

# THE WESTERN BALKANS **SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS** CONTROL ROADMAP

## **PHASE I (2018-2024)**



The Roadmap for a sustainable solution to arms control in the Western Balkans envisages the Western Balkans as a safer region where comprehensive and sustainable mechanisms, fully harmonized with the European Union and other international standards, are in place to identify, prevent, control and prosecute the illegal possession, misuse and trafficking of firearms, ammunition and explosives. It is based on regional cooperation principles.

The Roadmap was developed by the Western Balkans authorities under the auspices of Germany, France and the EU with SEESAC support and in consultation with all relevant actors. The adoption of the document is the result of a record-breaking five-month consultation process, started in Podgorica on 1 February 2018 at the high-level meeting Reinforcing commitments towards SALW control in South East Europe. The process was followed by consultations at the local level in all jurisdictions across the region, agreed in Tirana at the 9th Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) Commissions Meeting and adopted at the Western Balkans London Summit held on 10 July 2018.

With the completion of Phase I by end of 2024, the Roadmap for a sustainable solution to the illegal possession, misuse and trafficking of small arms and light weapons (SALW), their ammunition, and explosives in the Western Balkans 2025-2030 was endorsed by the Western Balkans Ministers of Interior during the EU-Western Balkans Ministerial Forum on Justice and Home Affairs, on 28 October 2024.

# ROADMAP GOALS



<b>GOAL 1</b>	By 2023, ensure that arms control legislation is in place, fully harmonized with the EU regulatory framework and other related international obligations and standardized across the region.	
<b>GOAL 2</b>	By 2024, ensure that arms control policies and practices in the Western Balkans are evidence based and intelligence-led.	<b>GOAL 5</b>
<b>GOAL 3</b>	2024, significantly reduce illicit flows of firearms, ammunition and explosives (FAE) into, within and beyond the Western Balkans.	<b>GOAL 6</b>
<b>GOAL 4</b>	By 2024, significantly reduce the supply, demand and misuse of firearms through increased awareness, education, outreach and advocacy.	<b>GOAL 7</b>
		By 2024, substantially decrease the estimated number of firearms in illicit possession in the Western Balkans.
		Systematically decrease the surplus and destroy seized small arms and light weapons and ammunition.
		Significantly decrease the risk of proliferation and diversion of firearms, ammunition and explosives.

## KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

- 1 Number of legal frameworks on arms control throughout the Western Balkans fully harmonized with the EU legislation, the Arms Trade Treaty and the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, their Parts and Components and Ammunition (The Firearms Protocol)
- 2 Number of evidence-based arms control policy documents, developed in each jurisdiction of the Western Balkans, that are also addressing needs of men, women, boys and girls
- 3 Number of cases, individuals and quantity of misused and trafficked firearms, ammunition and explosives (FAE) prosecuted and adjudicated in comparison to the number of law enforcement reports on seizures
- 4 Number of cases and quantity of FAE seized inland compared to the number of cases and quantity of FAE seized at the borders
- 5 Number of reported cases of FAE seized at the borders of the European Union and traced to the Western Balkans, compared to the number of FAE seized throughout the European Union and traced to or diverted from the Western Balkans
- 6 Number of FAE for which export licenses were issued by the Western Balkans identified as diverted through postshipment control procedure
- 7 Firearms Focal Points established and operational in each jurisdiction of the Western Balkans
- 8 Number of inter-institutional cooperation cases at operational level, including investigation, prosecution and pretrial phases
- 9 Number of cases of operational cooperation sourced from intelligence information including ballistic intelligence in the fight against firearms related crimes, with authorities in the region, EU member states and agencies as well as international law enforcement agencies

# 2018 – 2024 STATUS OF

## HARMONIZATION OF LEGAL FRAMEWORK WITH EU ACQUIS, ARMS TRADE TREATY AND UN FIREARMS PROTOCOL



- Harmonized
- Partially harmonized
- Not harmonized



- 10 Number of incidents involving firearms and victims affected by the misuse of firearms, disaggregated by gender and age, in each jurisdiction of the Western Balkans
- 11 Number of FAE voluntarily surrendered, as well as firearms legalized or deactivated
- 12 Number of reported SALW/firearms, ammunition, and explosives confiscated or surplus systematically destroyed
- 13 Number of SALW/firearms and their ammunition storage facilities in line with international safety and security standards
- 14 Percentage of citizens satisfaction (disaggregated by age and gender) or feeling of safety on armed violence across the Western Balkans

CIVIL USE OF FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION	BELGRADE	PODGORICA	PRISTINA	SARAJEVO	SKOPIJE	TIRANA
DIRECTIVE (EU) 2021/555 ON CONTROL OF THE ACQUISITION AND POSSESSION OF WEAPONS	●	●	●	●	●	●
REGULATION 258/2012 ARTICLE 10 OF THE UN FIREARMS PROTOCOL	●	●	●	●	●	●
REGULATION 2018/337 ESTABLISHING COMMON GUIDELINES ON DEACTIVATION	●	●	●	●	●	●
DIRECTIVE 2019/68 FOR THE MARKING OF FIREARMS	●	●	●	●	●	●
DIRECTIVE 2019/69 FOR TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS FOR ALARM AND SIGNAL WEAPONS	●	●	●	●	●	●

CIVIL USE OF EXPLOSIVES	BELGRADE	PODGORICA	PRISTINA	SARAJEVO	SKOPIJE	TIRANA
REGULATION 2019/1148 ON EXPLOSIVE PRECURSORS	●	●	●	●	●	●
DIRECTIVE 2013/29/EU ON PYROTECHNICS	●	●	●	●	●	●
DIRECTIVE 2014/28/EU ON EXPLOSIVES FOR CIVIL USE	●	●	●	●	●	●

MILITARY USE OF ARMS AND AMMUNITION	BELGRADE	PODGORICA	PRISTINA	SARAJEVO	SKOPIJE	TIRANA
COUNCIL COMMON POSITION 2008/944/CFSP DEFINING COMMON RULES GOVERNING CONTROL OF EXPORTS OF MTE	●	●	●	●	●	●
COMMON MILITARY LIST OF THE EUROPEAN UNION	●	●	●	●	●	●
COUNCIL COMMON POSITION 2003/468/CFSP ON THE CONTROL OF DARMS BROKERING	●	●	●	●	●	●
DIRECTIVE 2009/43/EC SIMPLIFYING TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF TRANSFERS OF DEFENCE-RELATED PRODUCTS	●	●	●	●	●	●
DIRECTIVE 2009/81/EC FOR THE AWARD OF CERTAIN WORKS CONTRACTS, IN THE FIELDS OF DEFENSE AND SECURITY	●	●	●	●	●	●
COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) 2021/821 FOR THE CONTROL OF DUAL-USE ITEMS	●	●	●	●	●	●
ARMS TRADE TREATY	●	●	●	●	●	●
UN FIREARMS PROTOCOL	●	●	●	●	●	●

# WB SALW CONTROL ROADMAP IMPLEMENTATION IN NUMBERS (2018 – 2024)

## COUNTERING TRAFFICKING OF FIREARMS, AMMUNITION AND EXPLOSIVES

### FIREARMS

Seized inland **35,675**      Seized at the borders **1,184**

### AMMUNITION

Seized inland **1,168,511**      Seized at the borders **83,476**

### EXPLOSIVES – PIECES

Seized inland **3,717**      Seized at the borders **105**

### EXPLOSIVES – GRAMS

Seized inland **4,547,013**      Seized at the borders **14,919**

## SEIZED FIREARMS

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Inland	4,807	4,932	4,690	5,357	5,204	5,893	4,792
At the borders	139	76	103	153	171	350	192

## SEIZED AMMUNITION

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Inland	107,762	122,928	153,932	277,511	127,526	182,406	196,446
At the borders	6,835	9,135	8,482	16,256	18,062	11,956	12,750

## SALW / FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION DESTROYED (2018 – 2024)



### FIREARMS

Surpluses  
**46,491**

Confiscated  
**21,206**

### AMMUNITION PIECES + AMMUNITION TONNES

Surpluses  
**15,816,033**

Confiscated  
**168,566**

Surpluses  
**5,260**

# FIREARMS VOLUNTARILY SURRENDERED, LEGALIZED AND DEACTIVATED (2018 – 2024)

NUMBER OF VOLUNTARILY SURRENDERED FIREARMS 

**294,772**

NUMBER OF VOLUNTARILY SURRENDERED AMMUNITION 

**4,280,765**

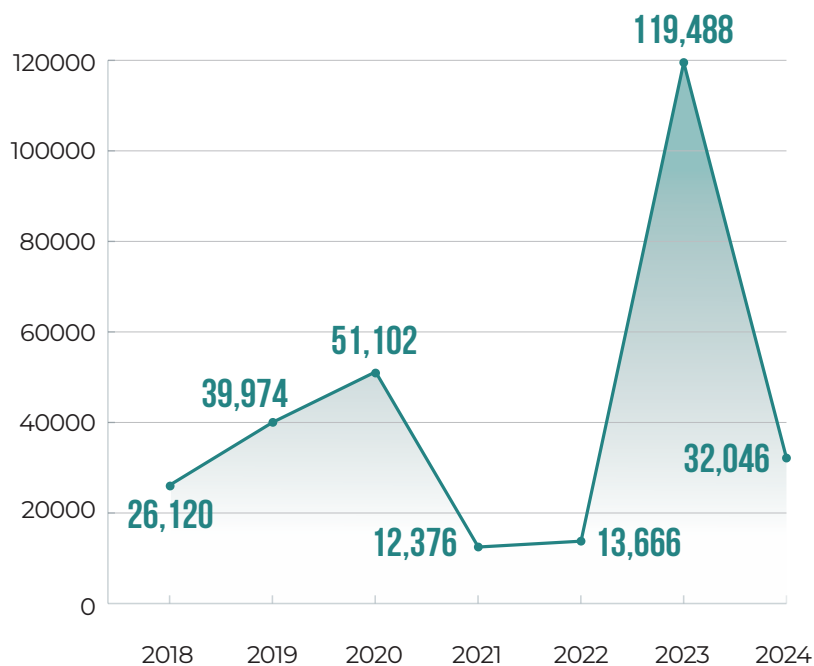
LEGALIZED FIREARMS

**4,447**

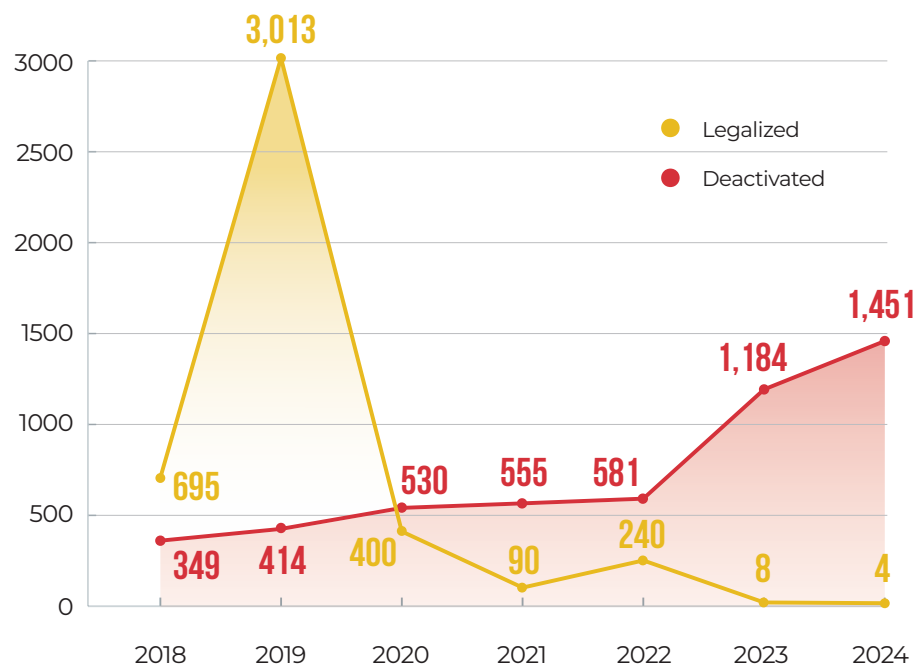
DEACTIVATED FIREARMS

**5,064**












































## VOLUNTARILY SURRENDERED FIREARMS



## LEGALIZED AND DEACTIVATED FIREARMS



# KEY IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

GOAL 1	GOAL 2	GOAL 3	GOAL 4	GOAL 5	GOAL 6	GOAL 7
    	          	          	    	     	     	     

# ROADMAP FOR A SUSTAINABLE SOLUTION TO THE ILLEGAL POSSESSION, MISUSE AND TRAFFICKING OF SALW, THEIR AMMUNITION, AND EXPLOSIVES IN THE WESTERN BALKANS BY 2030

<b>GOAL 1</b>	By 2030, ensure that arms control legislation is in place, harmonized with the EU regulatory framework and other related international obligations and standardized across the region.
<b>GOAL 2</b>	By 2030, ensure that arms control policies and practices in the Western Balkans are in place, evidence-based and intelligence-led.
<b>GOAL 3</b>	By 2030, significantly reduce misuse, illicit manufacturing, illicit possession, and illicit flows of weapons, ammunition and explosives (WAE).
<b>GOAL 4</b>	By 2030, significantly reduce the supply, demand, illicit possession and misuse of arms, ammunition and explosives through the means of prevention.
<b>GOAL 5</b>	By 2030, substantially decrease the risk of proliferation and diversion through improved safety and security of the stockpiles and disposal of weapons, ammunition and explosives.

## KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:

1. Level of harmonization or compliance of legal framework on arms control with the EU regulatory framework, the Arms Trade Treaty and the UN Firearms Protocol.
2. Level of compliance with the Roadmap of the SALW Strategies/ Action Plans, which are evidence-based and gender-responsive.
3. Level of law enforcement, as well as prosecutorial services and judiciary response related to weapons, ammunition and explosives incidents/events.
4. Number of cases and quantity of weapons, ammunition and explosives seized inland compared to the number of cases and quantity of weapons ammunition and explosives seized at the borders.
5. Number of reported cases and quantity of weapons, ammunition and explosives seized at the borders of the European Union and traced to the Western Balkans, and the number of reported cases and quantity of those seized within the European Union and traced to the Western Balkans.
6. Number of export licenses from which arms and ammunition were identified as diverted through post-shipment control procedure.
7. Number of Firearms Focal Points established and operational.
8. Level of operational cooperation in the fight against firearms-related crimes among authorities in the region, EU Member States and international agencies.
9. Number of incidents and victims involving weapons and explosives, disaggregated by sex and age.
10. Number of weapons, ammunition and explosives voluntarily surrendered, as well as firearms legalized or deactivated.
11. Number of reported weapons, ammunition, and explosives (confiscated, voluntarily surrendered or surplus) systematically destroyed.
12. Number of weapons, ammunition and explosives owned by **1)** institutions, **2)** private legal entities, and **3)** civilians reported lost or stolen.
13. Percentage of citizens feeling threatened by the illegal possession and misuse of weapons.



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## KEY DONORS SUPPORTING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WESTERN BALKANS SALW CONTROL ROADMAP

