

## **Trio-Ministers discuss European Defence**

Ministers of Defence from Portugal, Germany and Slovenia, João Gomes Cravinho, Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer and Matej Tonin discuss the current state of European defence efforts today via video link.

Their discussion includes the agenda items: PESCO, the European Peace Facility, the Strategic Compass, and the European Defence Fund.

Together they underline:

***“As a trio of consecutive EU Council Presidencies, we stress the importance of making tangible progress in the field of European defence. Together we aim at fulfilling our ambitions at a high pace.”***

***“Our common goals are to increase our ability to act and to strengthen our resilience.”***

***“We emphasise the need for a strong European pillar within NATO. Increased EU-NATO cooperation complements and fosters the strategic priorities of the EU-NATO Joint Declaration”***

Most recently, the Trio met in-person at the informal EU Defence Ministers Meeting on 26 August 2020 in Berlin. The next EU Defence Ministers meeting is scheduled for 20 November 2020 in Brussels.