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## Western Balkan Authorities Raise Institutional Capacities for Effective Prevention and Combatting of Use of Firearms in Domestic Violence

Supported by the European Union, SEESAC organised the first meeting of the Regional Working Group for the Prevention of the Use of Firearms in Domestic Violence through Risk Assessment in Podgorica on 23-24 November 2022. The meeting gathered representatives of the authorities from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo\*, Montenegro, and North Macedonia to strengthen their institutional capacities for effective prevention and combatting of the use of firearms in domestic violence.

To achieve the goal, the meeting increased understanding of key challenges in the prevention of the misuse of firearms in domestic violence and requested the Working Group to provide expert support to the implementation of the regional analysis of the institutional response to the use of firearms in domestic violence.

It also initiated the development of a practical tool for the first-line responders to adequately address risks related to the presence of firearms in the context of domestic violence.

The meeting was organised in the framework of the regional project Support for Enhancing the Fight Against the Illegal Possession, Misuse, and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) in the Western Balkans funded by the European Union through the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA II).



\*References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of the Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999).

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