

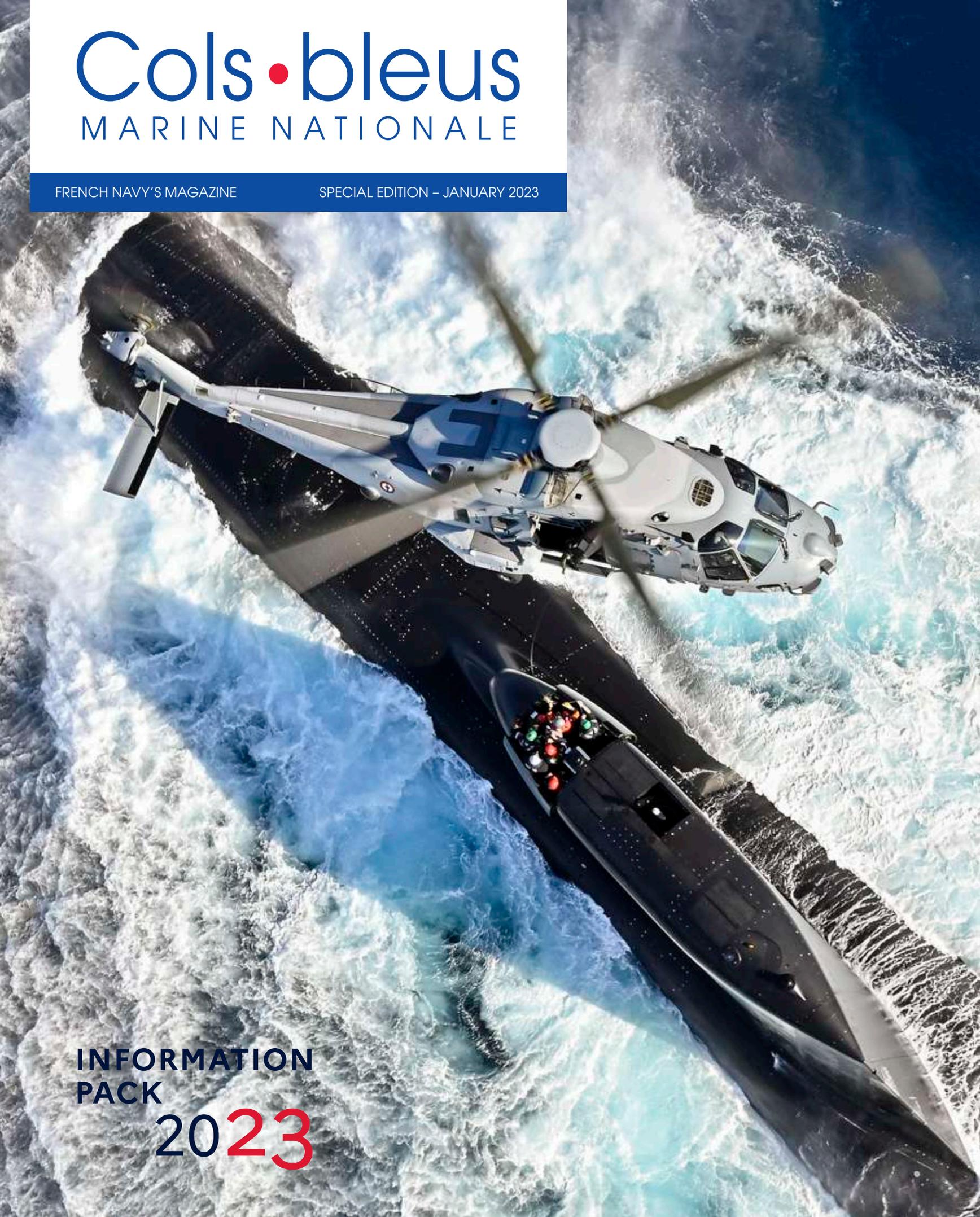
# Cols•bleus

MARINE NATIONALE

FRENCH NAVY'S MAGAZINE

SPECIAL EDITION – JANUARY 2023

INFORMATION  
PACK  
2023





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**WARNING:** The figures quoted correspond to the 2022 summary available on the closing date of this document and are closed on 30 November 2022, unless otherwise stated.



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# Geopolitics

## [ Maritime issues ]

The oceans are both spaces of resources and flows. Fisheries resources, for example, with nearly 3.5 billion people who depend on the sea for sustenance. Or even energy or mineral resources from the seabed. Regarding flows, 90% of our commercial products pass by the seas at some time, while 97% of Internet data passes through cables laid on the seabed. The oceans are areas of great wealth, and therefore at the forefront of the development of our societies.

Although these riches are a common property of humanity, the competition for their capture becomes fierce. There are many symptoms. Illegal, unregulated and undeclared fishing, in some areas, is akin to the actual looting of natural areas. It impoverishes coastal countries and compromises the ability of these spaces to regenerate. Piracy is another example. Its manifestations are clearly decreasing, whether in the Indian Ocean or in the Gulf of Guinea, even if acts of robbery remain stable or even increase in certain parts of the world. The sea is an area of freedom, but also the setting for many illicit traffics, such as drug trafficking, which is a scourge on a global scale.

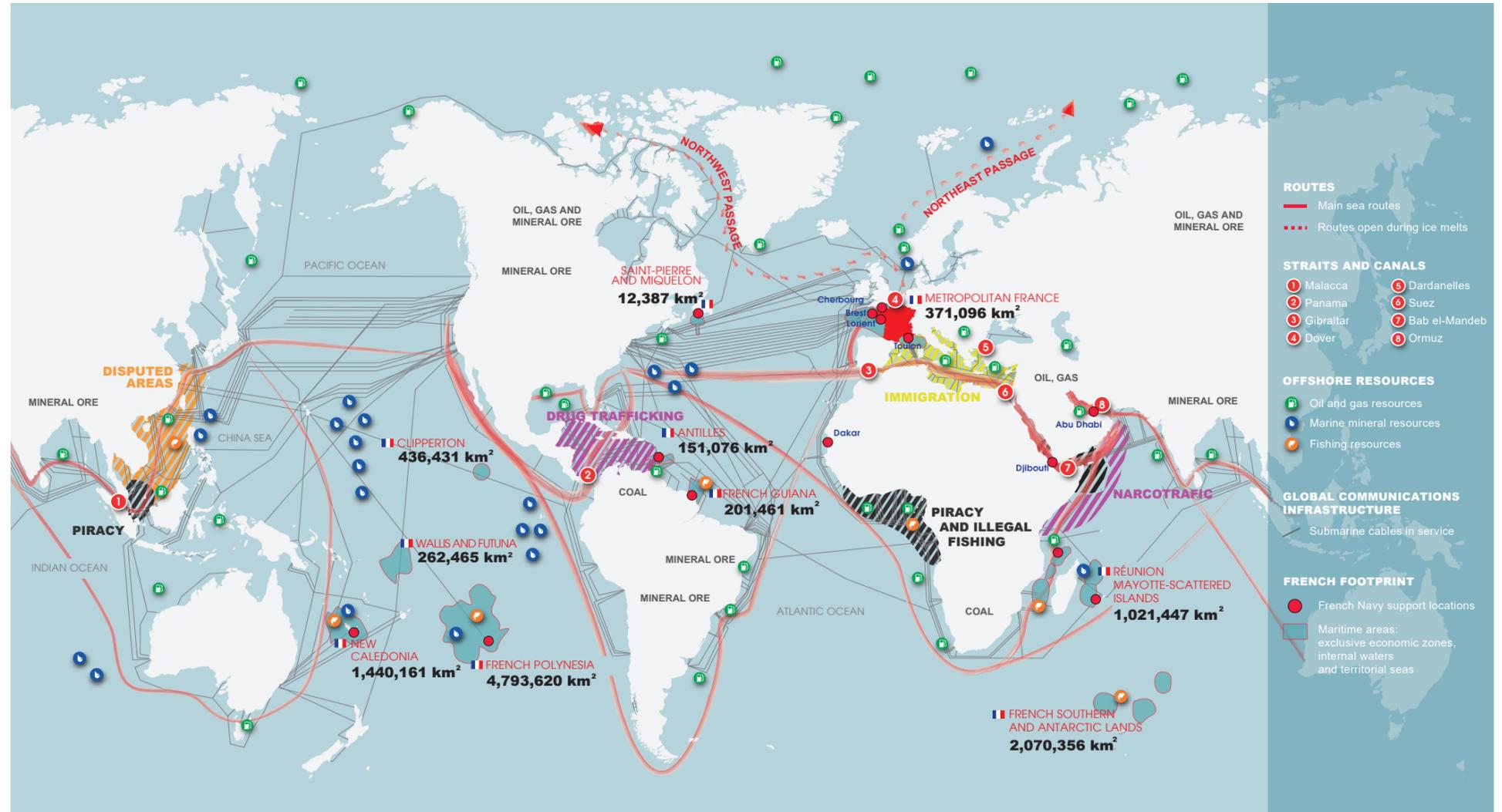
With cyber space and exoatmospheric space, the high seas are a common space, by nature with little or no regulation. In these environments, technology drives practices, which drive laws. Thus, the first to occupy an orbit in space can claim its use and ownership. The same is true at sea: the first to exploit the seabed might be tempted to claim ownership. This reality requires the French Navy to be present in these spaces to monitor them and respond to this challenge. A well-known maxim among sailors says: "What is not watched is eventually pillaged, and what is pillaged is eventually disputed".

A final trait is fundamental to understanding geopolitical balances at sea: fluidity. There is no barrier or trench at the border of our maritime zones. No customs post at the border of territorial waters. The water does not change colour when leaving the EEZ. All uses intersect at sea: the passenger liner rubs shoulders with the fishing boat, which occupies the same space as the warship. The sea is a place of civil-military duality by nature, where all nations get in contact, whether they are allies or competitors.

This issue takes on a singular importance in the current context of naval rearmament, both quantitative (the number of military ships is increasing) and qualitative (armaments and systems are more and more sophisticated).

This observation creates a form of volatility. It requires preparing for the return of naval combat to protect our interests and defend our maritime zones, whether in mainland France or overseas. The means provided for in the military programming law 2024-2030 will live up to this ambition.

The French Navy continues to adapt to this new requirement to prepare today for the challenges of tomorrow.



Key FIGURES



**41,150** sailors engaged at sea, on land or in the air, in the service of France



**71%** of the planet is covered by maritime areas, i.e. 361 million km<sup>2</sup>



**70%** of the world's populations lives in coastal areas, less than 100 km from the coast



**90%** of world trade uses maritime routes



**99%** of telecommunications pass through submarine cables



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# Strategic functions

[ On all the seas of the world ]

With more than 40,000 sailors, the French Navy operates on all seas and all oceans, 365 days a year, 24 hours a day. First of all, it is a central player in French deterrence. It ensures the safety of the French people, of France's maritime approaches and interests at sea. As close as possible to crises and natural disasters, it intervenes and provides assistance to populations in need. It invests in the knowledge and understanding of the maritime environment.

From the seabed to cyberspace, French Navy vessels collect crucial information for the defence of the country's interests, the free movement of armed forces at sea and the conduct of operations. To these strategic functions is now added that of influence, announced in the 2022 *National Strategic Review*.

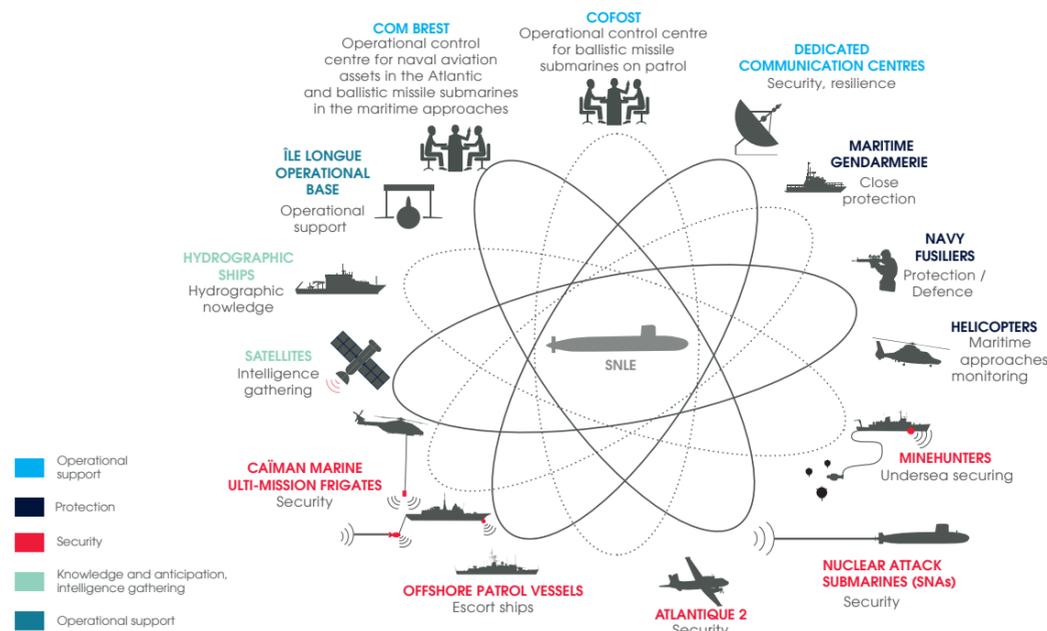
## Deterrence

For 50 years, at least one ballistic missile nuclear submarine (SNLE) has been constantly patrolling the sea to carry out the oceanic component of French nuclear deterrence. As a last resort, the nuclear deterrent remains the keystone of our security and the guarantee of our vital interests. It is based on three capability pillars: the oceanic component, the airborne component (including the nuclear naval aviation / FANu) and strategic communications. All the forces of the French Navy participate in the deterrence mission and thus contribute to its credibility.



©JP.PONS/MN

### OPERATIONAL CONTRIBUTORS TO OCEANIC DETERRENCE



**50**  
years of  
uninterrupted  
SNLE patrol  
at sea

**1,158**  
historic  
ordnances  
neutralised  
in 2022

## Protection

As much an armed force of the seas as an actor of public service, the French Navy protects the maritime approaches, the French people and the vital interests of the country on a daily basis. The permanent maritime safeguard posture (PPSM) enables these missions through two components. The maritime territorial defence (DMT) is guaranteed by the semaphorists, Navy fusiliers, maritime gendarmes, operational centres of the Navy (COM), as well as by the ships and aircraft in operation. The other missions of public interest, which come under the State action at sea (AEM), include in particular rescue missions, fisheries policing, pollution control and mine clearance.

### MARITIME TERRITORIAL DEFENCE

As part of the maritime territorial defence (DMT), the French Navy protects nearly 20,000 kilometres of coastline thanks to a dedicated scheme. The 58 semaphores present along the coasts constitute the first line of defence of the territory. The challenge: to provide information on any suspicious or hostile activity carried out against the territory from the sea, to anticipate the response to be provided or even to intervene.

### STATE ACTION AT SEA (AEM)

The French Navy provides seaborne, airborne and land-based resources to accomplish public interest missions carried out by the State. They include fisheries policing, the fight against pollution at sea and illicit trafficking, mine clearance operations in maritime approaches, as well as search and rescue at

**4,334**  
people  
rescued or  
assisted (SAR)



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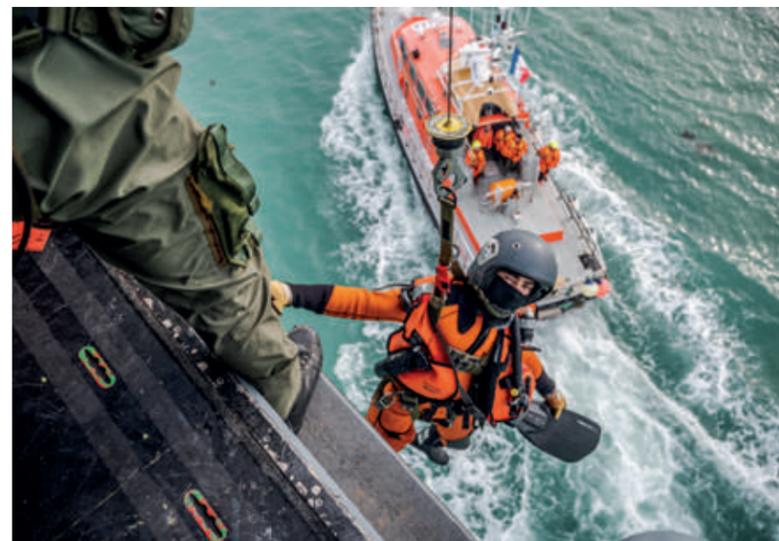
sea, coordinated by the regional operational centres for surveillance and rescue (CROSS). In August 2022, following violent weather, the French Navy deployed resources in Corsica. The AEM is subordinate to the maritime prefect in mainland France and to the government delegate overseas.

### SEABED CONTROL (MFM)

The seabed (beyond 200 metres deep, and with an average depth of 3,800 metres) covers two thirds of the planet and is becoming an integral part of military action. Included in the ten objectives of the President of the Republic's "France 2030" plan and the subject of a ministerial strategy since the beginning of 2022, the seabed is an environment of crucial interest. Thanks to its underwater drones (AUV for autonomous underwater vehicle), its underwater robots (ROV for remotely operated vehicle) and its hydrographic and oceanographic vessels, the French Navy observes, analyses and operates at great depths. The presence of France on the seabed also demonstrates the desire to preserve freedom of access to common areas, which are increasingly coveted or contested.

### HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

Present on the various seas of the globe, the French Navy has the means to provide assistance and relief to people in distress during natural or industrial disasters. In August 2021, for example, following a violent earthquake that hit Haiti, the surveillance frigate *Germinale* transported 47 tonnes of humanitarian cargo.



©B.PAPIN/MN

## Prévention - awareness and anticipation

The French Navy deploys its naval, submarine and naval aviation resources to improve knowledge of the strategic context, to maintain support locations and reliable relationships in potential or confirmed crisis areas. Electromagnetic, acoustic or optical intelligence is collected by numerous sensors present on its ships and aircraft. Through its deployments, the French Navy thus guarantees France's autonomous capacity for assessment and decision-making and participates in crisis prevention.

### MEDITERRANEAN SEA

Western Asia, North Africa and Southern Europe: the Mediterranean Sea, which borders three continents, has always been a strategic maritime area.

In the Eastern Mediterranean, the French Navy has been participating since 2014 in the international coalition against Islamist terrorism in Iraq and Syria (Operation CHAMMAL). In the central Mediterranean, it was deployed as part of Operation CLEMENCEAU 22 from February to April 2022, then ANTARES, from November 2022, to strengthen NATO's defensive and deterrent posture on the eastern flank of Europe.



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### GULF OF GUINEA

The French Navy is almost permanently present in the Gulf of Guinea thanks to Mission Corymbe. It thus participates in the maritime security of the area and carries out operational patrols with the navies bordering the gulf. The French Navy notably took part in the annual regional air-sea training GRAND AFRICAN NEMO 2022 (GANO), which brought together 17 of the 19 nations bordering the Gulf of Guinea and eight partner nations.

### FAR NORTH

The new maritime traffic routes linked to global warming as well as the mineral resources present in the Far North make this region a strategic area. The French Navy regularly deploys its resources there, both to get to know it better and to demonstrate France's desire to enforce the principle of freedom of navigation.

### PACIFIC OCEAN

The presence of the French Navy in the Pacific - particularly in French Polynesia and New Caledonia - is essential to the defence of French sovereignty, security at sea and the protection of resources and the environment. Navy ships and aircraft operate within the Armed Forces in French Polynesia (FAPF) and New Caledonia (FANC), alongside French Air and Space Force aircraft and French Army units.



©C.WASSILIEFF/MN

**7.5** million nautical miles travelled by French Navy aircraft, i.e. 375 trips around the world

## Intervention

Faced with a crisis, French Navy ships can be deployed quickly and freely anywhere in the world. At sea or from the sea, they carry out the missions defined by the political authorities: landing of forces, deep strikes, evacuation of nationals and humanitarian assistance. The French Navy also conducts joint operations or combined operations in cooperation with its allies.

### POWER PROJECTION

The Carrier Strike Group (GAN) embodies the projection of power over time. Around the aircraft carrier *Charles de Gaulle*, which



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hosts the embedded staff of the carrier strike group and the carrier air wing, the GAN is made up of or benefits from the support of several French destroyers and allied navies with their onboard helicopters, a supply ship, land-based maritime patrol aircraft and nuclear attack submarines. On board, fixed-wing and rotary-wing aircraft make up the Carrier Air Wing (GAÉ). Able to be deployed far away and for a long time, the GAN makes it possible to affirm the French military presence. It also strengthens military and diplomatic ties by inviting foreign navies to participate in its operations.

### FORCE PROJECTION

Force projection is about sending troops to land from the sea using amphibious assault ships (PHAs). In addition to an onboard staff, the PHAs can transport between 400 and 900 soldiers as well as Navy commandos. The latter are required to carry out special air and sea operations, reconnaissance, anti-piracy and anti-trafficking missions, as well as land operations such as the release of hostages or the evacuation of nationals.

### FOCUS ON EDA-S

The standard amphibious landing craft (EDA-S) are vessels intended to replace the equipment landing craft



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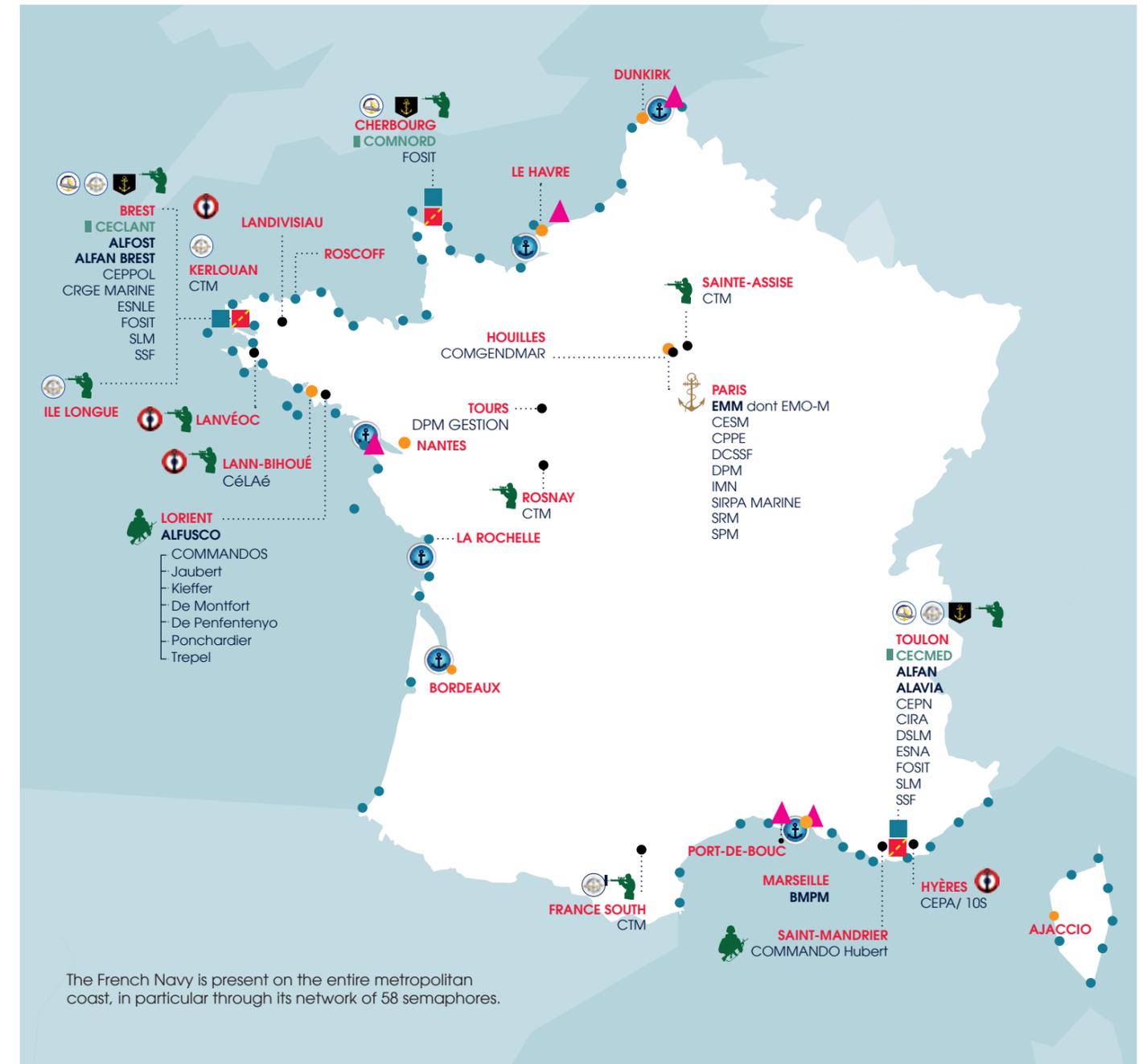
(CTM) of the French Navy's amphibious flotilla built in the 1980s. Equipped with a loading capacity of 80 tonnes, they are used to transport troops, equipment and vehicles as well as for missions of evacuation of nationals. The 14 EDA-S will all be delivered by 2025-2026.

## Influence

In the same way as the other armed forces, the French Navy directly contributes to the sixth strategic function introduced in the *National Strategic Review 2022*. An integral part of the French expression of power, influence is based on numerous national assets and vectors: diplomacy, economy or global cultural and military presence. For the Navy, the French influence strategy consists of responding or retaliating to any movements or attacks, particularly in the information field, against the French model, its values or its relations with other international partners. Taking note of the hardening of competition and dispute in all fields, it is extending its action to protect French interests in this new space of conflict.

# Anchor points

[ The French Navy everywhere ]



LOCATIONS	ZONE AUTHORITIES	FORCES	MARITIME GENDARMERIE
Naval base	Maritime zone commander Maritime district commander Maritime prefect	Naval action force	Maritime gendarmerie group
Support location	Navy commander in a specific location	Naval air base	Maritime and port security platoon
Nuclear port		Strategic oceanic force	
Navy central level		Navy commandos	
Semaphore		Navy fusiliers' battalions and companies	Commercial port of major interest

<b>BMPM:</b> Marseille naval fire battalion	<b>DCSSF:</b> Central directorate of fleet support service
<b>CECLANT:</b> Atlantic maritime zone command	<b>DPMM:</b> Directorate of Navy military personnel
<b>CECMED:</b> Mediterranean maritime zone command	<b>DSL:</b> Directorate of Navy logistics service
<b>CéLAé:</b> Naval aviation logistics centre	<b>EMM:</b> Navy general staff
<b>CEPA / 10S:</b> Centre for practical experimentations and reception of the naval aviation	<b>EMO-M:</b> Navy operations staff
<b>CEPN:</b> Naval programmes centre of expertise	<b>ESNA:</b> Squadron of nuclear attack submarines
<b>CEPPOL:</b> Pollution control practical expertise centre	<b>ESNLE:</b> Squadron of ballistic missile nuclear submarines
<b>CESM:</b> Navy centre for strategic studies	<b>FOSIT:</b> Operational group for territorial surveillance and information
<b>CIRA:</b> Acoustic interpretation and recognition centre	<b>IMN:</b> Navy inspectorate
<b>COMNORD:</b> English Channel and North Sea maritime zone command	<b>SIRPA:</b> Information and public relations service of the armed forces
<b>CPPE:</b> Standing commission for programmes and testing	<b>SLM:</b> Navy logistics service
<b>CRGE Marine:</b> Intelligence and electronic warfare centre	<b>SPM:</b> Navy psychological service
<b>CTM:</b> Navy communications centre	<b>SRM:</b> Navy recruiting service
	<b>SSF:</b> Fleet Support Service

# Human resources

[ A Navy for all talents ]

Because youth is a strong choice for the French Navy, it offers a place for everyone and helps talents grow. Faced with new threats, and with the risk of high-intensity conflict, the Navy is strengthening its human resources (HR) policy and placing the sailors at the heart of its concerns by adapting their training, valuing their work and meeting their expectations so that they can fully fulfil their missions. This is a crucial issue to continue to meet the challenges of the French Navy and allow everyone to gain expertise, sense of belonging and commitment.

In a trend of growth in personnel, recruitment and skill acquisition are two structuring pillars. Thanks to its many recruitment offices in mainland France and overseas, the French Navy informs and guides future sailors. Also present online via job search or mentoring platforms, it addresses an increasingly connected generation.

Equal opportunity and diversity, merit-based recognition, professional development: the French Navy wants to be accessible to everyone, to young



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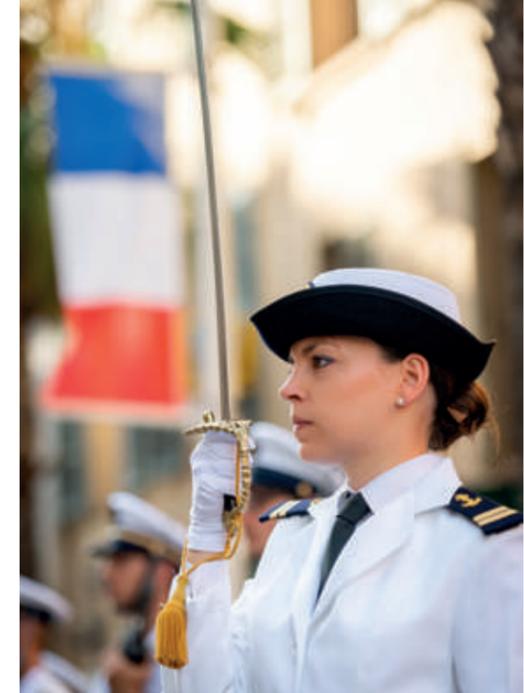
well as physical and mental resistance. This takes the form of many professions and operational readiness actions that aim to bring together the needs of the French Navy and the aspirations of sailors. The HR policy of the French Navy intends to insist on the fluidity of careers so that each sailor is an actor in their professional project. Emphasis is also placed on mobility, which will be the subject of experimentation in the years to come (see *Attractiveness p. 15*). Finally, retaining the talents it generates is a major challenge for the French Navy. An essential loyalty building that requires the personal development of sailors.

The French Navy is more than ever aware of the challenges to be met in order to sustain a young, committed and combative armed force. This is why it implements numerous reforms in terms of human resources, to maintain the moral force, the expertise and the cohesion of the crews which make the French Navy an effective armed force.

## RECRUITMENT

In order to maintain a young, combative and invested armed force, each year the French Navy recruits nearly 4,000 women and men aged 16 to 30, from secondary school to master's degrees. Thus, 10% of the personnel is renewed every year, to maintain operational capacity and know-how. The French Navy is a key player in the employment and skills training of young people, offering a range of more than 80 professions spread over 14 major employment domains. To recruit, it relies on the Navy recruitment service (SRM) and its network of 59 recruitment and information centres of the armed forces (CIRFA) in mainland France and overseas.

The French Navy also relies on all sailors to recruit. For this, it relies on the investment of the units, which coordinate their actions with the SRM through their recruitment correspondents. The [Lamarinerecruite.fr](http://Lamarinerecruite.fr) website allows young people to discover all job offers, apply online, contact the nearest CIRFA and converse with ambassador sailors. This ambassadorship policy is reflected in particular by the presence of the French Navy on the [Myjobglasses.com](http://Myjobglasses.com) platform, on which experienced sailors provide information and guide candidates.



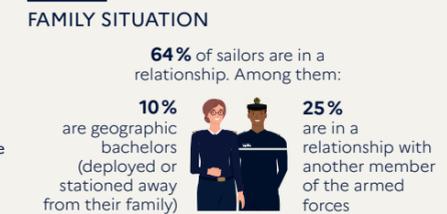
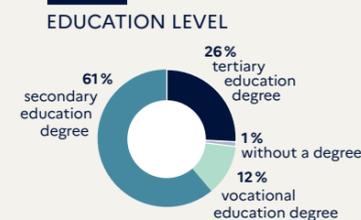
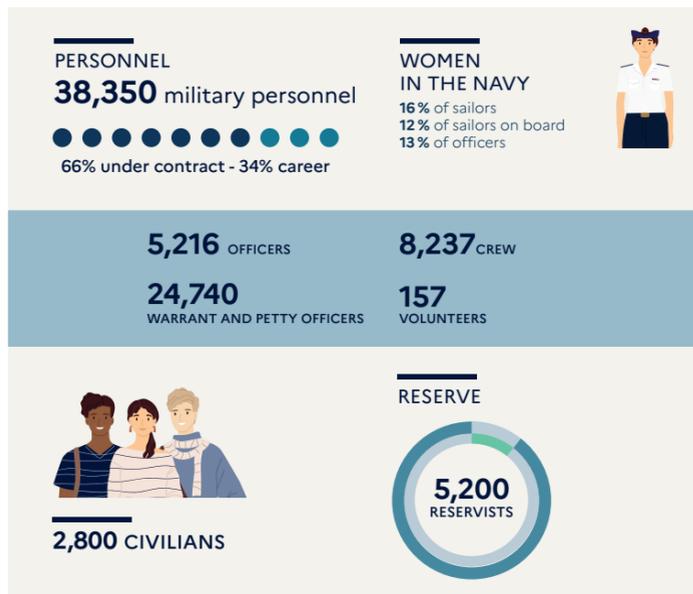
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**4,119**  
young people recruited in 2022

## SAILORS, WHO ARE THEY?



### MOTIVATION



### AVERAGE AGE



### WHEN ENROLLING



©S.MARC/MN

people in search of meaning. As such, all professions and all forces of the French Navy are also open to women. About 79% of its vessels have a mixed crew and women now represent 12% of the personnel on board (11% in 2021). After recruitment, training is a condition for maintaining and developing one's skills, evolving with a high operational and technical level, strengthening one's capacity for resilience as

## TRAINING

The French Navy is in essence a complex and technical armed force. Either on the surface, on land, under the sea or in the air, the French Navy operates in different theatres of operations that require crews trained in line with its needs. The redefinition of the navigator-helmsmen (NAVIT) course, which takes new navigation technologies into account, is a step in this direction. In addition, in 2021 and 2022, one in three among the able and leading rates was admitted to the technical certificate (BAT).

The training provided is reviewed as well, both to adapt to the challenges and technological developments of the Navy and to meet the expectations of sailors and promote cross-functionality between courses. Over the past three years, some twenty specialties have been created or reformed in all areas: submarine (underwater operations / OPS SOUM, electromechanical engineer / ELECTROMECHAN SOUM), naval aviation (air-sea specialties / OPSAé), information systems, intelligence, among others. This work will be continued within the framework of the reform of the HR model for petty officers in particular, in order to address the arrival of new equipment and ships such as the crew of the upcoming new generation aircraft carrier (PA-Ng).

The 4,000 young people recruited on average each year will become, for non-officers, elementary operators in 10 basic professions, then confirmed operators and team leaders in 30 specialties, and finally supervisors in 50 areas of expertise, hyper-specialised thanks to more than 800 courses targeted on equipment or a particular function. For officers, the objective is to develop their skills in commanding Navy units, as well as in exercising management and design responsibilities within the Ministry of the Armed Forces.



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**25**  
days of training on average per year and per sailor



©Marine nationale

**33%**

of able and leading rate sailors admitted to the BAT in 2021 and 2022

## ATTRACTIVENESS

After having recruited and trained sailors with rare and sought-after skills, the French Navy must be able to retain its talents. With this objective of attractiveness, the balance between professional and personal life is carefully studied and taken into account in order to support the sailor throughout their life. The French Navy has extended the principle of dual crews to several ships and is continuing its actions in favour of better living and working conditions (accommodation, childcare, assistance with the professional integration of spouses, etc.).

Geographical mobility is also the subject of experimentation for a few specialties. Objective: to take into account geographical wishes and personal constraints, while giving visibility and advance notice of a possible posting in another region. To allow this development while continuing to meet the needs of the Navy, the experimentation plans, at the same time, to encourage sailors who know how to demonstrate mobility by allowing them to benefit from specific measures.



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In terms of training, digitisation allows sailors to stay close to their families during the courses provided, for example, to obtain a technical certificate (BAT).

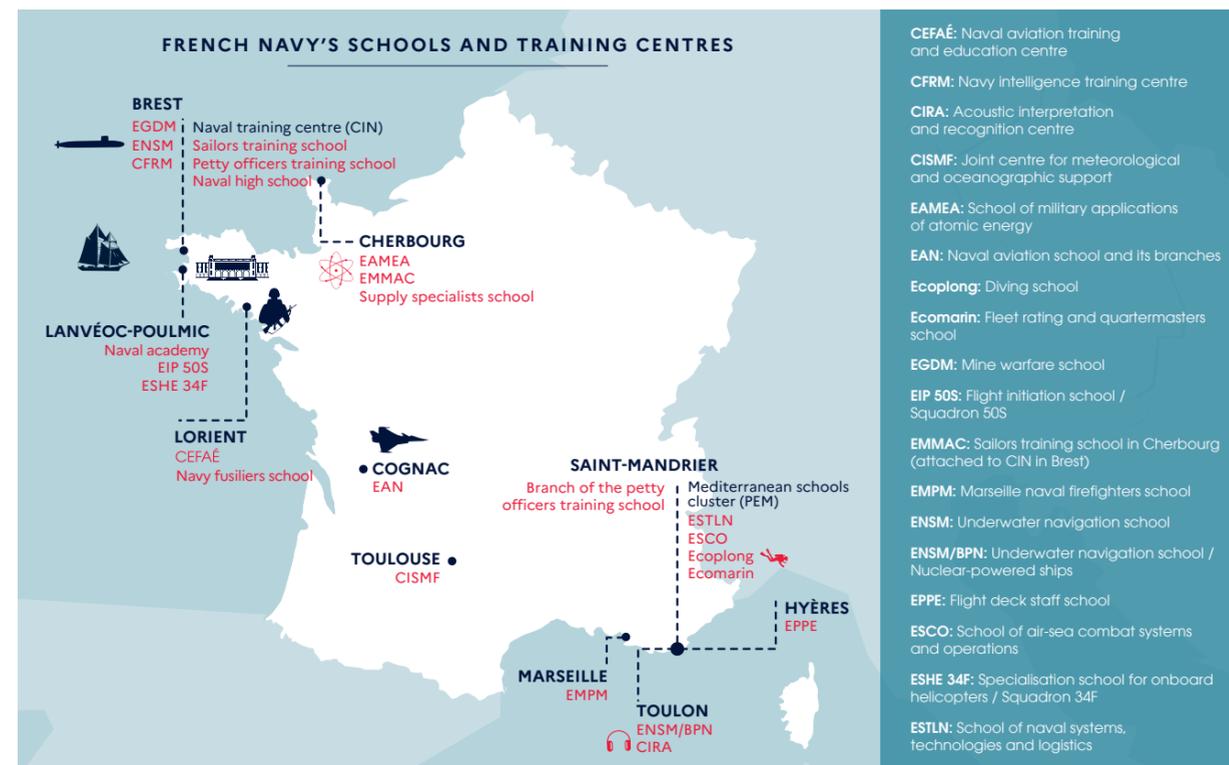
Finally, as part of the Families Plan, the HR policy strives to listen to and take into consideration the aspirations of sailors to guarantee their fulfilment throughout their career. With this in mind: experimenting with financial coverage of 25% of the price of plane tickets for air transport between Brest and Toulon, in order to reduce the cost of remoteness linked to geographical mobility.

So many measures to win the recruitment battle. An essential issue for the French Navy,



©G.DAVID/MN

which relies on its youth as much as it can count on it. Which relies on its talents to build with them a strong, reliable and advanced combat Navy.



# Structure

[ A simple and agile organisation ]

French Navy units report to two distinct chains of command: the organic command, which prepares forces for action, and the operational command, which employs them in operations.

## ORGANIC

The primary responsibility of the Chief of Staff of the Navy (CEMM) is to provide the Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces (CEMA) with a combat-ready Navy. This requires training forces, qualifying them and preparing them for combat on all fronts. For this, the CEMM relies on four organic authorities distributed by employment environment:

- The admiral commanding the Naval Action Force (ALFAN) for surface forces.
- The admiral commanding the Strategic Oceanic Force (ALFOST) for submarines.
- The admiral commanding the Naval Aviation Force (ALAVIA) for aircraft.
- The admiral commanding the Navy Fusiliers and Commandos Force (ALFUSCO) for Navy fusiliers and commandos.

The CEMM also relies on the Maritime Gendarmerie, which is a specialised force from the National



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Gendarmerie made available to the CEMM for employment. Its command is exercised by the commanding officer of the Maritime Gendarmerie (COMGENDMAR).

## OPERATIONAL

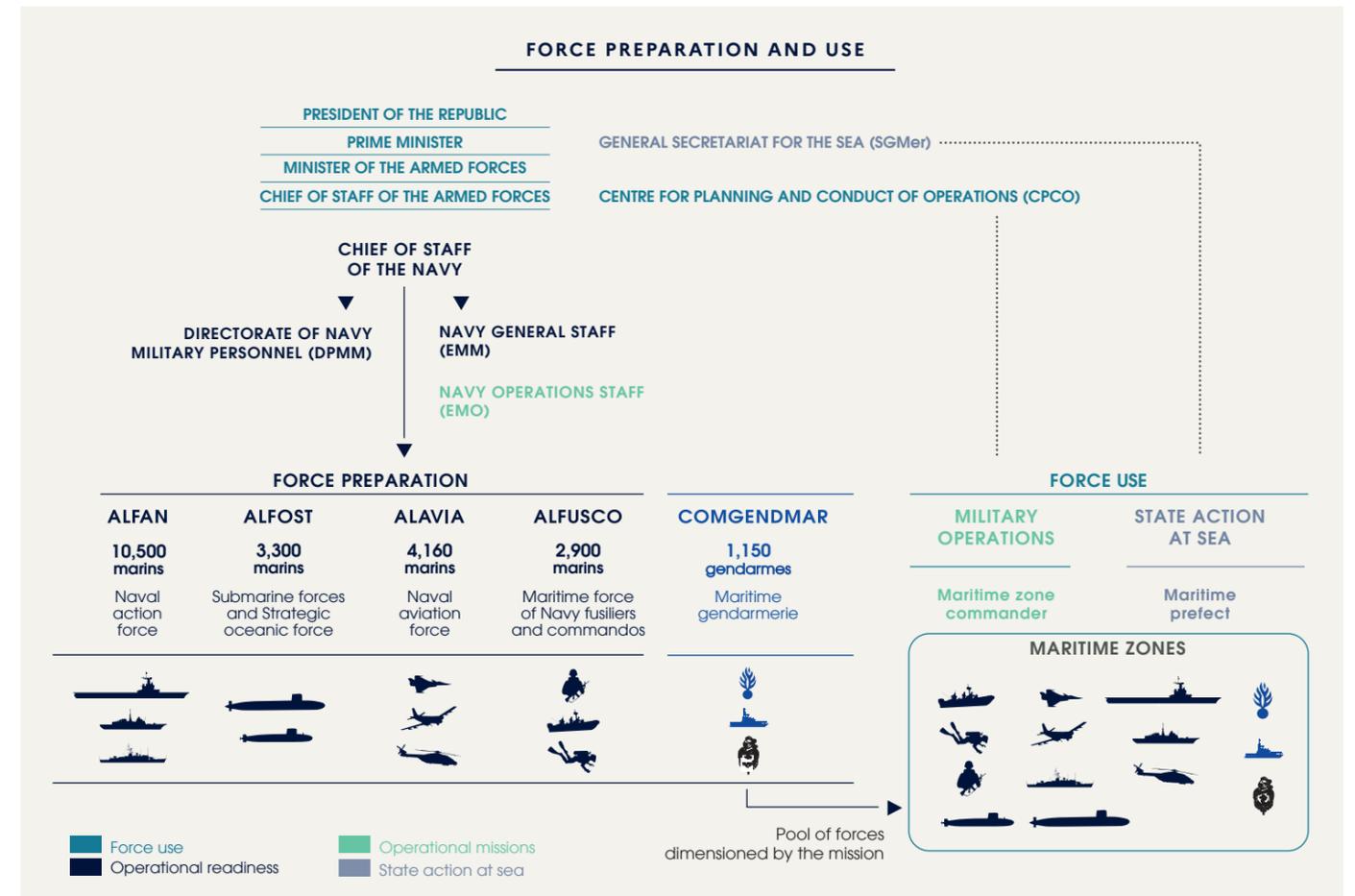
The CEMA commands military operations. Operational control of deployed units rests with the military authority of the geographical area concerned. In mainland France, these authorities, who are also maritime prefects, are the commanders of the three maritime zones (CZM): commander of the Atlantic maritime zone (CECLANT), commander of the Mediterranean maritime zone (CECMED) and commander of the English Channel and North Sea maritime zone (COMNORD).

Forces deployed overseas are placed under joint command led by senior commanders of armed forces overseas (COMSUP). As for the forces deployed abroad, they are reporting to a commander of the repositioned sovereignty presence forces abroad (COMFOR).



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Finally, the missions that come under State action at sea (AEM) are placed under the authority of the Prime Minister. In mainland France, they are coordinated by the maritime prefects. Overseas, by the government delegates for State action at sea, assisted by maritime zone commanders.



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# Order of battle

[ A fighting Navy ]

18

NAVAL ACTION FORCE



**AIRCRAFT CARRIER (PA)**  
1  
Displacement: 42,500 t  
**1,900 SAILORS**  
with the carrier air wing and on-board staff

- Power projection
- Crisis management
- Air-sea supremacy
- Airborne nuclear deterrent

*R 91 Charles de Gaulle*



**AMPHIBIOUS ASSAULT SHIP (PHA)**  
3  
Displacement: 21,500 t  
**177 SAILORS**  
Embedded staff: up to 200 people  
Troops: up to 900 soldiers

- Command and projection of airmobile and amphibious forces
- Operational transport
- Medical and humanitarian support
- Naval officers training school

*L 9013 Mistral  
L9014 Tonnerre  
L 9015 Dixmude*



**AIR DEFENCE DESTROYER (FDA)**  
2  
Displacement: 7,000 t  
**195 SAILORS**

- Naval air protection
- Air-sea space control
- Seaborne coordination of air operations

*D 620 Forbin  
D 621 Chevalier Paul*



**MULTI-MISSION DESTROYER (FREMM)**  
6  
Displacement: 6,000 t  
**108 SAILORS**

- Anti-submarine and anti-aircraft warfare
- Deep strike
- Protection of naval forces

*D 650 Aquitaine  
D 651 Normandie  
D 652 Provence  
D 653 Languedoc  
D 654 Auvergne  
D 655 Bretagne*



**MULTI-MISSION DESTROYER WITH ENHANCED AIR DEFENCE CAPABILITY (FREMM – DA)**  
2  
Displacement: 6,000 t  
**118 SAILORS**

- Anti-aircraft warfare
- Anti-submarine warfare
- Protection of naval forces

*D 656 Alsace  
D 657 Lorraine*



**LA FAYETTE-CLASS FRIGATE (FLF)**  
5  
Displacement: 3,800 t  
**150 SAILORS**

- Intervention in high-seas and crisis zones
- Patrol and escort
- Anti-surface warfare
- Maritime space surveillance

*F 710 La Fayette  
F 711 Surcouf  
F 712 Courbet  
F 713 Aconit  
F 714 Guépratte*



**SURVEILLANCE FRIGATE (FS)**  
6  
Displacement: 2,600 t  
**92 SAILORS**

- Maritime territorial defence
- Surveillance of overseas maritime space
- Fight against illicit trafficking

*F 730 Floréal  
F 731 Prairial  
F 732 Nivôse  
F 733 Ventôse  
F 734 Vendémiaire  
F 735 Germinal*



**OFFSHORE PATROL VESSEL (PHM)**  
6  
Displacement: 1,300 t  
**85 SAILORS**

- Maritime territorial defence
- Maritime space surveillance
- Anti-submarine capability
- Policing on the high seas

*F 792 PM L'Her  
F 793 CDT Blaison  
F 794 EV Jacobet  
F 795 CDT Ducuing  
F 796 CDT Birot  
F 797 CDT Bouant*



**OVERSEAS PATROL VESSEL (POM)**  
1  
Displacement: 1,300 t  
**30 SAILORS**

- Surveillance of overseas maritime space
- Control of the exclusive economic zone
- Fisheries policing
- Pollution control
- Rescue at sea

*P 779 Auguste Bénébig (delivery in 2023)*



**ANTILLES GUIANA PATROL VESSEL (PAG)**  
3  
Displacement: 750 t  
**24 SAILORS**

- Surveillance of overseas maritime space
- Control of the exclusive economic zone
- Fisheries policing
- Protection of the French Guiana Space Centre

*P 733 La Confiance  
P 734 La Résolue  
P 735 La Combattante*



**PATROL VESSEL**  
4

- Maritime territorial defence
- Fisheries policing
- Pollution control
- Sea rescue

*P 675 Arago  
P 686 La Glorieuse  
P 701 Le Malin  
P 740 Fulmar*



**POLAR PATROL VESSEL**  
1  
Displacement: 4,300 t  
**21 SAILORS**

- Control of the exclusive economic zone
- Maritime space surveillance in the French Southern and Antarctic Lands
- Antarctic logistics support
- Humanitarian assistance
- Fight against illegal fishing

*P 800 L'Astrolabe*



**PUBLIC SERVICE PATROL VESSEL (PSP)**  
3  
Displacement: 390 t  
**21 SAILORS**

- Maritime territorial defence
- Fisheries policing
- Pollution control
- Sea rescue

*P 676 Flamant  
P 677 Cormoran  
P 678 Pluvier*



**METROPOLITAN SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE SHIP (BSAM)**  
4  
Displacement: 2,950 t  
**17 SAILORS**

- Pollution control
- Force support
- Safeguarding people and assets

*A 602 Loire  
A 603 Rhône  
A 604 Seine  
A 605 Garonne*



**OVERSEAS SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE SHIP (BSAOM)**  
4  
Displacement: 2,300 t  
**24 SAILORS**

- Maritime surveillance and protection
- Projection of police or gendarmerie forces
- Humanitarian assistance
- Pollution control

*A 621 D'Entrecasteaux  
A 622 Bougainville  
A 623 Champlain  
A 624 Dumont d'Urville*



**TRIPARTITE MINEHUNTER (CMT)**  
9  
Displacement: 615 t  
**45 SAILORS**

- Securing access to strategic military and civilian ports
- Mine threat detection and neutralisation
- Support to nuclear deterrence

*M 643 Andromède  
M 644 Pégase  
M 645 Orion  
M 646 Croix du Sud  
M 647 L'Aigle  
M 648 Lyre  
M 650 Sagittaire  
M 652 Céphée  
M 653 Capricorne*



**CLEARANCE DIVERS BASE SHIP (BBPD)**  
4  
Displacement: 490 t  
**16 SAILORS**

- Identification, classification and destruction of mines
- Mine clearance and channel surveillance

*M 611 Vulcain  
M 613 Achéron  
M 614 Styx  
M 622 Pluton*



**MINE WARFARE EXPERIMENTATION SHIP (BEGM)**  
1  
Displacement: 1,050 t  
**38 SAILORS**  
*A 785 Thétis*



**SONAR TOWING VESSEL (BRS)**  
3  
Displacement: 340 t  
**23 SAILORS**

- Mine clearance and strategic channel surveillance

*M 770 Antarès  
M 771 Altair  
M 772 Aldebaran*



**COMMAND AND SUPPLY SHIP (BCR)**  
2  
Displacement: 18,000 t  
**157 SAILORS**

- Force supply
- Operations command

*A 630 Marne  
A 631 Somme*



**FORCE SUPPLY SHIP (BRF)**  
1  
Displacement: 31,000 t  
**140 SAILORS**

- Force supply
- Operations command

*A 725 Jacques Chevallier (delivery in 2023)*



**TRACKING SHIP (BEM)**  
1  
Displacement: 21,400 t  
**191 SAILORS**

- Data collection
- Missile firing tracking

*A 601 Monge*



**ELECTROMAGNETIC INTELLIGENCE SHIP (BRE)**  
1  
*A759 Dupuy de Lôme*



**HYDROGRAPHIC AND OCEANOGRAPHIC SHIP (BH and BHO)**  
4

- Civil and military coastal and offshore hydrographic missions
- Surveying of coasts and seabed to edit nautical charts
- Knowledge of the operational maritime environment

*A 758 Beautemps-Beaupré  
A 791 Lapérouse  
A 792 Borda  
A 793 Laplace*



**FAST AMPHIBIOUS LANDING CRAFT (EDA-R)**  
4  
*Amphibious flotilla*

**STANDARD AMPHIBIOUS LANDING CRAFT (EDA-S)**  
6  
including 4 delivered in 2023  
Eventual replacement of CTMs



**EQUIPMENT LANDING CRAFT (CTM)**  
5

- 3 for the amphibious flotilla
- 2 in support of Djibouti and Mayotte

**MARITIME GENDARMERIE**

**GENDARMERIE COASTAL PATROL VESSEL**  
5

- State action at sea
- Maritime security
- Fisheries monitoring

**COASTAL MARITIME SURVEILLANCE VESSEL**  
27

- Control at sea
- Rescue and assistance
- Fisheries monitoring

**MARITIME AND HARBOUR SECURITY VESSEL**  
9

- Maritime and port security



**COASTAL HARBOUR TUGBOAT (RPC)**  
3 based overseas\*  
Displacement: 228 t  
**8 SAILORS**

- Assistance with manoeuvres
- Towing of service equipment
- Firefighting support
- Pollution control

*A 636 Maïto  
A 637 Maroa  
A 638 Manini*

\*Among the 12 port and coastal 12-tonne tugboats, the 3 overseas-based tugboats carry out operations as part of State action at sea, alongside their role of assistance with port manoeuvring



**NETS HAULING BOAT (ERF)**  
1  
*Y 690 Caouanne*

**TRAINING SHIP**  
8

**NAVIGATION TRAINING SHIP (BIN)**  
2

**SAILING SHIP**  
4  
Education and training

19

UPDATE: DECEMBER 2022

**BALLISTIC MISSILE NUCLEAR SUBMARINE (SNLE)**

4

Displacement: 14,300 t

**2 CREWS OF 110 SAILORS**

- Permanence of nuclear deterrence at sea

S 616 *Le Triomphant*  
S 617 *Le Téméraire*  
S 618 *Le Vigilant*  
S 619 *Le Terrible*

**RUBIS-CLASS NUCLEAR ATTACK SUBMARINE (SNA)**

4

Displacement: 2,670 t

**2 CREWS OF 68 SAILORS**

- Security and support of ballistic missile nuclear submarines
- Protection of a carrier group
- Intelligence
- Intervention

S 603 *Casabianca*  
S 604 *Emeraude*  
S 605 *Améthyste*  
S 606 *Perle*

**SUFFREN-CLASS NUCLEAR ATTACK SUBMARINE (SNA)**

2

Displacement: 5,300 t

**2 CREWS OF 65 SAILORS**

- Security and support of ballistic missile nuclear submarines
- Protection of a carrier group
- Intelligence
- Intervention

S 635 *Suffren*  
S 636 *Duguay-Trouin (delivery in 2023)*

# Order of battle

[ A fighting Navy ]

## MARITIME FORCE OF NAVY FUSILIERS AND COMMANDOS

**NAVY FUSILIERS VESSEL (VFM)**

12

*being delivered*

- Protection of naval bases and coastal movements of high-value units (surface ships and submarines)

**NAVY FUSILIERS**

1,700 NAVY FUSILIERS

- Military defence and maritime territorial defence
- Support to naval aviation operations
- Participation in force projection operations

3 battalions of Navy fusiliers

Amyot d'Inville (Brest)  
De Morsier (Crozon)  
Détrôyat (Toulon)

6 Compagnies de fusiliers marins

Le Goffic (Cherbourg)  
Bernier (Lanvéoc)  
Brière (Lann-Bihoué)  
Morel (Sainte Assise)  
Le Sant (Rosnay)  
Colmay (France-South)

**NAVY COMMANDO**

700 NAVY COMMANDOS

- Offshore special operations
- Special operations from sea to land
- Special operations on land

7 Units:

**ASSAULT COMMANDO**

4

Jaubert  
De Montfort  
Trépel  
De Penfentenyo

- Target surveillance and neutralisation
- Counterterrorism and hostage rescue

**UNDERWATER ACTION COMMANDO**

1

Hubert

- Underwater action capability
- Counterterrorism and hostage rescue

**SPECIALISED SUPPORT COMMANDO**

2

Kieffer

- Command capability
- Specialised support (trained dogs, drones, CBRN, intelligence, electronic support, explosives and digital support)

Ponchardier

- Mobility support (sea, land and air)
- Specialised operational support (weapons, ammunition, communications, etc.)

**Carrier air wing****RAFALE MARINE**

41

1 PILOT

- Sea and land combat
- Interception
- Assault
- Air support
- Tactical reconnaissance
- Nuclear deterrence

*Squadrons 11F, 12F et 17F***HAWKEYE (E2C)**

3

2 PILOTS  
3 WEAPONS SYSTEM OFFICERS

- Advanced air detection
- Command and control
- Air-sea space management

*Squadron 4F***FALCON 50M**

8

2 PILOTS  
3 OPERATORS

- Protection of maritime spaces
- Fight against illicit trafficking
- Search and rescue at sea

*Squadron 24F***FALCON 200 (GARDIAN)**

5

- Surveillance of maritime approaches
- Search and rescue at sea

*Squadron 25F***Maritime support aircraft****FALCON 10 M**

6

3 SAILORS  
7 PASSENGERS

- Training and instruction of fighter pilots
- VIP airlift
- Support to carrier air wing

*57S Squadron***XINGU**

10

2 PILOTS  
6 PASSENGERS

- Light transport
- Training, logistical support
- VIP airlift

*Squadron 28F***CAP 10M**

7

*including 2 delivered in 2023*

2 PILOTS

- Initial selection

*EIP / Squadron 50S***CIRRUS SR20**

4

2 PILOTS

*EIP / Squadron 50S***Maritime patrol and surveillance****ATLANTIQUE 2 (ATL 2)**

22

2 PILOTS  
2 ENGINEERS  
9 SYSTEM OPERATORS

- Maritime patrol
- Security and conditioning of ballistic missile nuclear submarines
- Security of the carrier group
- Control of air-sea combat
- Maritime security and security of maritime approaches
- Support for land and air-land operations

*Squadrons 21F et 23F***Combat helicopters****CAÏMAN MARINE (NH90)**

27

1 PILOT  
1 TACTICAL STAFF  
1 OPERATOR  
1 RESCUE DIVER

- Air-sea combat
- Anti-submarine and anti-surface warfare
- Special operations
- Maritime counterterrorism
- Sea rescue

*Squadrons 31F and 33F,*  
*Charles de Gaulle aircraft carrier,*  
*multi-mission destroyer*

**PANTHER**

16

2 PILOTS  
1 OPERATOR  
1 RESCUE DIVER

- Anti-surface warfare
- Maritime counterterrorism
- Fight against illicit trafficking
- Sea rescue

*Squadron 36F, Air defence destroyer,*  
*La Fayette-class frigate,*  
*Surveillance frigate*

**DAUPHIN**

21

28 eventually  
2 PILOTS  
1 ENGINEER  
1 RESCUE DIVER

- Rescue, protection and intervention at sea
- Recovery of pilots on aircraft carriers
- Fight against illicit trafficking
- Training

*Squadrons 34F/ESHE and 35F,*  
*aircraft carrier Charles de Gaulle,*  
*PHA, BCR, BRP, FS and BEM*

**H160**

6\*

- Rescue, protection
- Intervention at sea

*\*Delivery in 2023*  
*(Squadron 32F reactivated in 2023)*

# Deployed assets

[ Far away, for a long time, as a crew ]

Maritime boundaries  
Exclusive economic zone (EEZ)

## ATLANTIC COAST (BREST, LORIENT, LANVÉOC-POULMIC, LANDIVISIAU, ÎLE LONGUE, LA ROCHELLE)

- 4 Ballistic missile nuclear submarines - SNLE
- 4 Multi-mission frigates - FREMM
- 1 Command and supply ship - BCR
- 3 Offshore patrol vessels - PHM
- 6 Tripartite minehunters - CMT
- 4 Hydrographic and oceanographic ships - BH and BHO
- 4 Sailing ships
- 1 Gendarmerie coastal patrol vessel
- 3 Sonar towing vessels - BRS
- 1 Clearance divers base ship - BBPD
- 1 Group of clearance divers
- 1 Electromagnetic intelligence ship - BRE
- 1 Tracking ship - BEM
- 2 Metropolitan support and assistance ships - BSAM
- 2 Navigation training ships - BIN
- 8 School ships - BE
- 1 Mine warfare experimentation ship - BEGM
- 9 Coastal maritime surveillance vessels (VCSM)
- 41 Rafale Marine
- 10 Xingu
- 8 Falcon 50 M
- 7 Dauphin
- 3 Hawkeye - E2C
- 6 Falcon 10 M
- 1 Group of maritime gendarmes
- 13 Caiman Marine - NH90
- 22 Atlantique 2 - ATL2
- 5 Training aircraft / cap10
- 4 Cirrus SR20
- 4 units + Battalions and companies of Navy fusiliers
- 6 units + Unit of Navy commandos

## ENGLISH CHANNEL AND NORTH SEA COAST (CHERBOURG, LE TOUQUET)

- 3 Public service patrol vessels - PSP
- 1 Clearance divers base ship - BBPD
- 1 Group of clearance divers
- 1 Caiman Marine - NH90
- 1 Dauphin
- 1 Company of Navy fusiliers
- 1 Gendarmerie coastal patrol vessel
- 1 Group of maritime gendarmes
- 5 Coastal maritime surveillance vessels (VCSM)

## MEDITERRANEAN COAST (TOULON, MARSEILLE, SAINT-MANDRIER, HYÈRES, FRANCE SOUTH)

- 5 Nuclear attack submarines - SNA
- 1 Aircraft carrier - PA
- 3 Amphibious assault ships - PHA
- 2 Air defence frigates - FDA
- 2 Multi-mission frigates - FREMM
- 2 Multi-mission frigates with enhanced air defence capability - FREMM-DA
- 5 La Fayette - class frigates - FLF
- 2 Clearance divers base ship - BBPD
- 1 Group of clearance divers
- 3 Tripartite minehunters - CMT
- 3 Offshore patrol vessels - PHM
- 2 Metropolitan support and assistance ships - BSAM
- 1 Command and supply ship - BCR
- 13 Caiman Marine - NH90
- 14 Panther
- 8 Dauphin
- 2 Battalion and company of Navy fusiliers
- 1 unit + Unit of Navy commandos
- 1 battalion + 1 Marseille naval fire battalion
- 1 Gendarmerie coastal patrol vessel
- 1 Group of maritime gendarmes
- 7 Coastal maritime surveillance vessels (VCSM)

## ENGLISH CHANNEL AND NORTH SEA MARITIME ZONE

- 1 Public service patrol vessel - PAT

## REMAINDER OF METROPOLITAN AREA

- 2 Companies of Navy fusiliers

## NEW CALEDONIA (NOUMÉA)

- 1 Surveillance frigate - FS
- 1 Overseas support and assistance ship - BSAOM
- 1 P400 patrol vessel
- 1 Coastal maritime surveillance vessel (VCSM)
- 2 Falcon 200 Guardian
- 1 Dauphin
- 1 Detachment of Navy fusiliers

## PACIFIC OCEAN MARITIME ZONE

FRENCH POLYNESIA (PAPEETE)

## POLYNÉSIE FRANÇAISE (PAPEETE)

- 1 Surveillance frigate - FS
- 1 Overseas support and assistance ship - BSAOM
- 1 Coastal harbour tugboat - RPC
- 1 Patrol vessel - PAT
- 1 Gendarmerie coastal patrol vessel
- 3 Dauphin
- 1 Detachment of Navy fusiliers

## FRENCH GUIANA (CAYENNE)

- 2 Antilles Guiana patrol vessels - PAG
- 1 Nets hauling boat - ERF
- 2 Coastal maritime surveillance vessels (VCSM)

## ANTILLES MARITIME ZONE

## ANTILLES

- 2 Surveillance frigates - FS
- 1 Antilles Guiana patrol vessel - PAG
- 2 Coastal harbour tugboats - RPC
- 1 Panther
- 1 Dauphin
- 1 Detachment of Navy fusiliers
- 1 Overseas support and assistance ship - BSAOM
- 1 Gendarmerie coastal patrol vessel

## INDIAN OCEAN MARITIME ZONE

## SOUTH INDIAN OCEAN MARITIME ZONE

- 1 Detachment of Navy fusiliers and commandos
- 1 Detachment of Navy fusiliers

## MAYOTTE (MAYOTTE)

- 2 Coastal maritime surveillance vessels (VCSM)

## RÉUNION (PORT DES GALETS)

- 2 Surveillance frigates - FS
- 1 Overseas support and assistance ship - BSAOM
- 1 Patrol vessel - PAT
- 1 Polar patrol vessel - PP
- 1 Panther
- 1 Detachment of Navy fusiliers

## WALLIS AND FUTUNA (MATA-UTU)

- 1 Coastal maritime surveillance vessel (VCSM)

## NEW CALEDONIA MARITIME ZONE

# Programmes

[ A Navy at the forefront ]



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## BUILDING THE NAVY OF TOMORROW

The **Atlantique 2 (ATL 2)** benefits from a major overhaul of its combat system. The aircraft's Standard 6 is equipped with an active antenna radar, a digital acoustic processing system, a new generation optronic pod, all served by new tactical consoles. Ten aircraft were delivered in 2022 and the first operational commissioning was carried out in the summer of 2022. A total of 18 aircraft will be modified until 2025.

The new **Suffren-class nuclear attack submarines**, the first of which will be commissioned in 2022, constitute a major advance compared to those of the Rubis class. With the F21 torpedo and the MdCN cruise missile, their combat capability is increased. In addition, this new class of submarines is better integrated into the networks of naval forces and carries out underwater special operations.

From 2023, the **overseas patrol vessels (POM)** will carry out sovereignty and maritime security missions overseas. These hybrid-powered ships are very stable, allowing the use of drones in an area where navigation conditions are sometimes extreme.

The **third generation nuclear ballistic missile submarine (SNLE 3G)** program, will renew the ocean component of deterrence. SNLE 3G will benefit from technological advances that will improve her acoustic detection and furtivity. She will better detect threats thanks to her more efficient sensors.

**Offshore patrol vessels (PH)** will renew the fleet of offshore patrol ships (former avisos) and public service patrol ships. These ships incorporate many innovations, particularly in terms of communications and fighting against symmetrical threats.

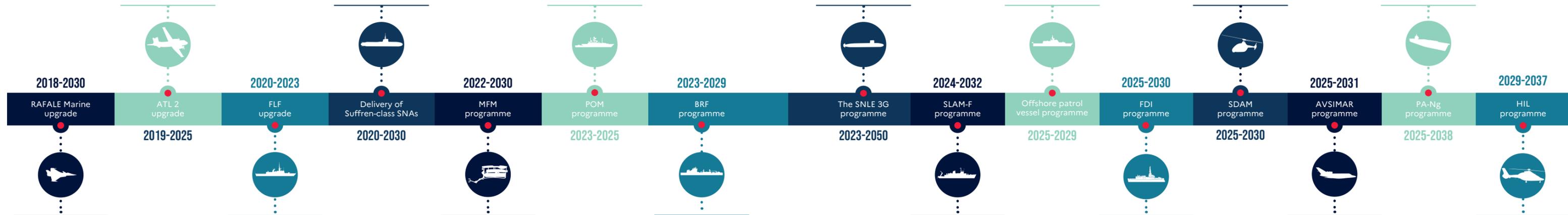
The **Navy air drone system (SDAM)** will equip first-rate frigates with a multi-sensor drone system, complementing the on-board helicopter. It will improve control of the air-sea space by extending the capabilities of ship sensors. The first deliveries are expected by 2030, with initial operational capability planned for 2025.

The **next-generation nuclear-powered aircraft carrier (PA-Ng)** will be equipped with next-generation electromagnetic catapults and arresting gears. Designed for high-intensity combat, it will be able to carry around thirty new-generation fighter aircraft from the SCAF programme (future air combat system) which will make up the carrier air wing (GA6).

24

UPDATED: 12/1/2022

25



The modification of the **Rafale Marine** to the F3R standard was completed in early 2022. At the same time, the armed forces launched the development of the F4 Standard based on four pillars: engagement, connectivity, support and survivability. The upgrade of the first Rafale Marine F4 block 1 began in August 2022: its deployment is expected from 2023 for a first operational capability (PCO) in 2024.

The **upgrade of 3 of the 5 La Fayette-class frigates (FLF)** will secure the number of frigates at 15 before the arrival of the defence and intervention frigates (FDI). This upgrade provides for the modernisation of the combat system, the replacement of their anti-aircraft defence system, the improvement of their stability and the addition of a hull sonar to carry out anti-submarine warfare missions.

The **seabed control strategy (MFM)** aims to provide the Navy with a capability to gather knowledge, monitor and act at depths of up to 6,000 metres. First as part of an exploratory capability from 2023, then a first operational capability from 2025, the MFM capability will be constituted in 2029 of 4 AUVs (autonomous underwater vehicles) and 4 ROVs (remotely operated underwater vehicles).

The **command and supply ships (BCR)** will be replaced by **more efficient force supply ships (BRF)**, equipped with a double hull and a self-defence capability enabling them to deal with asymmetric threats. Delivered between 2023 and 2029, they will have a cargo capacity sized to support the current and future carrier group with fuel, ammunition, spare parts and food.

**Mine warfare capability** (mine hunters, sonar towing vessels, base ships for clearance divers and groups of clearance divers) will be renewed by the **SLAM-F program**: the mine warfare system of the future. Mine countermeasures modules, made up of surface and submarine drones, delivered from 2024. They will first be deployed from land, then from dedicated ships starting in 2026, the year of delivery of the new generation of base ships for clearance divers.

The **5 defence and intervention frigates (FDI)** are first-rate ships and will benefit from the most recent advances in the cyber field and one of the most efficient plate radars in the world. Armed by 125 sailors, these 4,500-tonne, scalable and innovative ships, will be able to operate from 2025 independently or within a carrier group.

The **AVSIMAR** programme aims to renew the aerial segment of maritime surveillance and intervention, replacing the Navy's 5 Falcon 200 Guardian and 8 Falcon 50M. The programme provides for 12 Falcon 2000 LXS aircraft called Albatros, which will be delivered from 2025 to cover a first phase, followed later by a second to complete the surveillance requirement.

The **HIL programme** aims to provide a helicopter for the three armed services, on a common basis. The **49 Guépard Marine** planned for the Navy will replace the Alouette III, Dauphin and Panther helicopters from 2030. Taken on board with the light anti-ship missile (ANL) in particular, they will be specialised in anti-surface warfare and will carry out all missions devolved to on-board helicopters, with the exception of anti-submarine warfare missions.

# Finances

[ LPM, year 5 ]

In 2023, the armed forces budget is increasing for the sixth consecutive year. Since 2017, the new budget trend has made it possible to increase the credits of the armed forces from 32.3 billion euros to 43.9 billion euros in 2023. In accordance with the military programming law (LPM) 2019-2025, this budget is up a historic three billion euros.

This continuation of the funding effort gives the French Navy the means to pursue the many projects of the Mercator acceleration plan:

- Operational readiness maintenance with the renewal and reinforcement of resources and equipment (modernisation of combat tools, innovation, experimentation with drones, etc.).
- Recruit, train sailors and support attractiveness (improvement of living conditions on board and ashore, digitisation, conversion to dual-crew for several ships, etc.).
- Renew and have sufficient stocks of ammunition and carry out regular firings to guarantee the training of forces and the reliability of weapons.
- Guarantee national military autonomy and contribute to European strategic autonomy (collective awareness of the need to strengthen European defence).

This budget policy gives France credibility with its allies. It gives forces superiority in the field thanks to significant investments in the capability program and offers better conditions of engagement to the military personnel

## 2023 BUDGET

in billions of euros (€bn)

TOTAL GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE **560**

of which: **43.9** "DEFENCE" MISSION\*

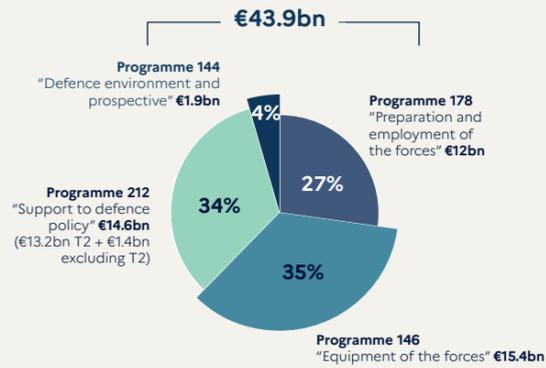
of which: **12** PROGRAMME 178

of which: **3.1** "NAVY" BOP<sup>1</sup>

\*Excluding CAS<sup>2</sup> pension, support funds and revenue allocations

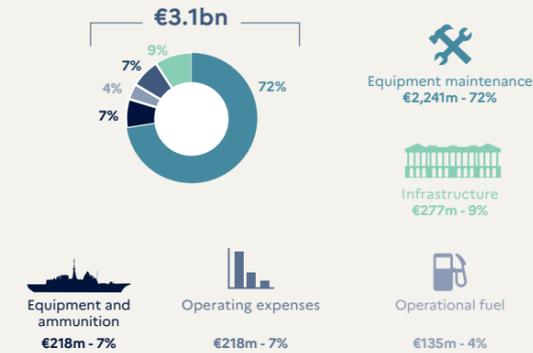
## 2023 BUDGET FOR THE "DEFENCE"\*

in billions of euros (€bn)



## CREDITS DEDICATED TO OPERATIONAL PREPARATION AND ACTIVITY OF THE NAVAL FORCES

in billions of euros (€bn)



## CREDITS DEDICATED TO PERSONNEL EXPENSES

in billions of euros (€bn)



BOP<sup>1</sup>: Programme operational budget  
CAS<sup>2</sup>: Special allocation account

# RANKS AND TITLES OF ADDRESS IN THE FRENCH NAVY

GENERAL OFFICERS				WARRANT OFFICERS			PETTY OFFICERS		
ADMIRAL (OF-9)	VICE ADMIRAL (OF-8)	REAR ADMIRAL (OF-7)	COMMODORE (OF-6)	WARRANT OFFICER CLASS 1 (OR-9a)	WARRANT OFFICER CLASS 1 (OR-9b)	WARRANT OFFICER CLASS 2 (OR-8)	PETTY OFFICER (OR-6)	PETTY OFFICER (OR-5)	TRAINEE PETTY OFFICER
SENIOR OFFICERS				CREW					
CAPTAIN (OF-5)	COMMANDER (OF-4)	LIEUTENANT COMMANDER (OF-3)		LEADING RATE (OR-4)	LEADING RATE (OR-3)	ABLE RATE (OR-2)			
JUNIOR OFFICERS									
LIEUTENANT (OF-2)	SUB LIEUTENANT (OF-1a)	MIDSHIPMAN (OF-1b)	OFFICER CADET (OF-D)						

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THE RECRUITMENT SITE OF THE FRENCH NAVY [lamarinerecrute.fr](http://lamarinerecrute.fr)



THE WEBSITE OF THE FRENCH NAVY BRAND [boutique.marinenationale.gouv.fr](http://boutique.marinenationale.gouv.fr)



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