



# Tanks of the future

KF51 (Photo: Rheinmetall)

2022 has become the best year in recent times for armoured technology with emergence of several charismatic next generation platforms and projects to meet the future requirements of ever evolving collaborative combat environments. While, Leclerc XLR, Leopard 2A7+ and K2NO/PL/M proudly present themselves as representative of future backbone of their respective users, the year will be even more memorable for three new technology demonstrators shining bright amidst the crowd of other metal beasts. We are talking about GDLS AbramsX, KF51 and KNDS EMBT- all feature unmanned turrets.

## AbramsX

The GDLS AbramsX broke cover at the AUSA 2022. The technology demonstrator addresses several shortcomings in existing Abrams fleet. Though US Army likely will keep using M1A2 Abrams SepV3/V4, it paves way for integration of several new upgrades to existing one. With a combat weight of just around 54T it has become lighter than any of its cousins! The platform is equipped with ARDEC

XM360 120mm gun which is lighter than M256 and has low recoil in comparison. It features Kongsberg Protector RS6 30mm remote weapon system which allows to engage soft skin platforms with an adequate means. It also has a 7.62mm co-axial machine gun. AbramsX can launch four

Switchblade 300 loitering munitions as well! SAFRAN Paseo provide the Gunner's Panoramic Sight (GPS) and Commander's Independent Thermal Sight (CITS). Both the gunner and commander can scan the battlefield independently without rotating the turret. The sophisticated multi-spectral

