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## ***France Takes the Lead in Europe's Defense Transformation***

Europe's defense landscape is entering a new phase, one defined by intelligent mass production. As aerial threats multiply and geopolitical tensions rise, France has emerged as a continental leader, building on over a decade of experience in counter-drone warfare and a unique cross-force integration between the Air Force, police, and national security agencies.

Among them, [MC2-Technologies stands out as a flagship of industrial agility](#). The Lille-based company generated €13.5 million in 2024 revenue (+22% YoY), targeting €16 million in 2025 and €50 million within three years. Its proprietary hyperfrequency systems can detect, identify, and neutralize all wireless communications, providing both French and international forces with an unmatched edge in electronic warfare. With 30% of sales exported and backing from Andera Partners, Bpifrance, and Tikehau, MC2 is on track to reach mid-cap scale, proof that European sovereignty can also mean economic acceleration.

At the high end of the spectrum, [Thales and Destinus are redefining scalable defense](#). Their 2025 MoU targets 10,000 drones in 2025 and 100,000 by 2026, blending Destinus's AI-driven autonomous platforms with Thales's payloads, guidance, and resilient communications. The \$225 million acquisition of Daedalean, a Swiss AI aviation specialist, will equip the next generation of drones with certifiable autonomy and real-time swarm coordination. The message is clear: Europe is arming for scale: from MBDA's low-cost missiles to Thales–Destinus autonomous fleets.

[The alliance between Harmattan AI \(France\) and Skyeton \(Ukraine\) further reinforces this strategy](#). Announced in October 2025, their partnership integrates Harmattan's military-grade sensor technology with Skyeton's Raybird UAS, a platform with over 350,000 combat flight hours and 28+ hours of endurance.

Moreover, [Alta Ares embodies this new generation of dual-use defense AI startups emerging from France's deeptech ecosystem](#). Founded in 2024 and already validated in combat operations in Ukraine, the company raised €2 million in 2025 from investors including Expansion, Starburst Ventures, Durandal Capital, and Kima Ventures.

Complementing this software-driven approach, [Aerix Systems is redefining drone agility](#). The startup has developed an omnidirectional propulsion system enabling 360° rotation, inverted flight, and high-speed stability up to 200 km/h. Its dual-use technology, backed by a €1.6 million seed round in 2024, positions Aerix as a rising

player in France's defense and aerospace innovation ecosystem.

Behind this surge, capital is following conviction. [The Plural fund launched in 2022 and already managing €800 million across two vehicles](#), embodies the new breed of European venture capital focused on deeptech, defense, and critical technologies. With 50 investments across 9 countries, including Helsing (defense), Phasecraft (quantum), and Proxima Fusion (nuclear). Plural is doubling down on Europe's technological sovereignty. Its mission-driven approach is clear: invest in the innovators who will define Europe's strategic independence for the next decade.

## **VC trends (week 41)**

### **VC Deals: €109.5m**

#Sector #BusinessModel #Focus

#### **Filigran**

Developer of cybersecurity software for threat mapping and risk management

**Founded in:** 2022

**Series:** C

**New Money in press:** €50m

**Investors:** Eurazeo Growth, Deutsche Telekom (T.Capital), Accel, Insight Partners

#Cybersecurity #Subscription #B2B

#### **Phagos**

Developer of bacteriophage-based biotech treatments for livestock infections

**Founded in:** 2021

**Series:** A

**New Money in press:** €25m (including €10.0m debt)

**Investors:** CapAgro, Hoxton Ventures, CapHorn,

Demeter, Acurio Ventures, Citizen Capital, Founders Capital, Station F, Entrepreneur First

#BioTech #Research #B2B

### **Honoré Gaming / Sharp Vision**

Developer of SaaS solutions for gaming operators and mobile payment regulation in emerging markets

**Founded in:** 2018

**Series:** C

**New Money in press:** €20m

**Investors:** AgilaCapital

#Entertainment #Subscription #B2B

### **Clevergy**

Developer of a SaaS platform for household energy monitoring and optimization (B2B model)

**Founded in:** 2022

**Series:** Seed

**New Money in press:** €3.2m

**Investors:** Serena (Racine<sup>2</sup>), Axon Partners Group, Satgana, Wayra, Angels Capital

#Energy #Subscription #B2B

### **Moiz**

Developer of deeptech systems converting industrial waste heat into energy for sensors

**Founded in:** 2020

**Series:** Seed

**New Money in press:** €3m (including €1.9m debt)

**Investors:** Business Angels (Grenoble Angels, Badge,

Savoie MB Angels, Rhône Vallée Angels), C2AD, Rio Tinto Ventures

#DeepTech #Service #B2B

### **SeaBeLife**

Developer of biotech treatments to block cellular necrosis

**Founded in:** 2019

**Series:** Seed

**New Money in press:** €2m

**Investors:** iXLife, Breizh Angels, WeLikeStartup, Angels Santé, Badge, INext, Femmes Business Angels

#BioTech #Research #B2B

### **Diffly**

Developer of an AI-powered SaaS platform for post-sales customer feedback analysis

**Founded in:** 2023

**Series:** Seed

**New Money in press:** €1.7m (including €0.4m debt)

**Investors:** 360 Capital, Business Angels

#Software #Subscription #B2B

### **Jint**

Developer of Microsoft extensions offering collaborative workplace tools

**Founded in:** 2018

**Series:** Bridge / Extension

**New Money in press:** €1.5m (including €0.5m debt)

**Investors:** Christophe Karvelis-Senn, 4-CAD, Keyrus,

## Business Angels

#Software #Subscription #B2B

### **Claimy**

Developer of software for administrative and financial management of music rights holders

**Founded in:** 2023

**Series:** Seed

**New Money in press:** €1.5m (including €0.8m subsidies)

**Investors:** Sharpstone Capital II, Jean-Baptiste Hironde, Flavien Kulawik, Julien Codorniou, Business Angels

#AI #Subscription #B2B

### **Ficha**

Developer of AI-based technology for detecting sorting and recycling errors

**Founded in:** 2020

**Series:** Seed

**New Money in press:** €900k

**Investors:** Climate Leaders Fast-Track, Neo Founders, Rhône Dauphiné Développement

#Sustainability #Service #B2B

### **Komu**

Developer of a SaaS platform for brand community engagement and activation

**Founded in:** 2023

**Series:** Pre-Seed

**New Money in press:** €700k (including €0.2m debt)

**Investors:** Business Angels, Family Offices

#Martech #Subscription #B2B

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## Exits

#Sector #BusinessModel #Focus

### **Osmose Solutions**

Developer of SaaS software for opticians and hearing aid professionals

→ Acquired by **Optic 2000**

**Founded in:** 2018

**Deal Type:** Corporate Development

**Acquirer Country:** France

#HealthTech, Retail, SaaS #Subscription #B2B

### **Caplaser**

Developer of IT outsourcing and managed services solutions

→ Acquired by **itp**

**Founded in:** 1985

**Deal Type:** Corporate Development

**Acquirer Country:** France

#IT Services, Cloud, Infrastructure #Service #B2B

### **Thalasseo**

Developer of an online wellness travel booking platform

→ Acquired by **UI Investissement (Cap Autrement)**

**Founded in:** 2004

**Deal Type:** Buyout

**Acquirer Country:** France

#TravelTech, Wellness, Marketplace #Commission #B2C

### **Lanteas**

Developer of public sector software solutions for HR, payroll, and permit management

→ Acquired by **Nexpublika**

**Founded in:** 2014

**Deal Type:** Corporate Development

**Acquirer Country:** France

#GovTech, CRM, Software #Service #B2B

### **Applixia**

Developer of IT infrastructure and managed services solutions

→ Acquired by **Heliaq**

**Founded in:** 2001

**Deal Type:** Corporate Development

**Acquirer Country:** France

#IT Services, Cloud, Infrastructure,  
Software #Service #B2B

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*Sources: Dealroom, CFNEWS (also for the equity / non equity ratio), press releases & specialized press.*

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