



15th Regional Progress Reports

Western Balkans SALW Control Roadmap

Podgorica, 8 July 2026

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Roadmap Coordination and Monitoring

- Funding Support** ● **Coordination and monitoring platform** established & supported through **EU Council Decisions**.
- Coordination Meetings** ● **15 rounds of local coordination meetings** and **15 regional coordination meetings** organized.
- Progress Reports** ● **15 narrative progress reports** and **11 Key Performance Indicators reports**.
- Trust Fund** ● A **Multi Partner Trust Fund** is established and operational.
- High Level Meetings** ● **Four high-level meetings**.
- Roadmap Reviews** ● **Mid-Term and Final Review of the First Phase** completed.

Roadmap Coordination and Monitoring 2026-2030



- **Regional Roadmap Coordination Meetings** will be organized **once per year**.
- Agenda to integrate more discussion on **key thematic areas**, alongside report on progress.
- **Local Roadmap Coordination Meetings** will continue to be organized **every six months**
- **Narrative Progress Reports** continue to be submitted **bi-annually**.
- The **Key Performance Indicators Reports** continue to be submitted **annually**.

Roadmap Phase I Final Review – Key Findings



- **Commendable results** achieved in its first five years of implementation;
- **Excellent work at the technical level**, but political context sometimes impedes impact;
- SALW – **a common security problem** for all the jurisdictions and the EU;
- Demonstrated ability to **respond to new challenges** related to SALW across the region;
- Significant **increase in inter-institutional cooperation**, with clear evidence in each jurisdiction of enhanced cooperation and coordination;
- A **model for other regions** affected by firearm-related violence;

Roadmap Phase I Final Review - Key Recommendations



- Prioritise the **adoption of new legislation** in harmonization with the EU Acquis;
- Increase the **focus on sustainability** by gradually **reducing reliance on donor funding**;
- **Systematise operational cooperation** and scale up cross-border cooperation to combat illicit trafficking;
- Increase **support for awareness raising campaigns** and improve their M&E;
- Continue **focus efforts on criminal justice chain** and enhance linkages between police and prosecution services in each jurisdiction;
- Continue to **expand the gender integration** focus of the Roadmap;
- Increase **engagement of civil society**, both in their monitoring and advocacy role;

Global outreach and interregional cooperation

- UNSG report on Small Arms and Light Weapons (October 2025):
 - Importance of cross-regional exchanges: The study visits by Cambodia, Honduras and Kyrgyzstan to the Western Balkans.
- **The Western Balkans Summit on the Berlin Process** (London, 22 October 2025) recognised the Roadmap as a robust framework for countering illicit SALW proliferation.
- Replication of the Western Balkans Roadmap to Central America (2025); The Andean States Roadmap under development.



Support to the Western Balkan SALW Control Roadmap (2018 - December 2025)



6

Jurisdictions

20

Implementing
partners

9

Donors

26

Fully funded
projects

11

Partially funded
projects

44

Completed
projects

≈ 95,7 mln EUR

In direct support of the Roadmap
implementation

Key Findings

Narrative Progress Reports

1

Goal

By 2030, ensure that arms control legislation is in place, harmonized with the EU regulatory framework and other related international obligations, and standardized across the region (KPI 1).

2

Goal

By 2030, ensure that arms control policies and practices in the Western Balkans are in place, evidence-based and intelligence-led (KPIs 2 and 3)

3

Goal

By 2030, significantly reduce misuse, illicit manufacturing, illicit possession, and illicit flows of weapons, ammunition, and explosives (KPIs 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8)

4

Goal

By 2030, significantly reduce the supply, demand, illicit possession and misuse of arms, ammunition and explosives through the means of prevention (KPIs 9, 10, and 13)

5

Goal

By 2030, substantially decrease the risk of proliferation and diversion through improved safety and security of the stockpiles and disposal of weapons, ammunition and explosives (KPIs 11 and 12)

Reported progress

1

Goal

By 2030, ensure that arms control legislation is in place, harmonized with the EU regulatory framework and other related international obligations, and standardized across the region (KPI 1).

- All jurisdictions reported progress in either **drafting, reviewing, or adopting** their respective legislative amendments on **weapons, ammunition, and explosives**, aimed at harmonisation with the EU Acquis.
- **Three jurisdictions report** their Criminal Code as harmonised with the UN Firearms Protocol. Amendments to the Criminal Code were reported in drafting stage in Sarajevo and under review in Belgrade and Tirana.

1 Goal

By 2030, ensure that arms control legislation is in place, harmonized with the EU regulatory framework and other related international obligations, and standardized across the region (KPI 1).

Drafting

- Law on Weapons and Ammunition (Belgrade, Brčko District Police, Bosnian Podrinje Canton Goražde, Canton Sarajevo in BiH)
- Law on Explosive Materials for Civilian Use (Skopje)
- Other relevant laws (Podgorica)

Review

- Law on Weapons and Ammunition (Pristina, West Herzegovina and Canton 10 in BiH)
- Law on Explosive Materials (Belgrade, Podgorica)
- Law on explosive precursors and other relevant laws (Podgorica)

In adoption process/Adopted

- Law on Weapons and Ammunition (Podgorica)
- Other relevant laws (Skopje, Tirana)

Reported progress

- **SALW Commissions** – coordinating and monitoring SALW Control-related activities in line with SALW Strategies and the Roadmap.
- In 2025, valid SALW control strategies were under implementation in **Belgrade, Podgorica, Pristina, Sarajevo, and Tirana. Skopje** finalized the draft of a new strategy and its action plan. The strategy in Podgorica expired at the end of 2025.
- **Data collection** is reported as standardized but not institutionalized by most jurisdictions.
- Most jurisdictions reported efforts to **mainstream gender into SALW-control** policies, primarily through capacity-building activities.
- All jurisdictions report conducting **tracing** for weapons seized domestically and internationally, with all of them reporting access to iARMS (either directly or indirectly).

2

Goal

By 2030, ensure that arms control policies and practices in the Western Balkans are in place, evidence-based and intelligence-led (KPIs 2 and 3)

Figure 2 - Number of seized hand grenades by WB jurisdictions in the year 2017-2021, based on the answers to the question:

Jurisdiction/Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	TOTAL
Albania	59	75	65	131	124	454
Bosnia and Herzegovina	225	330	749	235	326	1275
Kosovo	35	31	48	38	28	180
Montenegro	17	12	8	5	23	65
North Macedonia	44	21	10	8	9	92
Serbia	85	127	94	102	140	548

Graph 2 - Number of seized hand grenades by WB jurisdictions in the years 2017-2021, based on the answers to the question:



in data in the table and graph above indicates that most seizures happened in places with the highest production of the armed conflict in the 1990s. Bosnia and Herzegovina had the highest number of seizures in the period covered by the questionnaire, followed by Serbia and Albania. The table and graph below show that the highest number of seizures are reported in Bosnia and Herzegovina, followed by Serbia, Kosovo, Sweden, and Belgium. This is due to the fact that these countries have a long history of armed conflict and have a high number of weapons in circulation.

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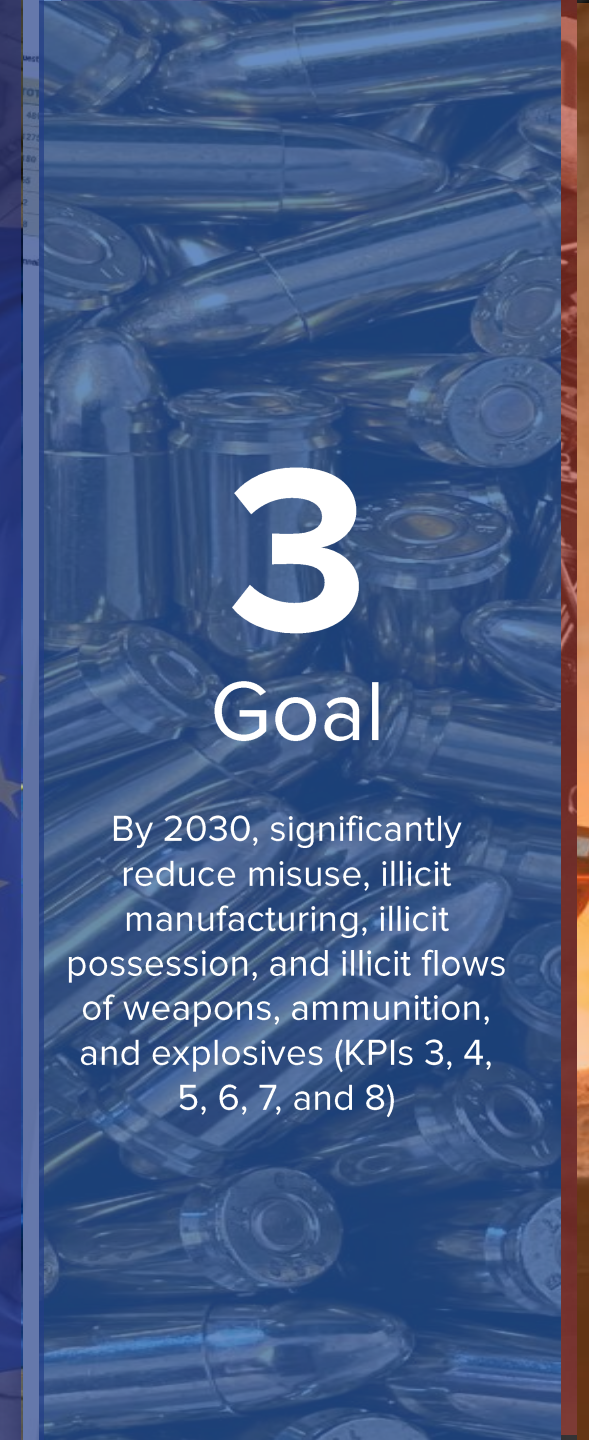
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Reported progress

2 Goal

By 2030, ensure that arms control policies and practices in the Western Balkans are in place, evidence-based and intelligence-led (KPIs 2 and 3)

	Tracing requests sent	Tracing results received	Tracing requests received	Tracing results sent
iARMS	1,394	288	349	10
SIENA	651	602	428	427
Bilaterally (EU MS, UK, Switzerland)	312	306	319	319



3

Goal

By 2030, significantly reduce misuse, illicit manufacturing, illicit possession, and illicit flows of weapons, ammunition, and explosives (KPIs 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8)

Reported progress

- All jurisdictions have **completed the development of the SOPs for Customs Administrations** while three jurisdictions reported accompanying training on their implementation.
- All jurisdictions reported strengthened **firearm detection capacities in postal parcels** through workshops and specialised equipment.
- Enhanced border control efforts reported through the **K9 units** (infrastructure, specialised trainings, SOPs/manuals, specialised vehicles).
- Continued **operational cooperation** with EUROPOL, INTERPOL, and FRONTEX and contribution to several Operational Actions under EMPACT.
- Active participation in preparatory meetings for the **Joint Action Days (SEE JAD)**.
- **No reported cases of diversion** of exported arms or ammunition.

3 Goal

By 2030, significantly reduce misuse, illicit manufacturing, illicit possession, and illicit flows of weapons, ammunition, and explosives (KPIs 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8)

Reported progress

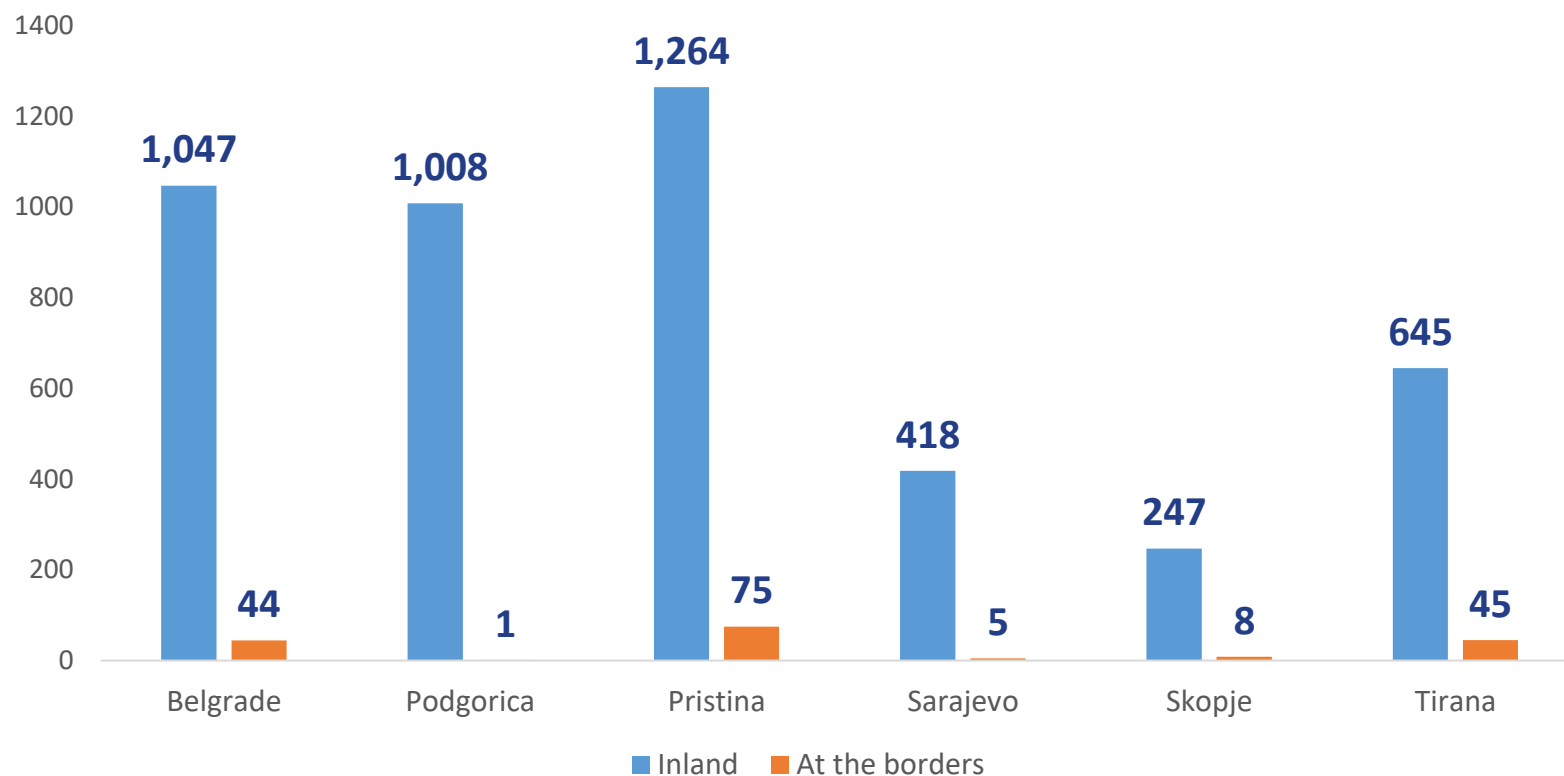
- **Intensified efforts toward the accreditation of the Ballistic laboratories** reported by most jurisdictions.
 - Accreditation in several methods was reported by Belgrade, Podgorica, Pristina, Skopje, and the Federation Ministry of Interior in BiH.
- **Firearms Focal Point reported as established** in Belgrade, Podgorica, Pristina, Skopje, and Tirana.
 - Sarajevo reports ongoing efforts to ensure its establishment, with an MoU reported in the process of approval;
- Enhanced operational capacities of the **Crime Scene Investigation (CSI) Units** contributing to their accreditation reported by all jurisdictions (equipment, dedicated SOPs, trainings, etc.).
- Capacity building activities to **strengthen investigation and prosecution** of firearm-related offences.

3

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Weapons seized inland and at the borders in 2025

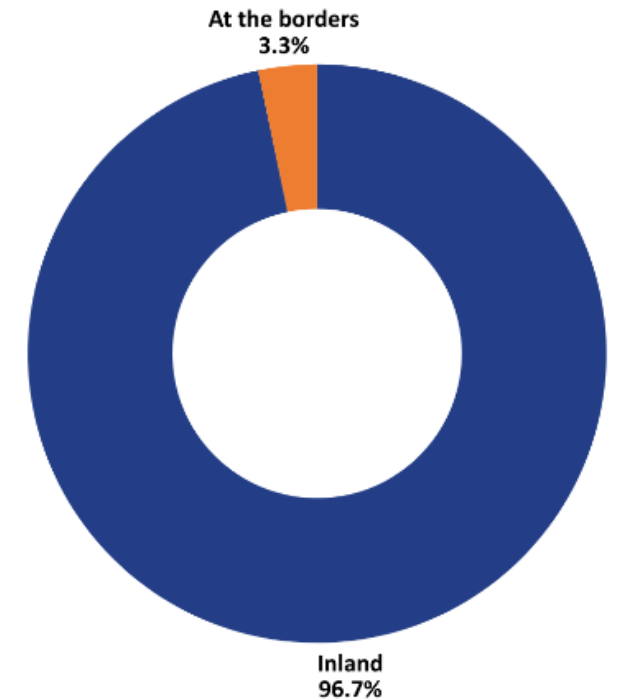
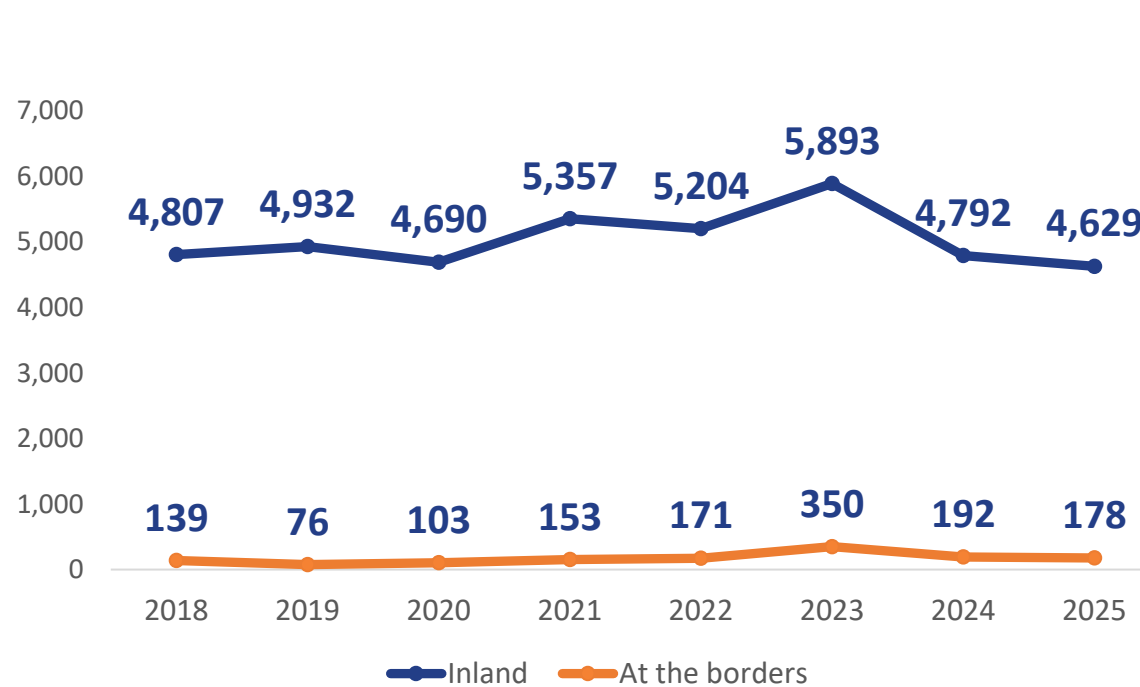


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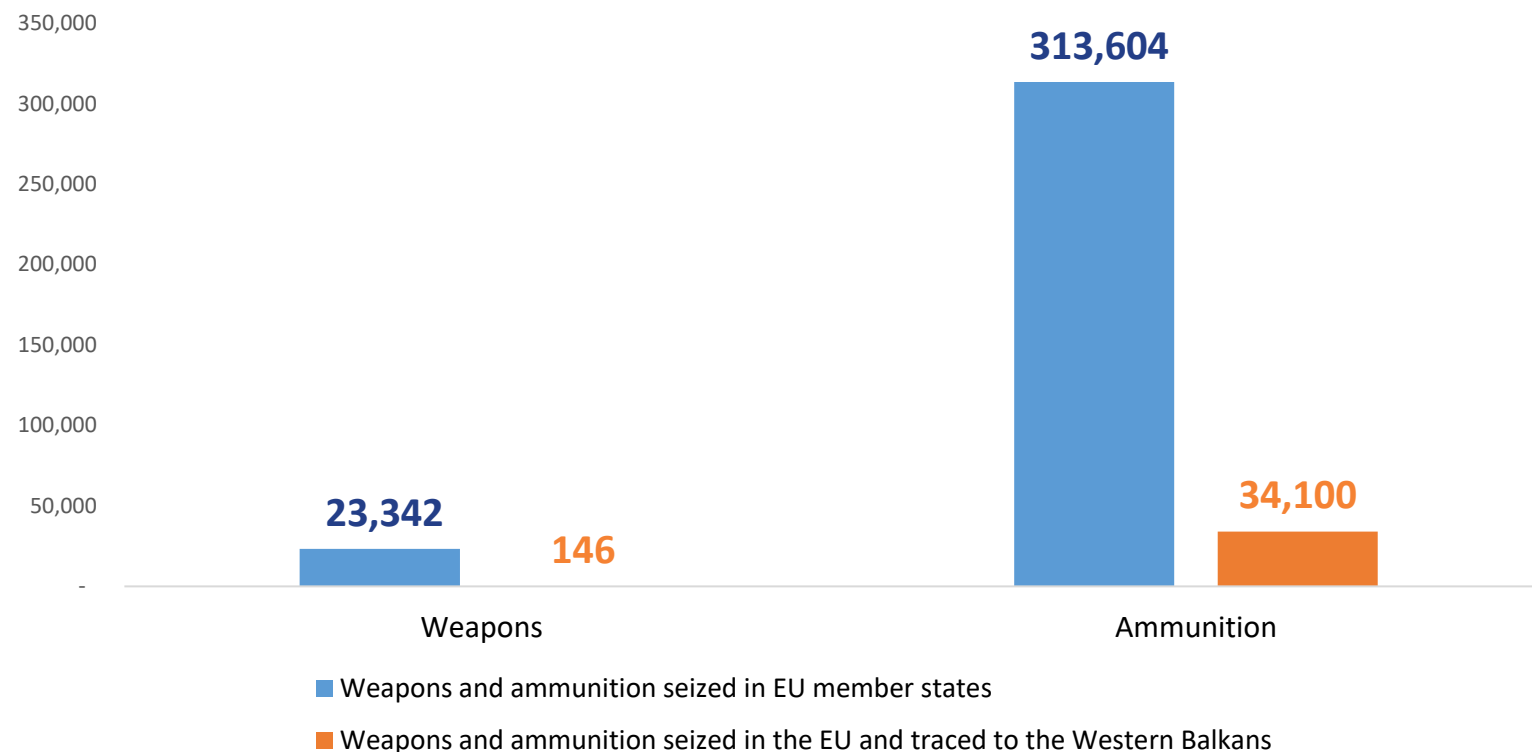
Weapons seized inland and at the borders 2018-2025



3 Goal

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Key Performance Indicator 5 – *Number of reported cases and quantity of WAE seized at the borders of the European Union and traced to the Western Balkans, and the number of reported cases and quantity of those seized within the European Union and traced to the Western Balkans*



- 15 EU Member States submitted data: Belgium, **Bulgaria**, **Croatia**, **Denmark**, Estonia, France, **Greece**, **Hungary**, Ireland, Luxembourg, Malta, **the Netherlands**, **Romania**, Slovakia and Sweden.



4 Goal

By 2030, significantly reduce the supply, demand, illicit possession and misuse of arms, ammunition and explosives through the means of prevention (KPIs 9, 10, and 13)

Reported progress

Activities on **awareness raising, outreach, and education** reported across all the jurisdictions:

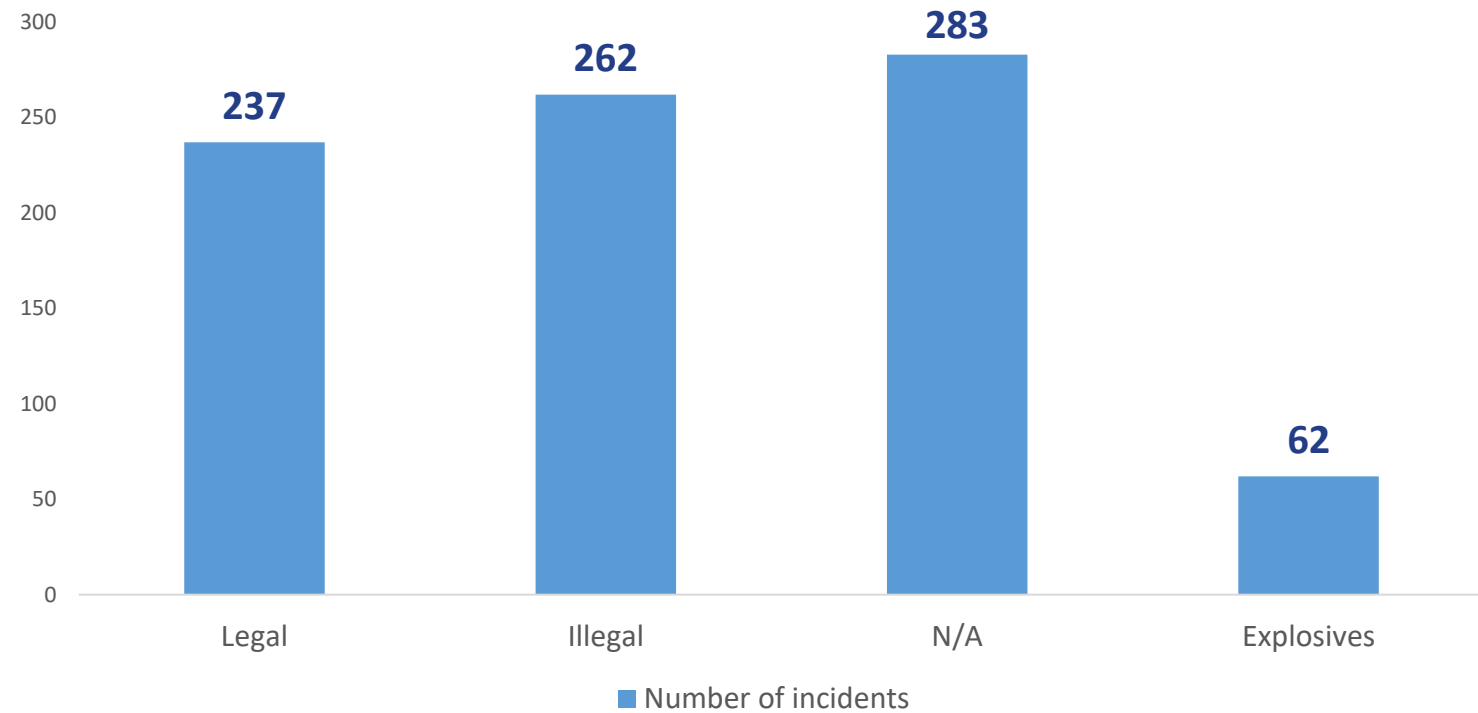
- Risks of misuse and illicit possession of firearms among the general population (most jurisdictions)
 - Awareness-raising campaigns on celebratory shootings (Pristina, Skopje, and Republika Srpska in BiH)
- Firearms misuse in gender-based and domestic violence (most jurisdictions)
- Targeting and engaging youth/young men (Belgrade, Tirana)
- Reducing firearms in illicit and legal possession (Podgorica, Belgrade, and Republika Srpska and Tuzla Canton in BiH)
- Dedicated awareness-raising campaigns among licensed and legal entities and WAE producers remain limited to inspections and routine monitoring.

Number of incidents committed with weapons and explosives in 2025

4

Goal

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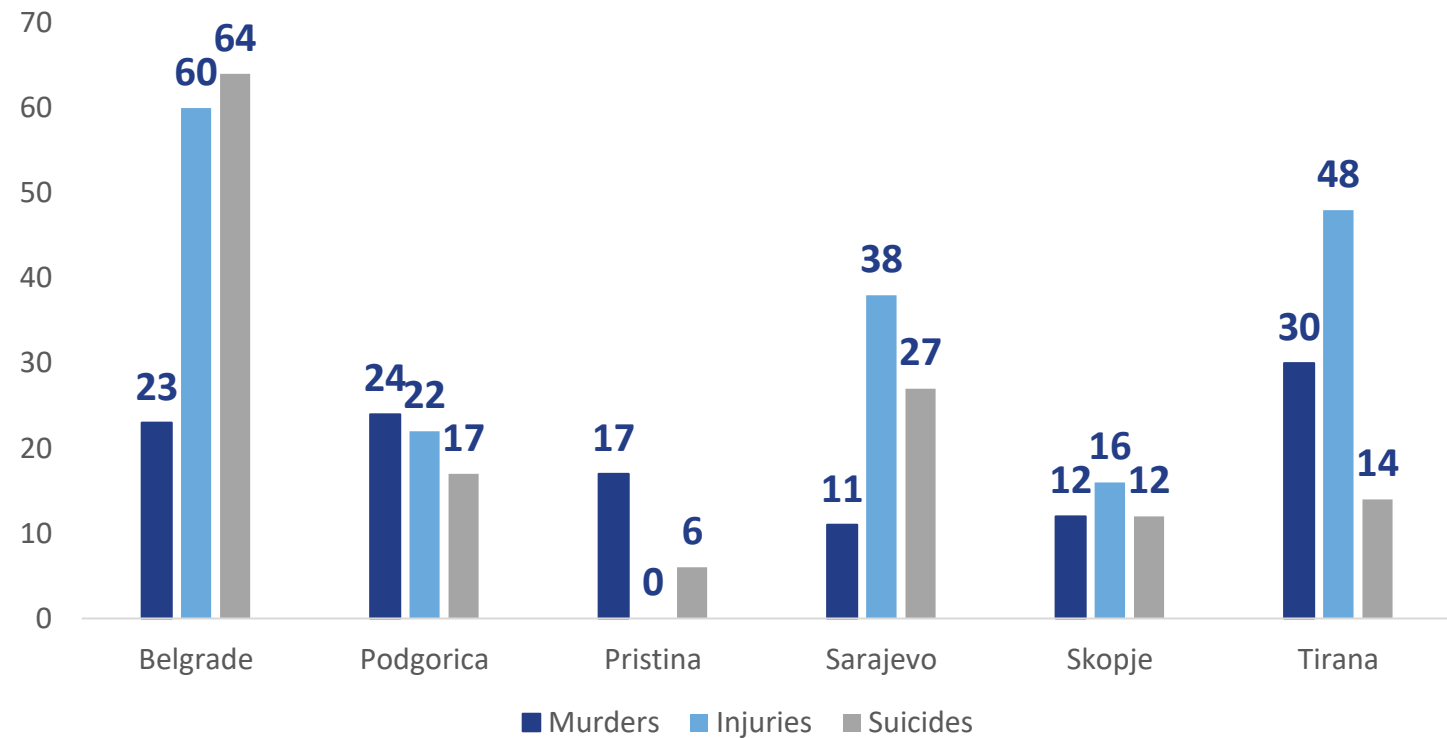


4

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Results of incidents committed with firearms by jurisdiction in 2025

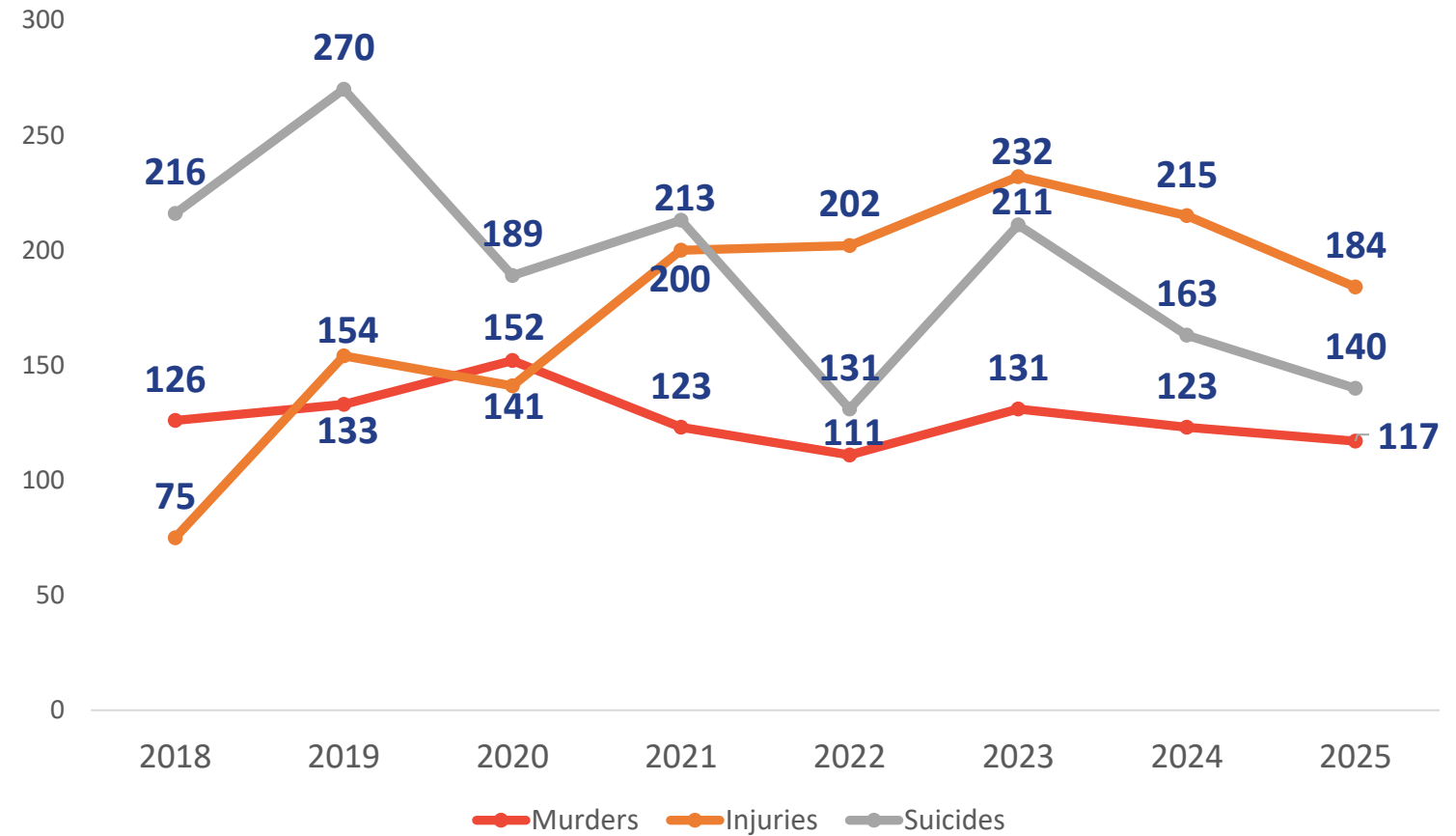


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Results of incidents committed with firearms 2018-2025

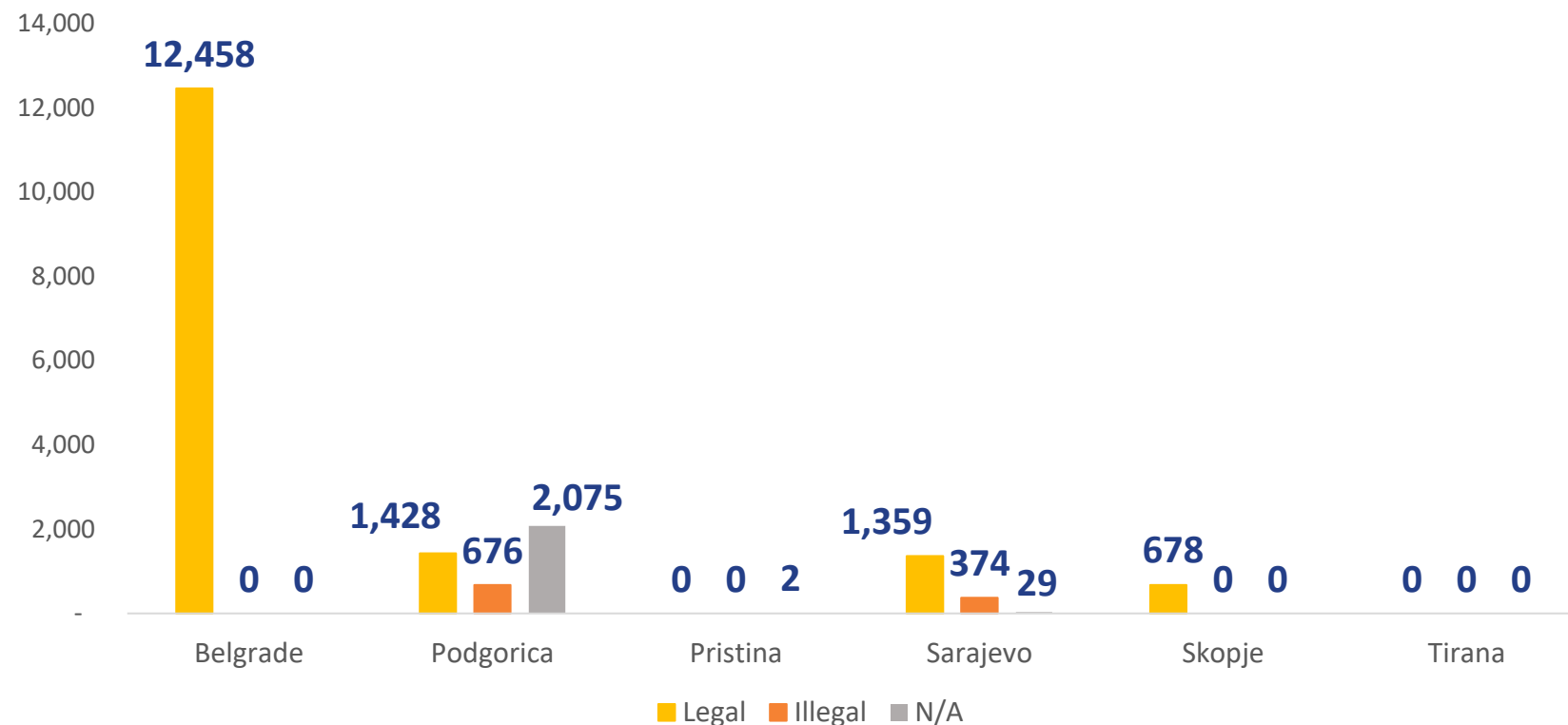


4

Goal

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Weapons voluntarily surrendered by weapon status in 2025

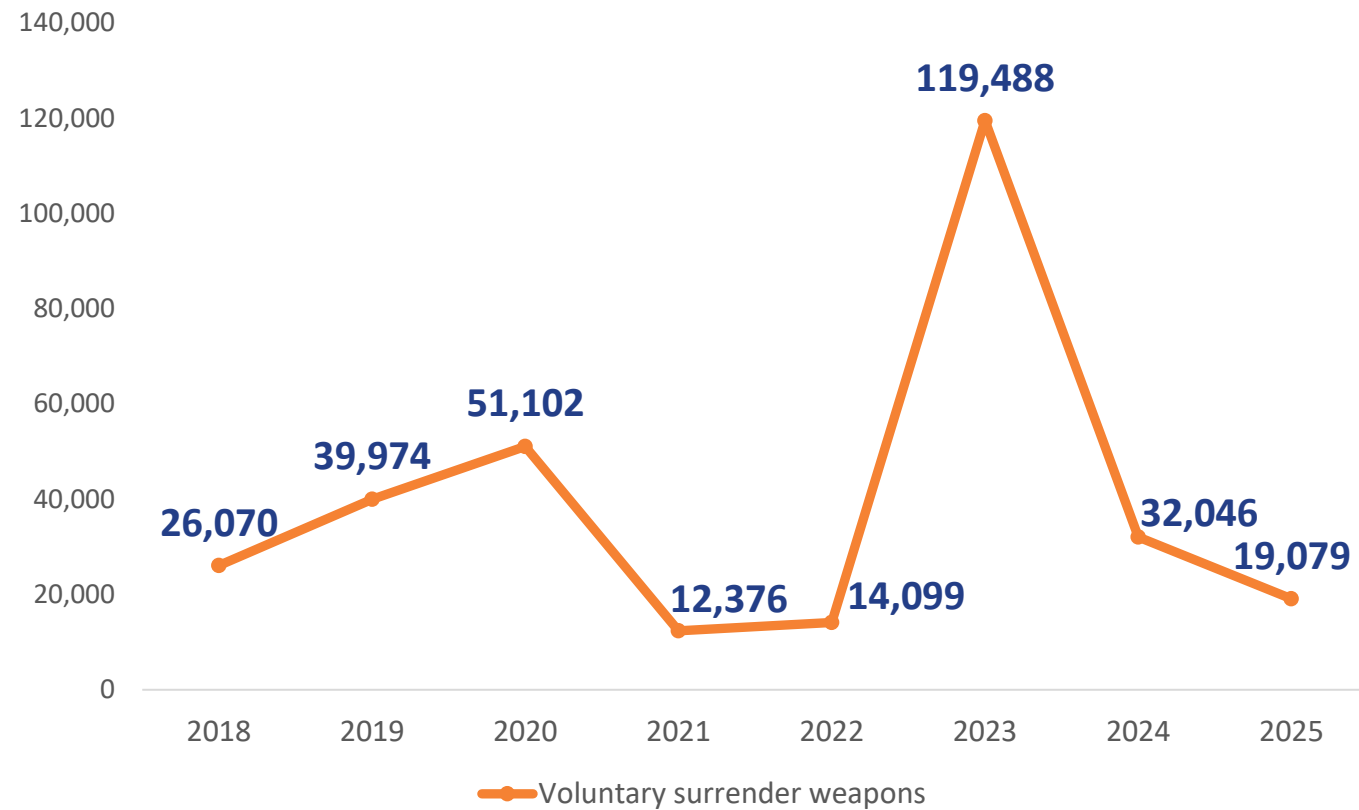


4

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Voluntary surrender of weapons across the region 2018-2025

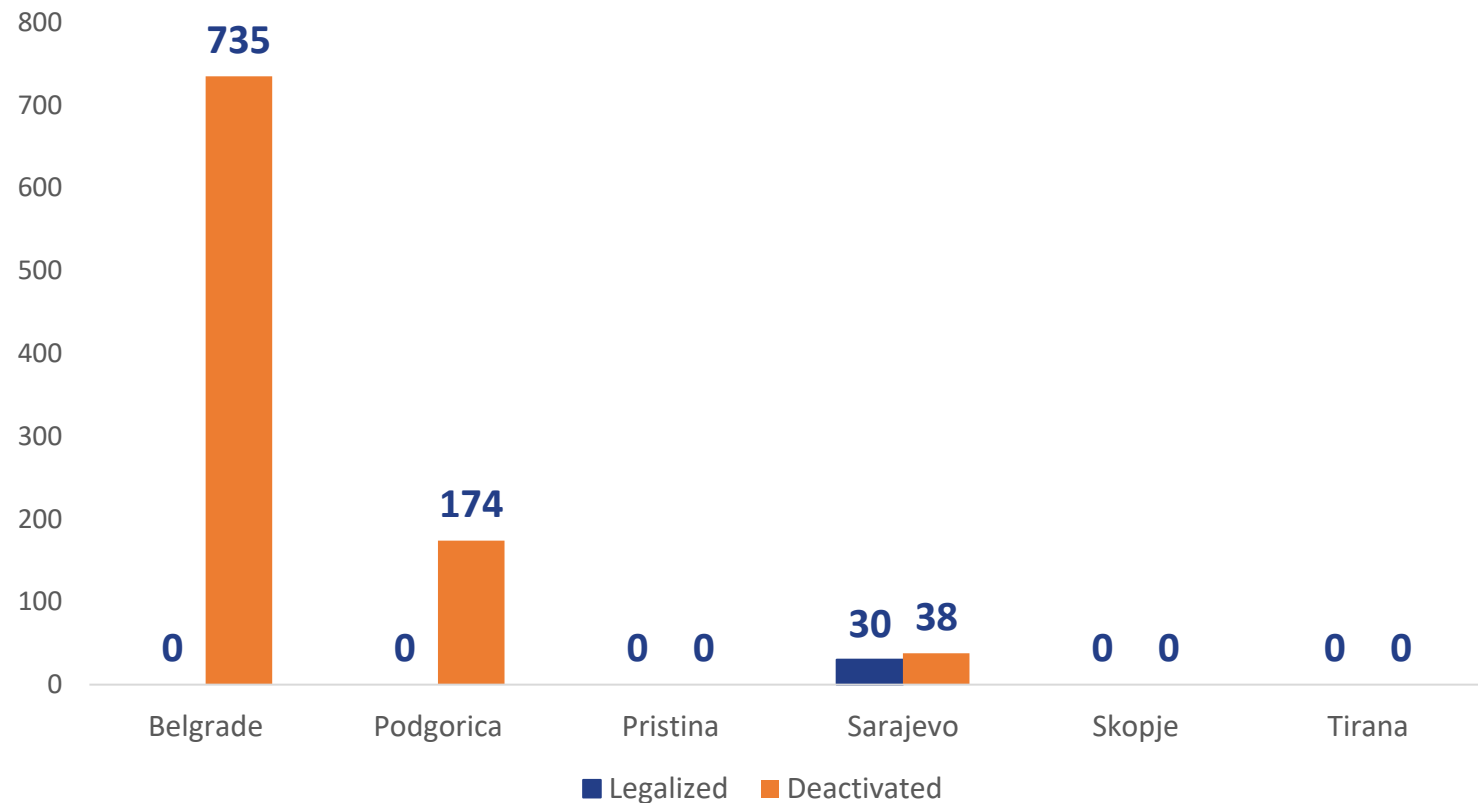


4

Goal

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Legalized and deactivated weapons by jurisdiction in 2025





4

Goal

By 2030, significantly reduce the supply, demand, illicit possession and misuse of arms, ammunition and explosives through the means of prevention (KPIs 9, 10, and 13)

Reported progress

All jurisdictions reported ongoing efforts to operationalise and institutionalise the deactivation process:

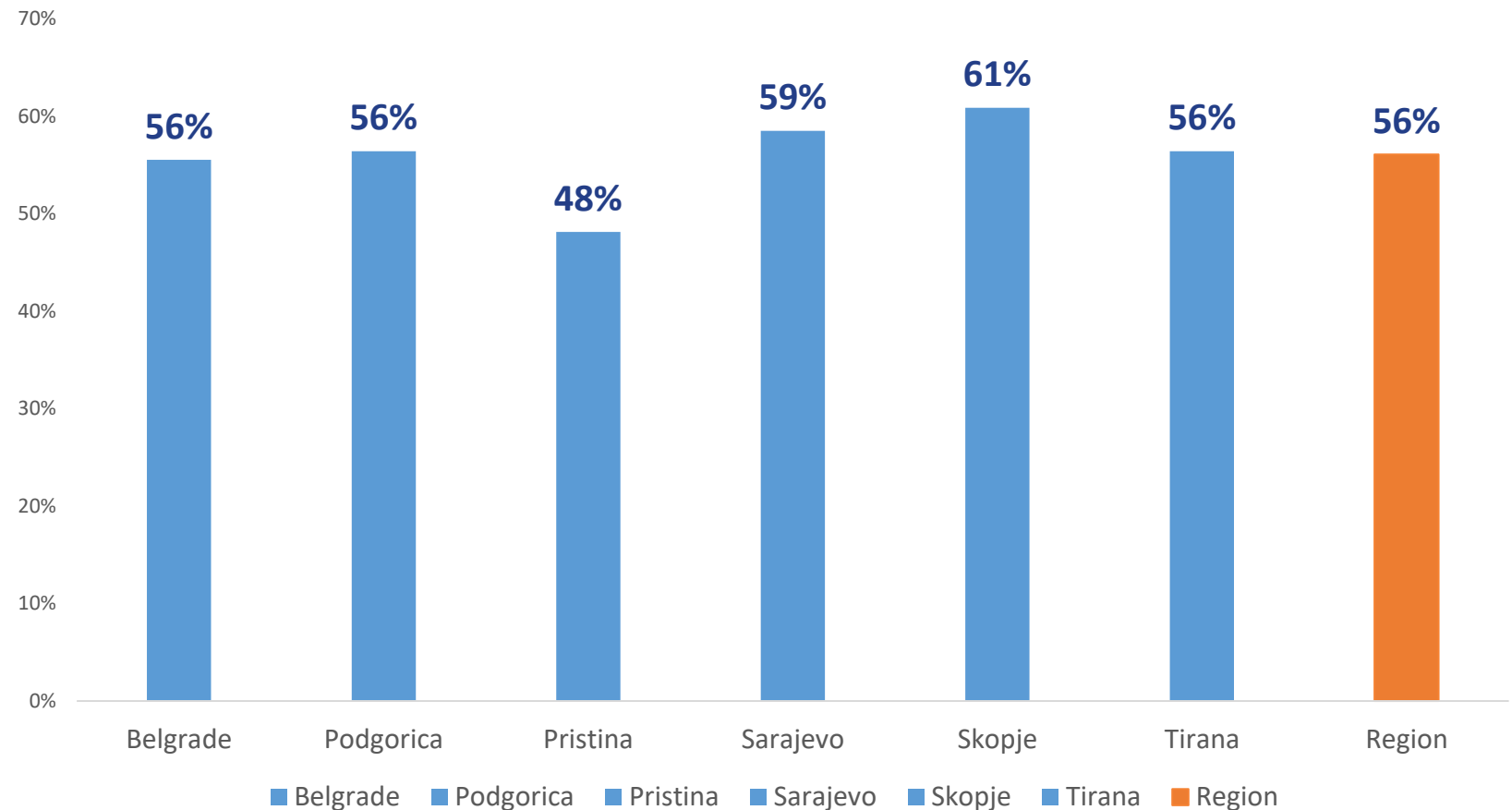
- **Belgrade** reported completing upgrades at the Agency for Deactivation.
- **Podgorica** and **Belgrade** reported evaluation of the legal framework on deactivation, technical and institutional capacities.
- The operationalisation of the proof house in **Pristina** reported as ongoing.
- Works in two Verification Centres for Deactivated Firearms were reported as completed in **Tuzla Canton** and **Republika Srpska**.
- **Skopje** reported the finalization of an SOP on weapons deactivation.
- **Tirana** enhanced the deactivation capacities through specialised equipment.

Percentage of citizens feeling threatened by the illegal possession and misuse of weapons in 2025

4

Goal

By 2030, significantly reduce the supply, demand, illicit possession and misuse of arms, ammunition and explosives through the means of prevention (KPIs 9, 10, and 13)



Destroyed surplus & confiscated weapons and ammunition in 2025

5
Goal

By 2030, substantially decrease the risk of proliferation and diversion through improved safety and security of the stockpiles and disposal of weapons, ammunition and explosives (KPIs 11 and 12)

SURPLUS



77.3 tonnes

CONFISCATED



2,434 pieces

11,214 pieces

**VOLUNTARY
SURRENDER**



7,342 pieces

Reported progress

- **Enhanced security of storages** was reported by most jurisdictions:
 - **Belgrade** – lockers for WAE storage and enhanced security of the evidence rooms.
 - **Podgorica** – enhanced technical capacities on fire-prevention in ammunition storage facilities.
 - **Sarajevo** – ongoing activities for the upgrade of one weapons storage facility.
 - **Skopje** – launched activities for the upgrade of the Orman warehouse site.
 - **Tirana** – improved surveillance capacities of the Armed Forces depots and SOPs development.
- All jurisdictions reported **regular inspections** for all relevant legal entities, while limited inspections were reported for individuals.

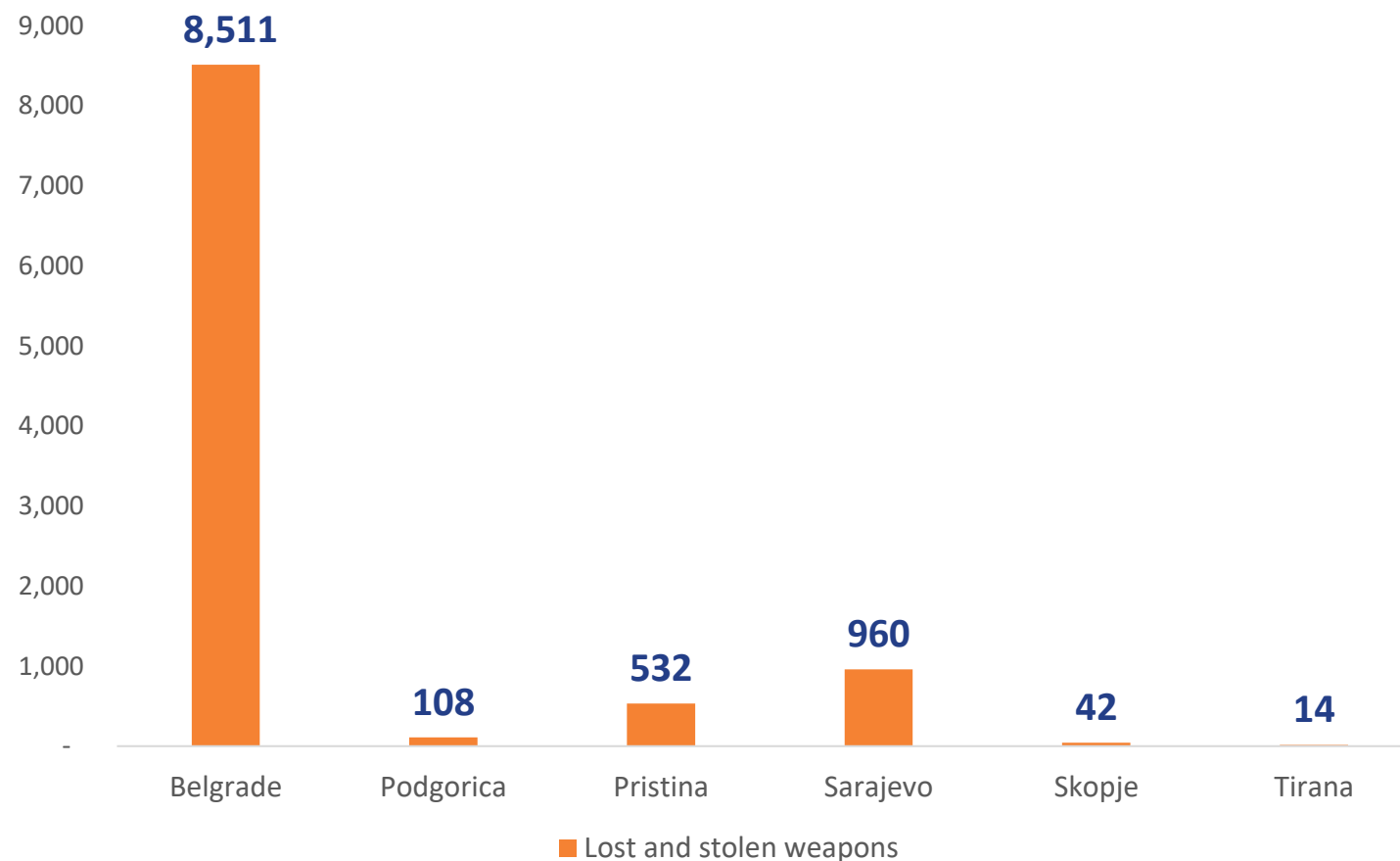
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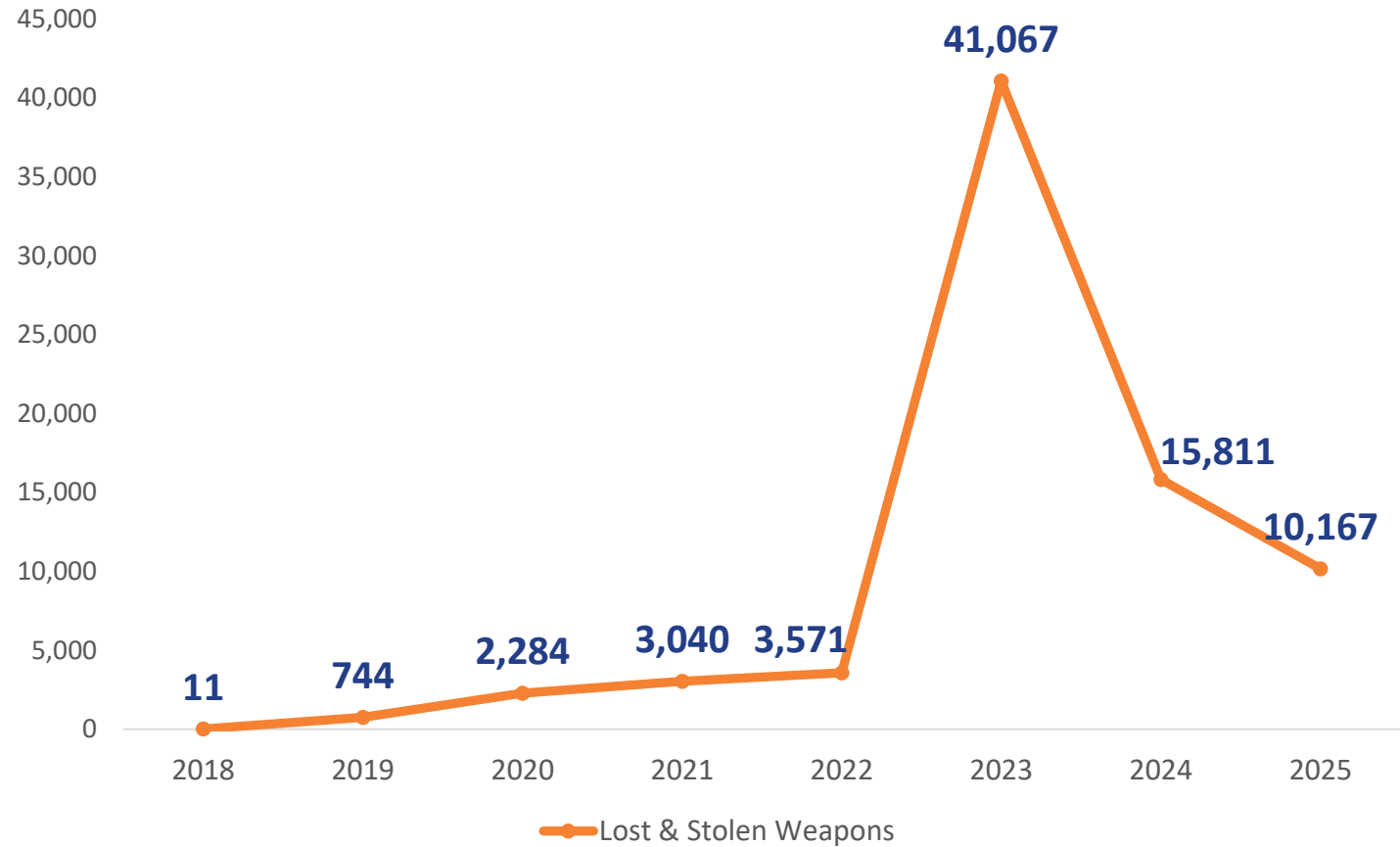
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Lost and stolen weapons by jurisdiction in 2025



Lost and stolen weapons across the region (2018-2025)



5
Goal

By 2030, substantially decrease the risk of proliferation and diversion through improved safety and security of the stockpiles and disposal of weapons, ammunition and explosives (KPIs 11 and 12)



15th Regional Progress Reports

Challenges and needs

- **Knowledge and expertise** in the area of harmonization with EU Acquis, in particular on explosives precursors control.
- **Automated data exchange** among law enforcement agencies and criminal justice institutions.
- Outreach to the general public on the new legal framework (including deactivation, voluntary surrender, and legalization).
- **No legal provisions** on voluntary surrender of illegal weapons in several jurisdictions.
- Continuous need for **strengthening the capacities of storage facilities**.



Thank you!

**South Eastern and Eastern Europe
Clearinghouse for the Control of
Small Arms and Light Weapons
(SEESAC)**

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