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International Survey: Intellectual Property Management in Defence Procurement Agencies

PURPOSE OF THE SURVEY

This survey forms part of an academic research project conducted within a habilitation-level monograph on Intellectual Property Management in the Defence Sector.

Its purpose is to analyse how defence acquisition, armament, and innovation institutions govern intellectual property rights (IPRs) in practice, across legal, organisational, lifecycle, and strategic dimensions.

The survey is not an audit and does not assess compliance with any external standards.

All responses will be used exclusively for aggregated, anonymised academic analysis.

Instructions

- The unit of analysis is the institution, not the individual respondent.
- Please answer based on prevailing institutional practice.
- Multiple answers are allowed where indicated.
- If a question does not fully reflect your institutional situation, please use the "Other" option.

Section A - Institutional Profile

A.1 Country

Estonia

A.2 Name of institution

Estonian Centre for Defence Investments

A.3 Institutional role (multiple choice possible)

Ministry of Defence / Central Authority

Defence procurement agency

Armament agency

Defence innovation / R&D agency

Hybrid or combined institution

Other (please specify): _____

A.4 Scope of responsibility across the weapon-system lifecycle (multiple choice)

Research and development

Procurement and acquisition

System integration and certification

Sustainment and maintenance

Modernisation and upgrades

Disposal / decommissioning

Other (please specify): _____

Section B - Formal Framework for IPR Management

B.1 Does your institution operate under a formal legal or regulatory framework governing IPRs in defence programmes?

Yes

Partially

No

B.2 Who formally owns IPRs generated or acquired in defence programmes?

State / Ministry of Defence

Defence agency

Industry contractor

Mixed / shared ownership

Other: _____

B.3 Is responsibility for IPR-related decisions formally assigned within your institution?

Yes - central authority within the agency

Yes - designated unit without agency-level authority

No - handled ad hoc

Other: _____

B.4 Are IPR-related decisions formally linked to strategic documents?

Yes - defence strategy

Yes - industrial / innovation strategy

Yes - both defence and industrial strategies

No

B.5 Sources of Acquisition or Generation of IPRs

Which channels are used by your institution to acquire or generate IPRs? (Multiple choice)

Publicly funded R&D programmes

Defence procurement contracts (including licences)

Offset / industrial participation / ToT / ToK arrangements

Special or integrated programmes (e.g. system integration creating unique IPRs)

Other (please specify): _____

B.6 Differentiation of Governance by IPR Source

Does your institution apply differentiated IPR governance approaches depending on the source of IPR acquisition?

Yes – systematically

Yes – partially

No

Section C - Operational Practice of IPR Management

C.1 Who effectively makes IPR-related decisions in practice?

Central authority within the agency

Designated unit without agency-level authority

Ministry of Defence

External legal or technical advisors

Other: _____

C.2 How frequently are IPR clauses actively negotiated in defence contracts?

Always

Often

Rarely

Never

C.3 Are IPRs actively exercised during the system lifecycle (e.g. modification, integration, sustainment)?

Yes - regularly

Yes - occasionally

No

C.4 Do contractual arrangements provide sufficient rights to use, modify, or integrate defence systems?

Fully

Partially

Not at all

C.5 Does the national legal framework enable effective use of contractually acquired IPRs?

Fully

Partially

Not at all

C.6 How often do formally granted IPRs differ from what can actually be exercised in practice?

Very often

Occasionally

Rarely

Never

Section D - Organisational Capacity and Human Capital

D.1 Does your institution have a dedicated IPR unit or function?

Yes

No

D.2 What competencies are represented in IPR-related teams? (multiple choice)

- X Legal
- X Technical / engineering
- X Procurement
- X Programme management
- Other: _____

D.3 How is institutional knowledge on IPR retained?

- X Formal documentation
- X Dedicated personnel
- Informal / ad hoc
- Not retained systematically

D.4a How are qualifications of staff working with IPRs developed?

- Formal education
- Professional practice
- Dedicated training programmes
- X Combination of the above

D.4b How are staff incentivised to develop IPR-related competencies?

- Salary / remuneration mechanisms
- X Coverage of education or training costs
- Inclusion in annual performance objectives
- No specific incentives

Section E - Learning, Feedback, and Adaptation

E.1 Are past defence programmes analysed from an IPR perspective?

- Yes - systematically
- X Occasionally

No

E.2 Are lessons learned documented and reused in subsequent programmes?

Yes

X Partially

No

Section F - Advanced Instruments and Innovation Ecosystem

F.1 Does your institution use digital tools or IT systems to manage IPRs or technology portfolios?

Yes

X No

F.2 Does your institution cooperate with innovation or venture-type mechanisms? (multiple choice)

X Defence innovation hubs

Accelerators or incubators

Venture capital-type vehicles

Other VC-type or investment vehicles (please specify): _____

None of the above

Section G - Self-Assessment and Model Identification

G.1 How would you characterise your institution's dominant approach to IPR governance?

Administrative / compliance-oriented

Contract-driven

X Strategic / lifecycle-oriented

Adaptive / learning-oriented

G.2 Which statement best describes the role of IPRs in your institution?

IPRs are treated primarily as legal obligations

IPRs support sustainment and operational autonomy

IPRs are managed as a strategic capability

Thank you for your participation.