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Roadmap for a sustainable solution to the illegal possession, misuse and trafficking of SALW in the Western Balkans by 2024

Monitoring Framework

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ROADMAP GOALS

- **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 2.** By 2024, ensure that arms control policies and practices in the Western Balkans are evidence based and intelligence led.
- **GOAL 3.** By 2024, significantly reduce illicit flows of firearms, ammunition and explosives (FAE) into, within and beyond the Western Balkans.
- **GOAL 4.** By 2024, significantly reduce the supply, demand and misuse of firearms through increased awareness, education, outreach and advocacy.
- **GOAL 5.** By 2024, substantially decrease the estimated number of firearms in illicit possession in the Western Balkans.
- **GOAL 6.** Systematically decrease the surplus and destroy seized small arms and light weapons and ammunition.
- **GOAL 7.** Significantly decrease the risk of proliferation and diversion of firearms, ammunition and explosives.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

1. Number of legal frameworks on arms control throughout the Western Balkans fully harmonized with the EU legislation, the Arms Trade Treaty and the *Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, their Parts and Components and Ammunition (The Firearms Protocol)*;

2. Number of evidence based arms control policy documents, developed in each jurisdiction of the Western Balkans, that are also addressing needs of men, women, boys and girls;

3. Number of cases, individuals and quantity of misused and trafficked firearms, ammunition and explosives (FAE) prosecuted and adjudicated in comparison to the number of law enforcement reports on seizures;

4. Number of cases and quantity of FAE seized inland compared to the number of cases and quantity of FAE seized at the borders;

5. Number of reported cases of FAE seized at the borders of the European Union and traced to the Western Balkans, compared to the number of FAE seized throughout the European Union and traced to or diverted from the Western Balkans;

6. Number of FAE for which export licenses were issued by the Western Balkans identified as diverted through post-shipment control procedure;

7. Firearms Focal Points established and operational in each jurisdiction of the Western Balkans;

8. Number of inter-institutional cooperation cases at operational level, including investigation, prosecution and pretrial phases;

9. Number of cases of operational cooperation sourced from intelligence information including ballistic intelligence in the fight against firearms related crimes, with authorities in the region, EU member states and agencies as well as international law enforcement agencies;

10. Number of incidents involving firearms and victims affected by the misuse of firearms, disaggregated by gender and age, in each jurisdiction of the Western Balkans;

11. Number of FAE voluntarily surrendered, as well as firearms legalized or deactivated;

12. Number of reported SALW/firearms, ammunition, and explosives confiscated or surplus systematically destroyed;

13. Number of SALW/firearms and their ammunition storage facilities in line with international safety and security standards;

14. Percentage of citizens satisfaction (disaggregated by age and gender) or feeling of safety on armed violence across the Western Balkans.

KEY MILESTONES

1st KPIs Report – (covering year 2018).

18 Apr. 2019

2nd KPIs Report – (covering 1 January – 30 June 2019).

15 Oct. 2019

3rd Report (covering 1 July – 30 Dec. 2019).

15 April 2020

1st Regional Roadmap Meeting – Sarajevo, BiH.

28 May 2019

2-nd Regional Roadmap Meeting – Tirana, Albania

20–21 Nov. 2019

2nd Intern. Conf. to be held in Berlin

31 Jan 2020

PROGRESS REPORT – GOAL I KEY FINDINGS (KPI I)

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.

- An overview of the legal framework in place addressing arms control has been provided.
- **Civil use of Firearms and Ammunition: Law on weapons not harmonized** with latest Directive (EU) 2017/853 on control of the acquisition and possession of weapons; regulation on deactivation; directive on marking, alarm and signal weapons.
- **Civil Use of Explosives: Partially harmonized** with Regulation 98/2013 (on explosive precursors) and EU Directive 28/2014 on explosives.
- **Military use of FAE– Fully harmonized** with Council Common Position 2008/944.
- Montenegro has ratified both ATT and UN Firearms Protocol.
- Partial compliance with UN FP. Criminal code does not cover parts and components of firearms. Unclear about manufacturing and trafficking and no clear reference to ammunition.

PROGRESS REPORT – GOAL 2
KEY FINDINGS (KPI2,3,7,8)

By 2024, ensure that arms control policies and practices in the Western Balkans are evidence-based and intelligence-led.

- A SALW Commission is in place and in charge of coordination and monitoring of arms control activities;
- New SALW Control Strategy 2019-2024, partially based on evidence and aiming to address needs of both men and women. Data collection practices though are not-standardized;
- Firearms Focal Point not fully operational; integrated database for information exchange established.;
- Direct access to EUROPOL's SIENA; INTERPOL's iARMS;
- Standardization and institutionalization of data exchange among law enforcement and criminal justice system on prosecutions and convictions of firearms related crimes lacking;
- Most of firearm related cases processed as misdemeanors; (90 out of 108).

PROGRESS REPORT – GOAL 3
KEY FINDINGS (KPI4,6,9)

By 2024, significantly reduce illicit flows of firearms, ammunition and explosives (FAE) into, within and beyond the Western Balkans.

- Trend of seized firearms inland in the reporting period lower than 2018 (723vs251); much higher trend for seized ammunition (4,137vs6,942); No data submitted for seizures at the border; Almost equal number of legal and illegal firearms reported seized;
- No identified cases of diversion of arms or ammunition exports during the reporting period;
- No operational mechanism in place for controlling explosive precursors;
- Regular attendance related regional processes (including SEEFEN, SEEFEG, CEPOL exchange programmes)
- Data collection for Global Firearms Study not reported;
- Operational cooperation with Europol (through SIENA), INTERPOL, cooperation with EMPACT (participation but no coordinator yet for JAD);

PROGRESS REPORT – GOAL
4&5
KEY FINDINGS (KPI I0&I1)

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

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

- Equal number of incidents committed with legal and illegal firearms; Higher trend of number of homicides with firearms recorded;
- No awareness raising/outreach activities reported targeting private and legal entities;
- Awareness activities limited to celebratory shooting and on ad-hoc basis;
- Ongoing voluntary surrender and legalization process during the reporting period targeting civilians, with limited results (29 vs 147 (in 2018) weapons surrendered; 2 deactivated);

PROGRESS REPORT – GOAL 6&7
KEY FINDINGS (KPI 12&13)

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

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

- Number of confiscated firearms equal to those seized;
- Destruction of surplus ammunition reported; Needs for further disposal identified;
- Inspection to private legal entities reportedly is not on continuous basis;
- Ongoing work reported related to security of SALW and ammunition storages of law enforcement; Further needs identified related to MoD storages;
- No report on stolen SALW or ammunition during the reporting period;

KPI 14	Percentage of citizens satisfaction (disaggregated by age and gender) or feeling of safety on armed violence across the Western Balkans.														
	<p>BREAKDOWN</p> <p>14.1 Percentage of citizens feeling threatened by the illegal possession and misuse of weapons in their neighbourhood.</p>														
Explanation:	Data was collected through the annual barometer of the Regional Cooperation Council. 6,120 responses were received across the region for the following question: How threatened do you feel by the illegal possession and misuse of weapons in your neighborhood (as in crime, domestic violence, celebratory shooting, etc.)? The available options were: I feel very threatened/ I feel threatened/ I do not feel threatened/ I feel completely safe. The data below represents the percentage of people who responded with I feel very threatened and I feel threatened to the given question.														
Percentage of citizens feeling threatened by the illegal possession and misuse of weapons in their neighbourhood															
	Region		Belgrade		Podgorica		Pristina		Sarajevo		Skopje		Tirana		
Age	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	
18-24	43	44	42	18	43	47	68	70	57	45	26	45	16	19	
25-34	46	42	35	33	47	43	60	65	52	53	39	36	34	17	
35-44	45	42	38	29	54	39	69	60	42	52	46	34	13	35	
45-54	42	36	26	25	51	31	50	63	54	44	36	30	30	27	
55-64	39	34	28	30	37	38	56	56	51	28	44	35	25	25	
65 and over	39	36	35	28	44	42	54	59	47	48	35	41	22	14	
AVERAGE	40		31		43		63		47		37		23		



**REPORTING
PROCESS- KEY
FINDINGS**

- Substantive information has been provided by the authorities through the KPIs and narrative report, under each goal and based on the Guiding Questions;
- Data submitted is incomplete for KPI3 and KPI 9.
- The SALW Commission has a strong role in coordination and collection of data from several institutions or units within an institution and in quality control of data submitted;
- An operational Firearms Focal Point is essential in the collection and analysis of operational data.
- Stronger inter-institutional cooperation and standardization of information sharing is needed among law enforcement and criminal justice institutions;
- Involvement of Ministry of Justice and Prosecution Office is needed;



THANK YOU