



ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ
ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟ ΨΗΦΙΑΚΗΣ
ΔΙΑΚΥΒΕΡΝΗΣΗΣ
ΓΕΝΙΚΗ ΓΡΑΜΜΑΤΕΙΑ
ΤΗΛΕΠΙΚΟΙΝΩΝΙΩΝ ΚΑΙ
ΤΑΧΥΔΡΟΜΕΙΩΝ

Request for Information (RFI)

Outline concept for Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) National Strategy

Date of Issue 12/06/2023



Table of Contents

Introduction:	3
Problem statement:	3
Objectives:	3
Methodology:	3
Evaluation:	4
Budget:	4
Indicative Action Plan	4
Indicative Domains and Actions	5
Request for Information on the Development of a National Strategy for Drones	10



Introduction:

Drones, or unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), have the potential to revolutionize a variety of industries, from transportation and agriculture to emergency response and conservation. As the demand for drone technology grows, it is increasingly important for countries to develop a comprehensive national strategy for integrating drones into their airspace.

Problem statement:

Currently, there is a lack of cohesive regulation of drone usage in many countries, leading to potential safety, security, and privacy risks. In addition, the rapid growth of the drone industry presents economic opportunities that could be leveraged to drive innovation and growth, but these opportunities are currently not being fully realized due to a lack of coordinated planning and investment.

Objectives:

The main objective of this national drone strategy is to establish a clear and consistent framework for the safe, responsible, and regulated integration of drones into national airspace. Specifically, the strategy aims to:

- Promote the safe and responsible use of drones through the development of clear and consistent regulations and guidelines.
- Enhance the security and privacy of drone operations through the implementation of measures such as secure communication and identification systems.
- Foster the growth and development of the drone industry by promoting research and development, encouraging investment, and supporting the growth of small and medium-sized enterprises.
- Promote the use of drones for the benefit of society, including for disaster response, environmental monitoring, and other public good applications.

Methodology:

To achieve these objectives, the national drone strategy will utilize a multi-faceted approach that includes the following key components:

- **Regulatory framework:** Develop a comprehensive and consistent set of regulations and guidelines for the safe and responsible use of drones in national airspace. This may include requirements for operator training and certification, as well as technical standards for drone design and operation.
- **Research and development:** Encourage and support the development of new drone technologies and applications through research grants and funding programs.



**ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ
ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟ ΨΗΦΙΑΚΗΣ
ΔΙΑΚΥΒΕΡΝΗΣΗΣ
ΓΕΝΙΚΗ ΓΡΑΜΜΑΤΕΙΑ
ΤΗΛΕΠΙΚΟΙΝΩΝΙΩΝ ΚΑΙ
ΤΑΧΥΔΡΟΜΕΙΩΝ**

- Industry development: Promote the growth of the drone industry by supporting the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, and by encouraging investment in the sector.
- International cooperation: Engage with international partners and stakeholders to promote the safe and responsible integration of drones into global airspace, and to facilitate the exchange of best practices and technical expertise.

Evaluation:

To ensure the effectiveness of the national drone strategy, regular evaluations will be conducted to assess the progress and impact of the various components. These evaluations will utilize a combination of quantitative and qualitative data, and will include feedback from stakeholders and industry representatives.

Budget:

The total budget for the national drone strategy will be determined based on the specific activities and initiatives included in the plan. Funding will be sought from a variety of sources, including government grants, private sector investment, and international partners.

Indicative Action Plan

1. Form a task force to oversee the development and implementation of the strategy. This task force should include representatives from government agencies, industry, and other relevant stakeholders.
2. Conduct a review of existing regulations and guidelines related to drones, and identify any gaps or inconsistencies that need to be addressed in the new strategy.
3. Consult with industry experts, academics, and other stakeholders to gather input and ideas for the strategy. This could include workshops, focus groups, and online surveys.
4. Develop a comprehensive regulatory framework for the safe and responsible use of drones in national airspace. This should include clear guidelines for operator training and certification, as well as technical standards for drone design and operation.
5. Establish a funding program to support research and development in the drone sector. This could include grants for academic research, as well as funding for startups and small and medium-sized enterprises.
6. Promote the growth of the drone industry through initiatives such as investment promotion, trade shows, and partnerships with industry associations.
7. Engage with international partners and stakeholders to promote the safe and responsible integration of drones into global airspace, and to facilitate the exchange of best practices and technical expertise.
8. Regularly evaluate the progress and impact of the national drone strategy through the use of quantitative and qualitative data, and make adjustments as needed.



9. Communicate the progress and achievements of the national drone strategy to the public through regular updates and reports.

Indicative Domains and Actions

Defence	Develop guidelines for the use of drones by military and defense agencies, including for surveillance, intelligence gathering, and other defense-related activities
National security	Address risks to national security, including through the establishment of security clearance requirements for operators and restrictions on the use of drones in sensitive areas
Agriculture	Explore the potential for drones to be used in agriculture, including through the development of guidelines for the use of drones for crop monitoring, irrigation, and other agriculture-related activities
Collaboration with industry	Work with industry groups and other stakeholders to identify best practices and develop guidelines for the safe and responsible use of drones
Community engagement	Engage with local communities and stakeholders to ensure that the use of drones is in line with the needs and concerns of local residents
Economic development	Support the growth of the drone industry, including through funding for R&D and support for startups and small businesses
Energy	Explore the potential for drones to be used in the energy sector, including through the development of guidelines for the use of drones for inspection, maintenance, and other energy-related activities
Forestry	Explore the potential for drones to be used in the forestry industry, including through the development of guidelines for the use of drones for mapping, inspection, and other forestry-related activities
Healthcare	Explore the potential for drones to be used in the healthcare industry, including through the development of guidelines for the use of drones for the delivery of medical supplies and the transportation of patients
Industry development	Support the growth of the drone industry as a whole, including through the development of marketing and



**ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ
ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟ ΨΗΦΙΑΚΗΣ
ΔΙΑΚΥΒΕΡΝΗΣΗΣ
ΓΕΝΙΚΗ ΓΡΑΜΜΑΤΕΙΑ
ΤΗΛΕΠΙΚΟΙΝΩΝΙΩΝ ΚΑΙ
ΤΑΧΥΔΡΟΜΕΙΩΝ**

	outreach efforts, the establishment of industry partnerships, and the promotion of exports
Infrastructure	Establish the infrastructure needed to support the use of drones, including airspace management systems, communication networks, and charging and maintenance facilities. Explore the potential for drones to be used in infrastructure development and maintenance, including through the development of guidelines for the use of drones for inspection, mapping, and other infrastructure-related activities
Infrastructure development	Invest in the development of infrastructure to support the use of drones, such as charging and maintenance facilities, communication networks, and airspace management systems
Innovation and experimentation	Encourage the development of new and innovative uses for drones, including through the establishment of pilot programs or other experimentation initiatives
Innovation hubs	Establish innovation hubs or incubators to support the growth of startups working in the drone industry, including through the provision of resources, mentorship, and access to networks
Integration with other technologies	Consider how drones can be integrated with other technologies, such as artificial intelligence and the internet of things, in a way that is safe and beneficial to society
Mining	Explore the potential for drones to be used in the mining industry, including through the development of guidelines for the use of drones for mapping, inspection, and other mining-related activities
Public-private partnerships	Encourage the development of public-private partnerships to support the growth of the drone industry, including through the establishment of collaboration agreements and the creation of joint ventures
Research and development funding	Provide funding for research and development in the drone industry, including through grants, tax incentives, and other forms of financial assistance
Retail	Explore the potential for drones to be used in the retail industry, including through the development of guidelines for the use of drones for delivery and other retail-related activities
Stakeholder engagement	Engage with stakeholders, including industry groups, academia, and the general public, to ensure that the national strategy for drones is informed by diverse perspectives and takes into account the needs and concerns of all relevant parties



**ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ
ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟ ΨΗΦΙΑΚΗΣ
ΔΙΑΚΥΒΕΡΝΗΣΗΣ
ΓΕΝΙΚΗ ΓΡΑΜΜΑΤΕΙΑ
ΤΗΛΕΠΙΚΟΙΝΩΝΙΩΝ ΚΑΙ
ΤΑΧΥΔΡΟΜΕΙΩΝ**

Telecommunications	Explore the potential for drones to be used in the telecommunications industry, including through the development of guidelines for the use of drones for infrastructure inspection and maintenance
Tourism	Explore the potential for drones to be used in the tourism industry, including through the development of guidelines for the use of drones for photography, videography, and other tourism-related activities
Trade shows and events	Participate in trade shows and other industry events to promote the drone industry and to foster collaboration and networking opportunities
Transportation	Explore the potential for drones to be used in transportation, including through the development of guidelines for the use of drones for delivery and other transportation-related activities
Venture capital	Encourage the development of a vibrant venture capital ecosystem to support the growth of startups working in the drone industry, including through the establishment of funding programs and the promotion of investment opportunities
Insurance	Encourage the development of insurance products specifically for drones and drone operators, to provide coverage for damages or injuries that may occur as a result of drone use
Cybersecurity	Develop guidelines for the cybersecurity of drone systems, including through the establishment of standards for the protection of data transmitted by drones and the use of secure communication channels
Data management and cybersecurity	Develop guidelines for the management of data collected by drones and ensure the cybersecurity of drone systems
Privacy and Data protection	Develop guidelines for the protection of privacy in relation to the use of drones, including through the establishment of rules on the collection, use, and storage of data collected by drones
Disaster preparedness and response	Develop guidelines for the use of drones in disaster preparedness and response efforts, including through the establishment of protocols for the deployment of drones in emergency situations and the provision of training and resources to emergency responders
Emergency response	Develop guidelines for the use of drones in emergency response situations, including the deployment of drones for search and rescue, disaster response, and other emergency situations



**ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ
ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟ ΨΗΦΙΑΚΗΣ
ΔΙΑΚΥΒΕΡΝΗΣΗΣ
ΓΕΝΙΚΗ ΓΡΑΜΜΑΤΕΙΑ
ΤΗΛΕΠΙΚΟΙΝΩΝΙΩΝ ΚΑΙ
ΤΑΧΥΔΡΟΜΕΙΩΝ**

Health and safety	Develop guidelines for the health and safety of drone operators and other individuals affected by the use of drones, including through the establishment of safety standards and the provision of training and resources. Address risks to public safety, including through the establishment of safety standards and incident reporting requirements
International cooperation and engagement	Collaborate with other countries to develop common standards and regulations for the use of drones and on the development and use of drones, including through the establishment of mutual recognition agreements for pilot certification and the participation in international forums and organizations focused on drones. Engage with international organizations and other countries to share best practices and learn from their experiences with drones
International relations	Consider the role of drones in international relations, including through the development of guidelines for the export of drone technology and the participation in international organizations and forums related to drones
Ethics	Consider and address ethical concerns related to the use of drones, including through the development of guidelines on the use of drones for surveillance and other activities that could impact individual privacy or civil liberties
Social and ethical considerations	Consider and address social and ethical concerns related to the use of drones, including through the development of privacy protections and regulations on the use of drones for surveillance
Humanitarian assistance	Explore the potential for drones to support humanitarian efforts, including through the delivery of aid and the provision of services in remote or difficult-to-reach areas
Capacity building	Support the development of local capacity to design, manufacture, and maintain drones, including through the establishment of training programs and the promotion of local businesses working in the drone industry
Education	Explore the potential for drones to be used in education, including through the development of programs or courses focused on drones and the incorporation of drone education into existing curricula
Education and training	Educate and train drone operators, including establishing certification programs and providing training materials



**ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ
ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟ ΨΗΦΙΑΚΗΣ
ΔΙΑΚΥΒΕΡΝΗΣΗΣ
ΓΕΝΙΚΗ ΓΡΑΜΜΑΤΕΙΑ
ΤΗΛΕΠΙΚΟΙΝΩΝΙΩΝ ΚΑΙ
ΤΑΧΥΔΡΟΜΕΙΩΝ**

Innovation challenges	Establish innovation challenges or competitions to encourage the development of new and innovative uses for drones, including through the provision of prizes or other incentives
Professional development	Support the professional development of individuals working in the drone industry, including through the establishment of training programs and the promotion of continuing education opportunities
Public awareness	Develop public awareness campaigns to educate the general public on the safe and responsible use of drones, including through the development of educational materials and the promotion of best practices
Public awareness and outreach	Educate the public on the safe and responsible use of drones, including through public awareness campaigns and the development of educational materials
Research and development	Support research and development in the drone industry, including funding for R&D projects and support for innovation
Talent development and retention	Encourage the development of a skilled workforce in the drone industry, including through the establishment of education and training programs and the promotion of careers in the drone industry
Environmental impacts and sustainability	Consider and address the environmental impacts of the use of drones, including through the development of regulations or guidelines on issues such as noise pollution or resource consumption. Encourage the development of environmentally sustainable practices in the drone industry, including through the promotion of energy-efficient technologies and the establishment of guidelines for the reduction of environmental impacts
Coordination	Establish mechanisms for coordinating the implementation of the national strategy for drones across different government agencies and stakeholders
Law enforcement	Develop guidelines for the use of drones by law enforcement agencies, including for surveillance and other law enforcement activities
Legal framework	Develop a legal framework to support the use of drones, including through the establishment of laws and regulations related to the operation of drones and the protection of individual rights
Monitoring and evaluation	Develop a system for monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of the national strategy for drones, including through the collection of data on drone usage and the identification of best practices



Regulatory framework	Develop a set of rules and regulations governing the use of drones, including requirements for pilot training and certification, rules for operating drones in different types of airspace, and guidelines for maintaining and repairing drones
Resource management	Explore the potential for drones to support resource management efforts, including through the use of drones for environmental monitoring, mapping, and other resource-related activities
Review and update	Establish a process for regularly reviewing and updating the national strategy for drones to ensure that it remains relevant and effective
Standardization	Work with international organizations and industry groups to develop common technical standards for drones, including standards for communications, navigation, and other systems

Request for Information on the Development of a National Strategy for Drones

Purpose: The purpose of this RFI is to solicit information from interested parties on the development of a national strategy text for drones. The information gathered through this RFI will be used to inform the development of a comprehensive strategy that addresses the key challenges and opportunities facing the drone industry in Greece.

Scope: The national strategy text for drones should cover a wide range of topics, including regulatory frameworks, infrastructure development, education and training, research and development, innovation, industry development, and international engagement. The text should also consider the potential risks and benefits of the use of drones, and address issues related to safety, security, privacy, and ethics.

Submission Requirements: Interested parties are invited to submit information in response to the following questions:

1. What are the key challenges and opportunities facing the drone industry in Greece?



**ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ
ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟ ΨΗΦΙΑΚΗΣ
ΔΙΑΚΥΒΕΡΝΗΣΗΣ
ΓΕΝΙΚΗ ΓΡΑΜΜΑΤΕΙΑ
ΤΗΛΕΠΙΚΟΙΝΩΝΙΩΝ ΚΑΙ
ΤΑΧΥΔΡΟΜΕΙΩΝ**

2. What goals and objectives should be included in a national strategy text for drones?
3. What regulatory frameworks and guidelines should be established to support the safe and responsible use of drones?
4. What infrastructure and research and development investments are necessary to support the growth of the drone industry in Greece?
5. How can the drone industry be supported through education and training programs, and what should be included in these programs?
6. What measures can be taken to encourage innovation and experimentation in the drone industry?
7. How can the drone industry be supported through industry development efforts, including through marketing and outreach, industry partnerships, and exports?
8. How can Greece engage with international organizations and other countries to share best practices and learn from their experiences with drones?
9. What are the key risks and benefits of the use of drones, and how can these be addressed in a national strategy text?
10. What other issues should be considered in the development of a national strategy text for drones?

Submission Deadline: 17 February 2023

Contact Information: ggtt_drones@mindigital.gr