



**Craig Whittaker MP**

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## **EU Army**

Thank you for contacting me about an EU Army.

The Government has always been crystal clear that defence is a national, not an EU responsibility. In no circumstances could Brussels direct deployment of UK forces without the specific agreement of the UK Government, and if an EU army were to be proposed, it would be subject to national veto. Therefore, while the UK remains a full member of the EU until such time as we leave it, UK forces will not be part of an EU army.

That being said, the Government has sent a strong message to allies and partners that the result of the referendum on EU membership will have no impact on any of the UK's NATO commitments, and NATO remains the cornerstone of our defence policy. The UK will be leaving the EU, but the Government is not reducing its commitment to European security; we are not turning our back on Europe or the rest of the world.

Thank you again for contacting me.

Kind regards,

Craig Whittaker MP