



De officiële gemeenschappelijke verklaring van de ministers van defensie van Denemarken, Duitsland en Nederland van 7 februari 2023:

*Starting a new Leopard initiative*

Joint Statement by the Defence Ministers of Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands:

We reaffirm our continued determination to support Ukraine in their endeavour to withstand Russian aggression. Together, in a joint initiative, we will significantly enhance Ukraine's military potential for the restoration of their violated territorial integrity.

Within the coming months, Ukraine will receive at least 100 of LEOPARD 1 A5 battle tanks, including the required logistic support and training.

Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands are providing refurbished LEOPARD 1 A5 from industrial stocks; the first ones being delivered within a few months. In doing so, we are guided by the needs of Ukraine. Our initiative includes training on the LEOPARD 1 A5 as well as a "spare parts and ammunition-package".

The LEOPARD 1 A5 is a robust and assertive Western-designed main battle tank. Our experts are currently working out the next steps together with the industry. Our "Leo 1 A5 Initiative" is open to further partners. So far, Belgium has also shown initial interest to participate.

This initiative will contribute to substantially and sustainably strengthening the Ukrainian armed forces and complement the efforts already underway to support Ukraine with LEOPARD 2 main battle tanks.