REGIONAL NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ROADMAP

for a sustainable solution to the illegal possession, misuse and trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) and their ammunition in the Western Balkans by 2024

1 January–30 June 2021
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ATT</td>
<td>Arms Trade Treaty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BiH</td>
<td>Bosnia and Herzegovina</td>
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<td>BP</td>
<td>Border Police</td>
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<tr>
<td>BDBiH</td>
<td>Brčko District Bosnia and Herzegovina</td>
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<tr>
<td>CEPOL</td>
<td>European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training</td>
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<tr>
<td>CFSP</td>
<td>Common Foreign and Security Policy</td>
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<td>DCM</td>
<td>Decision of the Council of Ministers</td>
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<td>DCPB</td>
<td>Directorate for Coordination of Police Bodies BiH</td>
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<td>EC</td>
<td>European Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>EMPACT</td>
<td>European Multidisciplinary Platform Against Criminal Threats</td>
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<td>EU</td>
<td>European Union</td>
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<td>EUCOM</td>
<td>United States European Command</td>
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<td>EULEX</td>
<td>European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo*</td>
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<td>EULEX IPCU</td>
<td>EULEX International Police Cooperation Unit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Europol</td>
<td>The European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation</td>
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<td>Eurojust</td>
<td>The European Union’s Judicial Cooperation Unit</td>
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<tr>
<td>FAE</td>
<td>Firearms, ammunition and explosives</td>
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<td>FBiH</td>
<td>Federation Bosnia and Herzegovina</td>
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<td>FFP</td>
<td>Firearms Focal Point</td>
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<td>Frontex</td>
<td>The European Border and Coast Guard Agency</td>
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<td>iARMS</td>
<td>INTERPOL’s Illicit Arms Records, Tracing Management System</td>
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<td>Interpol</td>
<td>The International Criminal Police Organization</td>
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<td>ITA</td>
<td>Indirect Taxation Authority BiH</td>
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<td>JAD</td>
<td>Joint Action Day</td>
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<td>LFC</td>
<td>Land Forces Command</td>
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<tr>
<td>MoD</td>
<td>Ministry of Defence</td>
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<td>Mol</td>
<td>Ministry of Interior</td>
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<tr>
<td>MOFTER</td>
<td>Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Bosnia and Herzegovina</td>
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* References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).
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<th>Abbreviation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MOSAIC</td>
<td>Modular Small-arms-control Implementation Compendium</td>
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<td>MTTT</td>
<td>Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Telecommunications</td>
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<td>NATO</td>
<td>North Atlantic Treaty Organization</td>
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<td>NSPA</td>
<td>NATO Support and Procurement Agency</td>
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<td>OKTIV</td>
<td>Firearms and Ballistics Division of the Department of Forensic Investigations and Expertise</td>
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<tr>
<td>OSCE</td>
<td>Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe</td>
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<td>RACVIAC</td>
<td>Centre for Security Cooperation</td>
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<td>RASR</td>
<td>Regional Approach to Stockpile Reduction</td>
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<td>RIEP</td>
<td>Regional Arms Export Information Exchange Process</td>
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<td>RS</td>
<td>Republic of Serbia</td>
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<td>SALW</td>
<td>Small arms and light weapons</td>
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<td>SEE</td>
<td>South-East Europe</td>
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<td>SEEFEG</td>
<td>South-East Europe Firearms Expert Group</td>
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<td>SEEFEN</td>
<td>South-East Europe Firearms Experts Network</td>
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<td>SEESAC</td>
<td>South Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons</td>
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<td>SELEC</td>
<td>Southeast European Law Enforcement Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>SIENA</td>
<td>Secure Information Exchange Network Application</td>
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<td>SIPA</td>
<td>State Investigation and Protection Agency BiH</td>
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<td>SOCTA</td>
<td>Serious and Organised Crime Threat Assessment</td>
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<td>TAIEX</td>
<td>Technical Assistance and Information Exchange instrument of the European Commission</td>
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<td>UNDP</td>
<td>United Nations Development Programme</td>
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<td>UNMIK</td>
<td>United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNPoA</td>
<td>United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects</td>
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<tr>
<td>WRMP</td>
<td>Weapon Registration and Stockpile Management System</td>
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GOAL 1

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.

GOAL 1 OVERALL TARGETS

1. Establish complete legal framework to counter all forms of illicit possession, trafficking and misuse of firearms, ammunition, and explosives (FAE).

2. Ensure full legal and regulatory framework is in place with regards to FAE producers.

3. Fully harmonize arms control legislation with EU legal framework and in line with international agreements/standards.

4. Ensure compatibility of arms control legal frameworks across the Western Balkans, which allows direct operational cooperation.

5. Ensure standardization of procedures and practices in the area of arms control and FAE investigations.

6. Exchange good practices with a specific focus on the areas defined in the Roadmap.
PROGRESS INFORMATION ON GOAL 1 OVERALL TARGETS

BELGRADE

1.1 Laws and by-laws regulating arms control, and level of harmonization reported

Guiding questions:
What are the laws and bylaws regulating arms control?
What is the level of harmonization of each of the laws with the EU Acquis?

- Law on Weapons and Ammunition (The Official Gazette, Nos. 20/2015, 10/2019 and 20/20);
- Law on Testing, Stamping and Marking of Weapons, Devices and Ammunition (The Official Gazette, No. 87/18);
- Law on Export and Import of Arms and Military Equipment (The Official Gazette, No. 107/14);
- Law on Production and Trade in Weapons and Military Equipment (The Official Gazette, No. 36/18);
- Law on Defence (The Official Gazette, No. 116/07, 88/09, 104/09 – other law, 10/15 and 36/18);

Additional information
- Pursuant to the Law on Weapons and Ammunition, the following by-laws were adopted:
  - Rulebook on Weapon Deactivation;
  - Rulebook on Training in Handling Firearms, Repair and Conversion of Weapons and Trade in Weapons and Ammunition;
  - Rulebook on Spatial and Technical Conditions for Safe Storage and Keeping of Weapons and Ammunition;
  - Rulebook on the Records Kept by the Competent Authority as Prescribed by the Law on Weapons and Ammunition;
  - Rulebook on the Procedure for Issuing Documents, the Layout and Content of Forms stipulated by the Law on Weapons and Ammunition;
  - Rulebook on Records Kept by Legal Entities and Entrepreneurs;
  - Rulebook on the Weapon Loaning Procedure and the Rulebook on Determining Medical Fitness of Natural Persons to Hold and Carry Weapons, adopted by the Minister of Health in accordance with the Law on Weapons and Ammunition.
• With regard to the **Law on Testing, Stamping and Marking of Weapons, Devices and Ammunition**, the following should be added:
  - Decision on the Establishment of the Agency for Testing, Stamping and Marking of Weapons, Devices and Ammunition (*The Official Gazette*, No. 17/20) was adopted;
  - Rulebook on the method of performing control during testing, marking, individual testing, homologation, ammunition type control, testing of deactivated weapons and weapons permanently converted to civilian use, as well as the layout of markings and stamps (*The Official Gazette*, No. 113/20) was adopted;
  - In accordance with the Conclusion of the Government of 21 June 2019, in March 2021, the application was submitted for admission to the *Commission internationale permanente pour l'épreuve des armes à feu portatives* – C.I.P, i.e., for accession to the Convention for the Reciprocal Recognition of Proof Marks on Small Arms (Brussels Convention of 1 July 1969);
  - The Rulebook on the layout of records kept by the Agency for Testing, Stamping and Marking of Weapons, Devices and Ammunition was adopted in May 2021 (*The Official Gazette*, No. 54/21).

• With regard to the **Law on Export and Import of Arms and Military Equipment**, the following should be added:
  - Decision on the Establishment of the National Control List of Arms and Military Equipment (*The Official Gazette*, No. 102/20); the new decision is expected in 2021;
  - Decision on the Establishment of the National Control List of Dual-Use Goods (*The Official Gazette*, No. 28/21).

→ **All three documents, the Law on Export and Import of Arms and Military Equipment and decisions are fully harmonized with the EU Acquis.**

• With regard to the transfer of weapons in legal possession across the state border, in accordance with the **Law on Border Control** (*The Official Gazette*, No. 24/18), the Rulebook on the Manner of State Border Surveillance and Manner of Issuance, Layout and Content of Documents Drafted by Police Officers Performing the Tasks of State Border Surveillance (*The Official Gazette*, No. 48/18 of 22 June 2018) was adopted.

• The **Law on Defence** and the **Law on the Serbian Armed Forces**, as the laws within the competence of the Ministry of Defence, regulate arms control. In 2019, a new Law on Defence and a new Law on the Serbian Armed Forces were adopted (*The Official Gazette*, No. 94/2019). These two laws define basic provisions for the functioning of the defence system and the Serbian Armed Forces, as the main defence factor. **Additional amendments are underway for their further harmonization with the EU Acquis.**
1.2 Activities initiated/undertaken during the reporting period in regard to the harmonization of the national legal framework on arms control with the EU Acquis

Guiding question:
What activities were initiated/undertaken during the reporting period in regard to harmonization of the national legal framework on arms control with the EU Acquis?

- In March 2021, at the initiative of the Ministry of the Interior, an inter-sectoral Working Group was established to prepare a draft Law on Amendments to the Law on Weapons and Ammunition. The draft integrated the amendments based on the analysis made by an EU expert, in order to further harmonize the regulation in question with the EU acquis. The Draft Law was submitted to the European Commission for an opinion in June 2021, through the Ministry of European Integration. The Government's work plan for 2021 envisages the adoption of the Law on Amendments to the Law on Weapons and Ammunition for Q4. The aim of the amendments to this law is primarily related to the harmonization of the definitions and essential components of weapons and the categorization of weapons with the new directives. The amendments will also additionally harmonize the field of convertible weapons, i.e. starting, gas and signal weapons.

- The drafting of the Instructions on the Manner of Handling Weapons and Ammunition found on the Crime Scene is still ongoing. Additional harmonization was conducted in the reporting period.

- In the first half of the year, the work on the Draft Law on Explosives continued, and this law will regulate the production and trade of explosives for civilian use and pyrotechnic articles. The planned deadline for its adoption is Q4 of 2021. The COVID-19 pandemic and related measures affected the implementation of this activity. At the same time, within the project “EU for Serbia - Support for Safer Products”, which is implemented within the Negotiating Group for Chapter 1 – Free Movement of Goods, Cluster – Internal Market, an EU expert (Croatia) in the field of pyrotechnic articles and explosives for civil use organized an online seminar on 30 June 2021 for the representatives of the Ministry of Economy, the Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Telecommunications, the Ministry of Mining and Energy, the Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure, the Security Intelligence Agency and the Ministry of the Interior, on the topics: The concept of "free movement of goods" and the new legislative framework (NLF); Gap analysis of the new Draft Law on Explosives in relation to the requirements of the EU Directive on Pyrotechnic Articles 2013/29/EU; Amendments to the Draft Law on Explosives and drafting of related rulebooks; Future necessary amendments before the EU accession and transition period; EU Directive on pyrotechnic articles 2013/29/ EU and its scope; State authorities; Certification bodies; Body designating certification bodies (NANDO database); Conformity assessment procedures; The concept of harmonized standards and their application; CE mark of conformity, EU declaration of conformity, instructions for use; Market surveillance and cooperation with other parties; Pyrotechnic articles representing a risk to health or safety; and Safety precautions and use of pyrotechnic articles.

- The Law amending the Law on Weapons and Ammunition (The Official Gazette, No. 20/20) amended Article 50, paragraph 1 of the Law on Weapons and Ammunition (The Official Gazette, No. 20/15 and 10/19) in order to enable natural persons who held a weapon...
registration card and a permit to carry self-defence weapons, as well as legal entities and entrepreneurs who held a permit to hold weapons issued in accordance with the law valid until the date of entry into force of this Law to submit an application for the issuance of a document, accompanied by a certificate of medical fitness to hold and carry weapons, until 5 March 2022.

Additional information

- In November 2019, MoI approved cooperation on the Project: “Concept of Support to be provided by the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) to the Ministry of the towards fulfilling the assumed international obligations as defined in the Roadmap”. Based on the MoI’s guidelines and expressed needs, the OSCE Concept of Support identified three areas requiring support, the first one being the establishment of the deactivation legislative framework and its due practical implementation. This activity will be implemented in the upcoming period.

1.3 Accession, signature or ratification of the Arms Trade Treaty and Firearms Protocol

Guiding questions:

Has the jurisdiction accessed, signed or ratified the Arms Trade Treaty and Firearms Protocol?

- Is 1) illicit manufacturing of firearms, their parts and components and ammunition 2) illicit trafficking of firearms, their parts and components and ammunition 3) falsifying or illicitly obliterating, removing or altering the marking(s) on firearms defined as criminal offence in your criminal code?

- The Republic of Serbia signed and ratified the Arms Trade Treaty in October 2014, before its entry into force (The Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia, No. 14/14) and fully applies it. In line with international obligations assumed under this Treaty, the Republic of Serbia submits regular annual reports (until 31 May of the current year for the previous year) on the export and import of weapons and military equipment. These reports are transparent, without restrictive parts, and are publicly available to all ATT member states.


- The Criminal Code of the Republic of Serbia (The Official Gazette, Nos. 85/05, 88/05 – corr., 107/05 – corr., 72/09, 111/09, 121/12, 104/13, 108/14, 94/2016 and 35/19) in Article 347 – Making and Obtaining Weapons and Tools Intended for Commission of an Offence – stipulates that “whoever makes, procures or enables another to acquire weapons, ammunition, explosive substances or explosive devices, means for their manufacture or poison, shall be punished by imprisonment of one to five years”.


• Also, the criminal offence under Article 348 – *Unlawful Manufacture, Possession, Carrying, and Sale of Firearms and Explosives* – stipulates that:
  
  (1) “Whoever without authorization manufactures, alters, sells, procures, exchanges or possesses firearms, convertible or deactivated firearms, their parts, ammunition, explosives or explosive devices shall be punished with imprisonment of six months to five years and a fine.

  (2) If the subject of the offence referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article is firearms, ammunition, explosive substances, explosive devices or explosive-based substances or gas weapons whose manufacture, sale, procurement, exchange or possession is not allowed to citizens, the perpetrator shall be punished with imprisonment of one to eight years and a fine.

  (3) If the subject of the offence referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article is a larger quantity of weapons, ammunition or devices or weapons and other devices of large destructive power are in question, or the offence is committed contrary to the rules of international law, the perpetrator shall be punished with imprisonment of two to twelve years.

  (4) Unauthorized carrying of items referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article shall be punished with imprisonment of two to twelve years.

  (5) Unauthorized carrying of items of the subject of the offence referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, the procurement and possession of which was previously approved by the competent authority shall be punished with imprisonment of six months to five years.

  (6) Weapons, its parts, ammunition, substances and means referred to in paragraphs 1-5 of this Article shall be seized. Therefore, this Article is fully harmonized with Article 5, paragraph 1, points a) and b).

• Article 41 of the Law on Testing, Stamping and Marking of Weapons, Devices and Ammunition stipulates that “whoever makes false stamps or markings for testing, stamping and marking of weapons, devices and ammunition with the intent to use them as genuine, or who, with the same intent, alters such genuine stamps or markings or use such false or altered stamps or markings as genuine, shall be punished with a fine or imprisonment of up to three years. The stamps or markings referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be seized. Bearing in mind the above, this Article is partially harmonized with Article 5 of the Protocol due to the fact that removal of marking is not criminalized under the Law on Testing, Stamping and Marking of Weapons, Devices and Ammunition.

**Additional information**

• Within the Working Group established by the Ministry of Justice with the decision of 12 May 2021, the Ministry of the Interior participated in the analysis of the effectiveness of the criminal justice system and the preparation of the draft text of the Law on Amendments to the Criminal Code of the Republic of Serbia (CC RS). Within the work, amendments to certain provisions of the Criminal Code have been proposed, the most significant of which is the amendment of Article 348 Unlawful Manufacture, Possession, Carrying and Sale of Firearms and Explosives, as well as defining a separate criminal offence of Removing or erasing a proof mark from a weapon.
In January 2020, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) submitted to the Ministry of the Interior a Project Proposal “Criminal Justice Response against Arms Trafficking”. The main objective of the project is the prevention and suppression of illegal production and smuggling of firearms and related transnational, organized and other serious criminal offences, and effective international cooperation and information exchange. The specific objective of the project is support to the criminal justice sector in the fight against firearms smuggling and related criminal offences in the Western Balkans.

The first of the three project components relates to: Strengthening the legislative framework on firearms to prevent and combat firearms trafficking and respond to organized crime and terrorism threats and the Ministry of Justice is expected to be the main implementing partner for this component. During the reporting period, activities continued on increasing the capacity for detection, investigation and prosecution of firearms trafficking and its links to other serious crimes. On 24 February 2021, a webinar “Cross-border cooperation in criminal cases – electronic evidence” was organized within the project. The first Inter-Institutional Meeting for the purpose of exchanging information on the application of the Criminal Procedure Code in cases of firearms trafficking was held in Nis, on 9 June 2021. The central topics of the meeting were the seizure of firearms and ammunition at the border crossings between Serbia and North Macedonia/Bulgaria, as well as the usual practice of the competent institutions while dealing with such cases. There were 10 prosecutors, 2 criminal and 2 border police officers, as well as the customs officers.

The Cooperation Agreement between the Republic of Serbia and the European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (EUROJUST) was signed on 12 November 2019 and ratified on 9 December 2019. By signing the Agreement with EUROJUST, capacities have been significantly strengthened in combating organized and transnational crime and improved cooperation that has been ongoing since 2015. In accordance with Article 4 of the Cooperation Agreement, the Public Prosecutor’s Office was designated as the competent authority for its implementation. In order to facilitate improved cooperation with EUROJUST, in March 2020, the Public Prosecutor’s Office seconded the Deputy Republic Public Prosecutor as the Liaison Prosecutor to EUROJUST. In addition, the Agreement envisions the possibility of posting a EUROJUST Liaison Magistrate to Serbia, with the approval of the EU Council. This Agreement significantly improves the role of EUROJUST and international cooperation, as it enables even faster and more direct communication and cooperation, as well as synchronized action in the fight against serious transnational crime, among other things, using various EUROJUST mechanisms and tools available, such as the use of coordination meetings, coordination centres and Joint Investigation Teams (JITs). In the period January – June 2021, there were 39 new cases and the authorities participated in four coordination meetings while two new JITs were established.

For a long time now, the Republic of Serbia has been implementing organized activities aimed at combating transnational organized crime and all forms of cross-border serious crime, which contribute to arms control in the region. In accordance with this commitment, it has ratified all important conventions and international agreements in the field of small arms and light weapons control, namely: the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT); Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be Deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects (CCW); Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction (Ottawa Convention); 2001 Regional Plan - Stability Pact; UN Programme of Action (PoA) to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its
Aspects (UN PoA SALW); UN Firearms Protocol; The Hague Code of Conduct (HCoC) against the Proliferation of Ballistic Missiles; Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) (in February 2004, Serbia and Montenegro unilaterally agreed to abide by the MTCR "Equipment, Software and Technology" of 30 May 2003 and the "Guidelines for Sensitive Missile-Relevant Transfers" of 7 January 1993); the Agreement on Sub-Regional Arms Control/Florence Agreement 1996; Vienna Documents on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures (CSBM).

In addition, Article 348 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Serbia, within the chapter: Criminal Offences against Public Peace and Order, establishes unlawful manufacture, possession, carrying, and sale of firearms and explosives as criminal offences. This provision of the Criminal Code is important for the provision of international legal assistance, since the Law on International Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters (The Official Gazette, No. 20/09) provides for the so-called dual criminality, i.e. Article 7 of this law prescribes the presumption that the criminal offence, in respect of which legal assistance is requested, constitutes the offence under the legislation of the Republic of Serbia.

1.4 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

Guiding questions:
Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial for the activities in the achievement of this goal? If yes, has such support been requested or received?

- In order to fulfil Goal 1 - 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 - the Republic of Serbia should fully harmonize its legislation with the EU Acquis in all areas, as well as in the area of small arms and light weapons, ammunition and explosives.
- In this regard, support is needed primarily in analysing and assisting the existing legislative framework, and then, with the expert support, achieving harmonization with EU regulations, as well as fulfilling other internationally assumed obligations. A field that particularly stands out is the field of explosives precursors, which is not regulated.
- The COVID-19 pandemic and related measures affected the postponement of the adoption of the Draft Law on Explosive Substances that will regulate the production and trade in explosive substances for civil use.
- At the same time, activities aimed at the implementation of initiated projects and components of UNDP, SEESAC, UNODC and OSCE in the field of harmonization of legislation, i.e. Goal 1, have also been hindered and postponed.
1.1 Laws and by-laws regulating arms control, and level of harmonization reported

Guiding questions:
What are the laws and bylaws regulating arms control?
What is the level of harmonization of each of the laws with the EU Acquis?

Arms control is regulated by following legislation:
• Law on Weapons (“Official Gazette”, no. 10/15);
• Law on Prevention of Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism (“Official Gazette”, no. 14/07 and 04/08);
• Law on Control of Exports of Dual-Use Goods (“Official Gazette”, no. 30/12);
• Law on Foreign Trade in Weapons and Military Equipment (“Official Gazette”, no. 40/16);
• Law on Foreign Trade in Goods and Services which could be used for Capital Punishment, Torture or Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (“Official Gazette”, no. 40/16);
• Law on Flammable Liquids and Gases (“Official Gazette”, no. 26/10, 31/10 and 40/11);
• Customs Law (“Official Gazette of the Republic”, no. 07/02, 38/02, 72/02, 21/03, 31/03, 29/05, 66/06) and (“Official Gazette of Montenegro”, no. 21/08, 62/13 and 71/17);
• Criminal Code (“Official Gazette”, no. 70/03, 13/04, 47/06, 40/08, 25/10, 32/11, 64/11, 40/13, 56/13, 14/15, 42/15, 58/15, 44/17 and 49/18); and
• Criminal Procedure Code (“Official Gazette”, no. 57/09, 49/10, 47/14, 02/15, 35/15, 58/15 and 28/18).

Additional information
• The following laws are partially harmonized with the EU Acquis and other relevant international standards:
  - Law on weapons;
  - Rulebook on detailed manner of weapon deactivation;
  - Law on Control of Exports of Dual-Use Goods;
  - Law on Foreign Trade in Weapons and Military Equipment;
  - Customs Law;
  - Criminal Procedure Code.

1.2 Activities initiated/undertaken during the reporting period in regard to the harmonization of the national legal framework on arms control with the EU Acquis

Guiding question:
What activities were initiated/undertaken during the reporting period in regard to harmonization of the national legal framework on arms control with the EU Acquis?

• Drafting of Law for the production and control of the production of weapons, ammunition and explosives is ongoing.

• Expert support is needed with regard to the amendments to the Law on Explosives. In relation to this, technical arrangements will be made in terms of harmonization with the national legislation. The support is planned for July 2021 through TAIEX.

1.3 Accession, signature or ratification of the Arms Trade Treaty and Firearms Protocol

Guiding questions:
Has the jurisdiction accessed, signed or ratified the Arms Trade Treaty and Firearms Protocol? Is 1) illicit manufacturing of firearms, their parts and components and ammunition 2) illicit trafficking of firearms, their parts and components and ammunition 3) falsifying or illicitly obliterating, removing or altering the marking(s) on firearms defined as criminal offence in your criminal code?

• Yes. The Arms Trade Treaty was ratified on 14 August 2014, while the Firearms Protocol was ratified on 22 October 2005.

• Illicit trafficking of firearms, ammunition and explosives is prescribed in Article 403 of the Criminal Code of Montenegro. Namely, the actions of this criminal offence are alternatively prescribed and one of them is the unauthorized sale of weapons, ammunition and explosives, which falls under the unlawful trade in weapons, ammunition and explosives. The prescribed punishment for this criminal offence fully fulfils the condition of not considering the principle of non bis in idem.

Additional information

• An analysis of the Criminal Code and the Criminal Procedure Code was conducted in 2020, particularly of the provisions related to the detection of criminal offences of illicit production, trafficking and other illegal activities. Following the meeting, on 30 June 20201, between the UNODC and representatives of the MoI, a meeting was agreed for 13 October 2021 to present the proposed amendments to the Criminal Code regarding the provisions on firearms. Members of the Working Group from the Ministry of Justice will also join the meeting. These activities were organized within the project "Criminal Justice Response to the Illicit Firearms Trafficking", implemented by the UNODC Global Firearms Programme (through MPTF), which includes Montenegro.

• The following was also done in the reporting period:
  - Activities continued on increasing the capacity for detection, investigation and prosecution of firearms trafficking and its links to other serious crimes. Seventeen (17)
prosecutors (8 women and 9 men), representing different territorial jurisdictions from Montenegro, were trained on this topic during two separate online trainings.
- Support for the harmonization of case law in adjudication of firearms trafficking cases continued with the finalization of case law collections in firearms-related cases prepared based on the information from 26 court decisions.

1.4 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

**Guiding questions:**

Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial for the activities in the achievement of this goal? If yes, has such support been requested or received?

- Yes, with regard to the normative regulation of foreign trade in controlled goods in Montenegro, the expert support in defining the text of the Draft National Law on Manufacturing, Modernization and Overhaul of Weapons and Military Equipment, expert assistance in controlling the harmonization of national legislation.
- The COVID-19 pandemic had no particular effects on activities within this goal. Challenges were detected in the inability to organize meetings in person and communicate directly with partners.
1.1 Laws and by-laws regulating arms control, and level of harmonization reported

Guiding questions:
What are the laws and bylaws regulating arms control?
What is the level of harmonization of each of the laws with the EU Acquis?

Following laws regulate arms control:

- Law "On weapons" 05/-022;
  - Partially harmonized;
- Law No. 03/L–246 "On weapons, ammunition and relevant security equipment for authorized state security institutions";
  - Incomparable;
- Law No. 05/L-017 On amending and supplementing the Law No. 03/L–246 "On weapons, ammunition and relevant security equipment for authorized state security institutions";
  - Incomparable;
- Law No. 04/L-022 "On the civil use of explosives";
  - Partially harmonized;
- Law No. 05/L-134 "On legalization and surrender of weapons, ammunition and explosive devices";
  - Incomparable;
- Law No. 04/L-198 "On the trade of strategic goods";
  - Partially harmonized.

Administrative instructions:

- No. 09/2016 - MIA - For catalogue of firearms;
- No. 10/2016 - MIA - For the type and way of theoretical and practical training, professional exam and verification of the quality of employed instructors to legal entities that will be licensed for training;
- No. 05/2016 - MIA - On the Reviewing Commission and Appeals Commission;
- No. 08/2016 - MIA - On the minimum conditions on storing weapons, parts of weapons and ammunition;
- NO. 04/2017 - MIA - On the usage of C8 category of weapons and ammunition for animal temporary paralysis;
- No. 10/2010 - MIA - Security technical conditions to be fulfilled in the facilities of civilian shooting ranges;
- No. 03/2016 - MIA - On the permit to carry weapon;
- No. 12/2010 - MIA - Regarding minimum technical and security conditions of facilities used for practical and theoretical training in handling weapons;
- No. 13/2010 - MIA - On collection weapons;
- No. 14/2010 - MIA - On cold weapons (Category D4);
• No. 24/2010 - MIA - On the procedures of inheritance of firearms and ammunition in the case of death of the firearm owner;
• No. 25/2010 - MIA - On tracing the firearms, their parts and ammunition;
• No. 26/2010 - MIA - On marking of firearms, their parts and ammunition;
• No. 27/2010 - MIA - On the manner of transferring the firearms, their parts and ammunition across the state border;
• No. 04/2012 - Regulation for carrying a weapon;
• No. 08/2017 – MIA - On shooting ranges for entities in possession of equipment for special purposes;
• No. 02/2016 MIA - On temporary export permit, verification of import by the end user, security measures by the authorized state security institutions in nominating the responsible person and the criteria for escort during the transport of ESP;
• No. 04/2016 - MIA - On the authorized list for equipment of special purposes for state security institutions;
• No. 04/2013 - MIA - On criteria and procedures for licenses and permits;
• No. 06/2013 - MIA - On cooperation with national and international organizations;
• No. 08/2013 - MIA - On education and criteria for professional qualification and programs for professional training;
• No. 14/2013 On retail selling points of pyrotechnic and firework supplies;
• No. 07/2013 - MIA - On UN hazard classification and compatibility groups;
• No. 15/2014 On professional training for inspectors, their appointment and the inspector manual;
• No. 13/2014 On storage of ammonium and other fertilizers;
• No. 14/2014 For the special security measures in transport of permitted explosives and fireworks;
• No. 12/2014 On additional safety criteria for explosives;
• No. 14/2015 On investigation of accidents with explosives and pyrotechnical products;
• No. 12/2015 On procedures and forms for placing explosives and pyrotechnical materials in the market; requirements for CE marking and marking of packages;
• No. 09/2018 - On legalization of weapons.

1.2 Activities initiated/undertaken during the reporting period in regard to the harmonization of the national legal framework on arms control with the EU Acquis

Guiding question:
What activities were initiated/undertaken during the reporting period in regard to harmonization of the national legal framework on arms control with the EU Acquis?

• Three advisory meetings (25 and 30 March, 1 April) were organized between the SALW Commission and UNDP SEESAC. The meetings provided for the opportunity to analyse the
concordance of the existing Law on weapons with the EU Acquis and to overcome the gaps with the definition of new legal provisions. Additionally, the representatives of the Department of Public Safety and UNDP SEESAC experts worked together on the development of a Concept Document on the Law of weapons and discussed in detail the draft of the secondary legislation on weapons production.

1.3 Accession, signature or ratification of the Arms Trade Treaty and Firearms Protocol

Guiding questions:

Has the jurisdiction accessed, signed or ratified the Arms Trade Treaty and Firearms Protocol? Is 1) illicit manufacturing of firearms, their parts and components and ammunition 2) illicit trafficking of firearms, their parts and components and ammunition 3) falsifying or illicitly obliterating, removing or altering the marking(s) on firearms defined as criminal offence in your criminal code?

- It has not been signed, but it is part of the Law on Weapons.
- The following are being defined pursuant to the Criminal Code No. 06/L-074, chapter XXIX, Articles 364 -369:
  - Import, export, supply, transport, manufacturing, exchange, mediation or unauthorized sale of firearms and explosives;
  - Illicit obliteration, removal or altering of the markings on firearms or ammunition;
  - Unauthorized ownership, control or possession of firearms;
  - The use of weapons or life-threatening items;
  - False permits, consents and licences of weapons and the provision of false information;
  - Manufacturing and obtaining weapons and items for conducting criminal offences.

1.4 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

Guiding questions:

Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial for the activities in the achievement of this goal? If yes, has such support been requested or received?

- Difficulties in drafting the legislation due to the frequent amendments to the Firearms Directive, law discrepancies between countries in the regional and beyond were observed. Difficulties in inter-institutional and international cooperation as regards direct data sharing were also identified.
- Yes, we have received support upon request.
- The pandemic affected us as well. We still face difficulties in carrying out the foreseen tasks. During this time, it has been impossible to meet and draft, complement or amend the legislation. Moreover, everyday work stalled and we have worked with reduced staff.
1.1 Laws and by-laws regulating arms control, and level of harmonization reported

Guiding questions:
What are the laws and bylaws regulating arms control?
What is the level of harmonization of each of the laws with the EU Acquis?

Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations (MOFTER)

- Law on Control of Foreign Trade in Weapons, Military Equipment and Special Purpose Goods (Official Gazette of BiH, No. 53/16);
- Rulebook on Keeping a Register of Persons in Foreign Trade in Weapons, Military Equipment and Special Purpose Goods (Official Gazette, No. 68/17);
- Rulebook on the Content of Documents in Foreign Trade in Weapons, Military Equipment and Special Purpose Goods (Official Gazette of BiH, No. 68/17);
- Instructions on the Conditions and Procedure for Issuing Documents in Foreign Trade in Weapons, Military Equipment and Special Purpose Goods (Official Gazette of BiH, No. 69/17);
- Instruction on the Supervision over Legal and Natural Person Issued with a Document or Registered to Perform Foreign Trade in Goods from Checklists (Official Gazette of BiH, No. 28/10);
- Law on Production of Arms and Military Equipment (Official Gazette of BiH, No. 09/04 and 25/09);
- Instruction on the Procedure for Issuing Licenses to Legal Entities for the Production and Repair of Weapons and Military Equipment and Method of Keeping Records in the Central Registry (Official Gazette of BiH, No. 36/04);
- Instruction on the Manner and Conditions for Re-issuance of License (Official Gazette of BiH, No. 69/10);
- Instruction on the Manner of Performing Continuous Monitoring and Reporting in Production and Repair of Weapons and Military Equipment (Official Gazette of BiH, No. 28/04);
- Instruction on Inspection Control in the Production and Repair of Weapons and Military Equipment (Official Gazette of BiH, No. 28/04);
- Law on Testing, Stamping and Marking of Hand Firearms and Ammunition (Official Gazette of BiH, No. 21/03);
- Rulebook on the Procedure for Testing, Stamping and Marking of Small Firearms, Ammunition and Hand Devices and Ordnances (Official Gazette of BiH, No. 61/07 and 42/09);
- Rulebook on the conditions to be met by companies-enterprises, institutions or laboratories for testing, stamping and marking of small arms, ammunition and devices (Official Gazette of BiH, No. 61/07);
- Law on Marking of Small Arms, Light Weapons and Associated Ammunition (Official Gazette of BiH, No. 83/16);
- Instruction on the conditions for obtaining authorisation for marking weapons and ammunition (Official Gazette of BiH, No. 49/18);
• Rulebook on procedures and methods of marking weapons and ammunition (BiH Official Gazette 49/18);
• Decision on updating and publishing the Joint List of Weapons and Military Equipment (“Official Gazette of BiH” No. 64/19);
• Common Military List of the European Union adopted by the Council on 18 February 2019;
→ Given Bosnia and Herzegovina’s status in the EU accession process, all laws are classified as “partially aligned” with the EU acquis.

Border Police

• In performance of tasks and duties within the jurisdiction of the Border Police BiH, control of the transfer of arms and ammunition across the state border is carried out in accordance with the Law on Border Control (Official Gazette of BiH, No. 53/09, 54/10 and 47/14) and the Rulebook on the Manner of Carrying Out Controls on the Transfer of Arms and Ammunition Across the State Border (Official Gazette of BiH, No. 32/10).

Republika Srpska

• Law on Weapons and Ammunition (Official Gazette of Republika Srpska, No. 26/16, 18/17, 31/18 and 58/19);
→ The law is partially harmonized with:

Sarajevo Canton

• Law on Acquisition, Possession and Carrying of Weapons and Ammunition (Official Gazette of the Sarajevo Canton No. 1/18, 13/18 correction and 30/19);
• Rulebook on records kept in accordance with the provisions of Article 70 and 71 of the Law on Procurement, Possession and Carrying of Weapons and Ammunition (Official Gazette of the CS no. 29/18);
• Rulebook on the appearance and content of the form of documents for weapons, as well as requests for the issuance of documents for weapons and other documents (Official Gazette of the CS no. 29/18 and 03/20);
• Rulebook on measures and actions taken by the Police Directorate of the Ministry of the Interior of the Sarajevo Canton on the implementation of amnesty for illegal possession of
weapons from category B, as well as on legalization of weapons (Official Gazette of the CS no. 29/18 and 03/20);

- Rulebook on the manner of work of the commissions of the competent Police Directorates in the Police Directorate of the Ministry of the Interior Affairs of the CS and others in the procedure of assessing the fulfilment of conditions and justification of requests for approval of weapons and the right to compensation (Official Gazette of the CS No. 29/18 and 03/20);

- Rulebook on the manner of work of the commission for supervision over the implementation and application of the Law on Procurement, Possession and Carrying of Weapons and Ammunition in the Police departments of the CS MIA (Official Gazette of the CS No. 29/18 and 03/20);

- Rulebook on the program, manner of work and destruction, composition of the commission, costs and other issues related to the destruction of confiscated weapons (Official Gazette of the CS No. 29/18 and 03/20);

- Rulebook on the training program and the manner of training for proper handling and knowledge of regulations regarding the possession, storage and carrying of firearms (Official Gazette of the CS No. 02/20 and 24/20);

- Rulebook on storage and keeping of weapons and ammunition (Official Gazette of the CS No. 29/18 and 03/20);

- Rulebook on the conditions required for the issuance of permits for the activity of trade in weapons, essential parts of weapons and ammunition, mediation in trade in weapons, essential parts of weapons and ammunition, establishment of civilian shooting ranges, manner of keeping and storing weapons, essential parts of weapons and ammunition, the manner and determination of conditions, composition, right to compensation and the amount of compensation of the commission of the competent Police Departments of the CS MIA (Official Gazette of the CS no. 29/18 and 03/20);

→ The following EU acts have been transposed into the laws of the CS as much as possible according to the law:

**Tuzla Canton**

- Law on Weapons and Ammunition (Official Gazette of Tuzla Canton, No. 17/15, 5/16, 17/17 and 8/20);

→ The Law is partially harmonized with the EU Acquis.
Bosnian-Podrinje Canton

- Law on Procurement, Possession, Carrying of Weapons and Ammunition (Official Gazette of Bosnia Podrinje Canton, No. 10/17);
- Law on Control of Movement of Weapons and Military Equipment (Official Gazette of BiH 53/09 and 22/16).

→ At the level of the BPC, there is no established Directorate or other body that deals with harmonization and that would provide an answer to this question. The assessment of the compliance of the second Law that is mentioned is within the competence of the Directorate for EU Integration of BiH.

Herzegovina-Neretva Canton

- Law on Weapons and Ammunition in the HNC (Official Gazette of the HNC no. 5/17 and 05/20);
- Rulebook on the content and manner of keeping records;
- Rulebook on forms and content of forms for procurement, possession and carrying of weapons and ammunition;
- Rulebook on destruction of weapons and ammunition;
- Rulebook on training program and training for proper handling, possession and carrying of weapons;
- Rulebook on manner and conditions for safe storage and keeping of weapons and ammunition;
- Rules on the work of the Commission deciding on the submitted request for procurement and carrying of weapons and ammunition;
- Rulebook on determining the conditions and deadlines for inspection of weapons, Rulebook on conditions to be met by persons registered for repair and modification of weapons;
- Rulebook on spatial and technical conditions for civilian shooting ranges.


Posavina Canton

- Law on Weapons and Ammunition (Official Gazette of the Posavina Canton, No. 4/18).

→ The law is partially harmonized with EU Directives, and the Rulebooks for the implementation of the Law have been adopted. The Law provides for fines and protective measure.

Brčko District

- Law on Weapons and Ammunition in the Brčko District of BiH (Assembly of the Brčko District of BiH on 12 October 2011);
According to the opinion of the Legislative Office of the Office of the Mayor of the Brčko District of BiH, it was pointed out that the harmonization methodology was applied to the above Law, and that the provisions of Directive 2008/51/EEC and Directive 91/477/EEC are partially implemented, all in accordance with the EU Acquis, which was in force at the time of the adoption of the above Law.

- By-laws adopted following the adoption of this Law include the following:
  - Rulebook on Training Programme and Manner of Training in Proper Handling, Holding and Carrying of Weapons;
  - Rulebook on the Work of the Commission for Deciding upon the Submitted Request for Acquisition and Carrying of Weapons and Ammunition;
  - Rulebook on the Manner and Conditions for Safe Accommodation and Storage of Weapons and Ammunition;
  - Rulebook on Spatial and Technical Conditions for Civilian Shooting Ranges;
  - Rulebook on Forms and Content of Forms Prescribed by the Law on Weapons and Ammunition of the Brčko District of BiH;
  - Rulebook on Conditions to be Met by Persons Registered for Carrying Out the Activity of Repair and Altering of Weapons;
  - Rulebook on Destruction of Weapons and Ammunition;
  - Rulebook on the Content and Manner of Keeping Records.

Canton 10

- The Law on Weapons and Ammunition of the Canton 10 (“Official Gazette of the Canton 10”, No. 6/13, 8/13 and 7/18);
- The following bylaws have been adopted and are being applied based on the above Law:
  - Rulebook on the conditions that must be met by health institutions that perform medical examinations to determine the health ability of a person to own, keep and carry weapons and ammunition (Official Gazette of the Canton 10, No. 2/14);
  - Rulebook on the appearance and content of the books of records that must be kept by the administrative bodies in charge of internal affairs in the Canton 10 (Official Gazette of the Canton 10, No. 5/14);
  - Rulebook on the conditions for the establishment of civilian shooting ranges and the appearance, content and price of forms of documents for weapons that must be kept by legal entities, craftsmen and sports shooting organizations (Official Gazette of the Canton 10, No. 5/14);
  - Rulebook on the procedure and manner of disabling and destroying weapons and ammunition (Official Gazette of the Canton 10, No. 5/14);
- Rulebook on the appearance, content and price of forms of documents for weapons, application forms for the issuance of permits for the acquisition of weapons and ammunition, applications for registration of weapons and applications for recording of weapons (Official Gazette of the Canton 10, No. 5/14);
- Rulebook on the manner of keeping records on repaired and modified weapons and forms and the content of forms for keeping these records (Official Gazette of the Canton 10, No. 5/14);
- Rulebook on the appearance, content and price of the certificate form issued by the state bodies and other legal entities to a person to whom they provide weapons and ammunition for the purpose of protecting their property outside the secured facility or area and the manner of keeping records (Official Gazette of the Canton 10, No. 5/14);
- Rulebook on the program and manner of implementation of training of citizens for the proper use of firearms (Official Gazette of the Canton 10, No. 5/14);
- Rulebook on the conditions for performing the activity of arms and ammunition trade, as well as the appearance, content and price of books of records that must be kept by legal entities and craftsmen (Official Gazette of the Canton 10 No. 5/14 and 10/14);
- Rulebook on conditions for safe keeping and storage of weapons and ammunition (Official Gazette of the Canton 10, No. 5/14);
- Rules on the appearance, content and price of books of records on the collection of old and possession of trophy weapons that are required to be kept by legal and natural persons (Official Gazette of the Canton 10, No. 5/14);

**West Herzegovina Canton**

- Law on Weapons and Ammunition (Official Gazette of the WHC No. 5/17, 16/18 and 9/19);
- Rulebook on the conditions for performing the activity of training citizens for the proper use of firearms and the program and manner of conducting such training (Official Gazette of the WHC No. 20/18);
- Rulebook on the appearance, content of the form of documents on weapons and ammunition and requests for their issuance (Official Gazette of the WHC No. 9/17);
- Rulebook on the conditions and manner of accommodation and storage of weapons and ammunition (Official Gazette of the WHC No. 9/17);
- Rulebook on the disabling and destruction of weapons and ammunition (Official Gazette of the WHC No. 17/17);
- Rulebook on the existence of spatial and technical conditions for business premises and the professional knowledge of persons for the performance of repair and modification activities (Official Gazette of the WHC No. 17/17);
- Rulebook on the existence of spatial, technical and security conditions for business premises intended for the trade in weapons and ammunition (Official Gazette of the WHC No. 1/18);
- Rulebook on the existence of spatial, technical and security conditions for civilian shooting ranges and the professional knowledge of persons handling weapons and directing civilian shooting ranges (Official Gazette of the WHC No. 15/17);
• Rulebook on the content and manner of keeping records of police bodies (Official Gazette of the WHC No. 13/17);
• Rulebook on the content and manner of keeping records of legal entities and craftsmen (Official Gazette of the WHC No. 6/18).

**Una-Sana Canton**

• Law on Weapons and Ammunition of the Una-Sana Canton (“Official Gazette of the Una-Sana Canton”, No. 15/21);

   Article 92 of the Law on Weapons and Ammunition of the Una-Sana Canton prescribes:

   (1) “The application of the Law on Weapons and Ammunition shall cease on the day of entry of this Law into force (“Official Gazette of the Una-Sana Canton”, No. 11/07 and 11/08);

   (2) By-laws adopted on the basis of the Law on Weapons and Ammunition (“Official Gazette of the Una-Sana Canton”, No. 11/07 and 11/08) “shall remain in force until the adoption of by-laws prescribed by this Law”.

• The following **bylaws** are in force:

   - Rulebook on the forms of weapons and ammunition documents and other forms related to the issuance of weapons and ammunition documents (“Official Gazette of the USC”, No. 21/07 and 6/13);
   - Rulebook on forms and manner of keeping records on weapons and ammunition kept by the Cantonal Ministry of the Interior (“Official Gazette of the USC”, No. 21/07);
   - Rulebook on forms and manner of keeping records on weapons and ammunition kept by shooting and hunting organizations and other legal entities (“Official Gazette of the USC”, No. 21/07);
   - Rulebook on forms and manner of keeping records on weapons and ammunition kept by natural and legal persons registered for carrying out the activity of trade, repair and modification of weapons (“Official Gazette of the USC”, No. 21/07);
   - Rulebook on medical examinations for determining the medical fitness to own, hold and carry weapons (“Official Gazette of the USC”, No. 21/07);
   - Rulebook on the program and manner of conducting training for owning, or holding and carrying and proper use of weapons (“Official Gazette of the USC”, No. 1/08);

→ On 18 November 2020, the Una-Sana Canton MoI received the Opinion of the Directorate for European Integration (No. 03/A-06-2-NH-541-6/19 dated 3 November 2020) in which it was stated that the Draft Law transposed articles of Chapters 1 and 2 of the Directive 91/477/EEC, and that further harmonization will be carried out by adopting by-laws; that the Law did not transpose the provisions of Article 4 (1) and (2) of the same Directive laying down the obligation to mark firearms and their essential parts placed on the market with a clear, permanent and unique mark, as they are the subject of regulation of the Law on Marking of Small Arms, Light Weapons and Associated Ammunition (“Official Gazette of BiH”, No. 83/16); and that the provisions of Chapters 3 and 4 of the Directive related to certain obligations and procedures within the European Union that cannot be transposed at this stage of the BiH integration process. For these reasons the Directorate notes that the Draft Law on Weapons and Ammunition is partially aligned with the following:
o Council Directive 91/477/EEC from 18 June 1991 on control of the procurement and possession of weapons; and

1.2 Activities initiated/undertaken during the reporting period in regard to the harmonization of the national legal framework on arms control with the EU Acquis

Guiding question:
What activities were initiated/undertaken during the reporting period in regard to harmonization of the national legal framework on arms control with the EU Acquis?

- Una-Sana Canton Ministry of Interior - During the reporting period the new Law on Weapons and Ammunition was adopted and entered into force.
- Brčko District Police – Representatives of the Brčko District Police participated in workshops regarding the harmonization of the above Law with the new Directive 2017/853/EEC, with the aim of initiating the procedure of enacting the Law on Amendments to the Law on Weapons and Ammunition in order to achieve a higher degree of harmonization with the EU Acquis. In this regard, the Chief of Police has appointed a working group for drafting of the Law on Amendments to the Law on Weapons and Ammunition of the Brčko District, with the aim of harmonization of relevant legislation in this area.

1.3 Accession, signature or ratification of the Arms Trade Treaty and Firearms Protocol

Guiding questions:
Has the jurisdiction accessed, signed or ratified the Arms Trade Treaty and Firearms Protocol? Is 1) illicit manufacturing of firearms, their parts and components and ammunition 2) illicit trafficking of firearms, their parts and components and ammunition 3) falsifying or illicitly obliterating, removing or altering the marking(s) on firearms defined as criminal offence in your criminal code?

- BiH Prosecutor’s Office - Illicit trade in firearms, their parts, components and ammunition is defined as a criminal offense under Article 193 of the Criminal Code of BiH entitled “Unauthorized trade in weapons and military equipment and dual-use items”.
- Republika Srpska - The below mentioned acts are prescribed as criminal offenses:
Production and procurement of weapons and means intended for the commission of criminal offenses, referred to in Article 360 of the Criminal Code of Republika Srpska (“Official Gazette of Republika Srpska”, number: 64/17, 104/18 and 15/21) and Illegitimate production and trade of weapons or explosives, from Article 361 of the same Law.

• **Brčko District Police** – The Article 65 of the Law on Weapons and Ammunition defines the following criminal offense: “Whoever procures, holds, carries or sells weapons or essential parts for weapons of category “B” without a valid document for weapons”;

  The Criminal Code of the Brčko District of BiH prescribes, inter alia, the following crimes:
  - Article 158 - whoever in the territory of the Brčko District of BiH sends or transfer armed groups of people, terrorists, spies, saboteurs, weapons, explosives, poisons, equipment, ammunition or other material for the purpose of committing a criminal offense;
  - Article 337 - whoever manufactures, procures or enables other access to weapons, explosive substances or means for their preparation or poisons known to be intended for the perpetration of a criminal offense;
  - Article 365 - whoever without authorization manufactures, alters, sells or exchanges firearms, ammunition or explosives whose procurement is not allowed to citizens at all;

• **Federal Ministry of Interior (FBiH)** - Given that the Law on Procurement, Possession and Carrying of Weapons and Ammunition has not yet been adopted at the level of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina regarding the illegal possession of firearms and ammunition, the Federal Police Administration uses cantonal laws on procurement, possession and carrying of weapons and ammunition or acts according to them, depending on the territory of the canton.

• **Bosnian-Podrinje Canton** - According to the FBIH CC (Official Gazette 36/03, 37/03, 21/04, 69/04, 18/05, 42/10, 42/11, 59/14, 76/14, 46/16), such actions are prescribed in the Article 371 as a criminal offense “Illegal possession of weapons or explosives”. Additionally, according to the Law on Procurement, Possession and Carrying of Weapons and Ammunition (Official Gazette of the Bosnian Podrinje Canton 10/17), such actions are prescribed in the Article 73 “Criminal offenses of illegal acquisition, possession or carrying of firearms, parts for firearms and ammunition”.

• **Canton 10** - Yes. In these cases, the Criminal Code of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina applies.

• **Sarajevo Canton** – Yes, article 371 of the Criminal Code of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

### 1.4 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

**Guiding questions:**

Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial for the activities in the achievement of this goal? If yes, has such support been requested or received?
• **Brčko District Police** –
  - Expert assistance in drafting of the Law that will be harmonized with the European Union and other relevant international obligations and standardized throughout the region, is necessary, and therefore the Police of the Brčko District continuously participates in all trainings held on this topic in BiH.
  - The Coordination Board for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons continuously conducts activities supporting the agencies in order to harmonize local regulations with the EU regulations, and it also supports them in material and technical improvements of agency resources, in accordance with the support from donors.
  - The COVID-19 pandemic and the measures implemented to prevent the further spread of the virus significantly slowed down all processes and thus the activities within this goal. The emergence of COVID-19 pandemic had a significant impact on the implementation of certain activities of the agencies in such a way that the priority of action is aimed at combating the virus, which led to the restriction of all forms of gatherings, and thus also educational gatherings, seminars, working groups and other forms of organized work, both within the agencies themselves and in inter-agency cooperation and contacts with international partners.

• **Bosnian-Podrinje Canton Ministry of Interior** - The COVID-19 pandemic did not directly affect the implementation of tasks and responsibilities within the competence of the Police Department on this issue, but there was an indirect impact, given that the Police Department itself is faced with this phenomenon. This was primarily reflected in the lack of police officers, and the redistribution of police officers to other jobs and tasks, all of which indirectly affected the engagement and work on this issue.

• **Posavina Canton Ministry of Interior** - Assistance is needed in the procurement of equipment and training of the judiciary for taking traces from weapons (mechanical trace).
1.1 Laws and by-laws regulating arms control, and level of harmonization reported

Guiding questions:
What are the laws and bylaws regulating arms control?
What is the level of harmonization of each of the laws with the EU Acquis?

- **Law on Weapons** (Official Gazette No. 7/05, 47/06, 42/07, 86/08, 72/10, 158/11, 119/13, 164/13, 97/2018); Consolidated text of the Law on Weapons (Official Gazette No. 142/2010);
  
  **Rulebooks:**
  - Rulebook on the templates for the weapons and ammunition and on the manner of keeping records on weapons and ammunition (Official Gazette No. 93/2005, 94/2009, 2/2010, 156/2010, 35/2014);
  - Rulebook on the Program on Training for the purposes of proper use, storage and maintenance of weapons, the manner of carrying out practical training on weapon handling, as well as the manner of carrying out the professional exam for checking the technical knowledge about the proper use of a weapon and the knowledge of the weapon related regulations (Official Gazette No. 83/2005, 135/2008, 56/2010 and 145/2014);
  - Rulebook on the minimal technical and security requirements that need to be fulfilled by the facilities for practical training on weapon handling that belong to legal persons (Official Gazette No. 83/2005, 135/08);
  - Rulebook on the minimal technical and security requirements that need to be fulfilled by the facilities of civilian shooting ranges (Official Gazette No. 11/2007 and 135/2008);
  - Rulebook on the minimal technical and security requirements that need to be fulfilled by the facilities in which manufacturing, repairing, trading in and storing of weapons and ammunition are performed (Official Gazette No. 111/2007);
  - Rulebook on the type and manner of performing the medical examination for establishing one’s health capability of possessing and carrying weapons, the list of diseases and health conditions that render a person incapable of possessing and carrying weapons, as well as the manner and procedure for issuing a medical certificate (Official Gazette No. 98/2005); and Decision on determining the health care facilities in which medical examination of a natural person shall be performed for the purpose of establishing a health capability of possessing and carrying weapons (Official Gazette No. 83/2007);
  - Rulebook on the manner of transferring weapons and ammunition across the state border (Official Gazette No. 51/2007);
  - Rulebook on the manner of handing over, receiving and storing of weapons and ammunition in case of death of the weapon owner, as well as on the form and the contents of the Receipt for the weapon and ammunition handed over to the competent authority (Official Gazette No. 51/2007);
  - Rulebook on the types of weapons that may be purchased on the basis of an Approval and on the meaning of certain types of weapons from categories A and E (Official Gazette No. 51/2007 and 2/2011);
- Rulebook on the templates of the requests and approvals for transport of weapons and ammunition with import, transport of weapons and ammunition with export, transfer of weapons and ammunition with import, transfer of weapons and ammunition with export, transfer of weapons and ammunition with transit, and transport of weapons and ammunition with transit, which are issued electronically (Official Gazette No. 94/2009 and 156/2010);
- Rulebook on the criteria regarding spatial requirements and material and technical equipment which the premises for taking of the professional exam should have (Official Gazette No. 126/2014);
- Rulebook on the technical specifications for deactivation of firearms, the form and the content of the template for designating deactivated weapons, and the form and the content of the template of the Certificate of deactivated firearm (Official Gazette No. 221/20);
- Law on Manufacturing and Trading in Armament and Military Equipment (Official Gazette No. 54/02, 84/07, 161/09, 145/10, 119/13, 164/13, 41/14, 192/15, 39/16 and 64/18);
  Rulebooks:
  - Rulebook on the manner of issuing the permit for engaging in export-import, transit and brokerage, as well as on the form and content of the request and the permit for export-import, transit and brokerage of armament and military equipment (Official Gazette No. 137/2014)
  - Rulebook on the content, form and manner of keeping the Registry of issued permits for export-import, transit and brokerage as well as on refused applications for obtaining permits for armament and military equipment (Official Gazette No.115/2014);
- Law on Control of the Export of Dual Use Goods and Technologies (Official Gazette No. 82/05, 84/07, 158/10, 136/11, 199/14, 192/15 and 53/16; and Official Gazette No. 215/21);
  Rulebooks:
  - Rulebook on the form and content of the “End User Certificate” when importing dual use goods and technologies (Official Gazette No. 31/2006);
  - Rulebook on the procedure for issuance of a permit for transit of dual use goods and technologies and on the form and content of the application and the permit for transit of dual use goods and technologies (Official Gazette No.111/2011);
  - Rulebook on the form and content of the templates of the application for obtaining a permit for brokerage services and of the permit for brokerage services for dual use goods and technologies (Official Gazette No.111/2011);
  - Rulebook on the form and content of the templates of the application for obtaining a permit for export and of the permit for export of dual use goods and technologies (Official Gazette No.111/2011);

→ The Legal instruments were enacted pursuant to the EU Treaty and pursuant to Chapter V of the EU Treaty:
- Council Common Position 2008/944/CFSP of 8 December 2008 defining common rules governing control of exports of military technology and equipment; and
- Decision on determining the dual use goods and technologies list.
• **Law on Trade in Explosive Substances** (Official Gazette No. 30/85, 6/89 and 53/91) and (Official Gazette No.12/93, (31/93 correction) 66/07, 86/08 and 148/15);
  - List of explosive substances that are allowed to be put into circulation (Official Gazette No. 64/98, 19/01. 46/04 and 106/06, 208/15 and 104/18, and Official Gazette 56/19, 120/19, 231/19, 52/20 and 42/21);

• **Law on Protection Against Explosive Substances** (Official Gazette No. 4/78, 51/88, 36/90, 12/93, 66/07, 84/08, 135/11 and 148/15);
  - Rulebook on the form and content of the templates of the applications and the approvals for transport and procurement of explosive substances (Official Gazette No. 146/09, and Official Gazette No. 14/20);

• **Law on Manufacture and Trade in Armament and Military Equipment** (Official Gazette No. 54/02, 84/07, 161/09, 145/10, 119/13, 164/13, 41/14, 192/15, 39/16 and 64/18);

• **Criminal Code** (Official Gazette No. 37/96, 80/99, 4/02, 43/03, 19/04, 81/05, 60/06, 73/06, 7/08, 139/08, 114/09, 51/11, 135/11, 185/11, 142/12, 166/12, 55/13, 82/13, 14/14, 27/14, 28/14, 41/14, 115/14, 132/14, 160/14, 199/14, 196/15, 226/15, 97/17 and 248/18);

• **Criminal Procedure Law** (Official Gazette No. 150/10, 100/12, 142/16 and 198/18).

**Additional information**

• **Law on Weapons**
  
  **Fully harmonized with:**
  - Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/2403 of 15 December 2015 establishing common guidelines on deactivation standards and techniques for ensuring that deactivated firearms are rendered irreversibly inoperable;
  - Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/337 of 5 March 2018 amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/2403 establishing common guidelines on deactivation standards and techniques for ensuring that deactivated firearms are rendered irreversibly inoperable. Following the adoption of the deactivation-related amendments to the Law on Weapons in 2018, a Rulebook on the technical specifications for deactivation of firearms, the form and the content of the template for designating a deactivated firearm, and the form and the content of the template of the Certificate of deactivation of a firearm was enacted in 2020 (Official Gazette of the Republic of North Macedonia No. 221/20);

  **Partially harmonized with:**
Not harmonized with:

• **Law on Protection of Explosive Substances and Law on Trading in Explosive Substances**
  - Not harmonized with the EU Acquis;
  - We are in the process of enacting a new law that will be aligned with:
    1. CELEX: 32014L0028
    2. CELEX: 32014L0058
    3. CELEX: 32013L0029
    4. CELEX: 32012L0004
    5. CELEX: 32008L0043

• **Law on manufacture of and trade in armament and military equipment**
  Fully harmonized with:
  - The Common Military List of the European Union;
  Partially harmonized with:
  - Council Common Position 2008/944/CFS of 8 December 2008 defining common rules governing control of exports of military technology and equipment;
Not harmonized with:
- The legislation has been fully harmonized with the Council Regulation (EC) No 428/2009 of 5 May 2009 setting up a Community regime for the control of exports, transfer, brokering and transit of dual-use items, as well as with the amendments thereof 2020/1749 of 7 October 2020.

1.2 Activities initiated/undertaken during the reporting period in regard to the harmonization of the national legal framework on arms control with the EU Acquis

Guiding question:
What activities were initiated/undertaken during the reporting period in regard to harmonization of the national legal framework on arms control with the EU Acquis?

- The working group continued drafting a new Law on Explosives for Civil Use during the reporting period, to implement the directives and harmonize with the legislation of the European Union (EU).
- The draft Law on the development, production and trade in military goods is in parliamentary procedure. The Military Industry Directorate within the Ministry of Economy is the competent authority.
- On 20 January 2021, an advisory meeting was held between the Ministry of Interior and UNDP SEESAC on draft Law on Civil use of explosives and draft Law on development, production and trade in military equipment. During this meeting, tables of concordance on the draft Law on Explosives for Civil Use, developed with SEESAC’s support with the aim to monitor harmonization of this law with the EU Acquis, were thoroughly discussed. In addition, the working group dedicated a specific session to the review of the draft Law on Development, Production and Trade of Military Equipment.
- On 16 February 2021, an advisory meeting was organized between the Ministry of Interior and UNDP SEESAC on draft Law on weapons. During the meeting, articles of the draft Law on Weapons were discussed and reviewed in detail, comments were provided on detected gaps with the EU directives and regulations and recommendations were given for revisions.

1.3 Accession, signature or ratification of the Arms Trade Treaty and Firearms Protocol

Guiding questions:
Has the jurisdiction accessed, signed or ratified the Arms Trade Treaty and Firearms Protocol?
Is 1) illicit manufacturing of firearms, their parts and components and ammunition 2) illicit trafficking of firearms, their parts and components and ammunition 3) falsifying or illicitly obliterating, removing or altering the marking(s) on firearms defined as criminal offence in your criminal code?
• The Arms Trade Treaty was signed on 25 September 2013 and was ratified on 7 March 2014. The Firearms Protocol was ratified on 14 September 2007.

• A UNODC report on the compliance of the Criminal Code with the Firearms Protocol has been conducted, and a working group has been set up to work on amendments to the Criminal Code.

• These criminal offences are defined in the Criminal Code of the Republic of North Macedonia, but not fully. Namely, the following criminal acts related to this matter are defined in the Criminal Code:

  - **Manufacture and procurement of weapons and means intended for committing a crime (Article 395)**;
    
    (1) Whosoever manufactures, procures, hides or enables another to get weapons, ammunition, explosive or firing material or means necessary for their manufacture, poisons and other objects being aware to be intended for commission of a crime, shall be sentenced to imprisonment of one to five years;
    
    (2) If the object of the criminal act referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article are firearms, arms whose use is prohibited or explosive or other materials in greater quantity, the offender shall be sentenced to imprisonment of three to eight years;
    
    (3) Whosoever makes or gives to another a false key or some other means for breaking in, even though he knows that it is intended for committing a crime, shall be sentenced to imprisonment of three months to three years;
    
    (4) If the crime referred to in this Article is committed by a legal entity, it shall be fined;
    
    (5) The objects stipulated in paragraphs 1 to 3 and the means for their manufacture, transfer and distribution shall be seized;

  - **Unauthorized manufacture, possession, mediation and trade in weapons or explosive materials (Article 396)**
    
    (1) Whosoever manufactures, possesses, procures, mediates in trade or exchanges firearms, ammunition or explosive materials without authorization shall be sentenced to imprisonment of three to ten years;
    
    (2) If the subject of the crime referred to in paragraph 1 is a larger quantity of firearms, ammunition or explosive materials, or firearms, ammunition or explosive materials prohibited for the citizens, the offender shall be sentenced to imprisonment of at least five years;
    
    (3) If the criminal act referred to in paragraphs (1) and (2) of this Article is committed by a group, gang or other criminal association, the offender shall be sentenced to imprisonment of at least eight years;
    
    (4) If the subject of the crime referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article is a larger quantity of explosive materials intended for allowed entertaining, festive and other activities, the offender shall be fined or sentenced to imprisonment up to three years;
    
    (5) The objects referred to in paragraph 1 and 2, and the means for their manufacture, transfer and distribution shall be seized;

  - **Counterfeiting firearms (Article 396-a)**
    
    (1) Whosoever falsifies marks of firearms by deleting, destroying or changing the marks of the firearms and parts of the firearms, or does not stamp and mark the firearms, its parts, components and ammunition, shall be sentenced to imprisonment of one to ten years;
(2) If the crime referred to in this Article is committed by a legal entity, it shall be fined.

- Armaments and military equipment were not covered by the Criminal Code until 2018. Amendments to this law are envisaged with a special chapter that will govern the development, production and trade in military goods and dual-use goods and technologies.

**Additional information**

- As part of the project *Criminal Justice Response against Arms Trafficking*, implemented by UNODC Global Firearms Program, during the reporting period, a series of online meetings were organized on the proposed amendments to the Criminal Code, prepared by a group of legal experts within the project in 2020. The meeting was organized between UNODC and national stakeholders, including representatives of the Ministry of Justice, academia, judges, prosecutors, and was attended by partner international organizations. The meetings resulted in raising awareness among our national legal experts about the proposed draft provisions for harmonization of the Criminal Code with the criminalization provisions of the Firearms Protocol.

**1.4 Challenges, needs identified, and support required**

**Guiding questions:**

Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial for the activities in the achievement of this goal? If yes, has such support been requested or received?

- The need for support was identified in the following:
  - After the adoption of the *Regulation on the technical specifications for deactivation of firearms* we will need training of the members of the eight committees that confirm the deactivation of weapons, as well as training of the employees of the MoI Department for weapons, explosives and dangerous substances, security agencies and detective activity, that within their scope perform control and supervision over the legal entities; Support has been requested from the OSCE and this should be implemented in the upcoming period.
  - Drafting of the Law on Explosive Materials for Civil Use and the bylaws that will emerge from the law will require expert assistance also in the following period, as well as a study visit to a country that has already harmonized its legislation with the EU in the field of explosive materials, pyrotechnics and precursors;
  - Conducting research after the adoption of the Law on Explosives for Civil Use, regarding its practical application, i.e to prepare a feasibility study;
  - Organization of a training for determining the classification of weapons in the procedures for registration of weapons and training for supervision and control over legal entities engaged in firearms-related activities;
  - Organizing a training for the representative of MoI Sector for Weapons in the implementation of the new Law on Explosives for Civil Use, in performing supervision and control, safety measures for protection and classification of explosives and pyrotechnics;
- Procurement of a machine to mark deactivated weapons that are being imported in the Republic of North Macedonia;
- Provision of expert and technical support for determining compliance between the Law on Weapons and the Law on Testing and Stamping, i.e. marking of firearms and ammunition;
- Organization of a working meeting with the Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Serbia to exchange information between the two institutions on conducting risk analysis and issuing export licenses for strategic materials, military armaments and dual-use materials;
- There is a plan to request support from SEESAC, in form of a visit of an expert to determine that the facilities for storage of explosives and ammunition meet the requirements (ELL).

• Support is currently received from UNDP SEESAC in the preparation of the Draft Law on Explosives for Civil Use and support shall be requested for training of members of the MoI Department for weapons.
• There is also a plan to request support from UNDP SEESAC on preparing a feasibility study on precursors.
• Within this goal, the pandemic has slowed down the process of implementation of the activities, especially the procedure for drafting of the new Law on Explosives for Civil Use. The meetings of all working groups have been reduced.
• One of the reasons for the decreasing activities of the working group that drafts the Law on Explosives for Civil Use is the preparation of a new draft version of the National Strategy and Action Plan for SALW, i.e. because the members of the two working groups are the same employees of the MoI, with technical support from a UNDP SEESAC expert, and the preparation of the draft Strategy was a priority, because the current Strategy and Action Plan are valid until the end of 2021.
1.1 Laws and by-laws regulating arms control, and level of harmonization reported

Guiding questions:

What are the laws and bylaws regulating arms control?
What is the level of harmonization of each of the laws with the EU Acquis?

- Law No. 61/2016 “On proclaiming the hunting moratorium”;
- Law No. 46/2018, dated 23/07/2018 “On state control of international transfers of military goods and technologies and goods of dual-use”
- DCM No. 269, dated 12/05/2021, “On some amendments and addenda to the DCM No. 94, dated 04/02/2015 “On the procedures with weapons, in the cases of declaration of their owner’s death, declaration of legal winding up of weapons related business, study purposes, weapon or its document/authorisation loss or theft”;
- DCM No. 289, dated 19/05/2021 “On some amendments and addenda to the DCM No. 95, dated 04/02/2015 “On the procedures of assessment of life-threatening risk and granting of special authorization for weapon possession”;
- DCM No. 270, dated 12/05/2021 “On some amendments and addenda to the DCM No. 96, dated 04/02/2015 “On establishing the rules and procedures for the declaration, conservation, registration and deactivation of collectible arms”;
- DCM No. 271, dated 12/05/2021 “On some amendments and addenda to the DCM No. 275 dated 01/04/2015 “On approval of the regulation on conditions and rules for the safety of weapons”;
- DCM No. 292, dated 08/04/2015 “On determining the rules for the development and administration of weapons register”; 
- DCM No. 272, dated 12/05/2021 "On some amendments and addenda to the DCM No. 348, dated 29/04/2015 “On the procedures of entry/exit, sealing of firearms, and registering of Albanian and foreign citizens with firearms of categories “B” and “C” in the territory of the Republic of Albania”;
- DCM No. 462, dated 30/07/2021 “On some amendments and addenda to the DCM No.421, dated 13/05/2015, on the procedures of processing the complaints, documentation, deadlines of processing and special licensing criteria on weapon eligible activities”;
- DCM No. 91, dated 27/02/2019 “On the approval of the updated list of military goods and of the list of dual-use goods and technologies, which are subject to state control over imports-exports;
- DCM No. 31, dated 22/01/2020 “On the organisation, composition, functioning and status of the State Export Control Authority, determining the deadlines, manner and procedure of information exchange and receipt of feedback from other institutions involved in international transfer of controlled goods, as well as on determining the procedures for issuing guarantees and conducting the state control”.
• Joint Instruction No. 88, dated 10/03/2015 of the MoI and the Minister of Health “On the examinations and content of medical report, for firearms activities”;  
• Joint Instruction No. 90, dated 10/03/2015 of the MoI, Minister of Defence and the General Prosecutor’s Office “On the detailed procedures and rules of handling firearms as evidence”;  
• Instruction No. 262, dated 25/05/2015 of the MoI “On the procedures for granting/revoking the certificate of theoretic and practical skills for firearms, its format and the procedures for certification of the Technical Supervisor on weapon eligible activities for the program of the theoretic and practice course for firearms and conditions of the premises where this programme takes place”;  
• Joint Instruction No. 277, dated 29/05/2015 “On the procedures, documentation and deadlines of processing for authorization of natural persons and legal entities, register format for firearms for entities licensed in firearms activities, the rules, procedures and the form to be compiled at the time of the test firing and administration of the cartridge in a data bank”, as amended;  
• Joint Instruction No. 264/1, dated 29/06/2015 of the Minister of Interior and Minister of Finance “On the action, criteria and procedures for the financial fees of weapon eligible activities”, etc;  
• Order No. 417, dated 02/05/2018 of the General Directorate of State Police “On the form and content of reliability certificate”;  
• DCM No. 304, dated 25/03/2009 “On setting up the procedures for conducting expertise and control by the State Export Control Authority”;  
• DCM No. 305, dated 25/03/2009 “On establishing the release procedures of the legal documents for quality assurance of the state control over the activity of import-export of military goods and technologies and goods of dual-use”;  
• DCM No. 604, dated 28/08/2003 ”On approving in principle the EU Code of Conduct on Arms Exports”, harmonized with the previous European Union Code of Conduct on Arms Exports;  
• DCM No. 658, dated 29/07/2015 “On determining the procedures for issuing licences for weapons manufacture, deactivation and repair”. The working group has been set up and is working on drafting the respective amendments to the DCM No. 658, dated 29/07/2015 “On determining the procedures for issuing licences for weapons manufacture, deactivation and repair”, which will be aligned to the amendments of the Law “On weapons”;  
• Order No. 666, dated 18/12/2018 of the Minister of Interior “On organizing the work for the analysis of the European Union Acquis, in framework of the “Screening” process for Chapter 24 “Justice, Freedom and Security”, is being implemented, which has been amended by Order No. 145, dated 31/01/2019 On some amendments to Law No. 666, dated 18/12/2018 “On organizing the work for the screening analysis”, followed by a complete analysis of the compliance with the EU legislation on weapons;
• Order No. 115, dated 25/01/2019 of the General Directorate of State Police “On organizing the work for the legislation approximation process in the framework of the European integration process”, is being implemented;


• Order No. 732, dated 07/06/2019 “On establishing the working group to amend the Law No. 75/2014 “On Private Physical Security Service”, is being implemented;

• Law No. 72/2014 “On the use of firearms”;

• Law No. 72/2014 “On the use of firearms”;

• DCM No. 839/2015 “On approving the regulation related to the use of firearms”;

• Law No. 8/2020 “On prison officers”;

• DCM No. 471/2009 “On approving the types of weapons, tools and their manner of use from the prison officers”;

• Order No. 5230/1, dated 24/08/2009 “On approving the norms to meet the needs of the prison officers for weaponry and ammunitions”;

• Order No. 6596/1, dated 24/08/2009 “On approving the tools and equipment used by the prison officers”.

Additional information


  In the framework of aligning the national legislation with the EU Acquis, while discussing the draft law, the working group identified as a problem the issue of international transfer of firearms, which if regulated by this draft law, and would lead to implementation problems among the two responsible authorities, the General Directorate of State Police and the State Export Control Authority respectively. Therefore, the best option was for the Regulation No. 258/2012 of the EU to be partly aligned by means of this law and in its majority to be transposed into a special draft-law “On international transfer of firearms”, which will be drafted and jointly proposed by the Minister of Defence and Minister of Interior at a later stage.


This Decision is fully aligned with “Common Military List of the European Union, adopted by the Council on 26 February 2018 (equipment covered by Council Common Position 2008/944/CFSP defining common rules governing the control of exports of military technology and equipment) (CFSP) (2017/C 097/01), CELEX Number 52017XG0328 (01; Official Journal of the European Union; C 97, 28/03/2017, p. 1–33)”.

• Through Decision of the Council of Ministers No. 50, dated 06/02/2019, it is approved the “Small Arms, Light Weapons and Explosives Control Strategy 2019-2024 and its Action Plan 2019-2021”. The inter-institutional group on SALW, chaired by the Deputy Minister of Interior, has been established.

1.2 Activities initiated/undertaken during the reporting period in regard to the harmonization of the national legal framework on arms control with the EU Acquis

Guiding question:
What activities were initiated/undertaken during the reporting period in regard to harmonization of the national legal framework on arms control with the EU Acquis?

• The following laws have been approved during the reporting period:

• Apart from aiming to transpose the Acquis Communautaire in the above-mentioned areas, a special focus on these two laws has been put upon increasing the safety and security conditions during the processes of import, export, manufacturing and storage of these articles and in strengthening the safety and security procedures for the personnel that will be engaged during the handling of these articles, as well as in supervising the domestic market for these articles. Following adoption of the laws, work will start to approve the by-laws which will enable a full implementation of these laws.
• The Ministry of Interior and UNDP SEESAC held a **two-day workshop** on 8-9 February 2021 related to the **drafting of 7 by-laws for the implementation of the new Law on weapons** with representatives from the Directorate of Programming, Standardization and Harmonization of the Regulatory Framework and UNDP SEESAC experts, in order to provide inputs to their content for the purposes of alignment with the EU legislation in the area of SALW control.

• The General Directorate of State Police **has continued to follow its work program for 2021** “On the implementation of goals set in the Small Arms and Light Weapons, their Ammunition and Explosives Control Strategy 2019-2024 and Action Plan 2019-2021”.

### 1.3 Accession, signature or ratification of the Arms Trade Treaty and Firearms Protocol

**Guiding questions:**

Has the jurisdiction accessed, signed or ratified the Arms Trade Treaty and Firearms Protocol?

Is 1) illicit manufacturing of firearms, their parts and components and ammunition 2) illicit trafficking of firearms, their parts and components and ammunition 3) falsifying or illicitly obliterating, removing or altering the marking(s) on firearms defined as criminal offence in your criminal code?


• The provisions of the Criminal Code “On the illicit trafficking of weapons, their components and ammunitions”: Amendments have been made to Article 278/a, of Law No. 144/2013 “On some addenda and amendments to Law No. 7895, dated 27/01/1995 “Criminal Code of the Republic of Albania”, as amended, to include the following as a criminal offence: “Illegal possession and manufacturing of military weapons, their components and ammunitions”;

  **Article 278** of the Criminal Code of Albania entitled “Illegal possession and manufacture of weapons, explosives and ammunitions”, in its eight paragraphs stipulates as follows:

  - **paragraph five** “Manufacturing, sales, purchase, provision for purchase, trade and transport of military weapons and ammunitions, explosives, explosive weapons without the permission of the competent State bodies shall be punishable by five to ten years of imprisonment”;

  - **paragraph six** provides for this same offence of paragraph five, but in aggravated conditions like “…when committed in large quantities, more than once or has led to serious consequences, shall be punishable by seven to fifteen years of imprisonment”;

  - **paragraph eight** provides for the “Counterfeiting or deletion, illegal displacement or modification of marks on military weapons and ammunitions”, which shall be punishable by one to five years of imprisonment;
Article 278/a of the Criminal Code entitled “Trafficking of weapons and ammunitions” in its
- first paragraph stipulates that “Importing, exporting, transiting and trading of military
  weapons and ammunition shall be punishable by one to five years of imprisonment”;
- second paragraph stipulates the same offence committed in aggravated circumstances like
  “…when committed in collaboration or more than once or it results in serious consequences
  shall be punishable by ten to twenty years of imprisonment”;

Law No. 44/2019 “On some amendments and addenda to the Criminal Code of Albania”,
entered into force on 10/09/2019, has changed the first paragraph of Article 278 of the
Criminal Code, by making the punishment more severe and also providing for the commission
of such offence in aggravated circumstances:
- first paragraph stipulates that: “Carrying of weapons, explosive weapons or explosives
  in vehicles or any other motorized means, in public places or places open to the public,
  without the permit of the competent State bodies, shall be punishable by imprisonment
  from seven to fifteen years”;
- another paragraph has been added, which envisages aggravated circumstances like: “When
  the criminal offence involves large quantities or is committed more than once shall be
  punishable by seven to fifteen years of imprisonment”.

1.4 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

Guiding questions:

Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial
for the activities in the achievement of this goal? If yes, has such support been requested or
received?

- The pandemic has had a negative impact by slowing down the processes of drafting and
  consulting the draft-laws and leading to delays in their approval.
By 2024, ensure that arms control policies and practices in the Western Balkans are evidence-based and intelligence-led.

GOAL 2 OVERALL TARGETS

1. Standardize and institutionalize data collection on firearms, by sex and age resulting in periodic regional FAE risk analysis and threat assessments;
2. Increase analytical capacities and institutionalize firearms data analysis;
3. Ensure exchange of operational and strategic information, data, intelligence, as well as evidence with Europol, Frontex and Eurojust;
4. Institutionalize systematic collection of criminal justice data across the Criminal Justice Sector (at the level of Police and Customs, Prosecutors service, Court Service, Correctional and Penitentiary Services);
5. Introduction of mandatory feedback exchange for all WB beneficiaries enabling improvement of proactive investigations at national, regional and international level;
6. Ensure that every FAE recovered or seized is immediately traced automatically (domestically and internationally);
7. All Police services of the Western Balkans connected and regularly input their data on lost and stolen firearms to INTERPOL’s Illicit Arms Records, Tracing Management System (iARMS);
8. Fully integrate gender and age concerns in SALW/firearms control policies and ensure meaningful participation of women in SALW/firearms control.
2.1 Coordination and monitoring of arms control activities, and of the SALW control strategy

Guiding questions:
Was the SALW Commission coordinating and monitoring arms control activities in your jurisdiction during the reporting period? If so, how?
Is there a valid SALW Strategy in place? If so, is it based on sex and age disaggregated data?

- On 29 June 2021, the Third Local Coordination Meeting for the implementation of the SALW Roadmap was organized in the hybrid format, where progress in this field was presented to international partners, along with the need for further implementation of undertaken commitments. At the Third Local Coordination Meeting, the State Secretary in the Ministry of the Interior, who is also the Chair of the Small Arms and Light Weapons Control Council, presented the most significant results of the Republic of Serbia in this field in the second half of 2020 to the international community, i.e. the most important embassies of the European Union Member States (as well as the embassies of the United States of America and United Kingdom), international organizations and the region.

- Also, the Republic of Serbia collected and submitted data on the progress of the implementation of the Roadmap for the period July-December 2020, based on which the 5th regional report was prepared.

- At the Government’s session, held on 13 June 2019, the Republic of Serbia adopted the Strategy on Small Arms and Light Weapons Control in the Republic of Serbia for the period 2019-2024 and the Action Plan for the period 2019-2020. The Strategy was adopted for the purpose of further harmonization with the Roadmap. In the upcoming period, the Republic of Serbia will start working on the adoption of a new Action Plan, after the analysis and evaluation of the implementation of the previous one. UNDP SEESAC offered support in this process and these activities were initiated in the reporting period.

- The SALW Strategy is partially based on sex and age disaggregated data.¹

- Within the framework of the Strategy and AP implementing activities, the following acts were adopted:
  - “Decision on the establishment of the Special Working Group for Implementation and Monitoring of the Strategy on Small Arms and Light Weapons Control in the Republic of Serbia for the period 2019-2024” of 3 January 2020, while the procedure of amending this Decision is ongoing in the reporting period.
  - “Decision on the establishment of the Team for implementation, monitoring and exchange of all operational information related to firearms (Firearms Focal Point - FFP) and repealing the Decision of 19 December 2019”, passed by the Minister of the Interior on 4 February 2020, while this Decision will be amended in the upcoming period due to organizational and staffing changes.

¹ Information taken from 6th KPI report (KPI 2).
- “Decision on the establishment of the Council for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons” (The Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia, No. 76/20), passed by the Government, while the procedure on the amendment of the Decision on the establishment of the Council for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons is ongoing.

- The appointment procedure started in the reporting period, while a new National Coordinator for the Small Arms and Light Weapons Control was appointed by the Decision of the Government of the Republic of Serbia from 1 July 2021.

2.2 Data collection practices on the distribution and impact of SALW/firearms, and collection of criminal justice data

Guiding questions:
Is data collection on distribution and impact of SALW/firearms standardized and institutionalized? If yes, is the data disaggregated by sex and age?
Is collection of criminal justice data institutionalized?

- Law enforcement authorities in the Republic of Serbia, in particular the Republic Public Prosecutor’s Office, the Ministry of the Interior (MoI) and courts, continuously collect firearms data. Although each authority has a standardized data collection procedure, data collection for all law enforcement authorities was not fully standardized and institutionalized in the first half of 2021.

- Every year, the Republic Public Prosecutor’s Office compiles a consolidated statistical report for the territory of the Republic of Serbia with reference to the criminal offence of Unlawful Manufacture, Possession, Carrying, and Sale of Firearms and Explosives under Article 348 of the Criminal Code. The Republic Public Prosecutor’s Office keeps records with reference to persons.

- Data collection in the Supreme Court of Cassation is not institutionalized and certain data are not systematically collected. Instead, they are collected through appellate courts for those criminal offences for which there is a need. Basic and higher courts act as first instance courts for the criminal offence under Article 348 of the Criminal Code. Data are processed using “Mega Libra” system.

- In the Ministry of the Interior, data collection on firearms is standardized. The MoI keeps data on the age and sex of persons who commit firearms related criminal offences, that is, a criminal offence under Article 348 - Unlawful Manufacture, Possession, Carrying, and Sale of Firearms and Explosives or other criminal offence involving the use of firearms, as well as data on the number of persons murdered or injured with firearms.

- An efficient system of information exchange has been established between the Customs Administration of the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Telecommunications (MTTT) as an umbrella ministry in the field of export and import of weapons. If, in accordance with entrusted competencies, authorized officers of the Customs Administration who perform control of passenger and/or goods traffic detect illegal SALW they will seize them and issue a Certificate on temporary seized goods and immediately, without delay, transfer them to the jurisdiction of the MoI.
• The Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Serbia exchanges information and other data on firearms with other competent government authorities through the Military Security Agency and the Military Police. Also, in the field of trade in arms and military equipment, the authorities of the Ministry of Defence actively cooperate with other competent government authorities - in the process of issuing licenses for export and import of arms and military equipment.

• **Data collection within the criminal justice sector is not institutionalized.** Within the UNODC project “Criminal Justice Response against Arms Trafficking”, the third component relates to Strengthening the capacity to systematically collect, analyse and monitor criminal justice data on firearms across the Criminal Justice Sector for control policies and practices. The Republic Public Prosecutor’s Office is expected to be the main implementing partner for this component. This component can contribute to the institutionalization of data collection within the criminal justice sector. **On 24 February 2021, representatives of the Ministry of the Interior participated in the regional webinar on “Cross-border cooperation in criminal cases involving electronic evidence” within this UNODC project.**

### 2.3 Activities addressing gender concerns and increasing participation of women in SALW control

**Guiding question:**
Were any activities aiming to address gender concerns and increase participation of women in SALW control implemented during the reporting period?

• During the reporting period, the Republic of Serbia undertook certain institutional activities and steps to integrate gender and age concerns into SALW control policies and to ensure meaningful participation of women in SALW control. The Strategy and the accompanying Action Plan for the period 2019-2020 defines a measure 5.4 “Integration of gender-based principles in the Action Plan implementation” defined through activities: 5.4.1 “Raising awareness and reducing misuse of firearms in the context of violence against women, domestic violence and other forms of gender-based violence” with the indicator - Number of seminars and public debates held; and activity 5.4.2 “Ensure strategic participation of women in SALW control” with the indicator - Number of women participating in SALW control. **The new Action Plan will define activities in this field.**

• In the Ministry of Defence, a gender-based principle is introduced, so women participate in SALW control. The new Action Plan will additionally define these activities.

### 2.4 Establishment and operationalization of the Firearms Focal Point

**Guiding questions:**
Was a Firearms Focal Point established and operational during the reporting period? If yes, were there any activities during the reporting period that made the FFP fully operational?
• Adoption of the Strategy and establishment of the Team enabled the formal and legal establishment of the FFP which is now in the process of being made fully operational. The Ministry of the Interior is committed to this process, which is largely underway. Steps taken towards the establishment of the FFP are reflected in initially linked databases, so it could be said that initial functionality is in place. Work continued on the improvement of databases, harmonization of necessary documents for further work of the FFP, as well as on determining and establishing the most appropriate methodology for its operation.

• In the process of the FFP establishment, the largest and most significant support was provided by UNDP SEESAC in the form of donated software tools, equipment, and training in this field. Namely, in 2018, software licenses for IBM i2 Analyst’s Notebook and IBM iBase with a 12-month subscription and on-demand technical support were procured. At the same time, the analysts who is part of the FFP team attended 4 necessary training courses in system operating and data exchange together with two IT experts who maintain the databases. In 2019, a donation was received in the form of hardware for the functioning of the FFP and double-casting equipment that will speed up the process of exchange of double-cast evidence, while eight ballistic experts were trained and accredited to use the equipment.

• Representatives of the Ministry of the Interior participated in the second Open Source Intelligence Training (OSINT) organized by UNDP SEESAC in the period from 8 to 12 February. The aim of the workshop was to further strengthen the capacities of the criminal police for conducting online investigations and focused on collecting and visualizing OSINT data using the “Analyst notebook” as a preferred tool within the Firearms Focal Point (FFP) and online investigations.

• Also, with the Decision of 24 June 2021, the Minister of the Interior established the Standing Team for the improvement of measures for countering the trafficking of firearms and dangerous goods and cooperation in this field at the national and international level, thereby revoking the previous decision.

2.5 Exchange of firearm-related information with Europol through SIENA

Guiding question:
Was SIENA used in the exchange of firearm-related information with Europol?

• The Republic of Serbia exchanges operational and strategic information and data with the EU law enforcement agencies. The operational cooperation with Europol is established based on the Agreement on Operational and Strategic Cooperation between the Republic of Serbia and Europol that came into force in June 2014, along with the Memorandum of Understanding on Confidentiality and Information Assurance and the Bilateral Agreement for the Interconnection of the Computer Networks. In 2014, the Republic of Serbia and Europol became operational partners, and the number of data exchanged has been increasing ever since.

• The MoI continuously exchanges operational and personal data, as well as all other data related to investigations at national, regional and international level with all Western Balkan countries. Information is exchanged with all Western Balkan countries, depending on the
assessment and channels used by the country with which the information is exchanged, through the protected systems of INTERPOL (I 24/7), EUROPOL (SIENA) and SELEC Centre or a liaison officer (if any).

- All information on seized or found weapons, ammunition and explosives received through the channels of INTERPOL (I 24/7), Europol (SIENA), the SELEC Centre or the liaison officer shall be forwarded to the competent authorities in due time. Also, all inquiries from competent national authorities shall be forwarded in due time to EUROPOL (AP Weapons and Explosives), relevant EU Member States and third parties – EUROPOL’s operational partners and through INTERPOL’s communication channel (I 24/7) to interested states.

- In accordance with Europol rules, the Ministry of the Interior is currently engaged on 16 analysis projects, including AP Weapons and Explosives - Illicit Firearms Trafficking. In the period 1 January - 30 June 2021, the police made a total of 8 contributions.

- In the reporting period, a total of 259 messages were exchanged in the field of firearms trafficking (79 sent and 180 received). Information on seized weapons, persons with whom weapons were found in illegal possession and OCG dealing with illicit firearms trafficking and routes of smuggling was also exchanged, along with strategic information in the form of bulletins, early warnings, catalogues and other types of reports and products.

2.6 Access to and use of iArms

Guiding questions:

Does the jurisdiction have access to iARMS? If so, were regular contributions with information on lost and stolen firearms made during the reporting period?

- MoI RS has access to INTERPOL’s iARMS system. Police officers of the MoI trace firearms in iARMS system at the requests of foreign countries and MoI RS organizational units.

- The application “Stolen and Missing Weapons” has been launched in the unique information system of the Ministry of the Interior since May 2020, within the records on “Weapons in legal possession”. The application enables the search for missing and stolen weapons.

2.7 Participation in the Joint Action Day

Guiding question:

Is a Joint Action Day (JAD) Coordinator appointed in the jurisdiction? Did the jurisdiction participate in a JAD during the reporting period?

- Since EMPACT Joint Action Days (JAD) were not organized in the reporting period, but are planned for Q3 of this year, the Republic of Serbia participated in the preparatory activities for JAD, on 25 May and 8 June 2021, after which activities on data collection and analysis started. In addition to preparatory activities, in order to improve the cooperation and coordination in the Ministry of the Interior related to the process of establishing and implementing the “EU Policy Cycle” methodology, the Minister of the Interior passed a decision on 5 April
2021 on establishing the Working Group for harmonization with the instruments of police cooperation in the European Union and further development of international operational police cooperation through the implementation of the EU Policy Cycle. Within the preparatory activities, 4 priorities in which the Republic of Serbia will participate have been determined, one of which is the Priority FIREARMS.

2.8 Domestic and international tracing

Guiding question:
Was domestic and international tracing conducted for firearms and ammunition recovered and/or seized during the reporting period?

- By making insight into the iARMS database, it was found that in the period 1 January – 30 June 2021, the Republic of Serbia received a total of 16 tracing requests, out of which 9 were responded to, 1 is being processed and 6 requests were opened.

Additional information:
- For the purpose of implementing the Law on Testing, Stamping and Marking of Weapons, Devices and Ammunition, in 2020, UNDP SEESAC donated to the Agency for testing, marking and labelling of weapons, devices and ammunition a laser machine for marking weapons, devices and ammunition with accompanying equipment, worth $101,823.35. In the first half of 2021, about two thousand pieces of weapons have been marked and stamped. Marking and stamping of weapons on this machine has significantly contributed to raising the quality of services provided by the Agency and improving the quality of marks and stamps applied to weapons.

2.9 Accreditation of the ballistic laboratory

Guiding question:
Is your ballistic laboratory accredited? If no, have actions/steps been taken in this regard?

- The ballistic laboratory of the Ministry of the Interior is not accredited.
- To achieve international standards and accreditation, the Republic of Serbia established cooperation with UNDP on the project “Advancing the capacities of the Serbian Ministry of the Interior in the field of custody chain, crime scene investigations and the ballistic laboratory in the field of operations and investigations in trafficking of firearms and firearms criminality”, which has been under implementation in the previous two years. The project aimed to improve the capacities of the Ministry of the Interior in the entire investigation procedure, and particularly the field of custody chain for the purpose of enhancing investigative procedures and judgements. Within the project, the official handover ceremony of the following donated equipment was organized on 19 March 2021:
  - Water tank which is used for weapon/ammunition ballistic testing, with total value of $153,556;
- 3D scanners (3 pieces) and accompanying software for case animation and reconstruction, with total value of $94,872;
- Specialized equipment for crime scene processing and on-site investigation (special lamps for forensic technicians, portable forensic devices, etc.), with total value of $139,132;
- Stereo microscope, ultrasonic bath, special metal cabinets with accompanying equipment, cameras and security locks controlling entry into the ballistic laboratory, with total value of $25,658;
- Evidence room (adaptation and reconstruction of the ballistic laboratory), with total value of $68,071.

In addition to the handover of equipment, the following activities were implemented within the project during the reporting period:
- 60 participants from the various forensic lines of work were trained in the use of the standard operating procedures (SOPs) on chain of custody, crimes scene investigations, and packaging and tagging of evidence that were amended and approved in 2020. Also, the SOP on the Open Case File (OCF) for ballistic examination was completed and was approved by the central ballistic laboratory.
- In addition, 60 participants from the forensic lines of work were trained on crime scene investigations and chain of custody, while other 60 participants from the CSI units across Serbia were trained on the accreditation of the CSI infrastructure according to ISO /IEC 17020.
- The development of the Laboratory Inventory Management System (LIMS) and of the open case database was finalized and the databases were installed in the Central ballistic lab in Belgrade. Training for the software end-users was also provided. To enable the use of the LIMS, two laptops and two printers were also procured and installed in the lab, for the LIMS administrators.
- SOP on test firing using the water tank was developed and approved by the ballistic lab, aimed at ensuring the safety of all staff members when handling, inspecting and testing firearms and ammunition.

In February 2020, a new phase of the Project “Advancing the capacities of the Ministry of Interior in the field of custody chain, crime scene investigations and the ballistic laboratory in the field of operations and investigations in trafficking of firearms and firearms criminality” – Phase 2 (UNDP), which should lead to the accreditation of the ballistic laboratory, was proposed. The project proposal was assessed as positive and in February 2021, the continuation of cooperation was approved.

The most significant activities planned within this project are:
- Continued preparation for accreditation of the ballistic laboratory according to ISO 17020;
- Accreditation according to ISO 17025;
- Building capacities of the new Unit for arson, explosion and accident investigation;
- Upgrading the SALW-control registry system;

Key donations that will be realized through this project include: IT equipment (server hardware and software) for the organizational unit performing on-site investigation; Equipment necessary for the process of accreditation in accordance with ISO 17020; Two microscopes and other ballistic laboratory equipment; Reconstruction and equipping of the shooting range, and Hardware and software for equipping the organizational unit in charge of weapon-related administrative affairs within the Ministry of the Interior.

First meeting of the Steering Group
was organized in April 2021, where UNDP representatives presented the future activities and the manner of work to the members.

- To support further strengthening of ballistics in the Republic of Serbia, during the visit of the French President, Emanuel Macron, in July 2019, the Contribution Agreement was signed between the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Serbia and the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs of the French Republic for equipping the police with the software for ballistic identification system - EVOFINDER. In accordance with the Agreement, on the occasion of marking the National Day of the French Republic in July 2020, the donation/equipment was delivered, while it was installed in October of the same year. As the continuation of these activities, in the period from 18 to 21 May 2021, the French partner carried out advanced, additional training, inspected the installations and operation of the system and workstations at three of the four locations, i.e. in three Regional Centres of the National Forensics Centre, which put this software into operation.

2.10 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

Guiding questions:

Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?

- The biggest challenge of the Republic of Serbia in achieving Goal 2 - By 2024, ensure that arms control policies and practices in the Western Balkans are evidence based and intelligence led - is the need for standardization and institutionalization of data kept by the competent state authorities.
- It is necessary to establish and standardize coordination between institutions to make data available to all relevant beneficiaries and to ensure that policy development is based on a broader understanding of the whole issue and factual situation in this field. Improvements are being made in the area of data collection on distribution and impact of SALW, which would enable an easier and more accurate assessment of the situation in this area.
- It is necessary to establish effective information exchange between all law enforcement authorities, including the Ministry of the Interior, prosecutor’s offices, courts and the Customs Administration in the context of seizure of SALW, filed charges and outcomes of court proceedings. This should also include the Ministry of Trade, Tourism, and Telecommunication, as the ministry responsible for issuing licenses for export and import of arms and military equipment.
- The COVID-19 pandemic and related measures affected further establishment of a fully operational FFP, as it postponed several visits to EU member states that have clearly defined and developed FFPs (Belgium, Spain, Portugal, UK, France, Germany) in order to see the structure and competence of this body, their mutual communication and work.
- Unlike the previous reporting period, COVID-19 did affect the reduced number of messages exchanged through the SIENA channel in the context of firearms, and the contributions to the AP Weapons and Explosives. Also, given that INTERPOL and EUROPOL have restricted access
to their headquarters in Lyon and The Hague due to the pandemic, most of the meetings and other activities were organized in the online video format.

- The COVID 19 pandemic also prevented and postponed the visit of police officers – ballistic experts to the French Republic and their participation in the advanced training for the full use of the EVOFINDER system, so the training was organized in May 2021 in Belgrade.
2.1 Coordination and monitoring of arms control activities, and of the SALW control strategy

Guiding questions:
Was the SALW Commission coordinating and monitoring arms control activities in your jurisdiction during the reporting period? If so, how?
Is there a valid SALW Strategy in place? If so, is it based on sex and age disaggregated data?

- Yes, through monitoring the implementation of the National SALW Strategy, completing international reports in line with the OSCE firearms form, UNPoA Action Plan, collecting data, organizing awareness raising campaigns, implementing measures to improve conditions for safe management of stockpiles of weapons and related ammunition, regular organization of coordination meetings, etc.
- In particular, the Commission collected data for the purposes of drafting the Fifth Regional Progress Report of the Roadmap, for the period 1 July – 31 December 2020. The Commission organized the Fourth Local Coordination Meeting to monitor the implementation of the Roadmap on 24 June 2021. Furthermore, representatives of the Commission participated in the 13th Regional Meeting of SALW Commissions, organized on 13-14 April 2021.

2.2 Data collection practices on the distribution and impact of SALW/firearms, and collection of criminal justice data

Guiding questions:
Is data collection on distribution and impact of SALW/firearms standardized and institutionalized? If yes, is the data disaggregated by sex and age?
Is collection of criminal justice data institutionalized?

- Data collection practices are non-standardized. No concrete steps have been taken to collect gender-disaggregated data on the impact of SALW.
- Collection of criminal justice data is not institutionalized.
- Within the new project “Capacities of the Police Administration in the Field of Custody Chain, Crime Scene Investigations and the Forensic Laboratory in the Field of Operations and Investigations in Detection and Trafficking of Explosives Criminality” a gap analysis in the field of crime and forensic laboratory investigation of explosion incidents in the Police Administration/Forensic Centre of Montenegro has been conducted during the reporting period. The implementation of this project was initiated in January 2021, and is expected to last until June 2022. It is implemented by UNDP Montenegro and has the value of US$664,812.
2.3 Activities addressing gender concerns and increasing participation of women in SALW control

Guiding question:
Were any activities aiming to address gender concerns and increase participation of women in SALW control implemented during the reporting period?

- The gender screening of the SALW control legal framework in Montenegro has been completed. On 24 June 2021, SALW Commission organized a workshop during which UNDP SEESAC presented the findings of the analysis assessing the gender aspect of regulations and policies, mapping gaps in legal responses, and making recommendations to authorities on how to improve the gender aspect.

2.4 Establishment and operationalization of the Firearms Focal Point

Guiding questions:
Was a Firearms Focal Point established and operational during the reporting period?
If yes, were there any activities during the reporting period that made the FFP fully operational?

- The Firearms Focal Point was established in Q1 2020 and consists of officers from several organizational units of the Police Administration who perform tasks and duties related to the national FFP from the aspect of their competencies.
- Tasks related to the national FFP cover the collection, analysis, distribution and exchange of data on firearms, and they include:
  - Data analysis and preparation of intelligence and strategic reports;
  - Preparation of statistical reports;
  - Checks of seized weapons;
  - Coordination of activities in relation to international projects; and
  - Submission of statistical reports and information based on data from the available records for the needs of the police, the Government and Europol’s analytical projects.
- During the previous period, and in relation to the described competencies of the national Firearms Focal Point, the following activities were implemented:
  - Participation in workshops;
  - Participation in training related to online firearms investigations;
  - Active participation in data collection for the needs of the EMPACT Firearms project (data collection, submission of data through various questionnaires – 6 questionnaires); and
  - Preparation of a report on modified – converted firearms in Montenegro.
- Activities are currently underway to collect and analyse data that will serve as the basis for the preparation of the final version of the binding instructions for unified and systematic data collection on firearms by organizational units of the Police Administration.
In relation to other priority activities, it is planned to further improve the cooperation with EUROPOL and law enforcement authorities in the area of data collection and preparation of intelligence and strategic reports.

Two representatives from the Cyber Crime Unit of the Police Administration took part in a five-day Open Source Intelligence Training (OSINT) from 8 to 12 March 2021. The aim of the training was to increase the capacities for online open source investigations using open source intelligence tools. The training was organized for representatives of Firearms Focal Points and the Cyber Security Units and focused on the collection and visualization of open source intelligence using Analyst Notebook.

Authorities from Montenegro participated in the workshop dedicated to increasing the level of intelligence exchange jointly organized by EMPACT and SEESAC on 25 May 2021. EUROPOL, FRONTEX and the Swiss police provided expert support. The workshop focused on the exchange of data on seized blank-firing firearms / converted firearms, handling intelligence within Firearms Focal Points, exchange of criminal police data with the Border Police Risk Analysis Department and data on in-land seizures in order to develop risk indicators. This workshop was organized in support to the intelligence phase of the EMPACT 2021 Joint Action Day and was closely linked to the Operation Bosporus/Conversus on the use of intelligence packages during investigations of firearms-enabled crimes.

2.5 Exchange of firearm-related information with Europol through SIENA

Guiding question:
Was SIENA used in the exchange of firearm-related information with Europol?

- Yes, SIENA was used to exchange information with EUROPOL.

2.6 Access to and use of iArms

Guiding questions:
Does the jurisdiction have access to iARMS? If so, were regular contributions with information on lost and stolen firearms made during the reporting period?

- Yes, Montenegro has access to iARMS. There were 19 queries during the reporting period.

2.7 Participation in the Joint Action Day

Guiding question:
Is a Joint Action Day (JAD) Coordinator appointed in the jurisdiction? Did the jurisdiction participate in a JAD during the reporting period?
- The JAD coordinator from the Department for International Operational Police Cooperation INTERPOL-EUROPOL-SIENA was appointed, who participated in the intelligence phase, which started on 6 June 2021. Montenegro will also participate in the operational phase, which will take place in September 2021.

2.8 Domestic and international tracing

**Guiding question:**
Was domestic and international tracing conducted for firearms and ammunition recovered and/or seized during the reporting period?

- Yes, the General Police Directorate is connected to INTERPOL’s system for keeping and monitoring records of illegal weapons (iARMS).

2.9 Accreditation of the ballistic laboratory

**Guiding question:**
Is your ballistic laboratory accredited? If no, have actions/steps been taken in this regard?

- The ballistic laboratory accreditation activities are ongoing. An EVOFINDER ballistic database system was provided through donation, and the installation and training were completed.

2.10 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

**Guiding questions:**
Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If yes, has such support been requested or received?

- COVID-19 pandemic did not have a significant impact on the activities under this Goal.
2.1 Coordination and monitoring of arms control activities, and of the SALW control strategy

Guiding questions:
Was the SALW Commission coordinating and monitoring arms control activities in your jurisdiction during the reporting period? If so, how?
Is there a valid SALW Strategy in place? If so, is it based on sex and age disaggregated data?

- Yes. The 5th Local Coordination Meeting was organized on 15 June 2021 by the SALW Commission, where the work, challenges and needs with regards to the implementation of the SALW Control Roadmap were presented. In addition, the SALW Commission provided information for the 5th regional progress report on the Roadmap implementation, for the July-December 2020 period.
- The SALW Commission took part in the 13th Regional meeting on SALW Commissions, organized on 13-14 April 2021.
- The SALW Strategy (2017-2021) is in place, with harmonized Action Plan as per the Roadmap.

2.2 Data collection practices on the distribution and impact of SALW/firearms, and collection of criminal justice data

Guiding questions:
Is data collection on distribution and impact of SALW/firearms standardized and institutionalized? If yes, is the data disaggregated by sex and age?
Is collection of criminal justice data institutionalized?

- Yes, collection of data is partly standardized and institutionalized, but not under a single database and generally the sex is not specified.
- With regard to the criminal justice data, different institutions exchange data but not using a direct method or approach. Each institution has its own databases and we are currently working on linking them.

2.3 Activities addressing gender concerns and increasing participation of women in SALW control

Guiding question:
Were any activities aiming to address gender concerns and increase participation of women in SALW control implemented during the reporting period?

- No, no activities were conducted.
2.4 Establishment and operationalization of the Firearms Focal Point

Guiding questions:
Was a Firearms Focal Point established and operational during the reporting period? If yes, were there any activities during the reporting period that made the FFP fully operational?

- The FFP was established at the end of 2016. It was the first established FFP in the region and it is currently operational.
- Activities on daily data collection, arms tracing, periodic reports and meetings at national and international level are carried out. Participation in following events was ensured:
  - CIRAM 2.0 training;
  - OSINT 2 training;
  - Meeting of EMPACT Firearms - OA 2.1 (OAP-2020 and OAP-2021 Firearms) Operation BOSPHORUS/CONVERSUS;
  - Workshop organized by the Portuguese Police on the fight against firearms, ammunition and explosives trafficking, at national and international level;
  - Work meeting with UNDP SEESAC on the progress, commitments and needs related to the Firearms Focal Point - ILECU;
  - Workshop on Intelligence Information Exchange, organized by EMPACT and UNDP SEESAC;
  - Advanced training on firearms related investigations;
  - 14th meeting of SEEFEN;
  - Organization of basic training sessions for 96 police officers in eight Regional Directorates of Kosovo Police on building capacities in the area of firearms investigation; on the legal framework on SALW; on national and international cooperation; and on the scope of FFP and ILECU.

2.5 Exchange of firearm-related information with Europol through SIENA

Guiding question:
Was SIENA used in the exchange of firearm-related information with Europol?

- Yes, but not directly. Our communication is carried out through the International Police Cooperation Unit (IPCU) - EULEX.

2.6 Access to and use of iArms

Guiding questions:
Does the jurisdiction have access to iARMS? If so, were regular contributions with information on lost and stolen firearms made during the reporting period?

- We do not have direct access in iARMS, but through UNMIK ILO we have frequently sent information for inspection (tracing) and registration of stolen/lost firearms. During the
reporting period, we have sent data on **34 stolen firearms which have been registered at Interpol’s iARMS database.**

### 2.7 Participation in the Joint Action Day

**Guiding question:**
Is a Joint Action Day (JAD) Coordinator appointed in the jurisdiction? Did the jurisdiction participate in a JAD during the reporting period?

- The Joint Action Day (JAD) Coordinator has been appointed and will participate in JAD in September 2021. We are active in JAD and have cooperation with other counterparts in the region and beyond.

### 2.8 Domestic and international tracing

**Guiding question:**
Was domestic and international tracing conducted for firearms and ammunition recovered and/or seized during the reporting period?

- During the reporting period, 28 requests have been sent for verification to Interpol (iARMS), which have resulted negative.

### 2.9 Accreditation of the ballistic laboratory

**Guiding question:**
Is your ballistic laboratory accredited? If no, have actions/steps been taken in this regard?

- The Ballistics Division has 5 accredited methods as per the ISO 17025:2017 standard and this year it has extended its accreditation for 4 more years, until 2023. The accredited methods are:
  - PRT-2.1 Physical examination, classification and identification of firearms and their components
  - PRT-2.2 Physical examination, classification and identification of bullets/projectiles
  - PRT-2.3 Physical examination, classification and identification of cartridge cases and bullets
  - PRT-2.4 Physical examination, classification and identification of hunting ammunition cases and their components
  - PRT-2.5 Microscopic comparison

Meanwhile, there have been no accreditation activities.
2.10 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

Guiding questions:
Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?

- The challenges are as follows:
  - We are not members to Interpol and Europol and therefore we do not have direct access to iARMS and SIENA.
  - The Judicial Authority and the Prosecution do not yet have a database which can provide answers to our requests. They are updating their database with new data.
- We have requested support and we have received somehow, but there is still need for further support.
- The COVID-19 pandemic has affected our daily work, has prevented the organization of meetings and has led to the reduction of the staff number.
2.1 Coordination and monitoring of arms control activities, and of the SALW control strategy

Guiding questions:
Was the SALW Commission coordinating and monitoring arms control activities in your jurisdiction during the reporting period? If so, how?
Is there a valid SALW Strategy in place? If so, is it based on sex and age disaggregated data?

- The Coordination Board for Small Arms and Light Weapons monitors and coordinates activities in the field of arms control through regular collection and analysis of data, as well as submission of such data in the form of a report to the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- As part of the activities related to monitoring the implementation of the Roadmap, the Coordinating Board for SALW submitted the data to the UNDP SEESAC for the preparation of the 5th regional progress report on the implementation of the Roadmap.
- The Coordination Board participated in the Annual Meeting of the Regional Steering Group for SALW, held on March 18, 2021, at which we informed about our work results and challenges in the previous year, as well as priorities for 2021.
- The Coordination Board participated at the 13th Regional Meeting of the SALW Commission, which was organized on April 13-14, 2021. Bosnia and Herzegovina was represented at the meeting by representatives of the Ministry of Security, the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations.
- Strategy for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons in BiH, as well as the accompanying Action Plan for the period 2021-2024 were adopted in February 2021. The strategy is based on the analysis of data disaggregated by gender and age.

2.2 Data collection practices on the distribution and impact of SALW/firearms, and collection of criminal justice data

Guiding questions:
Is data collection on distribution and impact of SALW/firearms standardized and institutionalized? If yes, is the data disaggregated by sex and age?
Is collection of criminal justice data institutionalized?

- Brčko District Police - Yes, the records provide the Police with a clear picture of the current state of active and deactivated weapons in the Brčko District of BiH, looking through the prism of new licenses issued, weapons seized from citizens on various grounds and ultimately destroyed weapons. The Police of the Brčko District has material and electronic records for this area, however, the data in the records are not classified by gender and age, and existing applications do not provide the ability to search on this basis.
- Republika Srpska Ministry of Interior - Data collection is institutionalized in Republika Srpska and it is the responsibility of the Republika Srpska MoI. There is an Electronic Record
of Weapons which contains information on the issued firearms permits, as well as data on firearms and owners. Data can be sorted by gender and age. Data on illegal possession, misuse and trade in SALW and related ammunition are not recorded electronically.

- Bosnian-Podrinje Canton Ministry of Interior - The collection of data on SALW is standardized and institutionalized and depends on the events in which the weapon appears, whether it was seized, found and collected, and whether it appears through the perpetration of misdemeanors or criminal offenses. Also, there are data on registration, owners and other data for SALW that are allowed to be held in accordance with the valid Law.

- State Investigation and Protection Agency - The collection of data on the distribution and impact of SALW is not yet standardized and institutionalized, nor is this data disaggregated by gender and age.

- Federal Police Administration - The FPA keeps the statistical data on the gender and age of the persons from whom firearms were seized regarding illegally seized firearms and ammunition, as well as data on whether the person is a returnee criminal in the commission of criminal offenses.

- Collection of criminal justice data is not institutionalized.

2.3 Activities addressing gender concerns and increasing participation of women in SALW control

Guiding question:
Were any activities aiming to address gender concerns and increase participation of women in SALW control implemented during the reporting period?

- The gender analysis of legislation in the field of SALW control was finalized in cooperation with the UNDP SEESAC, aiming to determine the extent to which existing legislation takes into account gender aspects of firearms possession, use and abuse in the context of domestic violence, the gender dimension of firearms demand, women’s participation in firearms control and regulation policies and regulation and practices related to the collection of gender-sensitive data. A set of recommendations for improving the legislative framework were developed as a result of the analysis. The focus of the analysis is the legal framework of the Brčko District of BiH, but relevant legislation at the state level were also be included. The analysis, as well as specific recommendations, were presented to the SALW Coordination Board in July 2021.

- At the request of Ministry of Security and in close cooperation with the Coordinating Board for the Control of SALW, a two-day capacity building training in the field of gender mainstreaming was organized on 25-26 January 2021 by SEEAC, for key persons and 12 members of the recently formed Coordination Board for Gender Equality of the Ministry of Security. The aim of the training was to present practical strategies for integration of the gender perspective into the security sector, as well as to provide practical experiences in integration of the gender perspective into small arms control. In addition, there was talk of a growing approximation between the “Women, Peace and Security” Agenda and the
control of small arms. The training also provided an opportunity to discuss the gender aspects of small arms, the gender-differentiated effects of firearms abuse on women and men, the use of firearms in domestic violence, and the role of dominant gender norms in stimulating firearms demand and shaping risky behavior. A broader discussion was initiated on topics such as the use of data for data-driven public policy making, the institutional resources needed to integrate gender perspective, and strategies for overcoming mapped challenges in the process based on a case study on gender mainstreaming in small arms control in BiH.

- In order to **strengthen the promotion of gender equality in BiH Customs**, the first consultative workshop was organized to identify barriers, opportunities and starting points for improving the position of women and career opportunities in the BiH customs sector, bringing together all relevant actors, including government officials, NGOs and international organizations. This activity was realized within the HALT project.

### 2.4 Establishment and operationalization of the Firearms Focal Point

**Guiding questions:**

Was a Firearms Focal Point established and operational during the reporting period?
If yes, were there any activities during the reporting period that made the FFP fully operational?

- No, Firearms Focal Point was not established during the reporting period.
- **Republika Srpska Ministry of Interior** - During the reporting period, no Firearm Focal Point/s was established in Bosnia and Herzegovina, having in mind the constitutional competencies regarding weapons and ammunition, ballistics, etc. A working group was formed to establish a firearm focal point in BiH, which held several meetings at which a representative of the Ministry presented the official position of the Republika Srpska MoI on the establishment of one FFP only for Republika Srpska which would exchange data with another FFP in BiH based on the signed memorandum. The Ministry of Interior of Republika Srpska has started the activities of establishing an FFP, and in that sense it has formed a working group which is in the process of making records and uniform forms for reporting.
- **Federal Police Administration** - Representatives of FPA agree and have taken an active part in establishing an FFP in BiH.
- **Border Police** - A Working Group for the establishment of the FFP in BiH has been formed, and work is underway to find a solution for its establishment in BiH.
- Representatives of ITA, Border Police, FPA and SIPA participated at the **14th meeting of the Southeast European Firearms Expert Network (SEEFEN)**, which was held on 1-2 June 2021. Among the most important topics discussed were the results achieved during 2020 in the field of combating illegal possession and trafficking of weapons, ways of operational implementation of controlled delivery, methodologies for joint risk analysis for border police and customs, and specifics and best practices in the field of exchange of ballistic information. The important EUROPOL report “Serious and Organized Crime Threat Assessment” (SOCTA) was also discussed, as well as the emergence of new variations in criminal activities as a result of globalization and the impact of ballistic evidence on criminal investigations.
Bosnia and Herzegovina participated in a workshop aimed at increasing intelligence sharing, jointly organized by EMPACT and SEESAC on May 25, 2021. The focus of the workshop was on the exchange of data on seized weapons firing training ammunition/modified weapons, the handling of intelligence on firearms and the exchange of police criminal data with the Border Police Risk Analysis Service, as well as data on seizures in the interior of the territory for the purpose of developing risk indicators. This workshop supported the intelligence phase of EMPACT Joint Action Day 2021. In addition, the workshop was closely linked to Operation Bosphorus/Conversus in the field of use of intelligence packages during the investigation of firearms crimes.

2.5 Exchange of firearm-related information with Europol through SIENA

Guiding question:
Was SIENA used in the exchange of firearm-related information with Europol?

- **Indirect Taxation Authority** - The Instruction on the Procedure for the Implementation of the Agreement on Operational and Strategic Cooperation between Bosnia and Herzegovina and EUROPOL (“Official Gazette of BiH”, No. 8/21), determines the obligations and activities of the Ministry of Security of BiH and competent authorities. The instruction specifically determines the basic principles of establishing cooperation and the work of the Focal Point for BiH for cooperation with EUROPOL. The focal points are the following competent authorities:
  1) Directorate for Coordination of Police Bodies of BiH,
  2) State Investigation and Protection Agency,
  3) BiH Border Police,
  4) Service for Foreigners,
  5) Investigation departments of the Indirect Taxation Authority,
  6) Federal Ministry of the Interior (Federal Police Administration),
  7) Cantonal Ministries of Interior (cantonal police administrations),
  8) Ministry of Interior of Republika Srpska (Director of Police and Police Administration),
  9) Brčko District Police.

The competent authorities will exchange various types of strategic and operational information, including personal data, through the Focal Point, through a secure channel (SIENA), and participate in operational actions organized by EUROPOL, and attend various operational meetings and conferences organized by EUROPOL. **The Indirect Taxation Authority does not have access to the SIENA channel and the exchange of data with EUROPOL takes place via INTERPOL’s protected network I24/7.**

- Brčko District Police - Yes. The information was exchanged with other police agencies through this application.

- **Directorate for Coordination of Police Bodies** - The Directorate for Coordination of Police Bodies (Europol Cooperation Department) uses the SIENA secure communication system to exchange information regarding firearms. DCPB BiH as a coordinator and contact point for information exchange, participated in the implementation of four operational actions in the
reporting period, three of which were implemented in cooperation with Interpol ("Acronym", "30 days at sea" and "Pangea XIV") and one in cooperation with Europol ("Shield").

- **Bosnian-Podrinje Canton Ministry of Interior** - The SIENA network application was not used during the reporting period.

- **Federal Police Administration** - The FPA exchanges information with EUROPOL on a daily basis through the I-24/7 system.

- **Republika Srpska Ministry of Interior** - The MoI of Republika Srpska does not use, i.e., does not have access to the SIENA application for the exchange of information on firearms with EUROPOL because the Joint Focal Point in BiH for exchange of information and cooperation between Europol and competent law enforcement authorities in BiH has not yet been established in accordance with the Agreement on Operational and Strategic Cooperation between BiH and the European Police Office (EUROPOL).

### 2.6 Access to and use of iArms

**Guiding questions:** Does the jurisdiction have access to iARMS? If so, were regular contributions with information on lost and stolen firearms made during the reporting period?

- **Directorate for Coordination of Police Bodies** – The DCPB (NCB INTERPOL Sarajevo Department) has access to the iARMS database and uses the specified database in accordance with its competence. Access to this base is provided to all police agencies in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Currently, all police agencies have signed an Agreement on the use of the iARMS application with exception of one police agency with which the signing of the agreement is in progress.

  During the reporting period, the Directorate processed several cases/requests related to firearms, as follows:

  A total of **104 new cases were opened**, of which:

  - 73 new cases opened at the request of INTERPOL member states;
  - 7 new cases opened at the request of domestic law enforcement agencies through INTERPOL’s information exchange channel; and
  - 24 new cases at the request of Europol Member States.

  The Directorate also received 14 requests (Trace Request) from other INTERPOL member states during the reporting period, through the iARMS application.

- **Federal Police Administration** - The FPA has access to the iARMS database, and the delivery of data related to weapons is under the direct responsibility of the cantonal Mols.

- **State Investigation and Protection Agency** - The Agency has access to iARMS, and in the reporting period there was no submission of data on lost and stolen firearms.

- **Canton 10 Ministry of Interior** – C10 Mol is a signatory of the Agreement with Interpol on the use of the iARMS information system and has a trained employee. Electronic records of registered, lost and stolen weapons exist without the possibility of exchange with other agencies at the international level.
2.7 Participation in the Joint Action Day

Guiding question:
Is a Joint Action Day (JAD) Coordinator appointed in the jurisdiction? Did the jurisdiction participate in a JAD during the reporting period?

- **Directorate for Coordination of Police Bodies** - The coordinator of activities related to the Joint Action Days (JAD) within the Directorate is the Department for Cooperation with Europol. Specific activities related to JAD are planned for September 2021.
- **State Investigation and Protection Agency** - The Agency appointed a coordinator for the Joint Action Days and its police officers, who will participate in the Joint Action Days in September 2021.
- **Indirect Taxation Authority** – The ITA has appointed a coordinator for the implementation of the operational action “JAD South East Europe 2021” which is focused on 3 EMPACT priorities (Weapons, migrants and drugs). The operational phase is planned to be carried out from 15-18 September 2021. The ITA continuously participates in it.
- **Federal Police Administration** - For each implementation of an operational action (JAD or some other international operational action), the FPA appoints its coordinator, who actively participates in these actions, during which the available information is exchanged (shared).
- **Republika Srpska Ministry of Interior** - The MoI Republika Srpska did not appoint a coordinator for the Joint Action Days nor did it participate in the Joint Action Days during the reporting period because cooperation with Europol is contrary to the Agreement on Operational and Strategic Cooperation between BiH and the European Police Office (EUROPOL).

2.8 Domestic and international tracing

Guiding question:
Was domestic and international tracing conducted for firearms and ammunition recovered and/or seized during the reporting period?

- **Brčko District Police** - Yes, when a certain weapon was found, a check was performed in the local database, and searches for the subject weapon were announced.
State Investigation and Protection Agency - When seizing firearms, the Agency takes steps to monitor the trace of the firearm. The development and adoption of the SOPs “Monitoring the Trace of Weapons” through participation in the UNDP CIAT project is underway.

Directorate for Coordination of Police Bodies - During the reporting period, the Directorate received 14 requests (Trace Request) from other INTERPOL member states via the iARMS application.

Bosnian-Podrinje Canton Ministry of Interior - Yes, referring to weapons, ammunition and explosives, which are found or temporarily seized by the police, recorded, and depending on the event, destroyed or handed over to the prosecutor’s office or the court.

2.9 Accreditation of the ballistic laboratory

Guiding question:
Is your ballistic laboratory accredited? If no, have actions/steps been taken in this regard?

Brčko District Police - The Police does not have a ballistics laboratory, it has an Automated Ballistic Identification System ABIS in which cartridge cases and bullets fired from registered firearms are inserted, and at a certain moment there was an interruption due to a malfunction in the system equipment.

Republika Srpska Ministry of Interior - The ballistics laboratory is not accredited. General documents (procedures, instructions, forms) were prepared in accordance with the ISO 17025 standard at the level of the Forensics Unit-KTC. The next step is to prepare documents within the laboratory (including the ballistics expertise laboratory) for the accreditation of specific methods. The EVOFINDER system was installed in the ballistics laboratory in March.

Tuzla Canton Ministry of Interior - There is a ballistic laboratory, but it is not accredited, and activities regarding accreditation have not been undertaken.

Federal Police Administration - The process of accreditation of the ballistic laboratory in the Federal Police Administration is in the final phase, and confirmation from the BATA Institute for Accreditation in BiH according to the ISO standard 17025 is expected.

During the reporting period, the EVOFINDER ABIS was donated to the Federal Ministry of Interior.

2.10 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

Guiding questions:
Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?

Canton 10 Ministry of Interior - Yes. Technical and/or financial support is necessary in order to supply the Ministry with appropriate equipment and training of staff to work on it.
• **Posavina Canton Ministry of Interior** - Cooperation with the border police and activation of forms for data collection and monitoring of firearms is needed. The support is necessary in the procurement of computer to establish connection as well as instruments for searching and identification of weapons and explosives (endoscope and detector for drugs and explosives).

• **Brčko District Police** - Support in terms of improving the electronic database for firearms records, i.e., installation of an application with the ability to search by gender, age and other necessary parameters is necessary.

The COVID-19 pandemic and the measures initiated to prevent the further spread of the infection significantly slowed down all processes and thus the activities within this goal as well. The emergence of pandemic had a significant impact on the implementation of certain activities of the agency in such a way that the priority of action was aimed at combating the pandemic, which led to the restriction of all forms of gatherings, and thus educational gatherings, seminars, working groups and other forms of organized work, both within the agencies themselves and in inter-agency cooperation and contacts with international partners.
2.1 Coordination and monitoring of arms control activities, and of the SALW control strategy

Guiding questions:

Was the SALW Commission coordinating and monitoring arms control activities in your jurisdiction during the reporting period? If so, how?

Is there a valid SALW Strategy in place? If so, is it based on sex and age disaggregated data?

- The SALW Commission coordinates and monitors activities by:
  - Identifying, determining and defining the impact of SALW on society, security and socio-economic development of the country;
  - Defining the priorities in the SALW control intervention and implementing the National Action Plan;
  - Determining developing operational measures under the SALW control intervention, which stem from the Goal;
  - Coordinating the activities of all participants supporting the National Action Plan on SALW;
  - Sending information in a timely manner to all participants supporting the National Action Plan;
  - Monitoring all components where SALW-related measures and activities have been undertaken in order to support the National Action Plan on SALW;
  - Evaluating all components where SALW-related measures and activities have been undertaken in order to support the National Action Plan on SALW;
  - Organizing meetings, with the frequency set by the President of the National SALW Commission;
  - Submitting annual reports to the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia on the work done and progress made concerning the implementation of the operational measures defined in the National Strategy and Action Plan;
  - The National SALW Commission provided inputs to UNDP SEESAC on the 5th Regional Roadmap report for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2020;
  - Fifth Local Coordination Meeting was organized by the National Commission on SALW on 17 June 2021, with the support of UNDP SEESAC, on the progress achieved in the implementation of the Roadmap;
  - The National SALW Commission participated in the 13th Regional meeting of the SALW Commissions on 13-14 April 2021;
  - The National SALW Commission participated in the Annual meeting of the Regional steering group for SALW, which was organized online on 18 March 2021.

- SALW Control Strategy and Action Plan 2017-2021 is in place and valid until the end of 2021.

Additional information:

- In order to develop the new SALW Strategy and Action Plan, a workshop was held on 21 January 2021 for the evaluation of the current, and development of the new SALW Strategy in accordance with the Roadmap. Following this workshop, a meeting of the Working Group (established by the Minister of Interior) was held on 30 March 2021 to analyse and evaluate the existing Strategy. A third meeting was organized on 26-27 May 2021, during which the
discussion was structured around the Roadmap goals and framing the new Strategy around them in order to ensure their achievement. The preparation of the new SALW Strategy and Action Plan (2022-2025) is being finalized with the support of UNDP SEESAC. The Action Plan contains activities for data analysis by gender and age. The strategic goals of the draft Strategy are fully in line with the goals of the Roadmap.

- **OSCE support for strengthening the capacity of the National SALW Commission is ongoing.** This activity envisages increasing the operational capacity of the SALW Commission, strengthening the capacities for planning, coordinating, advising, and supervising the implementation of SALW control measures at the national level. A meeting on the Rules of Procedure of the National SALW Commission was organized with OSCE on 5-6 May 2021.

2.2 Data collection practices on the distribution and impact of SALW/firearms, and collection of criminal justice data

**Guiding questions:**

Is data collection on distribution and impact of SALW/firearms standardized and institutionalized? If yes, is the data disaggregated by sex and age?

Is collection of criminal justice data institutionalized?

- We have participated in the preparation of SOCTA 2021. In the reporting period, standardized data collection was conducted according to the EUROPOL methodology for SOCTA 2021. Data is still being collected and the national SOCTA is expected to be finalized by the end of 2021.

- With the support of the UNDP office in North Macedonia, a project is being implemented to improve national SALW practices through two components, one of which is the introduction of an electronic system for registration and tracking of weapons and the second component for an improved and harmonized information management system in the MoI. Within the second component, activities are continuously undertaken for the development of the new Police Information System (MEIDA). Its implementation is expected to improve and harmonize the information management system of the MoI, which will improve the process of data collection on criminal and firearm-related incidents. UNDP analysed all existing forms and channels for the use of weapons information exchange reports, including the Border Police, Criminal Police, Interpol and the Organized Crime Department, in order to include the data in the IMS - Information Management System.

- At the moment, the National SALW Commission has no data on criminal justice. A workshop is planned to be held with the Public Prosecutor’s Office and the courts, in order to establish the collection and exchange of such data.
2.3 Activities addressing gender concerns and increasing participation of women in SALW control

Guiding question:
Were any activities aiming to address gender concerns and increase participation of women in SALW control implemented during the reporting period?

- A gender screening analysis of the legislation and policies for small arms control in the Republic of North Macedonia was finalized by UNDP SEESAC. On 26 March 2021, a workshop was organized among the SALW Commission and UNDP SEESAC to present the findings of the analysis. Regarding the report, it was agreed to review the recommendations and implement them in the further activities of the Commission, as well as future amendments to the legislation. Namely, many of the recommendations are included in the draft version of the new National SALW Strategy and Action Plan 2022-2025.

2.4 Establishment and operationalization of the Firearms Focal Point

Guiding questions:
Was a Firearms Focal Point established and operational during the reporting period?
If yes, were there any activities during the reporting period that made the FFP fully operational?

- Regarding the activities for establishment and operationalization of the FFP, for which two members from the Department for Criminal Intelligence Analysis (DCIA) and one member each from the Department of Criminal Investigations and Expertise (DCIE) and the Department for Criminal Police (DCP) were nominated, the activities for connecting the relevant databases have not been completed. The nominated people provide and exchange data in accordance with the procedures and scope of work of the organizational units where they are employed, whereby strategic and operational products are prepared.  
- Within second component of the project for improvement of national SALW practices, implemented with the support of the UNDP Office in North Macedonia, activities are continuously undertaken for the development of the new Police Information System (MEIDA). Its implementation is expected to improve and harmonize the information management system of the MoI, which will improve the process of data collection on criminal and firearm-related incidents. On 24 June 2021 the Department for Criminal Investigations and Expertise at the Ministry of Interior received a server "HPE Server ML350 Gen10 SFF" from UNDP SEESAC for connecting and sharing of ballistic information from CEMS with FFP. The old IBIS automatic ballistic system has been replaced by a new EVOFINDER system, which does not provide a direct connection to the FFP. According to the Department for Criminal Investigations and Expertise, all relevant ballistic information will be transmitted through CEMS.
MoI representatives attended a **five-day Open Source Intelligence Training (OSINT)**, which was organized by UNDP SEESAC on 8 to 12 March 2021. The aim of the training was to increase the capacity for online investigations on open sources by using the open source intelligence tools. The training was organized for the representatives of Firearms Focal Points and Cyber Security Units and focused on collection and visualization of open source intelligence data using Analyst Notebook.

MoI participated at the **2nd pilot workshop on operational ballistic information-exchange on converted weapons**, which was organized on 21 May 2021 with UNDP SEESAC’s support. The workshop brought together representatives of ballistic laboratories and investigators from Skopje and Pristina, as well as representatives of EUROPEPOL and UNDP SEESAC to jointly address the phenomena of the increased number of seized converted blank firing weapons and the problem of insufficient and delayed exchange of ballistic information in these cases. We also discussed the impact of the amendment to the Law on blank firing weapons in Turkey on illicit trafficking and weapons conversion.

Representatives from North Macedonia also took part in the **workshop dedicated to increasing intelligence sharing** that was co-organized by EMPACT and UNDP SEESAC on 25 May 2021. Expert support was provided by EUROPEPOL, Frontex and Swiss Police. The workshop focused on sharing of data regarding seized blank firing/converted weapons, intelligence handling in FFPs, and the exchange of criminal police data with the Risk Analysis Unit in the Border Police, and data on seizures in-land for the development of risk indicators. The workshop supported the intelligence phase of the EMPACT Joint Action Days 2021 and was closely linked to the Operation Bosphorus/Conversus on the use of intelligence packages throughout gun crime investigations.

### 2.5 Exchange of firearm-related information with Europol through SIENA

**Guiding question:**
Was SIENA used in the exchange of firearm-related information with Europol?

- Yes, in the day-to-day operation and implementation of operational actions, the secure communication link - SIENA was regularly used for the exchange of information related to firearms with Europol, starting from 2013 when the link between Europol and IPCD, Europol Unit and the Duty Service was established.

### 2.6 Access to and use of iARMS

**Guiding questions:**
Does the jurisdiction have access to iARMS? If so, were regular contributions with information on lost and stolen firearms made during the reporting period?

- Yes, there is access to the iARMS database. In the reporting period, this tool was used, and data were entered in the firearms database, manually, on a daily basis. Checks were made and
information was exchanged during the investigation between the law enforcement agencies regarding the international movement of illegal firearms, as well as for legal firearms that were lost or stolen and used to commit a certain crime, which facilitated the exchange of information and NCB Interpol Skopje. In addition to the Department for International Police Cooperation, the Department for Criminal Police, DCP Unit for Illicit Trade of Weapons, Dangerous Substances, and Radioactive Material, and the Ballistics Department at the Department of Forensic Science and Expertise have access to the iARMS database. The Department for Criminal Intelligence and Analysis is currently being connected to the Interpol iARMS database. This completes the connection of the base with all designated units of the National Contact Point for Small Arms and Light Weapons Control. During the reporting period, there was regular reporting on lost and stolen firearms. Thus, in the reporting period, 51 international searches for firearms were announced, out of which 30 were found (seized), 20 were stolen and one piece was lost.

2.7 Participation in the Joint Action Day

Guiding question:
Is a Joint Action Day (JAD) Coordinator appointed in the jurisdiction? Did the jurisdiction participate in a JAD during the reporting period?

- The Joint Actions Days will be organized in September 2021.
- A coordinator was appointed for regional operational action “OAP 2.1 Conversus/Bosphorus”, organized within the EMPACT activities for combating firearms-related crime, which was renamed to OAP "CONVERSUS", and was conducted in the period from 17-21 May 2021, in Sofia, Bulgaria. The purpose of the action was to exchange data on the procurement of sound and light signal guns, as well as the illicit trade with those guns in the region, in particular, the threat of their conversion into firearms.

2.8 Domestic and international tracing

Guiding question:
Was domestic and international tracing conducted for firearms and ammunition recovered and/or seized during the reporting period?

- Yes, there is a regular domestic and international tracing of firearms and ammunition. Thus, in the reporting period, as a result of the use of iARMS, two pistols were successfully found and seized by the Kosovo and Albanian police, originating from thefts in shops for hunting equipment and pyrotechnic materials in 2017 in our country, and a procedure for their return is underway.
- With regard to the project on implementing the new software for weapons registration and tracing (WRMS), with UNDP support, the connection of the weapons system of the Ministry of Interior with the EXIM Customs system is underway, through which the licenses for import, export, and transit of weapons, ammunition, and explosives for civil use are issued. In order for the legal entities dealing with the activity of weapons to access the system, access
agreements have to be concluded with the Ministry of Interior, which enables them to access the system. After concluding the agreements, the legal entities submitted requests for access to the system for their employees, and at the moment 15 tokens and passwords have been awarded to the legal entities, out of a total of 50 that need to be included in the new system. Several legal entities have not yet submitted a request for access to the system to the Ministry of Interior. At the moment, the legal entities to which the passwords have been handed over have an opportunity to test the system. At the request of legal entities with the support of UNDP, one-day training will be provided to all employees of legal entities.

2.9 Accreditation of the ballistic laboratory

Guiding question:
Is your ballistic laboratory accredited? If no, have actions/steps been taken in this regard?

- The Firearms and Ballistics Division (Ballistics Laboratory) at the Department of Criminal Investigations and Expertise (DCIE) is accredited for the following two methods:
  - Comparative analysis of cartridge cases;
  - Comparative analysis of projectiles

The transition period for ISO 17025:2017 is in progress.

2.10 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

Guiding questions:
Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?

- A challenge that we faced in the reporting period referred to the implementation of the new software for weapons registration and tracing (WRMS), in accordance with the EU Directive 2017, with the involvement of legal entities, which will enable full monitoring of weapons, from the import to the final purchaser. Several legal entities have not yet submitted a request for access to the system to the Ministry of Interior.
- Based on the Agreement between the French Embassy in the Republic of North Macedonia and the Ministry of Interior for a donation of the Ballistic Identification System EVOFINDER, the members of the Ministry of Interior will have to be trained.
- Following the adoption of the new National SALW Strategy and Action Plan 2022-2025, it is planned to seek support from UNDP SEESAC for its printing.
- UNDP SEESAC support was requested for operationalization of a Firearms focal point by reconnecting to the required databases (WRMS, IMS, CEMS with IBASE) and additional training of analysts at central and regional level.
- The COVID-19 pandemic continues to affect the full functioning and coordination of the National SALW Commission.
2.1 Coordination and monitoring of arms control activities, and of the SALW control strategy

Guiding questions:

Was the SALW Commission coordinating and monitoring arms control activities in your jurisdiction during the reporting period? If so, how?

Is there a valid SALW Strategy in place? If so, is it based on sex and age disaggregated data?

- The National SALW Commission is an inter-ministerial body responsible for planning, coordinating, monitoring and reporting all activities related to SALW/firearms control in the Republic of Albania, in order to ensure a safe environment and therefore create favourable conditions for the sustainable development of the country.

- The National SALW Commission has conducted the following activities:
  - Monitoring the National Strategy and Action Plan for the control of SALW, in compliance with the areas of responsibility and based on a full assessment of the firearms control situation in Albania, and also reporting on the implementation of the goals of this Strategy.
  - Meeting the obligations under the goals of the Regional Roadmap on the SALW control in the Western Balkans, including the statistical indicators for UNDP SEESAC.

- The National Commission on SALW has attended the following meetings organized by UNDP SEESAC:
  - Annual meeting of the Regional Steering Group on SALW, held on 18 March 2021, and co-led by RCC and UNDP. The meeting aimed at exchanging information on the current and future activities on firearms control in South East Europe and presenting the regional priorities and plans on SALW control.
  - 13th SALW Commissions meeting, held on 13-14 April 2021, with more than 50 participants from 20 institutions throughout South East and East Europe. Representatives from Belgrade, Chisinau, Kiev, Minsk, Podgorica, Pristina, Sarajevo, Skopje and Tirana attended this meeting. Discussions was related to the new Action Plan of the EU on Firearms Trafficking 2020-2025, which contains specific measures for the South East Europe. Albania was represented by members of the Ministry of Interior, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defence and Albanian State Police.

- SALW Commission collected data and provided inputs to UNDP SEESAC in preparation of the 5th Regional Roadmap progress report. Furthermore, SALW Commission organized the 5th Local coordination meeting on 25 June 2021 to review the implementation of the Roadmap for the period July-December 2020.

- Decision of the Council of Ministers No. 50, dated 06 February 2019, has approved the “Small Arms, Light Weapons and Explosives Control National Strategy 2019-2024 and its Action Plan 2019-2021”, which is partially based on sex and age disaggregated data.
2.2 Data collection practices on the distribution and impact of SALW/firearms, and collection of criminal justice data

Guiding questions:
Is data collection on distribution and impact of SALW/firearms standardized and institutionalized? If yes, is the data disaggregated by sex and age?
Is collection of criminal justice data institutionalized?

- The data on SALW and their impact in our country can be extracted using the Firearms Information Management System (SIMA), which, however, is not fully standardized especially with regards to information by gender and age. The data by gender and age can be extracted, but this is done manually and not on the spot. The official statistics reported by the State Police on criminal offences are generated based on gender and age, both for the victims and offenders, as well as on the motives of the crime. Moreover, the data on firearms can be administered and obtained from iBASE and iARMS systems as well. A considerable part of the data entered into the Roadmap reports are obtained from the iBASE system.

- The following equipment has been installed and put into operation in the ballistics examination sector through the support of UNDP project “Support Albania’s Law Enforcement Authorities to Strengthen Firearms Criminality Evidence Management and Investigation Capacities”:
  - Comparative microscope of the brand Leica FS C;
  - Leica S9D desk microscopes;
  - 3D scanners;
  - Water tank;
  - DELL computers;
  - 8 metal shelves for the archive (OCF).

The PCR reader machine has been installed and put into operation in the Biology Sector, and specialized FPI kits have also been delivered.

The Chronograph equipment and other examination equipment are expected to arrive in the ballistic examination sector. These devices are currently in the Technical Materials Supply Center in Tirana and the procedure for handing over this equipment to the ballistic examination sector is ongoing. The same is valid for the bone crushing machine, which is also in process of handover.

- Regarding the data exchange on criminal justice, we would like to clarify that there is currently the Police Case Management System in place, which has been set up to access and enter data on a criminal case, including those related to the use of firearms, by the State Police, Prosecution Office and Courts. At the moment, this system is being used and updated with State Police data only and it is not yet operational regarding data from the Prosecution Office and Courts. Such system has been also designed to produce analytical reports of the data from the criminal justice. Institutional exchange of information is still paper-based to date.
2.3 Activities addressing gender concerns and increasing participation of women in SALW control

**Guiding question:**
Were any activities aiming to address gender concerns and increase participation of women in SALW control implemented during the reporting period?

- Partly implemented. In cooperation with UNDP SEESAC, we started working on a gender analysis of small arms control legal and policy frameworks. Such analysis aims to screen the gender responsiveness of the legislation and policies, to identify gaps in the legal responses and to provide recommendations for increasing gender responsiveness. The gender responsiveness of the legislation is evaluated based on several main gender concerns related to small arms: links between firearms and domestic violence; gender responsiveness related to firearms demand, their use and misuse, including links existing among specific forms of masculinity and firearms; participation and representation of women in the process of drafting and implementing policies/legislation on arms control and in the data collection practices with gender responsiveness.

2.4 Establishment and operationalization of the Firearms Focal Point

**Guiding questions:**
Was a Firearms Focal Point established and operational during the reporting period?
If yes, were there any activities during the reporting period that made the FFP fully operational?

- Yes, please refer to the previous report.
- During the reporting period, the FFP has continued its activity as per its functional tasks. Data are being normally observed and entered into the systems it uses (iBASE, iARMS, SIMA), where the data for this reporting derive from as well. Analytical products have been produced, which have been disseminated within the police structures, but also with other law enforcement agencies. The FFP has followed the police operations (PO) at national level, organized by EMPACT-Europol, has shared data with other national and international agencies, mainly via the SIENA communication channel, but also directly via e-mail through requests or questionnaires sent with Europol, Interpol, SELEC, UNODC, SEEFEG, liaison officers, etc. There is a regular contribution with information to iARMS and regular information is received to track these firearms. **128 weapons have been verified in the national SIMA system by request of our international partners.**
- Albania also attended the workshop dedicated to the exchange of intelligence, co-organized by EMPACT and UNDP SEESAC, on 25 May 2021. EUROPOL, Frontex and the Swiss Police provided the expert support. The workshop focused on data exchange regarding seized firearms/converted firearms and exchange of data of the criminal police with the Risk Analysis Unit at the Border Police, as well as data on SALW seizures inland for the purposes
of developing risk indicators. The workshop was held with reference to the Joint Action Days 2021 of EMPACT and was closely related to the Bosphorus/Conversus Operation on the use of intelligence during gun crime related investigations.

• Two representatives from the State Police attended a five-day training on Open Source Intelligence (OSINT), organized by UNDP SEESAC from 8 to 12 March 2021. The purpose of the training was to increase the capacities to conduct online investigations based on open sources. This training was held for representatives of Firearms Focal Points and Cyber Security Units, with a focus on gathering and visualizing data from open sources using Analyst Notebook.

2.5 Exchange of firearm-related information with Europol through SIENA

Guiding question:
Was SIENA used in the exchange of firearm-related information with Europol?

• Yes, it is regularly used as a communication channel to exchange information on firearms, but not only.

2.6 Access to and use of iARMS

Guiding questions:
Does the jurisdiction have access to iARMS? If so, were regular contributions with information on lost and stolen firearms made during the reporting period?

• Yes, we do have access and contribute regularly with entering data on firearms reported as stolen or lost. During the reporting period, four (4) records have been entered into this system, and one has resulted positive.

2.7 Participation in the Joint Action Day

Guiding question:
Is a Joint Action Day (JAD) Coordinator appointed in the jurisdiction? Did the jurisdiction participate in a JAD during the reporting period?

• Yes, one (1) representative has been assigned from the State Police to participate in JAD, which will be organized by EUROPOL in September 2021. On 6 June 2021, the phase of gathering intelligence information for the development of the operational phase began.
2.8 Domestic and international tracing

**Guiding question:**
Was domestic and international tracing conducted for firearms and ammunition recovered and/or seized during the reporting period?

- During the reporting period, **28 cases of firearms seized in criminal offences have been traced**. Based on these verifications in the iARMS system, it appeared that one (1) pistol was stolen on 11 November 2017 in North Macedonia.

2.9 Accreditation of the ballistic laboratory

**Guiding question:**
Is your ballistic laboratory accredited? If no, have actions/steps been taken in this regard?

- The sector of ballistic examinations is not yet accredited. The accreditation process has been delayed due to the pandemic. The SOPs have been completed, but not approved. The approval of these SOPs is carried out from sectors or directorates subordinate to the General Directorate of State Police.

2.10 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

**Guiding questions:**
Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?

- **General Prosecution Office**: Setting up and implementing an online program including all stakeholders, which would include data entries on the activity dynamics of each institution. Such data would then be used to obtain the required statistical indicators that are indispensable for institutional analysis and assessments, as well as for reporting progress to this regional project and beyond.
- The pandemic has caused suspension of almost all social activities, awareness-raising activities, meetings, etc.
By 2024, significantly reduce illicit flows of firearms, ammunition and explosives (FAE) into, within and beyond the Western Balkans.

GOAL 3 OVERALL TARGETS

1. Ensure full implementation and monitoring of legal, policy and procedural framework on trafficking of FAE.

2. Prevent trafficking (smuggling, illicit trade and transit) of FAE through improved processes, equipment and training of targeted law enforcement units.

3. Substantially strengthen control, monitoring and prevention of diversion of legal trade through improved capacities, procedures and transparency.

4. Strengthen existing bilateral, regional and international mechanisms and encouraging new forms of good practice to counter trafficking of firearms.
PROGRESS INFORMATION ON GOAL 3 OVERALL TARGETS

BELGRADE

3.1 Information exchange between police, prosecutor’s office and court on FAE-related cases prosecuted and adjudicated

Guiding question:
Is there an information exchange system in place between police, prosecutor’s office and court on FAE-related cases prosecuted and adjudicated?

• Implementation and monitoring of legal, policy and procedural framework for the suppression of FAE trafficking is done by the Republic of Serbia in accordance with the national legislation, i.e. laws in the field of weapons, prescribed criminal offences, by-laws and internationally undertaken obligations.

• Having in mind that the prosecutor’s office, the Ministry of the Interior and courts all participate in the criminal procedure, the system of data exchange in the Republic of Serbia is stipulated in the Rulebook on Criminal Records (by-laws in accordance with the Criminal Procedure Code). However, it is necessary to adopt instructions or methodology that would closely prescribe all aspects of data and information exchange in criminal procedure and on prosecuted and adjudicated firearms related cases. Therefore, a unified information exchange system between police, prosecutor’s offices and courts on prosecuted and adjudicated FAE-related cases is not in place.

3.2 Diversion of arms exports

Guiding questions:
Were there any cases of diversion of arms exports reported during the reporting period?
Was an annual report on arms exports published?

• No cases of diversion of arms exports were reported during the reporting period.

• The Government of the Republic of Serbia adopted the annual report on export and import of arms and military equipment and sent it to the National Assembly for their information. The report was published in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia, No. 43/21. The Republic of Serbia provided inputs to UNDP SEECSAC for the publication of the Regional Arms Export Report for 2018, which was published in November 2020. Also, the Republic of Serbia regularly publishes annual reports on export and import of arms and military equipment. The national annual report on export and import of arms and military equipment, provision of brokerage services and technical assistance is also available on the website of the Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Telecommunications www.mtt.rs.
3.3 Arms trafficking and border control

Guiding questions:
Were there any reported cases of firearms trafficking during the reporting period?
Were there any activities focused on strengthening border control during the reporting period?

- There was no data on the cases of firearms trafficking, as indicated in KPI 3.²
- **Activities to strengthen border control in the Republic of Serbia have been initiated.**
  Within the framework of EU Council Decision 2018/1788/CFSP and EU Council Decision EU 2019/2111, in the first half of 2021 UNDP SEESAC continued providing support aimed at building capacities of this part of the Police. In March 2019 cooperation was approved for the third component of the proposal concerning the provision of support for countering arms trafficking in the Western Balkans through capacity assessment and technical assistance to criminal and border police authorities. In October 2019, an EU Expert Team came to carry out a peer review mission – organized by UNDP SEESAC – to assess the capacity and needs of the MoI RS border police, and in April 2020 it submitted the Assessment Report.

  **On 6 May 2021, a meeting of UNDP SEESAC representatives and the State Secretary in the Ministry of the Interior was organized to present further support for improving the capacity of both the border and criminal police.** On the same day, a meeting was held with the management of the Border Police Directorate and the Criminal Police Directorate regarding future activities, and the support for equipping these police units was announced at these meetings. In relation to the announced support and agreements at the meeting, the capacity assessment of the Criminal Police Directorate will start at the second half of 2021.

- Within the framework of the project: Concept of Support to be provided by the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) to the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Serbia towards fulfilling the assumed international obligations as defined in the Roadmap, the third component refers to:
  - **Building the capacities of the Police Departments in strengthening their K-9 (police dogs) capabilities in detecting weapons and explosives.**

In this regard, in the period 17-18 December 2020, OSCE carried out a Peer Review Mission in Belgrade to assess capacity of MoI/MoI’s K-9 organizational units for detection and seizure of small arms and light weapons, ammunition and explosives. During the Peer Review Mission, which was organized in VTC format, in addition to the already submitted questionnaire, a number of questions were addressed in the context of: legislative framework in this area; presentation of existing infrastructural and administrative capacities, as well as the capacities of police dogs; how to plan needs in this area; training plans and programs for police dog handlers; training modules; handler selection; procurement and training of police dogs; certificates and final exams for police dog handlers and police dogs; clear criteria for handler selection, criteria for detection, obedience and "marking" by police dogs; veterinary service and support staff; joint exercises, international experience and practice, means of transport; the manner of engaging police dogs, i.e. these units, the lifespan of police dogs in the Ministry

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² Information added based on the inputs in the 6th KPI report (KPI 3).
of the Interior, the number of dog handlers, the number of police dogs, the total number of 
police officers in these units and especially the gender agenda and share of female handlers in 
MoI units. The fact that, in the Special Police Unit of the Police Brigade, female handlers make 
almost 20% of the total number of handlers was positively assessed.

Based on the Mission’s report, the OSCE submitted in June 2021 the proposal for further 
activities for implementation of the project through the document – Needs Assessment 
and Justification Report, Republic of Serbia. In the reporting period, several preparatory 
meetings were held with the OSCE, while on the other hand, the Ministry of the Interior 
conducted an additional and in-depth analysis of the capacities of all units in charge of 
service dogs, as well as their needs. At the same time, in order to raise the capacities of 
the MoI in this field, the Centre for Training of Handlers and Service Dogs was established 
within the Centre for Police Training of the Human Resources Sector. In the second half of 
the year, the implementation of the project is expected, i.e. the support in the construction of 
the mentioned centre, as well as support within specialist trainings and equipment.

3.4 Control of explosive precursors

Guiding question:
Was a control mechanism in place for explosive precursors during the reporting period?

• During the reporting period, a list of explosive precursors was not prescribed or established 
by the national legislation of the Republic of Serbia, so there is no control mechanism of this 
type in place.

3.5 Use of EMPACT’s and Europol’s tools for investigations

Guiding question:
Did you use any of the supporting tools for investigations offered by EMPACT and Europol?

• Yes. Please refer to inputs provided under 3.8 Operation cooperation with FRONTEX, Europol, 
EU Member States and Interpol.

3.6 Participation in regional meetings

Guiding question:
Did your jurisdiction participate in regional meetings/workshops eg: SALW Commissions 
process, RASR, SEEFEN, SEEFEG, RACVIAC?

• To strengthen regional cooperation and improve the intensity and quality of information 
exchanged with the countries in the region, the Republic of Serbia has intensified its activities 
through participation in regional and other meetings of expert networks established in order to
improve cooperation between EU member states and the Western Balkans and implemented the following activities:

- **Online meeting regarding the development of the regional Handbook on Detection of Firearms for Border Guards and Customs Officers organized by SEESAC and FRONTEX, from 10 to 11 February 2021.** The Handbook will ensure better control measures and increase awareness of different modus operandi of trafficking, guidelines on security measures when handling firearms and ammunition detected at the border, as well as provide knowledge of documentation when it comes to legal trade, i.e. import and export (MoI and Customs Administration);

- **The official handover ceremony for the forensic and ballistic equipment donated through the UNDP Project “Advancing the capacities of the Serbian Ministry of the Interior in the field of custody chain, crime scene investigations and the ballistic laboratory in the field of operations and investigations in trafficking of firearms and firearms criminality” was organized on 19 February 2021 in cooperation with the international partner.** The equipment has a total value of around $500,000 (MoI);

- **In the period from 8 to 12 February, representatives of the Ministry of the Interior participated in the second Open Source Intelligence Training (OSINT), organized by SEESAC.** The aim of the workshop was to further strengthen the capacities of the criminal police for conducting online investigations and focused on collecting and visualizing OSINT data using the “Analyst notebook” as a preferred tool within the Firearms Focal Point (FFP) and online investigations (MoI);

- **On 24 February 2021, representatives of the Ministry of the Interior participated in the regional webinar on "Cross-border cooperation in criminal cases involving electronic evidence" within the UNODC project “Criminal Justice Response against Arms Trafficking of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime” (MoI and the Prosecutor’s Office);**

- **Representatives of the Ministry of the Interior participated on 18 March 2021 at the meeting of the Regional Steering Group for Small Arms and Light Weapons – SALW, organized by the UNDP SEESAC and Regional Cooperation Council – RCC;**

- **Representatives of the Ministry of the Interior participated on 23 March 2021 at the second online meeting regarding the drafting of the regional Handbook on Detection of Firearms for Border Guards and Customs Officers organized by SEESAC and FRONTEX.**

- **On 13 - 14 April 2021, the delegation of the Republic of Serbia participated at the 13th meeting of Regional SALW Commissions.** The EU action plan on firearms trafficking 2020-2025 was presented at the meeting, among other things;

- **On 23 April 2021 within the UNODC project “Criminal Justice Response against Arms Trafficking of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime”, a meeting was organized between representatives of the Ministry of the Interior and UNODC in order to assess the capacities of the Ministry of the Interior in the field of electronic forensics for the purpose of possible future donations through this project;**

- **In the continuation of activities towards the full implementation of the Agreement on donation of software for identification, monitoring and ballistic tracing - "Evofinder", representatives of the Ministry of Interior participated in the advanced training for the use of the Evofinder system, together with the programme “TRAFFIC”, from 18 - 19 May 2021, in Belgrade.** After the training, the system is fully operational (MoI);
– Representatives of the Ministry of Interior participated on 1 - 2 June 2021 in the 14th meeting of the Regional South-East Europe Firearms Experts Network (SEEFEN), held online. The aim of the meeting, which was to enable the exchange of information, experiences and challenges in the fight against firearms trafficking, in addition to police officers, was also attended by representatives of the Prosecutor’s Office and Customs administration;
– Representatives of the Customs Administration - Sector for Tariff Affairs, regularly participate in the work of the Centre for Security Cooperation RACVIAC.

3.7 Data collection for the Global Firearms Trafficking Study

**Guiding question:**
Do you collect data for the Global Firearms Trafficking Study of UNODC?

• The Republic of Serbia collects data for the Global Firearms Trafficking Study.

3.8 Operation cooperation with FRONTEX, Europol, EU Member States and Interpol

**Guiding question:**
Did you have any operational cooperation with FRONTEX, Europol, EU Member States, INTERPOL during the reporting period? If yes, could you provide details?

• Existing international mechanisms are enhanced by regular exchange of operational knowledge through international cooperation channels, exchange of strategic information on newly recognized modus operandi and arms smuggling routes, as well as through participation in thematic international meetings and joint operations. The Ministry of Interior strives to use investigation tools offered by INTERPOL, EMPACT and EUROPOL. To this end, the promotion of available tools among the competent authorities at joint meetings and in contacts related to the cases has continued. With the aim of more active participation in operational activities within EMPACT OAPs, i.e. the EMPACT OAP for the priority of firearms, by decision of the Minister of Interior from 5 April 2021 a Working Group was established for harmonization with the instruments of police cooperation in the European Union and further development of international operational police cooperation through the implementation of the EU Policy Cycle, whose chair performs the function of the National EMPACT Coordinator (NEC), so it is expected that the work of this group will increase the number of operational activities in which the Serbian police participates and that it will contribute to better coordination and monitoring of the implementation of activities, and thus to a more active use of tools and support offered by EMPACT and EUROPOL.

• During the reporting period, EUROPOL’s strategic and operational products, such as intelligence packages, operational-analytical reports and reports on the results of cross-checks were the main supporting tools for investigations used. EUROPOL network – SIENA is also regularly used, and representatives of the competent units participated in several meetings organized by EUROPOL online. Regular operational and strategic cooperation has been established with several EU member states and third parties – EUROPOL’s operational
partners, regarding ongoing investigations through SIENA and through operational video meetings.

- Operational cooperation with the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (FRONTEX) is carried out through the Working Arrangement establishing operational cooperation between the Ministry of Interior and FRONTEX signed in 2009. Under the Working Arrangement, the Border Police Directorate of the Ministry of the Interior collects and analyses data on seizures of weapons and ammunition. The border police officers submit monthly reports using 12G Application, which means that during the reporting period 6 monthly tables were delivered. Frontex Application “12G” is used to enter information on seizures of weapons and ammunition, using a prescribed form which contains: number of individual cases of detection of weapons and ammunition, nationality of a person with whom the weapon and ammunition were detected, type of a detected weapon, amount of seized weapons, number of parts of seized weapons, amount of ammunition seized, the way a person being seized the weapon approached border control, the place where the weapon and ammunition were found, the license plate of a vehicle where the weapon or ammunition was found, whether discovered at the border crossing point or near the state border, whether it was discovered at the entrance or exit from the Republic of Serbia (which border crossing point and type of a border crossing point). Under the provisions of the Law on Border Control, weapons and ammunition may be carried across the state border pursuant to the provisions of the law governing the acquisition, possession and carrying of arms and ammunition. If, when crossing the state border, a person fails to declare weapons and ammunition, the border control authority shall seize the weapon and ammunition and shall issue the respective certificate.

3.9 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

Guiding questions:
Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?

- In order to fulfil Goal 3 – By 2024, it is necessary to establish a unified system for the exchange of information between the police, the prosecution and the judiciary on the cases related to firearms on which investigations were initiated and judgements pronounced, especially final ones.
- Support is needed in developing the legal framework which would regulate the area of explosive precursors. In addition to Regional Workshop on Harmonization of Legislation in the Field of Explosives with the EU Acquis, additional support is required in terms of drafting relevant regulations.
- In terms of familiarity with regulations governing import, export, transport and transit of firearms, ammunition and explosives, as well as techniques for detecting illegal trade thereof, it is necessary to deliver continued training for customs officers. The Customs Administration offers specialist training entitled “Controlling the trade in strategic goods – identification of dual-use goods” according to the curriculum developed by the World Customs Organization,
within which special attention is paid to customs control of arms and military equipment, in order to improve the knowledge of customs officers in this field, and thus improve the effects of control.

- In addition, customs officers need to be provided with appropriate equipment for more efficient detection of smuggled firearms, ammunition and explosives. To implement the above, the possibilities for obtaining technical and financial assistance under bilateral and international projects should be considered.

- COVID-19 pandemic and the related measures to combat it undoubtedly affected the activities of the police, courts and public prosecutors' offices. Nevertheless, having in mind the statistical data, it can be said that satisfactory results have been achieved under the circumstances.
3.1 Information exchange between police, prosecutor’s office and court on FAE-related cases prosecuted and adjudicated

Guiding question:
Is there an information exchange system in place between police, prosecutor’s office and court on FAE-related cases prosecuted and adjudicated?

- Various data collection methodologies are used. There is no possibility of obtaining comparable statistical and other data overviews from all institutions of the criminal justice sector, and annual reports on the processing crimes committed by firearms cannot be cross-referenced.

3.2 Diversion of arms exports

Guiding questions:
Were there any cases of diversion of arms exports reported during the reporting period?
Was an annual report on arms exports published?

- There were no reported cases of diversion.

3.3 Arms trafficking and border control

Guiding question:
Were there any reported cases of firearms trafficking during the reporting period?
Were there any activities focused on strengthening border control during the reporting period?

- There were no reported cases of arms and ammunition trafficking.
- UNDP SEESAC is supporting border and criminal police services in strengthening the capacities to combat the illicit trafficking in firearms through the development of Standard Operating Procedures, training and equipment.
- Senior representatives of the Border and Criminal Police organized a strategic meeting with UNDP SEESAC on 3 June 2021, for the first time since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. This meeting provided an opportunity to discuss the agreed activities, such as the Criminal Police assessment, and to encourage activities in areas lagging behind due to the COVID pandemic. The finalization of the needs’ assessment is expected in the second half of 2021. The assessment will serve as the basis for further support.
- The methodology for developing a joint risk analysis for the border police and customs was discussed at the 14th meeting of the SEEFEN network, held on 1-2 June 2021.
3.4 Control of explosive precursors

Guiding question:
Was a control mechanism in place for explosive precursors during the reporting period?

- A control mechanism for explosive precursors has been established. Ministry of Health is in charge for this area.

3.5 Use of EMPACT’s and Europol’s tools for investigations

Guiding question:
Did you use any of the supporting tools for investigations offered by EMPACT and Europol?

- Yes, tools offered by EMPACT and Europol were used. Furthermore, two mobile scanners were used at the border crossing points. Police officers from the Netherlands were engaged to work on the scanners while a Europol officer performed real-time checks on a laptop.

3.6 Participation in regional meetings

Guiding question:
Did your jurisdiction participate in the regional meetings of: SALW Commissions process, RASR, SEEFEN, SEEFEG, RACVIAC?

- Yes, representatives from Montenegro participated in the regional meetings related to arms control. In addition to the previously mentioned meetings, the representatives of Montenegro attended:
  - Annual meeting of Regional SALW Steering Group, 18 March 2021;
  - 13th Meeting of SALW Commissions, 13-14 April 2021;
– 14th Regional Meeting of the South-East Europe Firearms Expert Network (SEEFEN) 1-2 June 2021. Montenegro was represented at this meeting by representatives of the Customs Administration, the Ministry of the Interior, including the Criminal Police Sector of the Police Administration, the Border Police and the Forensic Centre of Montenegro.

### 3.7 Data collection for the Global Firearms Trafficking Study

**Guiding question:**
Do you collect data for the Global Firearms Trafficking Study of UNODC?

- Yes, we are collecting data for the Global Firearms Trafficking Study.

### 3.8 Operation cooperation with FRONTEX, Europol, EU Member States and Interpol

**Guiding question:**
Did you have any operational cooperation with FRONTEX, Europol, EU Member States, INTERPOL during the reporting period? If yes, could you provide details?

- Yes. Operational cooperation continued with Interpol, Europol and EU member states. The number of operational cooperation cases is provided under KPI 9.

### 3.9 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

**Guiding questions:**
Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?

- Yes, the following:
  - Insufficient capacities for detection, analysis, identification and conducting of investigations;
  - Inadequate quality of equipment for detection of firearms, ammunition and explosives (equipment is mostly outdated); and
  - Internal compliance procedures have not been established.
- Yes, one part of the trainings and professional exchanges of data was under the support system provided by UNDP SEESAC, while the OSCE procured the abovementioned equipment for detection of explosives.
- COVID-19 pandemic did not have a significant impact on the activities within this goal.
3.1 Information exchange between police, prosecutor’s office and court on FAE-related cases prosecuted and adjudicated

Guiding question:
Is there an information exchange system in place between police, prosecutor’s office and court on FAE-related cases prosecuted and adjudicated?

- There is no such a system in place, connecting Police-Prosecution-Court. The Kosovo Police database contains notes on the cases sent to the prosecution. The Prosecution and the Judiciary are updating their database with new data.

3.2 Diversion of arms exports

Guiding questions:
Were there any cases of diversion of arms exports reported during the reporting period? Was an annual report on arms exports published?

- There are no such reported cases, because there are no exports in Kosovo. Therefore, annual reports on arms exports are not published.

3.3 Arms trafficking and border control

Guiding question:
Were there any reported cases of firearms trafficking during the reporting period? Were there any activities focused on strengthening border control during the reporting period?

- A total of eight (8) cases of firearms trafficking were recorded during the reporting period. In those cases the following items were seized: 26 firearms of different types and 8,261 pieces of ammunition of different calibres.
- Within the project Support to Countering Illicit Arms Trafficking (CIAT), the following support was provided to the border police:
  - Organizing a 5-day training regarding the effective use of the CIRAM 2.0 risk analysis model for 11 officials from the Kosovo Police/FFP, border police and National Centre for Border Management;
  - Providing the Border Police Department/Risk Analysis Unit with an iBase and I2Analyst Notebook software, which is used to gather, classify and analyse information and risk in the area of investigation and control of small arms and light weapons;
  - Providing the Border Police Department/border crossing points with two specialized equipment for detecting different kinds of explosives and narcotics, as well as providing a training for eight border officers on the use of such equipment;
– Organizing basic training sessions for 96 police officers in eight Regional Directorates of Kosovo Police on building capacities in the area of firearms investigation, on the legal framework on small arms and light weapons, on national and international cooperation, as well as on the scope of FFP and ILECU.

3.4 Control of explosive precursors

Guiding question:
Was a control mechanism in place for explosive precursors during the reporting period?

- Yes, this is carried out by the Customs authorities, especially in the case of goods import, and even for the suspicious ones, such as precursors or others. There have been cases of imported goods for pharmaceutical purposes, but the customs have requested from the MoI to verify the cargo and the documentation.

3.5 Use of EMPACT’s and Europol’s tools for investigations

Guiding question:
Did you use any of the supporting tools for investigations offered by EMPACT and Europol?

- No, we have not used the supporting tools.

3.6 Participation in regional meetings

Guiding question:
Did your jurisdiction participate in the regional meetings of: SALW Commissions process, RASR, SEEFEN, SEEPEG, RACVIAC?

- Yes, we have participated in regional meetings organized by UNDP SEESAC, such as:
  - 5th Regional meeting on the SALW Roadmap;
  - 13th Regional meeting of SALW Commissions;
  - 14th meeting of SEEFEN;
  - Work meeting with SEESAC on the progress, commitments and needs related to the FFP - ILECU; and
  - Workshop on Intelligence Information Exchange.
- We have also participated in the meeting of EMPACT Firearms - OA 2.1 (OAP-2020 and OAP-2021 Firearms) Operation BOSPHORUS / CONVERSUS Debrief/Preparatory meeting.
3.7 Data collection for the Global Firearms Trafficking Study

**Guiding question:**
Do you collect data for the Global Firearms Trafficking Study of UNODC?

- No, because we have not received any request.

3.8 Operation cooperation with FRONTEX, Europol, EU Member States and Interpol

**Guiding question:**
Did you have any operational cooperation with FRONTEX, Europol, EU Member States, INTERPOL during the reporting period? If yes, could you provide details?

- There has been operational cooperation on OP JAD and OP BOSPHORUS / CONVERSUS.

3.9 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

**Guiding questions:**
Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?

- The challenges are as follows:
  - Having an information exchange system in place between police, prosecutor’s office and court on FAE-related cases sent for prosecution and adjudicated;
  - Strengthen existing bilateral, regional and international mechanisms and encouraging new forms of good practice to counter trafficking of firearms’
  - Direct use of the supporting tools for investigations provided by EMPACT and EUROPOL.
  
  We have requested support and we have received somehow, but there is still need for further support.

- The COVID-19 pandemic has affected our daily work, has prevented the organization of different activities planned in framework of this goal and has led to the reduction of the staff number.
3.1 Information exchange between police, prosecutor’s office and court on FAE-related cases prosecuted and adjudicated

Guiding question:
Is there an information exchange system in place between police, prosecutor’s office and court on FAE-related cases prosecuted and adjudicated?

- A system for the exchange of information between the police, the prosecution and the judiciary on these cases has not been established.

Additional information:
- The Republika Srpska Ministry of Interior, in cooperation with the Instrument for Technical Assistance and Information Exchange (TAIEX), organized a two-day online workshop on "Seized Firearms in Court Proceedings". Experts on this topic from the Republic of Slovenia presented to the participants of the workshop the best practices and experiences of the EU member states, related to the legislative framework, keeping records and databases, as well as the handling of confiscated weapons. In addition to representatives of the Ministry, the workshop was attended by representatives of the RS Ministry of European Integration and International Cooperation, BiH Ministry of Security, BiH Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations, BiH Directorate for European Integration, SIPA, BiH Border Police, Judicial and Prosecutorial Training Center, Federal Administration Police and cantonal MoIs.

3.2 Diversion of arms exports

Guiding questions:
Were there any cases of diversion of arms exports reported during the reporting period?
Was an annual report on arms exports published?

- We have no knowledge about any rerouting during the export of firearms and ammunition from BiH.
- **Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations** - The MoFTER does not have the practice of publishing an annual report on arms exports, and the publication of reports on issued licenses is done within the regional reports, published by UNDP SEESAC.

Additional information:

**Indirect Taxation Authority:**
- A Team to support the control of trade in goods of strategic and dual purpose was formed according to the ITA Manager. In order to control the trade of dual-use goods, the Support Team implemented the Correlation Table of the list of dual-use goods in the customs subsystem.
Asycuda World, with application starting from 1 January 2021. The importance of linking of the correlation table with the AW information system is reflected primarily in:
- the obligation of the ITA to regularly report to the MoFTER on trade in dual-use goods;
- recording the complete trade in dual-use goods which will also facilitate both risk analysis and more efficient control of these goods.

In accordance with the provisions of Article 32 of the Law on Control of Foreign Trade in Weapons, Military Equipment and Special Purpose Goods (“Official Gazette of BiH”, No. 53/16), the ITA reports to the MoFTER on the trade in these goods on semi-annual basis.

The control mechanism has been partially established, by linking the Correlation Table of Dual-Use Goods with the Asycuda World information system.

### 3.3 Arms trafficking and border control

**Guiding question:**
Were there any reported cases of firearms trafficking during the reporting period?
Were there any activities focused on strengthening border control during the reporting period?

- During the reporting period, **11 cases of firearms trafficking were reported**.

- **State Investigation and Protection Agency:**
  - Reports on criminal offenses related to unauthorized trade, possession of firearms in accordance with the Criminal Code of BiH, i.e., entity legislations were submitted in the reporting period. The Agency acts, within its competencies, in the detection and prevention of criminal offenses related to the illegal trade in firearms, which are defined in the Criminal Code of BiH. The Agency participates in working groups and projects aimed at improving legal solutions in order to improve the work on prevention and detection of this type of crime.
  - During the reporting period, the activities regarding the **UNDP Countering Illicit Arms Trafficking project (CIAT)** continued. The project envisages the development of SOPs regarding the actions of police officers in detecting and preventing criminal offenses related to trafficking in firearms with the aim of improving the capacity of police agencies in Bosnia and Herzegovina. **SIPA received a donation of the endoscope “JEET T51X”, as technical support to facilitate the discovery of illegal weapons.** Regarding the SOPs, the police officers of this Agency took part in the training for **trainers of police agencies related to the SOPs of all police agencies**, which referred to risk analysis and monitoring of traces of weapons, collection of traces and conducting investigations.

- **Indirect Taxation Authority:**
  - In cases of detection of import or bringing of illegal firearms, ammunition and explosives into the customs territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina, authorized officials of the ITA shall act in accordance with the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code of BiH. In such cases, they inform the competent prosecutor’s offices in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the criminal cases are referred to the competent police authorities for further action. In accordance with their powers, ITA officials regularly supervise and control the movement
of goods at border crossings and customs offices, with special emphasis on goods subject
to prohibitions and restrictions (goods under the licensing regime, including small arms
and light weapons). The Enforcement Department conducts ad-hoc controls. In this regard,
there were no cases of seizure of firearms, ammunition and explosives in the observed
period.

– The ITA officials participated in the work of the Joint Teams for Control of Container
Shipments at border crossing Gradiška and border crossing Bijača within the UNODC-
WCO (SCO) Container Control Program. A team for the control of goods in air transport
was established during 2020 within the activities of the Container Control Program (CCP),
which is realized through a joint form of cooperation of UNODC-WCO and ITA.

– As part of the Halting Arms and Lawbreaking Trade (HALT) Project “Training of Trainers”
for 14 members of the Strategic and Dual-Use Goods Control Support Team has been
implemented, as well as the eight trainings for the BiH Customs on the use of the SOPs
to combat the arms trade for 204 customs officers. Specialized equipment for firearms
detection was also procured (5 laptops and 12 endoscopes were handed over to the ITA)
together with training on the use of equipment and further work on operational procedures
for handling and preventing firearms trafficking through postal and express packages. As
a result, draft SOPs for BiH Post, Post of Srpska and Croatian Post Mostar on the detection
of firearms, their parts and ammunition in postal packages were finalized and translated.
Similarly, the draft operational guidelines on the detection of firearms in fast parcels by
private courier companies in BiH were supported by four private companies licensed for
international postal delivery.

Additional information:

Countering Illicit Arms Trafficking (CIAT) project:

• Within this project, the Ministry of Security continued activities related to the development
of a national database on permits for the transport of small arms and light weapons, with
the support of the UNDP Office in BiH. The national database aims to strengthen supervisory
capacities in the field of legal trade, data collection, analysis and exchange of information
between institutions involved in the supervision of legal trade in small arms and light weapons,
ammunition and dual-use goods. An inception report is currently being developed.

• Within the same project, 19 endoscopes were delivered to 14 law enforcement agencies.
Practical training on the use of endoscopes was also held for 37 police officers.

• Specialized training was launched for the use of SOPs developed under the project and on
the practical use of specialized detection equipment by organizing three two-day instructor
trainings for a total of 40 police officers from 14 law enforcement police agencies.

• As mentioned above, an endoscope “JEET T51X” was donated to the SIPA as technical support
to facilitate the discovery of illegal weapons.
### 3.4 Control of explosive precursors

**Guiding question:**
Was a control mechanism in place for explosive precursors during the reporting period?

- The control mechanism on explosive precursors is not in place in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

### 3.5 Use of EMPACT’s and Europol’s tools for investigations

**Guiding question:**
Did you use any of the supporting tools for investigations offered by EMPACT and Europol?

- **Repulika Srpska Ministry of Interior** - RS MoI did not use any auxiliary investigative tools offered by EMPACT and EUROPOL during the reporting period because co-operation with Europol is not in accordance with the Agreement on Operational and Strategic Co-operation between BiH and the European Police Office (EUROPOL).

- **Directorate for Cooperation of Police Bodies** - The Directorate (Europol Cooperation Department) used Europol’s auxiliary tools, namely the EPE-LFE (Europol Platform for Experts - Large File Exchange) platform.

- **State Investigation and Protection Agency** - As part of the work, information is regularly exchanged through EUROPOL, i.e., all types of assistance offered by EUROPOL are used.

### 3.6 Participation in regional meetings

**Guiding question:**
Did your jurisdiction participate in the regional meetings of: SALW Commissions process, RASR, SEEFEN, SEEFEG, RACVIAC?

- Representatives of Bosnia and Herzegovina participated in the following meetings:
  - Annual Meeting of the Regional Steering Group for Small Arms and Light Weapons, March 18, 2021;
  - 13th Regional Meeting of the SALW Commission, April 13-14, 2021;
  - 14th Meeting of the Southeast European Firearms Expert Network (SEEFEN), June 1-2, 2021;
  - International conference on tackling transnational organized crime, June 11, 2021;
  - FRONTEX/EMPACT - Regional Workshop on the development of manuals for the identification of small arms and light weapons and explosives – WB;
  - On-line meeting at which the Report of the UN Global Program for the Prevention of Illegal Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons was presented, as well as the new Program for 2021-2025.
3.7 Data collection for the Global Firearms Trafficking Study

Guiding question:
Do you collect data for the Global Firearms Trafficking Study of UNODC?

- No information is available.

3.8 Operation cooperation with FRONTEX, Europol, EU Member States and Interpol

Guiding question:
Did you have any operational cooperation with FRONTEX, Europol, EU Member States, INTERPOL during the reporting period? If yes, could you provide details?

- **Indirect Taxation Authority** - Preparatory activities were carried out for the operational action JAD WB 2021 which is organized by EUROPOL. The focus of the operational action in question is on 3 EMPACT priorities (weapons, migrants and drugs) with special reference to the Western Balkans.

- **Republika Srpska Ministry of Interior** – The RS MoI did not cooperate with EUROPOL during the reporting period because the cooperation between BiH and Europol does not take place in accordance with the Agreement on Operational and Strategic Cooperation between BiH and the European Police Office (EUROPOL). Cooperation was established with the Republic of France, which was reflected in the donation of the system EVOFINDER in the reporting period.

- **Directorate for Cooperation of Police Bodies** - Information is exchanged on daily basis with Europol and EU Member States.

- **State Investigation and Protection Agency** - Communication and exchange of information has been established, i.e., operational cooperation in specific investigative cases related to the unauthorized trade in firearms. We cannot provide specific data, given that these are current investigations.

- **Federal Police Administration** - The FPA, in cooperation with the competent prosecutor’s offices and courts, carried out several operational activities that resulted in the seizure of illegally possessed weapons and ammunition in the reporting period. Thus, the following items were confiscated during the reporting period: Rifle (9 pcs); Pistol (1 pc); Ammunition (1370 pcs); Rocket launchers (66 pcs); Rocket guidance equipment (12 pcs). In connection with the above, the FPA submitted 22 Reports on Criminal Offenses to the competent prosecutor’s offices, against 17 persons.

3.9 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

Guiding questions:
Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?
• **Brčko District Police** – It is necessary to strengthen existing capacities regarding legal arms trade, strengthen controls and supervision in the procurement, sale and trade of weapons, and organize campaigns to reduce the illegal flow of firearms, ammunition and explosives. The COVID-19 pandemic and the measures initiated to prevent the further spread of the infection have significantly slowed down all processes and thus the activities within this goal.

• **Indirect Taxation Authority** - The Strategic and Dual-Use Goods Control Support Team is involved in the implementation of the HALT project together with UNDP and UNODC, which refers to stopping the illegal trade in small arms and light weapons, their parts, ammunition and explosives. The HALT project is implemented with the financial support of France, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom (UK) through a Partner Mutual Fund to support the implementation of the Roadmap for a sustainable solution to combat the illegal possession, misuse and trafficking of small arms and light weapons and their associated ammunition in the Western Balkans. The project envisages the procurement of missing equipment in accordance with the analysis of deficiencies and needs, the development of Standard Operating Procedures for the detection of illegal trade in SALW. Training for about 300 customs officers on the prevention of illegal trade in small arms, explosives and drugs was conducted during the reporting period.

It is necessary to equip border crossings and customs offices with specialized equipment for the detection of firearms and parts of firearms, which will be partially implemented within the HALT project, as well as to equip and train mobile teams to support customs officers. The COVID-19 pandemic has slowed down the defined work processes, such as analysis of the situation and needs in the field, procurement of specialist equipment, which ultimately results in prolongation of deadlines and the possibility of more active illegal perpetrators (so-called smugglers of prohibited and/or restricted goods). Furthermore, because of the pandemic all meetings were cancelled, only to be held online, which further complicates the implementation of planned activities, which are related to changing deadlines, as well as planned activities within the HALT project (preparation of documents, training and procurement of equipment). The activities of practical training of customs officers in the field were intensified after the mitigation and abolition of some measures.
3.1 Information exchange between police, prosecutor’s office and court on FAE-related cases prosecuted and adjudicated

**Guiding question:**
Is there an information exchange system in place between police, prosecutor’s office and court on FAE-related cases prosecuted and adjudicated?

- There is no such information exchange system in place.

3.2 Diversion of arms exports

**Guiding questions:**
Were there any cases of diversion of arms exports reported during the reporting period?
Was an annual report on arms exports published?

- No cases of diversion of arms exports have been reported during the reporting period. There is no production of firearms in the Republic of North Macedonia, only ammunition. The MoI has issued six (6) export licenses during the reporting period.
- The Annual Report on Small Arms and Light Weapons for 2020 was submitted to the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia and adopted at the Session held on 4 May 2021.

3.3 Arms trafficking and border control

**Guiding question:**
Were there any reported cases of firearms trafficking during the reporting period?
Were there any activities focused on strengthening border control during the reporting period?

- In the period January-June 2021 a total of 80 crimes of "illegal manufacture, possession and trade in weapons or explosives" were detected, of which one attempted and two related to "counterfeiting of firearms." In the mentioned cases, 72 pieces of firearms and 8,014 pieces of ammunition were seized.
- An analysis of the needs of the criminal police is planned to be conducted by SEESAC, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic this activity has been postponed for the next period. The assessment of the criminal police will be conducted in September 2021.
- During the 14th SEEFEN meeting, held on 1-2 June 2021, the methodology for developing a joint risk analysis for the border police and customs was discussed.
- Within the project for "Cross-Border Integrated Institutional Approach Towards Combating Illicit Arms Trafficking", which is implemented in cooperation with UNDP and the Republic of North Macedonia and Kosovo, activities are envisaged for the introduction of more
efficient control and management of online and offline arms sales through the improvement of institutional and human capacities, improved capacities of investigation and analytical departments, FFP, and forensic services in Kosovo and North Macedonia for implementation of an integrated approach through specialized training and the use of sophisticated equipment and Enhanced institutional capacity and expanded knowledge and understanding of police officers regarding the illegal possession, abuse and trafficking of small arms and light weapons (SALW) through specialized training and the use of innovative IT tools. This project was initiated during the reporting period, and effectively started with implementation in April 2021. Several meetings and consultations took place in order to collect relevant data for the analysis.

Additional information:

- In cooperation with the OSCE, work will be done on strengthening the capacities of the Ministry of Interior for detection of small arms and light weapons, as well as efficient deployment of K9. The activity aims to support the establishment of an appropriate environment for enhanced infrastructure, human resources, regulations and information exchange, in order to create the necessary capacity for efficient allocation of K9 (fast and efficiently organized operations).
- An analysis has been requested to assess the needs for prevention of arms trafficking through postal and courier shipments. The assessment that will be conducted in cooperation with the UNODC during 2021 has the following components: 1) review and identification of gaps in the processing of incoming and outgoing postal/courier shipments by public and private sector companies; 2) review of the knowledge and skills of staff to apply risk assessment, identify and detect postal/courier shipments containing firearms, their parts, components, and ammunition and formulation of recommendations for procurement of equipment; 3) review of the existing equipment and its use for detection of firearms, their parts, components and ammunition and formulation of recommendations for procurement of equipment and delivery of capacity building for its use. The National SALW Commission has sent a request for the implementation of the abovementioned analysis.

3.4 Control of explosive precursors

**Guiding question:**
Was a control mechanism in place for explosive precursors during the reporting period?

- The control of import and export of precursors is conducted through the customs tariff of the Republic of North Macedonia which is harmonized with the customs tariff of the EU.

3.5 Use of EMPACT’s and Europol’s tools for investigations

**Guiding question:**
Did you use any of the supporting tools for investigations offered by EMPACT and Europol?
• Yes, in the daily operation and implementation of Joint Action Days, the secure communication connection - SIENA is regularly used for the exchange of information related to firearms.

3.6 Participation in regional meetings

Guiding question:
Did your jurisdiction participate in the regional meetings of: SALW Commissions process, RASR, SEEFEN, SEEFEG, RACVIAC, etc?

• We participated in the following meetings:
  – Meeting organized with the OSCE on 10 March 2021, on the occasion of the completion of the project "Reducing the risk of proliferation of firearms and ammunition" and the start of the project "Support to national authorities of Republic of North Macedonia in reducing the risk of proliferation and misuse of SALW". During the meeting, a Memorandum of understanding was signed between then MoI and the OSCE, aiming to support the national authorities of the Republic of Northern Macedonia in reducing the risk of proliferation and misuse of SALW;
  – Annual meeting of the Steering group on SALW, organized on 18 March 2021;
  – 13th regional meeting of the SALW Commissions, organized on 13-14 April 2021;
  – 14th SEEFEN meeting, organized on 1-2 June 2021.

3.7 Data collection for the Global Firearms Trafficking Study

Guiding question:
Do you collect data for the Global Firearms Trafficking Study of UNODC?

• Yes, within the scope of work of the Department for International Police Cooperation, data on the Global Firearms Trafficking Study is collected, information is exchanged and submitted to the relevant organizational units.

3.8 Operation cooperation with FRONTEX, Europol, EU Member States and Interpol

Guiding question:
Did you have any operational cooperation with FRONTEX, Europol, EU Member States, INTERPOL during the reporting period? If yes, could you provide details?

• Yes, during the reporting period, there was operational cooperation with Europol and Interpol (both with EU Member States and with other countries). In addition, a total of 68 cases were opened within INTERPOL, of which 51 were related to search of firearms, 12 were related to exchange of operational information and checks of persons involved in illicit firearms and ammunition trafficking, and five (5) were related to meetings, conferences, answers to questionnaires, etc.
• Regarding Europol, in addition to the mutual exchange of information on persons, vehicles, weapons, etc. (via SIENA) we regularly participate in the international EMPACT Joint Action Days (JAD) which are implemented in these areas for seven years. A total of 22 cases were opened with Europol, of which 12 were related to exchange of operational information on illicit firearms trafficking, and the other ten (10) were related to reports, organization and holding of conferences, meetings, etc.

3.9 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

Guiding questions:
Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?

• In cooperation with UNDP SEESAC, following the analysis of the needs of the Border Police, the Standard Operational Procedure for Border Control will be developed and necessary equipment will be donated.

• The analysis developed within the Ministry of Interior determined that a large percentage of citizens did not replace the old permits with new ones (re-registration), which is why support is needed to analyse the reasons for it, as well as to solve this problem with the support of experts, based on good practice from the countries in the region.
### 3.1 Information exchange between police, prosecutor’s office and court on FAE-related cases prosecuted and adjudicated

**Guiding question:**

Is there an information exchange system in place between police, prosecutor’s office and court on FAE-related cases prosecuted and adjudicated?

- The Police Case Management System is operational for all criminal events but is not specifically adapted for those related to FAE and is yet to be fully implemented with the Prosecution Office.

### 3.2 Diversion of arms exports

**Guiding questions:**

Were there any cases of diversion of arms exports reported during the reporting period? Was an annual report on arms exports published?

- No, there were no reported cases of diversion of arms exports.


### 3.3 Arms trafficking and border control

**Guiding question:**

Were there any reported cases of firearms trafficking during the reporting period? Were there any activities focused on strengthening border control during the reporting period?

- **Fourteen (14) investigation cases for firearms and ammunitions trafficking**, as provided for by Article 278/a of the Criminal Code, have been registered during the reporting period, of which six (6) cases have been referred to the Prosecution Office by police initiative with special investigation methods (not yet finalized, i.e. no crime scene) and eight (8) cases with crime scene. Two (2) identified cases in explosives, incendiary, toxic and radioactive substances trafficking (of which one case has been referred with special investigation methods, not yet finalized). 157 different types of firearms, 118 pieces of different calibres rounds, 790 cartridge cases of different calibres, 7.2 kg C-4 explosive substances, 103 different hand grenades, 7 detonation fuses, 2 remote-controlled handmade mines with 2 C-4 moulds each...
of 350 grams, 17 TNT moulds of 200 grams, 24 anti-tank projectiles, 22 different parts of firearms have been seized for these two criminal offences.

- The border police structures **continuously cooperate with FRONTEX at the Border Crossing Points** in order to prevent firearms trafficking. Cooperation continues in the framework of the implementation of the **JO FOA Western Balkan Joint Operation of the European Border and Coast Guard Agency - FRONTEX** at the state border with Greece. **The draft Standard Operating Procedures “On fighting illicit trafficking of firearms” have been developed in cooperation with UNDP SEESAC** and submitted for approval at the Department for Border and Migration.

- **Needs assessment of the Criminal Police capacities for countering illicit arms possession and trafficking was initiated in June 2021.** UNDP SEESAC expert team was deployed to conduct necessary field visits as a first step in drafting of the needs’ assessment. Finalization of the needs’ assessment is expected in the second half of 2021. The assessment will serve as the basis for further support in capacity development.

### 3.4 Control of explosive precursors

**Guiding question:** Was a control mechanism in place for explosive precursors during the reporting period?

- Currently the legal framework for explosives precursors is missing and the control mechanism of explosives precursors is not regulated specifically for this aspect. However, there is a legal framework for chemical substances and preparations which aims to regulate the administration of chemical substances for the protection of human and animal life and health, as well as for the protection of the environment from the dangers that substances may cause. The supervisory authority in this case is the customs at the border crossing points during their import-export.

### 3.5 Use of EMPACT’s and Europol’s tools for investigations

**Guiding question:** Did you use any of the supporting tools for investigations offered by EMPACT and Europol?

- No, supporting tools were not used.

### 3.6 Participation in regional meetings

**Guiding question:** Did your jurisdiction participate in the regional meetings of: SALW Commissions process, RASR, SEEFEN, SEEFEG, RACVIAC?
Yes. On 1-2 June 2021, Albania attended the 14th meeting of the South East Europe Firearms Expert Network (SEEFEN) with investigators, ballistic experts, representatives of the border police, customs officers and prosecutors from the 6 Western Balkans jurisdictions, Moldova, Belarus and Ukraine. Apart from the national counterparts, present at the meeting were representatives of the Regional Cooperation Council, EU Commission - DG for Migration and Home Affairs, EUROPOL, EMPACT, FRONTEX, INTERPOL, NABIS, UNODC and OSCE. Among the main topics discussed were the results achieved during 2020 in the fight against illicit possession and trafficking of firearms, the modalities of operational use of controlled delivery, methodologies for developing joint risk analysis for border police and customs, as well as the best practices on how to exchange ballistic information. The main report of EUROPOL - Serious Organized Crime Threat Assessment (SOCTA) - was also discussed during the meeting regarding the new emerging modus operandi in criminal activities and the impact of ballistic evidence and globalization in criminal investigations.

3.7 Data collection for the Global Firearms Trafficking Study

**Guiding question:**
Do you collect data for the Global Firearms Trafficking Study of UNODC?

• Yes, Albania has contributed with data on firearms in the reports generated by UNODC.

3.8 Operation cooperation with FRONTEX, Europol, EU Member States and Interpol

**Guiding question:**
Did you have any operational cooperation with FRONTEX, Europol, EU Member States, INTERPOL during the reporting period? If yes, could you provide details?

• Border police structures have continuous cooperation with FRONTEX at the Border Crossing points for the prevention of firearms trafficking. During this period, 7 cases of arms trafficking were identified at four crossing points at the exit from our country with 6 firearms and 67 seized ammunition. Cooperation continues in the framework of the implementation of the JO FOA Western Balkan Joint Operation of the European Border and Coast Guard Agency - FRONTEX at the state border with Greece.

• We exchange regular information with Europol regarding the investigations carried out by ASP, but also with our counterparts in the EU Member States as well as with the ones in the Western Balkans.

• We participated in all preliminary meetings of joint operations under EMPACT, which have been planned to be carried out in the second half of 2021.

• Moreover, ASP exchanges regular information with Interpol on wanted persons, implicated in criminal activities as well as it receives requests from Interpol member countries to check for weapons in the internal SIMA system, etc.
3.9 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

**Guiding questions:**

Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?

- The pandemic has caused delays or postponement of planned activities.
GOAL 4

By 2024, significantly reduce the supply, demand and misuse of firearms through increased awareness, education, outreach and advocacy.

GOAL 4 OVERALL TARGETS

1. Increase awareness among licensed private and legal entities about the danger of misuse and illicit proliferation of FAE.
2. Increase awareness of FAE producers about risks of diversion.
3. Increase awareness among general population, both women and men, on the danger of misuse, illicit possession and trafficking of FAE.
4. Increase awareness among young men on the dangers of misuse of SALW/firearms.
5. Increase awareness of dangers of celebratory shooting.
6. Increase awareness and reduce the misuses of firearms in violence against women, domestic violence and other forms of gender-based violence.
7. Increase the partnership with, and awareness of media on the importance of adequate reporting on firearms misuse and firearms-enabled violence.
8. Increase confidence in security institutions as providers of adequate and equal safety for all through community-society-regional outreach activities.
PROGRESS INFORMATION ON GOAL 4 OVERALL TARGETS

BELGRADE

4.1 Awareness raising/outreach activities for licensed private and legal entities on the risks of misuse and illicit proliferation of FAE

Guiding question:
Were any awareness raising/outreach activities held or planned during the reporting period among licensed private and legal entities (retail shops, security companies, shooting ranges, etc.) on the risks of misuse and illicit proliferation of FAE?

- During the reporting period, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there were no seminars that used to be regularly held for legal entities licensed for export and import of arms and military equipment, provision of brokerage services and technical assistance, for the purpose of preventing illicit diverting of legally exported weapons. Regular individual online consultations were held with legal entities in accordance with their requests.

4.2 Awareness raising/outreach activities for FAE producers on the risks of diversion

Guiding question:
Were any awareness raising/outreach activities with FAE producers about risks of diversion, conducted or planned during the reporting period?

- No such activities were conducted. Please refer to the answer provided under 4.5.

4.3 Public awareness raising activities on the danger of misuse, illicit possession and trafficking of FAE

Guiding questions:
Were any awareness-raising activities conducted or planned among the general population, both women and men, on the danger of misuse, illicit possession and trafficking of FAE?
Where there any activities specifically targeting young men?
Were any awareness-raising activities implemented or planned on dangers of celebratory shooting during the reporting period?

- On 8 November 2019, the MoI approved cooperation on the project: Concept of Support to be provided by the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE Mission in the Republic of Serbia) towards fulfilling the assumed international obligations as defined in the Roadmap. Based on the MoI’s guidelines and expressed needs, the OSCE identified three components which would require support:
  - Planning, designing and implementing the awareness raising campaigns on the dangers of SALW and the improved SALW control (Goal 4);
– Establishment of the Deactivation legislative framework and its due practical implementation (more in Goal 1);
– Building the capacities of the Police Department in strengthening their K-9 capabilities in detecting weapons and explosives (Goal 5).

• The component - Support in planning, designing and implementing the awareness raising campaigns on the dangers of SALW and the improved SALW control is expected to have 2 results:
  – Increased capacities of MoI to effectively engage in SALW control awareness-raising and reduction of the number of weapons in illegal possession, thereby contributing to the decrease in the number of abuses of legal weapons (Kick-off Workshop on advanced practices to prevent misuse of SALW and on advocacy campaigns; Establishing a Working Group for analysis, planning, design and implementation of the awareness raising campaigns; Supporting the MoI to conduct awareness raising campaigns; Identifying and sharing success stories and publish on official web pages);
  – Establishment of an MoI partnership with civil society organizations and a mechanism to raise public awareness to prevent the misuse of small arms and light weapons (Experts meeting on building partnerships with electronic and print media, and identifying mechanisms for preventing misuse of SALW; Establish a Social Media Platform and support media campaigns on prevention of SALW proliferation and responsible gun ownership; Conducting outreach activities at national and community level).

On 19 April 2021, a meeting was held with OSCE representatives regarding the continuation of the implementation of the project “Support to designing and implementing awareness raising campaigns on small arms and light weapons control in Serbia”, when we were informed that the project was extended for another year. In the reporting period, the Ministry of the Interior appointed new contact persons for cooperation with the OSCE on the project, representatives of the Media and Communications Department of the Minister’s Cabinet and the Criminal Police Directorate. The implementation of activities was agreed at the meeting – Kick-off Workshop on advanced practices to prevent misuse of SALW and on advocacy campaigns will be organized in Q3 2021, after which a Working Group for analysis, planning, design and implementation of the awareness raising campaigns would be established.

• The Ministry of Culture and Information, from the aspect of its competencies, did not conduct any activities in this area during the reporting period.

4.4 Awareness raising activities on the misuse of firearms in violence against women, domestic violence and other forms of gender-based violence

Guiding question:
Were any awareness raising activities conducted or planned on the misuse of firearms in violence against women, domestic violence and other forms of gender-based violence?

• In terms of raising awareness and reducing the misuse of firearms in cases of violence against women, domestic violence or other forms of gender-based violence, the Ministry of the
Interior has, since the beginning of implementation of the Law on Prevention of Domestic Violence, 1 June 2017, focused on prevention activities enabling police officers for the first time to carry out risk assessments within their powers and impose urgent measures. In the context of family and partnership relations, in the period 1 January - 30 June 2021, 5 people were killed using firearms (3 female and 2 male).

• Also, in order to protect women against domestic violence, the MoI issued a document on the conduct of all police officers in cases of temporary seizure of firearms in cases of domestic violence. Article 16 of the Law on Prevention of Domestic Violence considers the possession of weapons as one of the criteria for assessing the risk or immediate danger of domestic violence.

• Considering the fact that the best way to solve cases of domestic violence is a multi-sectoral approach to this phenomenon, a representative of the Ministry of Justice with the support of UNDP organized a series of workshops all over the Republic of Serbia in 2018 and 2019. The basic messages from these workshops were also presented on the website of the Ministry of Justice “Exclude Violence” (www.iskljucinasilje.rs) with the aim of raising awareness of the general and professional public and preventing domestic violence through joint action of all relevant institutions.

• As a continuation of responsible weapon control, raising awareness of danger of weapons, education, promoting arms control and improved advocacy, particularly from the aspect of protection and security of women, on 19 August 2019 the Ministry of the Interior and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Serbia, started the cooperation on the project “Reduce Risk - Increase Safety – Towards ending SALW misuse in domestic violence context”.

The project aimed to improve the legislative and political framework in order to strengthen the prevention system by changing the social environment and raising awareness among men and women about the dangers of misuse of small arms and light weapons. In 2020, as part of the project, UNDP conducted an analysis of the legislative framework regulating the carrying/possession of firearms and domestic violence. The analysis included the following laws: Law on Weapons and Ammunition, Law on Police, Law on Detective Activity, Law on Customs Service, Law on Execution of Criminal Sanctions, Law on Private Security, Law on Prevention of Domestic Violence, Family Law, as well as valid strategies and international instruments relevant to reducing firearms abuse and domestic violence; Recommendations were made to amend the Law on Weapons and Ammunition, which refer to the prevention of the misuse of firearms in domestic violence; as well as the Practice and Situation Analysis and measures to reduce the abuse of firearms in the context of domestic and gender-based violence have been developed and integrated into the proposal of the National Strategy for Preventing and Combating Gender-Based Violence against Women and Domestic Violence 2021-2025, with accompanying Action Plan for the period 2021-2023.

The following was also implemented: 1. developed review of practices related to risk assessment and risk management in the context of domestic violence, as a basis for the development of training and improvement of the work of state authorities in the implementation of the Law on Prevention of Domestic Violence; 2. conducted analysis of the conduct of professionals at the meetings of the groups for coordination and cooperation (GCC) on a sample of a total of 366 cases of domestic violence discussed at the meetings of the GCC from May 2017 to
October 2019; 3. analysed aspect of information gathering, risk assessment and measures taken, as a starting point for further work of individual services and joint action of the groups for coordination and cooperation; and 4. prepared qualitative analysis of media coverage of weapons abuse, especially in the context of violence against women.

**During the reporting period, the following activities were organized within the project:**
- In cooperation with the Ministry of Justice, guidelines for prosecutors, judges and multi-agency groups for cooperation and coordination on the collection of evidence and ensuring adequate protection and prosecution of cases of domestic violence, with particular focus on domestic violence committed with firearms were developed.
- In partnership with the Ministry of Justice, expert meetings on firearms misuse in the context of domestic and intimate partner violence were organized in 4 cities in Serbia: Novi Sad, Belgrade, Kragujevac and Nis. The meetings were attended by the members of the groups for cooperation and coordination - judiciary representatives, professionals from social welfare centers, as well as representatives of police, to improve their knowledge on the risks and consequences of firearms misuse in the context of domestic violence.

### 4.5 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

**Guiding questions:**
Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?

- In order to fulfil Goal 4 - By 2024, significantly reduce the supply, demand and misuse of firearms through increased awareness, education, outreach and advocacy - and bearing in mind the importance of raising the level of awareness of citizens, young people, children, women, as well as legal entities and entrepreneurs with the aim to reduce the misuse and illegal proliferation of firearms, as well as all kinds of danger, it is necessary that government authorities, in accordance with their competences, organize seminars and training courses, with the support of international organizations or bilateral donors.
- During the reporting period, no raising awareness/outreach activities were carried out among private and legal entities licensed to engage in brokering, firearms training and repair of weapons, as well as among legal entities that possess weapons for the purpose of performing their jobs. At the same time, no seminars were organized for legal entities registered for export and import of arms and military equipment.
- Also postponed were the raising awareness/outreach activities for legal entities licensed for the production and/or marketing of explosive materials regarding the danger of misuse and illicit proliferation of explosives, as well as the risks of their diversion to illegal flows within the project “EU for Serbia – Support for Safer Products”. They are scheduled for October 2021.
4.1 Awareness raising/outreach activities for licensed private and legal entities on the risks of misuse and illicit proliferation of FAE

**Guiding question:**
Were any awareness raising/outreach activities held or planned during the reporting period among licensed private and legal entities (retail shops, security companies, shooting ranges, etc.) on the risks of misuse and illicit proliferation of FAE?

- No awareness raising activities were implemented or planned. There is a low level of awareness of institutions especially about illicit trafficking done through express or regular mail and web portals, as well as low level of awareness of transport companies and courier services about the risk of illicit trafficking.

4.2 Awareness raising/outreach activities for FAE producers on the risks of diversion

**Guiding question:**
Were any awareness raising/outreach activities with FAE producers about risks of diversion, conducted or planned during the reporting period?

- No awareness raising activities were implemented or planned. There is a low level of awareness about the possibility of diversion of firearms and their parts due to the gaps in the production process control, minimum regulations and requirements regarding safety, control and supervision of producers of explosives and legal entities using explosives, and there are no regulations on precursors.

4.3 Public awareness raising activities on the danger of misuse, illicit possession and trafficking of FAE

**Guiding questions:**
Were any awareness-raising activities conducted or planned among the general population, both women and men, on the danger of misuse, illicit possession and trafficking of FAE? Where there any activities specifically targeting young men? Were any awareness-raising activities implemented or planned on dangers of celebratory shooting during the reporting period?

- The activities were implemented as part of the campaign “Respect life, return weapons” through the media and official statements on seizures of illegal weapons.
- There were no direct activities targeting young men. They are disproportionately represented among both the perpetrators and victims of firearm incidents and they make up the majority of those who have stated that they would own firearms for personal safety.
• The activities on dangers of celebratory shootings were conducted through the police communication and statements about refraining from the use of firearms while celebrating the New Year’s and bigger religious holidays.

4.4 Awareness raising activities on the misuse of firearms in violence against women, domestic violence and other forms of gender-based violence

Guiding question:
Were any awareness raising activities conducted or planned on the misuse of firearms in violence against women, domestic violence and other forms of gender-based violence?

• There is a low level of awareness on the widespread misuse of firearms in domestic and gender-based violence. The Operational Team for Combating Domestic Violence and Violence Against Women holds regular meetings. Functional database on domestic violence has been designed and established, and it enables the exchange of reports and notifications on domestic violence between the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare and the Ministry of Interior. It is a complex software solution that enables automated exchange of reports and notifications between two key sectors, the Ministry of Interior and the Police Directorate on one hand, and the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare on the other. The database contains all statutory, necessary data on all participants in the case of reported violence, potential victims, perpetrators and children, on measures taken, misdemeanour and criminal charges and the estimated degree of risk. The database is the result of a joint initiative of two programmes - the Social Welfare Information System, namely the social card and UNDP and EU project for gender equality.

4.5 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

Guiding question:
Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?

• Yes, support is needed for implementing the activities targeting firearm producers, sellers and licensed persons for raising the awareness of the harm of diversion of firearms and precursors.
• The COVID-19 pandemic did not have a significant impact on activities within this goal.
4.1 Awareness raising/outreach activities for licensed private and legal entities on the risks of misuse and illicit proliferation of FAE

**Guiding question:**
Were any awareness raising/outreach activities held or planned during the reporting period among licensed private and legal entities (retail shops, security companies, shooting ranges, etc.) on the risks of misuse and illicit proliferation of FAE?

- There have been information meetings with private and legal entities (retail shops, security companies, shooting ranges etc.) on the risks of misuse and illicit proliferation of FAE, but these meetings are performed in a selective (individual) way with entities interested in receiving the respective information.

4.2 Awareness raising/outreach activities for FAE producers on the risks of diversion

**Guiding question:**
Were any awareness raising/outreach activities with FAE producers about risks of diversion, conducted or planned during the reporting period?

- So far, we haven’t had manufacturers, only interested entities which have been informed.

4.3 Public awareness raising activities on the danger of misuse, illicit possession and trafficking of FAE

**Guiding questions:**
Were any awareness-raising activities conducted or planned among the general population, both women and men, on the danger of misuse, illicit possession and trafficking of FAE?
Where there any activities specifically targeting young men?
Were any awareness-raising activities implemented or planned on dangers of celebratory shooting during the reporting period?

- Awareness raising activities have been carried on the dangers of celebratory shootings. The project “Less weapons, less tragedies” is under implementation. The project “Quietly and well” has been planned and aims to raise awareness on the consequences of using firearms and pyrotechnic substances during New Year celebrations. We have planned to publish awareness raising materials, provided that we receive support from potential partners.
- No activities targeting young men were organized.
4.4 Awareness raising activities on the misuse of firearms in violence against women, domestic violence and other forms of gender-based violence

**Guiding question:**
Were any awareness raising activities conducted or planned on the misuse of firearms in violence against women, domestic violence and other forms of gender-based violence?

- No such activities were carried out.

4.5 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

**Guiding question:**
Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?

- It has not been identified.
- COVID-19 pandemic has affected our daily work, has prevented the organization of different activities planned in framework of this goal and has led to the reduction of the staff number.
4.1 Awareness raising/outreach activities for licensed private and legal entities on the risks of misuse and illicit proliferation of FAE

Guiding question:
Were any awareness raising/outreach activities held or planned during the reporting period among licensed private and legal entities (retail shops, security companies, shooting ranges, etc.) on the risks of misuse and illicit proliferation of FAE?

- **Republika Srpska Ministry of Interior** - In the time period from 15 December 2020 to 15 January 2021, the Ministry of Interior conducted a prevention campaign “Firecrackers are not toys” with an emphasis on the unauthorized use of weapons and pyrotechnic devices which aimed to raise the level of awareness of citizens about the dangers of illegal and unprofessional use of both pyrotechnics and weapons. As part of the preventive campaign there were planned actions through which police stations undertook intensified activities related to the control of illegal traffic and the sale of pyrotechnic devices with the participation of city and municipal inspection services. An inspection of the facilities authorized for the sale of pyrotechnic devices was conducted and a conversation was held with the responsible persons regarding the obligation to comply with legal regulations. Contact was made with the communal police and inspection services, and the STR, as well as other facilities, and continuous visits and controls were implemented, in order to prevent the unauthorized sale of pyrotechnic products. A total of 76,020 pieces of pyrotechnics were seized (72,890 firecrackers, 475 rockets, 286 Roman candles, 44 fireworks, 17 torches and 2,308 pieces of other pyrotechnics) during the campaign.

- **Brčko District Police** - Yes, through the control and supervision of the above-mentioned commissions.

- **Bosnian-Podrinje Canton Ministry of Interior** - Yes, during regular inspections, attention is drawn to this and additional information is provided to the interlocutors, and awareness is raised about all types of dangers that come with the abuse and illegal spread of firearms.

- **Tuzla Canton Ministry of Interior** - Yes. Level of information of the licensed natural and legal persons (retail facilities) about the danger of misuse and illegal sale of firearms and ammunition is improved through planned visits and supervision and control.

4.2 Awareness raising/outreach activities for FAE producers on the risks of diversion

Guiding question:
Were any awareness raising/outreach activities with FAE producers about risks of diversion, conducted or planned during the reporting period?

- **Bosnian-Podrinje Canton Ministry of Interior** - Yes, producers are informed during regular inspections and through conversations they are reminded of the risks and responsibilities that come with this type of work, and they also get possibly new knowledge about legal regulations regarding abuse and risks in this area.
• **Federal Police Administration** - The FPA has competencies only for economic entities engaged in the production, transport and trade of explosives for use in the economy (manufacturers, retailers, etc.). No action was taken on this issue during the reporting period.

• **Canton 10 Ministry of Interior** - There are no manufacturers of firearms, ammunition and explosives in Canton 10.

### 4.3 Public awareness raising activities on the danger of misuse, illicit possession and trafficking of FAE

**Guiding questions:**

Were any awareness-raising activities conducted or planned among the general population, both women and men, on the danger of misuse, illicit possession and trafficking of FAE?

Where there any activities specifically targeting young men?

Were any awareness-raising activities implemented or planned on dangers of celebratory shooting during the reporting period?

• **Brčko District Police** - Special campaigns were not organized in the reporting period, but within the Community Policing the Police informs the population, through work in local communities, schools and NGOs about the dangers arising from unauthorized possession and unprofessional handling of firearms and ammunition. Activities are planned to inform citizens in the coming period about all the risks and challenges arising from unauthorized possession and unprofessional handling of this type of weapons and ammunition. Activities will be also organized within schools, colleges, sports clubs, where mostly young men who are interested in owning a weapon gather.

• **Bosnian-Podrinje Canton Ministry of Interior** - Yes, the dangers and risks that firearms carry with them, as well as the consequences that may occur due to unprofessional and illegal use of firearms are pointed out sporadically and individually, in conversations with all natural persons who intend to procure firearms and through interviews with citizens applying for firearms license. General population is also informed through individual conversations about the dangers that use of firearms brings. Police officers on the ground also convey messages through conversations with citizens in their areas about the harmfulness and risks of using weapons on such and similar occasions. Pursuant to the Law on Weapons, all applicants undergo training in the handling of firearms, and they are presented with information on, among other things, the dangers of firearms.

Regarding the dangers of celebratory shooting, activities are not conducted in an organized manner, but as part of the daily activities of police officers through conversations with citizens and with applicants for weapons. Also, within the activities in the following period, through the work of community policing, this issue will be covered, as it is a frequent occurrence in our areas.

• **Canton 10 Ministry of Interior** - Activities are continuously carried out through the operational actions “Harvest” and “Peace and Good”, to raise public awareness of the dangers of misuse, illegal possession and trade in firearms, ammunition and explosives, as well as on dangers of celebratory shooting.
• Tuzla Canton Ministry of Interior – Citizens are informed through planned controls and during the visits to the agencies for the protection of people and property, when information is provided about the consequences in case of illegal actions during the procurement and use of firearms and ammunition. The mentioned activities are carried out during the training of citizens-applicants for the procurement of firearms in the phase of fulfilling the special conditions for the procurement of firearms, prescribed by the Law on Weapons and Ammunition.

• Posavina Canton Ministry of Interior – Citizens are warned through radio every year about the consequences of illegal and uncontrolled use of firearms.

• Herzegovina-Neretva Canton Ministry of Interior - No, the Law on weapons and ammunition in the HNC (05/17 and 05/20) prohibits the use of firearms during celebratory shooting.

4.4 Awareness raising activities on the misuse of firearms in violence against women, domestic violence and other forms of gender-based violence

Guiding question:
Were any awareness raising activities conducted or planned on the misuse of firearms in violence against women, domestic violence and other forms of gender-based violence?

• Brčko District Police - Seminars and certain activities were organized on a permanent basis, targeting the discussion about gender-based violence, which is mostly committed by men against women, and where there was most abuse of firearms with fatal consequences.

4.5 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

Guiding question:
Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?

• Republika Srpska Ministry of Interior - No activities were planned or implemented in the reporting period to raise awareness of the dangers of misuse and illegal proliferation of firearms, ammunition and explosives. The direct cause of the decrease in activities in this field is the COVID-19 pandemic due to the prescribed protection measures.

• Brčko District Police – There is a need to organize campaigns (through the media, promotional material and seminars in local communities and schools) and raise the level of expertise of supervisory commissions through the education of members. This was discussed within the BiH SALW Coordination Board.

The COVID-19 pandemic and the measures initiated to prevent the further spread of the infection significantly slowed down all processes and thus the activities within this goal. Furthermore, the pandemic had a significant impact on the implementation of certain activities of the agency in such a way that the priority of action was aimed at combating...
the pandemic, which led to the restriction of all forms of gatherings, and thus educational gatherings, seminars, working groups and other forms of organized work, both within the agencies themselves and in inter-agency cooperation and contacts with international partners.
4.1 Awareness raising/outreach activities for licensed private and legal entities on the risks of misuse and illicit proliferation of FAE

Guiding question:
Were any awareness raising/outreach activities held or planned during the reporting period among licensed private and legal entities (retail shops, security companies, shooting ranges, etc.) on the risks of misuse and illicit proliferation of FAE?

- No such activities were conducted, mainly due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

4.2 Awareness raising/outreach activities for FAE producers on the risks of diversion

Guiding question:
Were any awareness raising/outreach activities with FAE producers about risks of diversion, conducted or planned during the reporting period?

- There were no cases of diverted export of armament and military equipment. In the Republic of North Macedonia there are no manufactures of firearms, only of ammunition.

4.3 Public awareness raising activities on the danger of misuse, illicit possession and trafficking of FAE

Guiding questions:
Were any awareness-raising activities conducted or planned among the general population, both women and men, on the danger of misuse, illicit possession and trafficking of FAE?
Where there any activities specifically targeting young men?
Were any awareness-raising activities implemented or planned on dangers of celebratory shooting during the reporting period?

- Preventive activities related to small arms and light weapons and explosives were implemented throughout the country.
- The Department of Interior Kumanovo implemented the following preventive activities:
  - Preventive meetings were held with all presidents of local and urban communities, either in person or by phone, and they shared the information with other citizens;
  - Debate on "Women, Peace and Security", where the role and influence of women was discussed;
  - Four two-day trainings of professional services from secondary and primary schools where, in addition to the main topic "Early recognition of violence and violent extremism among young people", the topic of firearms and explosives was also discussed;
SKOPJE

- Two recreational sporting events were organized, to promote sports and creativity to reduce stress and aggression, against violence and extreme behaviour even with the use of weapons.
  - No activities were conducted on dangers of celebratory shootings in the reporting period.

4.4 Awareness raising activities on the misuse of firearms in violence against women, domestic violence and other forms of gender-based violence

Guiding question:
Were any awareness raising activities conducted or planned on the misuse of firearms in violence against women, domestic violence and other forms of gender-based violence?

- Please see the response under 4.3.

4.5 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

Guiding question:
Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?

- There is a need for a complete analysis for the preparation of a plan of media activity and a campaign for raising public awareness with the involvement of the Department of Public Relations and Strategic Affairs in the Ministry of Interior. Campaigns need to be based on specific data that will cover perpetrators, victims, type of firearms, gender, environment, etc. Also, the plan should provide information to the public about the changes from the new laws, as listed in Goal 1 and the recommendations from the Gender Analysis listed in Goal 2. Campaigns are needed for re-registration of weapons, i.e. replacement of old licenses with new weapons permits.
4.1 Awareness raising/outreach activities for licensed private and legal entities on the risks of misuse and illicit proliferation of FAE

Guiding question:
Were any awareness raising/outreach activities held or planned during the reporting period among licensed private and legal entities (retail shops, security companies, shooting ranges, etc.) on the risks of misuse and illicit proliferation of FAE?

• No such activities were conducted.

4.2 Awareness raising/outreach activities for FAE producers on the risks of diversion

Guiding question:
Were any awareness raising/outreach activities with FAE producers about risks of diversion, conducted or planned during the reporting period?

• No such activities were conducted.

4.3 Public awareness raising activities on the danger of misuse, illicit possession and trafficking of FAE

Guiding questions:
Were any awareness-raising activities conducted or planned among the general population, both women and men, on the danger of misuse, illicit possession and trafficking of FAE? Where there any activities specifically targeting young men? Were any awareness-raising activities implemented or planned on dangers of celebratory shooting during the reporting period?

• No such activities were conducted.

4.4 Awareness raising activities on the misuse of firearms in violence against women, domestic violence and other forms of gender-based violence

Guiding question:
Were any awareness raising activities conducted or planned on the misuse of firearms in violence against women, domestic violence and other forms of gender-based violence?

• No such activities were conducted.
4.5 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

Guiding question:

Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?

- The activities planned have not been carried out due to the restriction measures and social distancing. There are difficulties in planning activities due to the changing dynamics of the pandemic.
GOAL 5

By 2024, substantially decrease the estimated number of firearms in illicit possession in the Western Balkans.

GOAL 5 OVERALL TARGETS

1. Substantially increase number of seized firearms, ammunition and explosives.

2. Ensure that legal measures are in place allowing legalization and voluntary surrender of firearms.

3. Systematically use deactivation to reduce illegal firearms possession.

4. Increase administrative capacities and targeted outreach to complete re-registration within envisaged legal timeframe, as well as to address adequately found and inherited firearms.
5.1 Legalization and voluntary surrender campaign of firearms

Guiding question:
Was any legalization and voluntary surrender campaign of firearms conducted or planned during the reporting period?

- In the Republic of Serbia, the owner of a registered firearm may, at any moment, surrender firearms to the competent authority of the Ministry of the Interior according to his/her place of residence, and transfer the ownership to the Republic of Serbia, without compensation, on which occasion he/she will be issued a certificate of surrendering weapon. The certificate of surrendering weapon and transferring the ownership to the Republic of Serbia shall be issued on the form prescribed by the Rulebook on the Procedure for Issuance, Appearance and Contents of Weapon Forms and Documents prescribed by the Law on Weapons and Ammunition. During the reporting period, the owners surrendered 4,721 pieces of firearms in legal possession.

- During legalization campaigns, firearm owners (natural persons and legal entities) may surrender all types of weapons and ammunition to the nearest police directorate or police station without having to prove the origin and will not be held responsible for the illicit possession and carrying of firearms. During legalization campaigns, natural persons and legal entities can register self-defence firearms (pistols and revolvers), hunting weapons (hunting rifles and carbines), sports weapons (small pistols and revolvers, small guns, air weapons and string weapons), convertible weapons (gas, starting and signal weapons) and old and deactivated weapons, for which they do not possess a document issued by the competent authority of the Ministry of the Interior, if they fulfil the conditions prescribed by the Law on Weapons and Ammunition. A legalization campaign was not conducted in the reporting period.

- During the reporting period, a total of 4,198 weapons were re-registered in accordance with the Law on Weapons and Ammunition. 2,187 natural persons re-registered 3,290 pieces of firearms whereas 23 legal entities re-registered 908 pieces of firearms, all of which they had already possessed in accordance with the previously applicable Law on Weapons and Ammunition. In the previous period, this number was three times bigger, but such a situation should be attributed to the deadline for re-registration under the previously applicable Law on Weapons and Ammunition (5 March 2020). According to the Law amending the Law on Weapons and Ammunition, the deadline for re-registration of previously issued documents has been extended until 5 March 2022.

- Control is one of regular activities of the representatives of the Ministry of the Interior and in cases when they find weapons in illegal possession, they file criminal charges against the owner in accordance with Article 348 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Serbia, which prescribes sanctions for unlawful possession and carrying of firearms, ammunition and explosives. During the reporting period, following legal procedures, 5,684 pieces of firearms were confiscated from legal owners along with 714 pieces of firearms, 30,851 pieces of...
ammunition of different calibres and 1.2 kg of explosives (43 grenades and 17 explosive devices) which were in illegal possession (within the work of the Customs Administration, in the reporting period, a total of 11 confiscations of weapons were made, with 14 firearms and gas weapons and 137 rounds of ammunition found). These data are included in the total number of confiscated weapons and ammunition).

5.2 Deactivation of firearms

Guiding question:
Was deactivation used as a method to reduce illegal firearms possession during the reporting period?

- If the owner of a registered weapon wants to, he/she may at his/her own expense file a request for weapon deactivation to legal entities and entrepreneurs authorized for testing, stamping and marking of weapons, legal entities and entrepreneurs authorized to manufacture weapons or legal entities and entrepreneurs authorized to repair weapons (authorized gunsmiths). During the reporting period, 147 pieces of registered firearms were deactivated.

5.3 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

Guiding questions:
Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?

- In order to fulfil Goal 5 – By 2024, substantially decrease the estimated number of firearms in illicit possession in the Western Balkans – and bearing in mind the necessity of informing the public in order to raise the awareness of illegal possession of weapons (which is aimed at encouraging a bigger number of weapons to be surrendered during legalization efforts in the future), the mentioned activity could be realized in cooperation with international organizations and bilateral donors.

- Conducting public information campaigns to raise awareness about the illegal possession of weapons and the development of educational and informative materials that would emphasize the risk of illegal possession of weapons requires material resources, and these activities could be realized with the help of donations from international organizations. It should be emphasized that the above activities are an effective means (videos, posters, brochures, etc.) which would encourage citizens to surrender without consequences the weapons they hold without documents during the legalization actions.
5.1 Legalization and voluntary surrender campaign of firearms

Guiding question:
Was any legalization and voluntary surrender campaign of firearms conducted or planned during the reporting period?

- In the reporting period, 25 firearms, 15 firearm components and 294 pieces of ammunition of various calibres were surrendered.

5.2 Deactivation of firearms

Guiding question:
Was deactivation used as a method to reduce illegal firearms possession during the reporting period?

- The measure of improving the procedure for deactivation of firearms, as well as the supervision of this procedure, has not been implemented, because this will be regulated after the adoption of the Law on Amendments to the Law on Weapons, with the regulation for its implementation, and the deadline is Q1 2022.
- It is necessary to improve the procedure for deactivation of firearms, and to improve activities for re-registration of firearms, especially inherited firearms, as well as firearms with expired documents. Improvement of supervision over the procedure for deactivation of firearms in accordance with EU regulations is prescribed by amendments to the Law on Weapons.

5.3 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

Guiding questions:
Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?

- Yes, further support is needed in ensuring funds for destruction of SALW that have been legally confiscated, as well as those collected through the campaign “Respect life, return weapons”.
- The support has been requested, but not received due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
5.1 Legalization and voluntary surrender campaign of firearms

Guiding question:
Was any legalization and voluntary surrender campaign of firearms conducted or planned during the reporting period?

- No legalization process or voluntary surrender campaign of firearms/SALW have been conducted during this period.

5.2 Deactivation of firearms

Guiding question:
Was deactivation used as a method to reduce illegal firearms possession during the reporting period?

- The law on legalization enables the legalization of firearms for deactivation purposes. Deactivation was also provided in the Law on weapons of 2010. However, we still need to draft the instruction related to the technical aspects of conducting a deactivation.

5.3 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

Guiding questions:
Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?

- In order to legalize a weapon, both the applicant and the respective institution must follow long procedures:
  a) The weapon’s registration system and the legalization procedures in the system are incomplete;
  b) Insufficient knowledge of the technical staff of entities that perform the verification, marking, categorization and general identification of weapons.
- We have requested support and we have received somehow, but there is still need for further support especially as regards the training on better identification of weapons.
- COVID-19 has affected our daily work, has prevented the organization of different activities planned in framework of this goal and has led to the reduction of the staff number.
5.1 Legalization and voluntary surrender campaign of firearms

Guiding question:
Was any legalization and voluntary surrender campaign of firearms conducted or planned during the reporting period?

- A total of 579 firearms and 3,118 ammunition were voluntarily surrendered and 86 firearms were legalized during the reporting period.
- **Brčko District Police** - Article 72 of the Law on Weapons and Ammunition of the Brčko District stipulates that any legal or natural person who possesses mines, weapons or ammunition (especially those left over from the war) may voluntarily report them to the police for surrender and that amnesty is always in force, pursuant to the said article. In the reporting period, 40 pieces of firearms in legal possession (34 pistols and 6 hunting rifles) were voluntarily handed over for destruction as well as 5 pieces of firearms (automatic rifles) left over from the war.
- **Canton 10 Ministry of Interior** - Yes, operational action “Harvest” is a permanent operation. The following weapons were voluntarily surrendered during the reporting period: 4 automatic rifles, 1 machine gun, 2 M-48 rifles, 1 hand-held rocket launcher “Zolja”, 3 grenades, 1 rifle mounted grenade, 11 hand grenades, 10 ammunition clips for ARs and 1,757 pieces of ammunition. 2 pieces of firearms were legalized during the same period of time according to the Law on Weapons and Ammunition of the Canton 10.
- **Tuzla Canton Ministry of Interior** – No campaigns were organized. The Law on Weapons and Ammunition enables citizens to voluntarily surrender firearms and ammunition that they illegally possess, without legal consequences, if no official actions have been taken in relation to weapons.
- **Herzegovina-Neretva Canton Ministry of Interior** - Article 73 of the Law on Weapons and Ammunition prescribes legalization in HNC under the conditions prescribed by Law.
- **Sarajevo Canton Ministry of Interior** - Articles 84 and 85 of the Law provide for this possibility.

5.2 Deactivation of firearms

Guiding question:
Was deactivation used as a method to reduce illegal firearms possession during the reporting period?

- 120 firearms were deactivated during the reporting period.
5.3 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

**Guiding questions:**

Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?

- **Brčko District Police** – It is necessary to improve operational capacities in order to collect information on illegal weapons, conduct campaigns in order to raise citizens’ awareness of the challenges and threats arising from the uncontrolled possession of the weapons, ammunition and explosives in question.
- The COVID-19 pandemic and the measures initiated to prevent the further spread of the infection significantly slowed down all processes and thus the activities within this goal.
5.1 Legalization and voluntary surrender campaign of firearms

Guiding question:
Was any legalization and voluntary surrender campaign of firearms conducted or planned during the reporting period?

- There is no legal basis for legalization and voluntary surrender of illegal weapons. According to the Law on Weapons, due to age, death, or other reason, the citizens have the opportunity to hand over their weapons to the Ministry of Interior, for which a procedure is then conducted to issue a certificate of possession of weapons. In the reporting period, 219 pieces of legal firearms and 1,502 pieces of ammunition were voluntarily handed over.

5.2 Deactivation of firearms

Guiding question:
Was deactivation used as a method to reduce illegal firearms possession during the reporting period?

- In the reporting period, no requests were submitted for permanent deactivation of firearms, which is why campaigns are needed to raise public awareness.
- As stated in Goal 1, following the adoption of the Rulebook on deactivation, there is a need of training of the members of the eight commissions that confirm the deactivation of weapons, as well as training of employees of the Ministry of Interior - Department of Weapons, Explosives, and Dangerous Substances, security agencies and detective activity that control and supervise the legal entities within the scope of their competence.

5.3 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

Guiding questions:
Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?

- Based on the analysis of the Ministry of Interior, it has been determined that the citizens do not use the opportunity for voluntary surrender of legal firearms. Therefore, it is necessary to prepare a plan for informing and motivating the citizens to hand over the legal firearms they do not use.
- For deactivation of illegal firearms, an amendment to the Law on Weapons is required or for amnesty to be envisaged.
5.1 Legalization and voluntary surrender campaign of firearms

Guiding question:
Was any legalization and voluntary surrender campaign of firearms conducted or planned during the reporting period?

- **No legalization and/or voluntary surrender campaigns of firearms have been conducted or planned during the reporting period.** No firearms and ammunitions have been voluntarily surrendered during the reporting period and there were no cases of firearms legalization.
- Albanian citizens currently possess 103,062 hunting legal weapons (C category), which as of 2019 are under the process of re-registration in the SIMA system - Firearms Information Management System. During the reporting period, almost 70% of the hunting weapons have been verified and registered in SIMA compared to the total number of weapons owned by natural and legal persons in the Republic of Albania.

5.2 Deactivation of firearms

Guiding question:
Was deactivation used as a method to reduce illegal firearms possession during the reporting period?

- **The process of firearms deactivation has not started yet.** The Decision on deactivation has been adopted on 12 May 2021, as reported in Goal 1. Currently, the Albanian State Police is preparing the infrastructure required to carry out the technical processes of firearms deactivation.

5.3 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

Guiding questions:
Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?

- **Prosecutor’s office.** A draft law “On granting an amnesty” can be considered to be initiated. This amnesty will allow for the voluntary surrender of firearms of all types, illegally possessed by civilians at home, if the offenders under such typology have not committed any other criminal offences. Such a legal provision needs to be preceded by awareness-raising campaigns for the voluntary surrender of SALW, which is a measure that we deem would serve to the collection of weapons, ammunitions and explosives held by certain categories of civilians at home in contradiction with the law. It would also prevent and avoid the punishment of the holders pursuant to Article 278 § 2 and 3 of the Criminal Code.
GOAL 6

Systematically decrease the surplus and destroy seized small arms and light weapons and ammunition.

GOAL 6 OVERALL TARGETS

1. Systematically destroy all surplus stockpile FAE in an environmentally benign manner.

2. Systematically and publicly destroy all seized FAE.
6.1 Destruction of confiscated and surplus stockpile of FAE

Guiding questions:
Did any destruction of surplus stockpile of FAE took place during the reporting period? If yes, was the surplus destroyed in compliance with the safety and environmental standards? Did any destruction of confiscated FAE took place during the reporting period? If so, was it a public destruction of firearms and ammunition?

- **Ministry of Defence:**
  - In the Technical Overhaul Institute of Kragujevac, during the reporting period, the Ministry of Defence destroyed 11.1 tons of ammunition (of different calibres), fuses and explosives as part of the demilitarization process. A total of 4,118 rifle grenades, 2,131 hand grenades and 3,116 different fuses were disassembled. Demilitarization costs were covered by the funds from an international assistance programme implemented by NSPA.

- **Ministry of Interior:**
  - During the reporting period, the Ministry of the Interior did not organize destruction of surplus stockpiles of firearms, ammunition and explosives, that would have continued the trend of continuous destruction of surpluses;
  - In order to destroy the surplus ordnance, on 18 June 2021, the Ministry of the Interior handed over the decommissioned explosive ordnance (918 rifle grenades and 1,480 120 mm grenades) to the Technical Overhaul Institute of Kragujevac for demilitarization and destruction. The activity is organized in accordance with the signed Agreement on the provision of services for disassembling and destroying surplus ordnance of the MoI, within the same project “Demilitarization of surplus ordnance under the auspices of the “NATO Trust Fund”;
  - For continuous implementation of activities in the field of stockpile management, the Ministry of the Interior established permanent commissions for the collection and classification of weapons for destruction in the reporting period.

6.2 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

Guiding questions:
Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?

- For Goal 6 – Systematically reduce the number of surplus and destroy the confiscated small arms and light weapons and their ammunition – and bearing in mind high financial costs of the destruction of surplus weapons and ammunition on the one hand, and the willingness of the Republic of Serbia to destroy the surpluses in its fight against weapon proliferation and misuse and organized crime on the other hand, the Republic of Serbia needs further support from international or bilateral partners;
- UNDP SEESAC offered this type of support to the Ministry of the Interior in the first half of 2021.
6.1 Destruction of confiscated and surplus stockpile of FAE

Guiding questions:
Did any destruction of surplus stockpile of FAE take place during the reporting period? If yes, was the surplus destroyed in compliance with the safety and environmental standards? Did any destruction of confiscated FAE take place during the reporting period? If so, was it a public destruction of firearms and ammunition?

- No, the destruction of surplus stockpile or confiscated FAE did not take place during the reporting period.
- **Ministry of Interior:**
  - The Ministry of the Interior, in accordance with the Law on Protection and Rescue, implements activities in reducing the risk from unexploded ordnance (UXO). As such, six (6) tonnes of UXOs were collected during the reporting period. They are being temporarily stored, and it was preliminary agreed with the ITF to hand over the destruction lists in October 2021. The selection of equipment and means for the destruction of UXOs was also completed and pending procurement. This activity will be funded by the US Government through the ITF;
- **Ministry of Defence/Army:**
  - The quantity of explosive ordnance has reduced by 51.17 tonnes, out of which 21.69 tonnes through sales, while 29.48 tonnes were destroyed.

6.2 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

Guiding questions:
Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?

- Yes, support for destruction of UXO was requested and received through the ITF.
- COVID-19 pandemic did not have specific impact on activities within this goal.
6.1 Destruction of confiscated and surplus stockpile of FAE

Guiding questions:
Did any destruction of surplus stockpile of FAE take place during the reporting period? If yes, was the surplus destroyed in compliance with the safety and environmental standards? Did any destruction of confiscated FAE take place during the reporting period? If yes, was it a public destruction of firearms and ammunition?

- No destruction of surplus FAE has been conducted since we have no surplus;
- No firearms have been disposed during this period, but 42,490 confiscated pieces of ammunition were destroyed.

6.2 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

Guiding questions:
Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?

- A registration system for disposed weapons needs to be established. The cooperation between the Prosecution’s Office and Court regarding weapons to be disposed is not at the required level;
- Support has been requested and received;
- COVID-19 has affected our daily work, has prevented the organization of different activities and has led to the reduction of the staff number.
6.1 Destruction of confiscated and surplus stockpile of FAE

**Guiding questions:**
Did any destruction of surplus stockpile of FAE take place during the reporting period?
If yes, was the surplus destroyed in compliance with the safety and environmental standards?
Did any destruction of confiscated FAE take place during the reporting period? If yes, was it a public destruction of firearms and ammunition?

- **Ministry of Defence/Armed Forces** - The BiH AF destroyed surplus stockpiles of mines and explosive devices during the reporting period. Disposal of excess stockpiles of mines and explosive devices was carried out at destruction sites of the BiH AF and civilian companies in BiH. **A total of 94 tons of different types of mines and explosive devices were destroyed, or 290,712 pieces.** The destruction of mines and explosive devices is carried out in a safe and environmentally friendly manner in military and civilian capacities.

- **Bosnian-Podrinje Canton Ministry of Interior** - Destruction of seven (7) pieces of surplus firearms was conducted.

- **Una-Sana Canton Ministry of Interior** – Disposal of 43 pieces of surplus firearms was conducted.

- **Tuzla Canton Ministry of Interior** – No destruction of firearms was carried out during the reporting period.

- **Federal Police Administration** - Destruction of confiscated FAE was not organized during the reporting period. The FPA, in accordance with the indicated need and orders received from the competent courts and prosecutor’s offices, performs destruction of confiscated weapons, which is mainly carried out in coordination with representatives of SALW and UNDP.

6.2 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

**Guiding questions:**
Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?

- **Ministry of Defence/Armed Forces** – There is need for financial support for the destruction of surplus ammunition, mines and explosive devices stockpiles in the possession of the BiH Armed Forces. MoD requested and received assistance from the international organizations (UNDP) and partner countries (USA through the US Embassy in BiH) for conducting the above mentioned activities.

- **Brčko District Police** – There is a need to provide conditions for the destruction of found and confiscated weapons and especially for the destruction of explosives, flammable liquids and gases.

The COVID-19 pandemic and the measures initiated to prevent the further spread of the infection have significantly slowed down all processes and thus the activities within this goal.
6.1 Destruction of confiscated and surplus stockpile of FAE

**Guiding questions:**
Did any destruction of surplus stockpile of FAE take place during the reporting period?
If yes, was the surplus destroyed in compliance with the safety and environmental standards?
Did any destruction of confiscated FAE take place during the reporting period? If so, was it a public destruction of firearms and ammunition?

- **No destruction of surplus FAE** was conducted in the reporting period;
- **No destruction of confiscated firearms** was carried out. In the reporting period, 126 weapons, 2,935 pieces of ammunition, 1,050 pyrotechnic devices, and 3,908 grams of gunpowder were confiscated.

6.2 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

**Guiding questions:**
Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?

- At the beginning of 2020, expert talks were held with representatives of International Trust Found (ITF) and representatives of the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Austria, for assistance in the destruction of surplus SALW. The meeting envisaged financial support in equipping a chemical laboratory for testing the chemical stability of the suppressed explosives and raising the physical security in the Army warehouses;
- It is necessary to prepare an SOP on the manner of destruction of weapons, because at the moment the Agency for Management of Confiscated Property is responsible, but the Ministry of Interior cooperates with the Agency;
- It is necessary to establish a database of destroyed firearms.
6.1 Destruction of confiscated and surplus stockpile of FAE

**Guiding questions:**
Did any destruction of surplus stockpile of FAE take place during the reporting period?  
If yes, was the surplus destroyed in compliance with the safety and environmental standards?  
Did any destruction of confiscated FAE take place during the reporting period? If so, was it a public destruction of firearms and ammunition?

- The ULP-Mjekës explosives factory has industrially destroyed a quantity of explosive substances (in blazing furnace) deriving from the industrial dismantling of ammunition in the previous years. During the reporting period, 29,485,000 gr of explosives were destroyed.
- Additionally, disposal of ammunition gathered in hotspots has been carried out in shooting ranges, which have been approved in full compliance with the safety and security standards and rules determined in the “Service Manual for Disposing Ammunition and Explosives” ML-400-5-2;
- Ministry of Interior:  
  - Regarding the destruction of weapons received by the Ministry of Interior (weapons collected by the State Police), the problematic/challenge identified in the past is now addressed. The Law No. 152/2020, dated 17/12/2020 “On some addenda and amendments to the Law No. 74/2014 “On Weapons”, made the necessary changes to approximate the deficient legal framework on how to handle weapons received by the Ministry of Interior.  
  - Firearms, their essential parts and ammunition, as well as those collected by law from the State Police, found on site, stockpiles due to weaponry restructuring of the State Police, Ministry of Justice, State Intelligence Service or hotspots from the Armed Forces structures, shall be transferred to the Ministry of Defence by a joint order for capital transfer. The Ministry of Defence shall be allowed to use the firearms, their essential parts and ammunition, as defined in paragraph 2 hereto, for demilitarization procedures, disposal procedures and selling them for metal scrap.
  - Pursuant to the Roadmap and the “Small Arms and Light Weapons, their Ammunition and Explosives Control Strategy 2019-2024 and its Action Plan 2019-2021”, a public event is planned in the upcoming period in the Mechanical Factory of Gramsh where a quantity of 15,401 pieces of SALW seized by the State Police, or collected during awareness-raising campaigns, will be destroyed, as well as a small quantity collected by the Armed Forces in various hotspots.

6.2 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

**Guiding questions:**
Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?

- Ministry of Defence - No challenges/needs for support have been identified for this reporting period.

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3 Information added based on the inputs in the 6th KPI report (KPI 12).
GOAL 7

Significantly decrease the risk of proliferation and diversion of firearms, ammunition and explosives.

GOAL 7 OVERALL TARGETS

1. Strengthen the capacities of relevant state institutions (armed forces, law enforcement, forest guards, customs, and correctional services) to establish inspection systems and implement Life Cycle Management of SALW and ammunition (where relevant).

2. Ensure safe and secure SALW/firearms and ammunition storage facilities designated based on identified needs and in accordance with international standards.

3. Build the capacities of relevant legal entities (producers, repair shops, retail, trade, shooting ranges, hunting ranges, private security companies, training centres) to establish inspection systems.

4. Increase human resources and administrative capacities of state institutions for monitoring, oversight and evaluation of the firearms and ammunitions stocks of legal entities and individuals.
PROGRESS INFORMATION ON GOAL 7 OVERALL TARGETS

BELGRADE

7.1 Inspection systems for all relevant legal entities

Guiding question:
Were there inspection systems in place during the reporting period for all relevant legal entities (producers, repair shops, retail, trade, shooting ranges, hunting ranges, private security companies, training centers)?

• The Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Serbia conducted inspections of legal entities and entrepreneurs registered as providing training in handling, repairing and trading in weapons, essential components and ammunition. Inspection was also carried out of other legal entities and entrepreneurs, which, due to their respective activities, acquire and possess weapons, with special emphasis on safe keeping and storage of weapons and ammunition, as well as proper keeping of prescribed records. During the reporting period, a total of 57 inspections were carried out. Inspection capacities were not enhanced in this field.

• In accordance with the Law on Private Security, the Ministry of the Interior also conducted regular inspections of legal entities and entrepreneurs offering private security services. What is inspected is the fulfilment of the conditions for and the manner of performing activities, the application of powers and keeping records in accordance with the relevant law, as well as the application of regulations on holding and carrying private security weapons. In exercising inspection of how the relevant law is applied, authorized police officers performing duties stipulated by private security regulations have the right and the duty to inspect, inter alia, the manner of keeping and carrying firearms. In relation to this, in the period from 1 January to 30 June 2021, 344 inspections of legal entities and entrepreneurs offering private security services were carried out. Due to established irregularities, 239 motions to institute misdemeanour proceedings were made.

• Also, with a view to improving the inspection system in this area, eleven (11) by-laws (rulebooks) were adopted in 2019 based on the amendments to the Law on Private Security (2018) and the amendments to the Law on Detective Activity (2019).

Based on the amendments to the Law on Private Security:
- Rulebook on detailed requirements for the issuance of authorization to provide training in performing private security and steward service jobs (The Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia, No.15 of 8 March 2019);
- Rulebook on the curriculum and the manner of providing training in how to perform private security jobs (The Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia, No.15/19 of 8 March 2019);
- Rulebook on the content, appearance and manner of use of the private security officer’s identification card (The Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia, No. 3 of 15 January 2016, No. 30 of 25 April 2019);
- Rulebook on the colour and elements of the uniform worn by the security officer (The Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia, No. 49 of 8 July 2019);
- Rulebook on the manner of exercising the security officer’s powers (The Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia, No. 59 of 23 August 2019);
- Rulebook on the certification exam for performing private security and steward service jobs (The Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia, No. 74 of 18 October 2019);
- Rulebook on the manner of performing technical protection jobs and using technical equipment (The Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia, No. 91 of 24 December 2019).

Based on the amendments to the Law on Detective Activity:
- Rulebook on training, learning job skills and certification exam for performing detective jobs;
- Rulebook on termination of validity of the Rulebook on records kept in the area of detective activity;
- Rulebook on the content, appearance and manner of use of the detective’s identification card;
- Rulebook on spatial and technical conditions for carrying out the detective activity.

• During the reporting period, the Ministry conducted continued inspection pursuant to the Law on the Transportation of Explosive Substances and the Law on Explosive Substances, Flammable Liquids and Gases. All legal entities authorized for the production of and/or trade in explosive substances were subjected to inspection. Monthly inspections of the explosive materials’ production and storage facilities were carried out. During the reporting period, 393 authorizations for the procurement of explosive materials were issued and inspection of their use was carried out.

Based on the Law on the Transportation of Dangerous Goods, the Law on Production of and Trade in Weapons and Military Equipment, the Law on Export and Import of Weapons and Military Equipment and the Law on Weapons and Ammunition, 3,278 authorizations were issued in the first half of 2021 for transportation and transit of explosive materials for civil uses and pyrotechnic compositions, hunting and sporting weapons and ammunition, and weapons and military equipment. In this line of work, there were no improvements in administrative capacity during the reporting period, but they are planned for 2021.

7.2 Firearms/SALW or ammunition reported lost or stolen from state or private entities

Guiding question:
How many firearms/SALW or ammunition were reported lost or stolen from state or private entities during the reporting period, if any?

• During the reporting period, the loss/theft of 39 weapons owned by legal entities and 1,266 weapons owned by individuals was reported.
7.3 Activities aiming to increase the safety and security of SALW/firearms and ammunition and explosives storage facilities

Guiding question:
Were any activities aiming to increase the safety and security of SALW/firearms and ammunition and explosives storage facilities implemented during the reporting period?

- In the reporting period, the Ministry of the Interior continued activities aimed at capacity building (in accordance with international standards) for storing small arms and light weapons and ammunition. On the basis of a Government conclusion from May 2019, the Ministry of the Interior took over the “Duvanište” Warehouse Complex near Smederevo from the Ministry of Defence.

The proposal for the upgrade of this site was submitted by UNDP SEESAC with the support from the Government of the United States, the Department of State Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement (PM/WRA), which approved the allocation of funds in the amount of $1,000,000 for the improvement of the “Duvanište” Warehouse Complex near Smederevo. The donor funds were approved for essential furnishing of several warehouse facilities, the construction of a security fence and an entrance gate, external light installation, cameras, on-site inventory equipment, and targeted (adequate) training in physical security and stockpile management of weapons and ammunition.

In the first half of 2021, the activities continued, so the MoI provided all the conditions for the implementation of the project. At the moment, UNDP SEESAC is conducting procedures aimed at organizing the tender, i.e. for the selection of bidders for the execution of works according to the main design. At the same time, the Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure is expected to issue the approval for the execution of works, based on the submitted request. The expected deadline for the completion of the reconstruction of the Duvanište complex is Q1 of 2022.

- In parallel with the improvement of the macro-locations, there is also the improvement at three micro-locations i.e. evidence rooms which would store small arms and light weapons resulting from criminal proceedings. Funds in the amount of $50,000 are provided by European Union for the reconstruction of the facilities and the improvement of security at three existing locations. This financial support contributes to further improving the capacity of the MoI in the field of physical security and stockpile management (PSSM) of weapons and ammunition and is a continuation of the support and successful cooperation between UNDP SEESAC and the MoI in this area.

At the beginning of January 2021, the Ministry of the Interior approved cooperation within the proposed support, followed by an analysis and assessment of locations for improvement in accordance with the priorities and needs of the Ministry of the Interior. After the analysis was conducted, UNDP SEESAC was informed in May 2021 about four priority locations within the Police Directorate for the City of Belgrade. The expected deadline for the completion of the reconstruction of evidence rooms is the end of 2022.
7.4 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

**Guiding questions:**
Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?

- In order to fulfil Goal 7 – Significantly decrease the risk of proliferation and diversion of firearms, ammunition and explosives – both the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Serbia have identified the need for further physical and technical capacity building of warehouse complexes and locations;
- The Ministry of the Interior has adopted a standpoint that the safe storage of small arms and light weapons can be achieved by adapting a number of warehouse premises (microlocations – police stations), in which weapons and ammunition seized under relevant procedures are stored, as well as weapons and ammunition which became the property of the Republic of Serbia (weapons pending collection), all in order to ensure adequate record keeping and security of weapons;
- Since the pandemic postponed or slowed down numerous projects, it also slowed down the activities aimed at improving the capacity of the “Duvanište” Warehouse Complex.
7.1 Inspection systems for all relevant legal entities

Guiding question:
Were there inspection systems in place during the reporting period for all relevant legal entities (producers, repair shops, retail, trade, shooting ranges, hunting ranges, private security companies, training centers)?

- Yes, partially. The control and oversight of legal entities and sole proprietors conducting the activities of hunting, sports shooting, provision of services, physical protection of persons and property, manufacturing, trade, repairing and transporting of weapons and ammunition, are not carried out on a continuous basis. Only the conditions for manufacturing are prescribed, and deactivation of weapons is not completely regulated. There is minimum number of regulations and degree of control and oversight regarding the manufacturing and trade of explosives for civilian use.

7.2 Firearms/SALW or ammunition reported lost or stolen from state or private entities

Guiding question:
How many firearms/SALW or ammunition were reported lost or stolen from state or private entities during the reporting period, if any?

- There were no weapons or ammunition reported as stolen or lost from state institutions or private entities. The electronic database of the competent authority’s system shows there are nine cases recorded where citizens reported the disappearance of 15 firearms.

7.3 Activities aiming to increase the safety and security of SALW/firearms and ammunition and explosives storage facilities

Guiding question:
Were any activities aiming to increase the safety and security of SALW/firearms and ammunition and explosives storage facilities implemented during the reporting period?

- Rogami storage:
  - The Ministry of Interior uses the Rogami storage facility, and through the Council Decision (CFSP) 2016/2356 of 19 December 2016, funds were provided for the execution of works on this storage facility, and the following was installed to improve the security measures: security system with video surveillance, lighting and perimeter protection of the facility. The works were completed in May 2019, with the support of the EU through UNDP SEESAC.
  - Additional funds for the adaptation of two buildings (buildings 4 and 5) and the guard house were approved by the Republic of Germany. The works have started and the expected deadline for completion is Q3 2021. The finalization of this part of the project would allow for the possible approval of funds for the adaptation of the remaining 4 buildings.
PODGORICA

• Evidence rooms:
  – With the UNDP SEESAC’s support, activities continued on the works on security improvements in three evidence rooms in the security centres in Bar, Nikšić and Bjelo Polje, which started in mid-April 2021. The works in Bjelo Polje finished on 29 June 2021, while the evidence rooms in Bar and Nikšić will be completed in the second half of 2021. The works include the renovation of floors, walls and ceilings in the evidence rooms, as well as the installation of security doors and the access control system, window security bars (where possible), electrical installations, CCTV cameras, and a firearms rack.

• In the reporting period there was no reconstruction of MoD’s facilities.

• In the Training Centre at the “Milovan Saranovic” barracks in Danilovgrad, as well as in the military facilities “Brezovik” and “Nova Lokacija”, the “Basic practical course for safe storage and management of ammunition” was organized in the period from 8 to 29 April 2021 by the expert team of the Federal Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Austria and the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

7.4 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

Guiding questions:
Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?

• Yes, the support was provided by UNDP, as explained in detail in the answer for progress related to Goal 7;

• Regarding the Army - Ministry of Defence, there is an identified need for the reconstruction of facilities for the laboratory for testing the chemical stability of gunpowder, perimeter fences, CCTV and hydrant network for the storage facility “Brezovik”;

• The COVID-19 pandemic slowed down the work process.
7.1 Inspection systems for all relevant legal entities

**Guiding question:**
Were there inspection systems in place during the reporting period for all relevant legal entities (producers, repair shops, retail, trade, shooting ranges, hunting ranges, private security companies, training centers)?

- Regular inspections and controls are performed by DPS (Department for Public Safety). **Approximately 42 inspections** and controls were performed and 50% of them are related to the inspection of storage facilities. Reports are produced on a monthly basis;
- The authorized security storage facilities of state institutions are small facilities inherited by the former regime and have been repaired periodically through the assistance of UNDP SEESAC or through our own budget.

7.2 Firearms/SALW or ammunition reported lost or stolen from state or private entities

**Guiding question:**
How many firearms/SALW or ammunition were reported lost or stolen from state or private entities during the reporting period, if any?

- During the reporting period, **15 firearms have been reported as stolen by legal entities** (private shops and shooting ranges), **while 19 firearms have been reported stolen by natural persons**. No firearms have been stolen from state institutions. There were no cases of firearms reported lost.

7.3 Activities aiming to increase the safety and security of SALW/firearms and ammunition and explosives storage facilities

**Guiding question:**
Were any activities aiming to increase the safety and security of SALW/firearms and ammunition and explosives storage facilities implemented during the reporting period?

- We have not had any meetings with legal entities responsible for the security and protection of storage facilities, firearms shops and shooting ranges, in compliance with the legislation in force.
- With regard to *increasing security of three evidence rooms locations in Pristina, Prizren and South Mitrovica*, a detailed infrastructure assessment of these three locations was conducted during the reporting period. Furthermore, the technical specifications and graphic documentation for the procurement of specialized metal SALW safekeeping racks and padlocks were approved by the Kosovo Police.
7.4 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

**Guiding questions:**
Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?

- Further trainings for inspectors and technical equipment for inspection were identified as a need. The support was requested and received;
- The COVID-19 pandemic has affected the daily work, respectively the inspection of storage facilities and retail shops of legal weapons.
7.1 Inspection systems for all relevant legal entities

**Guiding question:**
Were there inspection systems in place during the reporting period for all relevant legal entities (producers, repair shops, retail, trade, shooting ranges, hunting ranges, private security companies, training centers)?

- **Republika Srpska Ministry of Interior** - Considering that MoI Republika Srpska is responsible for conducting training for members of the security companies, including firearms training, the Ministry supervised the work of agencies providing security services for persons and property and private detective activity and carried out a total of **eight inspections of agencies in the reporting period, of which five regular and three special inspections** and on that occasion **494 members of the mentioned agencies were controlled**. Also, **43 inspections of companies that have their own security service were performed**, and one omission was identified during the inspections;

- **Brčko District Police** - Yes, according to the Law, as we stated above;

- **Sarajevo Canton Ministry of Interior** - Rulebook on the conditions required for the issuance of authorizations for the activities of trade in arms, essential parts of weapons and ammunition, brokering of arms trade, essential parts of weapons and ammunition, establishment of civilian shooting ranges, manner of keeping and storing weapons, essential parts of weapons and ammunition, manner and determination of conditions, composition, right to compensation and the amount of compensation of the commission of the competent police department in CS MoI Police Administration (Official Gazette of the CS no. 29/18 and 03/20) prescribes the establishment of a commission for direct supervision over the sale, possession and carrying of weapons, storage and placement of weapons and ammunition, keeping prescribed records for service technicians, retail facilities, shooting ranges, hunting grounds and training centers;

- **Tuzla Canton Ministry of Interior** - Yes, this was done for retail facilities, trade facilities, shooting ranges, hunting grounds, human and property protection agencies.

- **Ministry of Defence** - Regular controls of locations and facilities for storage of ammunition and weapons within the Armed Forces, as well as controls of physical security of locations are planned and carried out.

- **Federal Police Administration** - The FPA has competencies only for economic entities engaged in the production, transport and trade of explosives for use in the economy in case of legal entities (manufacturers, retailers, etc.). No action was taken on this issue during the reporting period.

7.2 Firearms/SALW or ammunition reported lost or stolen from state or private entities

**Guiding question:**
How many firearms/SALW or ammunition were reported lost or stolen from state or private entities during the reporting period, if any?
The following **202 firearms were reported as lost** during the reporting period:
- **Republika Srpska Ministry of Interior** – 179 firearms were reported as lost in the reporting period;
- **Canton 10 Ministry of Interior** - The loss of 18 firearms was reported during the reporting period, as follows: 1 service pistol (ŠGD Kupres-Šumarija Glamoč) and 17 firearms owned by civilians, of which 16 were reported as missing during the war (1991-1995). The weapons in question were registered in the electronic records for data exchange at the level of Bosnia and Herzegovina, for which a central search was announced;
- **Sarajevo Canton Ministry of Interior** – One (1) firearm was reported as lost by a private company, and one (1) firearm was reported as lost by civilians;
- **Tuzla Canton Ministry of Interior** - The loss of three (3) firearms was reported by civilians.

During the reporting period, **4 weapons and 15 bullets** were reported as stolen, as follows:
- **Canton 10 Ministry of Interior** - Theft of two (2) firearms was reported by civilians in the reporting period. The weapons in question were registered in the electronic records for data exchange at the level of Bosnia and Herzegovina, for which a central search was announced;
- **Sarajevo Canton Ministry of Interior** – One (1) firearm was reported as stolen from a private company and one (1) firearm and 15 bullets were reported as stolen from civilians.

### 7.3 Activities aiming to increase the safety and security of SALW/firearms and ammunition and explosives storage facilities

**Guiding question:**
Were any activities aiming to increase the safety and security of SALW/firearms and ammunition and explosives storage facilities implemented during the reporting period?

- **Ministry of Defence** – The implementation of the project EXPLODE+ has continued as per the plan.
  In the reporting period, the Armed Forces implemented concrete measures to improve the security and safety of their storage facilities by strengthening technical security measures. The project of rehabilitation and replacement of the protective fence at the location "TROM" Doboj with the support of the OSCE has been completed.
- **The SALW Coordination Board has selected three rooms for the storage of evidence in which security infrastructure needs to be improved and sent an official request for assistance to UNDP SEESAC at the end of May 2021. The selected locations belong to the State Investigation and Protection Agency, the Border Police of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Directorate for Coordination of Police Bodies.**
- **Federal Police Administration** - Regarding activities to improve the security of storage facilities, the FPA is in the phase of building a warehouse for small arms and light weapons, and a rented warehouse is used for the storage of explosives, which is in accordance with the currently valid standards and regulations.
7.4 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

**Guiding questions:**

Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?

- No challenges were identified.
7.1 Inspection systems for all relevant legal entities

Guiding question:
Were there inspection systems in place during the reporting period for all relevant legal entities (producers, repair shops, retail, trade, shooting ranges, hunting ranges, private security companies, training centers)?

- During the reporting period, **seven (7) inspections were performed on legal entities engaged in firearms, ammunition, shooting range or explosives trade businesses**. The reduced number of controls performed is a result of the COVID-19 pandemic;
- In January and March 2021, **551 inspections were performed in 258 facilities that provide security for legal entities**, and private security for providing services and security for their own needs.

7.2 Firearms/SALW or ammunition reported lost or stolen from state or private entities

Guiding question:
How many firearms/SALW or ammunition were reported lost or stolen from state or private entities during the reporting period, if any?

- During the reporting period, **one (1) firearm was reported lost by legal entities**, and three (3) firearms and 10 pieces of ammunition were reported lost by natural entities;
- **Two (2) firearms were reported as stolen by legal entities**, and **23 firearms and 486 pieces of ammunition were reported as stolen by natural entities**. A report was sent to the iARMS for 20 stolen and 30 found(seized) firearms, and international search warrants were announced.

7.3 Activities aiming to increase the safety and security of SALW/firearms and ammunition and explosives storage facilities

Guiding question:
Were any activities aiming to increase the safety and security of SALW/firearms and ammunition and explosives storage facilities implemented during the reporting period?

- During 2021, a working group was formed in the Ministry of Interior, which aims to oversee the situation with official weapons and ammunition in the organizational units of the Ministry of Interior, as well as the conditions for their storage and security. After the control of the current situation, the working group gave specific recommendations for removal from the MoI organizational units of all out of service weapons, ammunition and mines in the MoI Central Warehouse, for further destruction in cooperation with the Ministry of Defense. According to the determined dynamics for realization of the mentioned activity, the removal of the out
of service weapons and ammunition in the MoI Central Warehouse should be realized by 1 October 2021, after which the further activities related to its destruction will be determined.

7.4 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

Guiding questions:
Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?

- It is necessary to prepare an SOP for the manner of dealing with lost or stolen firearms, as well as an SOP for storage of their official weapons, at the request of the Forests Police.
7.1 Inspection systems for all relevant legal entities

Guiding question:
Were there inspection systems in place during the reporting period for all relevant legal entities (producers, repair shops, retail, trade, shooting ranges, hunting ranges, private security companies, training centers)?

- During the reporting period, the central and local structures of the State Police have conducted inspections on entities such as retail shops, traders, shooting ranges, hunting ranges, private security companies, training centres, on natural persons equipped with authorizations for carrying firearms in their residencies or carrying hunting firearms;
- **Four (4) inspections have been carried out and one administrative measure has been taken against a shop trading firearms and ammunitions.**

7.2 Firearms/SALW or ammunition reported lost or stolen from state or private entities

Guiding question:
How many firearms/SALW or ammunition were reported lost or stolen from state or private entities during the reporting period, if any?

- **There were no cases of firearms reported lost. Six (6) stolen firearms have been registered in the system.**

7.3 Activities aiming to increase the safety and security of SALW/firearms and ammunition and explosives storage facilities

Guiding question:
Were any activities aiming to increase the safety and security of SALW/firearms and ammunition and explosives storage facilities implemented during the reporting period?

- **State Police:**
  - During the reporting period, procedures have begun in cooperation with UNDP to upgrade the infrastructure in order to meet the standards for 12 storage facilities of SALW;
  - All planned constructions at the storage facility of the Albanian State Police (ASP) in Mullet under the project supported by the U.S. Department of State were completed and technically handed over to the beneficiary, i.e. the ASP, on 13 April 2021. In March 2021, based on the request of the ASP to UNDP SEESAC for an additional support to upgrade the security of the SALW storage facilities, the donor approved a no-cost extension of the project for twelve months and, as such, the additional upgrades of the security measures to control SALW will be completed by 31 March 2022.
These upgrades include building a room inside the storage facility and weapons warehouse in Mullet, where the laser marking machine for SALW will be placed and operated; upgrading the security conditions of the evidence rooms at the Tirana and Korça Local Police Directorates; as well as procuring SALW storage racks/safes;

– During the first half of 2021, a detailed evaluation of the storage facilities and SALW warehouse in Mullet, Tirana and Korça was completed, and the technical specifications were drafted to upgrade the security conditions, which were then approved by UNDP SEESAC and the ASP.

• **Ministry of Defence:**
  – Upgrading the security and safety measures in the ammunitions storage facilities where an overall reconstruction has been carried out during this period in 3 storage facilities (underground) which store and administer ammunitions. These works have been carried out thanks to the cooperation and financial support of donors (EUCOM);
  – Continuity of the project to support and equip with around 700 pieces of metallic racks for small arms and light weapons (SALW) for all Armed Forces units and divisions, in order to safely store and use them. No further development during this reporting period was identified. The request to be provided and supported with the metallic racks (safes) for SALW has been submitted and currently the Ministry of Defence is waiting for such project to be accomplished in cooperation with donors through UNDP SEESAC.

### 7.4 Challenges, needs identified, and support required

**Guiding questions:**

Have any challenges or needs for support been identified, including technical and/or financial, for the activities under this goal? If so, has such support been requested or received?

• **Ministry of Defence** - Ongoing investments in one (1) ammunition warehouse, as well as in other warehouses where weapons and ammunition are stored and administered, in order to upgrade the conditions of storage and physical security. Such upgrades will be carried out with the financial support of donors.