

## Hellenic Army to acquire UAS Patroller

The Hellenic Army's adoption of this advanced UAV marks a modernization effort to keep pace with contemporary military technologies and enhance situational awareness and operational effectiveness.

In June 2023 the French company Safran announced that the Hellenic Army has chosen the UAS Patroller to with four new tactical drones to be added to the country's current Sperwer drones. NATO Support and Procurement Agency (NSPA) was tasked by its Greek customer to enter into negotiations with Safran. According to information, the first system of the new third-generation Unmanned Aerial Vehicle of the French Patroller Army is expected to be received in early 2025.

The French Patroller UAV represents a significant step forward in unmanned aerial technology for military applications. This third-generation UAV is designed to enhance reconnaissance, intelligence, and operational capabilities at various levels—tactical, operational, and strategic. Here's a summary of the key points about this system:

### Key Capabilities:

- Operates for 15 hours continuously
- Reaches an altitude of 16,000 feet
- Maximum range of 180 kilometers
- Top speed of 200 km/h
- Real-time imagery for operations centers
- Detection, tracking, and acquisition of targets.
- Support for damage assessment and 3D mapping
- Able to coordinate with firepower to neutralize enemy targets

The Patroller UAV was first showcased at Eurosatory 2024, an international defense exhibition in Paris, in collaboration with Safran and the French Army. Its maiden test flight occurred in November 2024, and the first systems are expected to be delivered by early 2025.

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The Patroller leverages over 30 years of technological breakthroughs within Safran Electronics & Defense in the field of tactical drone systems specializing in navigation systems, onboard electronics and optronics. Building on this extensive expertise, Safran develops in France top-flight solutions for mission planning and execution, flight control, navigation, sensors, data links and integration in C4ISR\* architectures.

The Patroller is fitted with multiple sensors for intelligence missions on behalf of armies and homeland security forces. Featuring a number of innovative technologies, Patroller benefits from the expertise acquired by Safran Electronics & Defense on the Sperwer tactical drone system, while incorporating feedback from nine years of continuous deployment in Afghanistan.

In February 2023, Patroller became the first tactical drone system to be officially certified to NATO airworthiness standard STANAG 4671, applicable to fixed-wing drones weighing more than 150 kilograms. This certification is a vital prerequisite for protection and homeland security missions.

This latest selection, in continuity with Sperwer in service today, and the addition of Patroller to the NATO offers confirm Safran Electronics & Defense's European leadership in tactical drones. Patroller offers unrivaled versatility, ranging from support for land forces to maritime and border monitoring, enabling it to perform a wide variety of surveillance missions

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