the contemporary defence and security landscape and approach all partnerships with care, transparency, and appropriate institutional oversight. Edinburgh Napier University engages with defence and security partners in ways that are consistent with our academic mission, our responsibilities as a UK university, including legal responsibilities, and our commitment to contribute positively to society.

In line with our ethical investment policy, the University does not and will not seek to profit directly from the manufacture of weaponry or weapons systems. We recognise the legitimate role of defence in safeguarding UK national security, where it promotes international stability, and where it protects civilian populations. Our research and partnerships therefore focus on areas such as education, workforce development, policy, strategy, resilience, cyber security, human factors, veterans' transition, and the wider social, ethical, and operational dimensions of defence activity.

All collaborations are subject to ethical and governance review to ensure alignment with our values, legal obligations, and the principles of the Armed Forces Covenant.

Through this balanced and responsible approach, the University will approach partnerships through evidence-based decision-making, where it aligns with our values, strengthens societal resilience, and contribute constructively to the defence and security challenges of an increasingly complex world.