

Pristina - 15th Roadmap Local Coordination Meeting on Small Arms and Light Weapons

9 June 2026

Opening remarks

The fifteenth Local Coordination Meeting on the implementation of the Western Balkans SALW Control Roadmap was convened by the Small Arms and Light Weapons Commission, which welcomed participants. The meeting was also opened with remarks by the Ambassadors of the Federal Republic of Germany and the France.

Legal framework

The law on weapons has not been adopted, while the law on explosives was adopted in 2026, outside the reporting period. The Commission reported that SALW legislation remains largely harmonized with the relevant EU directives and regulations, and that the criminal code remains highly harmonized with the UN Firearms Protocol, as assessed by UNODC in 2020. The list of strategic goods was updated in April 2026. No activity was undertaken on the legalization and voluntary surrender of weapons, ammunition and explosives. A revision of that law was deferred pending a more stable institutional environment.

Strategy and action plan

An assessment of the action plan under the 2024 to 2028 SALW strategy was carried out in 2025. Implementation results by strategic objective were reported as follows:

- 7.7% - legislative harmonization;
- 41% - comprehensive approach to reducing SALW-related risks;
- 67% - development of institutional capacities;
- 65% - reduction of SALW and illicit possession, with cooperation with citizens;
- 64% - systematic reduction of surplus and diversion risk.

Awareness raising: "Celebrate with your heart, not your gun"

The Ministry of Internal Affairs and Police continued the campaign against celebratory shooting, extended in this period to domestic violence and to the safe use of fireworks. Reported developments include:

- Over 1.4 million impressions on Facebook and approximately 880,000 persons reached through YouTube and Google advertising, with two video spots produced in Albanian and Serbian.
- A 24.8% decrease in reports of weapons used during celebrations, and a 6% year-on-year reduction in persons detained or arrested for such use; 227 arrests were recorded over the past two years, and one person was injured by celebratory shooting during the year.
- A public mural in central Pristina, school-based sessions reaching around 209 high-school students across three centres, and planned activities for 2026 including structured school modules, youth camps in all municipalities, an anonymous reporting platform, and awareness messages displayed on city buses in official languages.

Operational results and firearms tracing

The national firearms tracing unit reported, for 2025: 1,383 seized weapons and approximately 14,000 rounds of ammunition; 373 gas weapons, of which 51 weapons had been converted to firearms. Of the seized weapons the majority were illegal, while 371 were legal weapons misused in incidents or offences. Stolen weapons rose by 220%, from 160 in 2024 to 516 in 2025, and weapons reported lost rose from 3 to 16. A total of 1,033 weapons were traced internationally through cooperation with Europol and Interpol. There were 17 firearm-related murders and no domestic violence cases involving firearms. Investigations were opened into the rise in lost and stolen weapons, on the suspicion that some reports are false and that certain weapons declared stolen have surfaced abroad in connection with criminal offences.

Inspections, destruction, coordination and gender

- 636 weapons were destroyed with UNDP support, and 47 inspections of legal persons, shooting ranges and storage facilities were carried out, with an increase in inspections of storage held by individuals possessing more than six weapons.
- The Commission held six meetings in the period, with civil society participation. The “consignation” practice of transferring weapons between licensed companies, previously permitted, is no longer allowed as of 2026.
- On gender, three women’s civil society organizations took part in a regional workshop in Tirana in July 2025, the regional analysis on women and SALW in the Balkans was endorsed, and “12 steps for sustainable gender inclusion in SALW control” was published.

Key findings from the 15th Progress Reports

Following the interventions by the relevant institutions, **UNDP SEESAC** presented **the key findings** of the data reported through the 15th Roadmap Progress Reports, covering both the Narrative Progress Report and the Key Performance Indicators Report.

Plans and activities of international organizations

UNDP

Activities reported include

- supported destruction of 636 weapons;
- development and one-year maintenance of the SERA firearms and explosives database, enabling registration and management of firearms, explosives and fireworks;
- a five-day workshop in November 2025 on the law on weapons, ammunition and other security equipment for authorised state institutions;
- cybercrime and darknet training, including a two-day course and the training of 12 cyber investigators;
- support to the development of and training on standard operating procedures in December 2025;
- continued support to the “Celebrate with your heart, not your gun” campaign.

OSCE reported substantial, previously unreported progress on weapons deactivation.

- In cooperation with the SALW proof house in Saint-Étienne, France, six experts were trained and certified, comprising two experts from the Forensic Agency and four inspectors from the Ministry of Internal Affairs.
- Deactivation control is to be centralised at the Forensic Agency, and a deactivation workshop has been established, equipped by OSCE and refurbished with Forensic Agency funding;
- Legislative amendment is required, and a new deactivation capacity is expected before the end of the year.
- OSCE also continued support to the Kosovo¹ Police K9 unit through a project amended in November 2025, covering capacity building and training, technical and infrastructural capacities, and the gender perspective, including a regional canine-unit certification training with OSCE Skopje and the conversion of a building at the “Vrella” camp into a modular training facility, with activities continuing through 2026 and 2027.

UNODC

- Under Project Hermes a gap analysis and joint action plan were developed and funded through the multi-partner trust fund, supported by at least three trainings and mentoring visits, an x-

¹ For the United Nations Development Programme, references to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999). For the European Union, this designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

ray scanner provided to customs with 12 officials trained, and cooperation with French customs on risk indicators, with detection figures expected at the end of June.

- Under Project Justitia, outputs include the first commentary on firearms offences in the criminal code, authored by two Supreme Court judges and distributed to the legal community, guidelines on special investigative measures, and firearms case-law collections, with delivery relying on local experts to ensure sustainability.

UNDP SEESAC

- SEESAC presented an overview of its current activities and plans for further work. The presentation covered support to the harmonization of the firearms, ammunition and explosives (FAE) legislative framework, evidence-based SALW control policies, Gender and SALW, and the SALW Commission, as well as support provided to the criminal police, border police and customs authorities. Furthermore, support to the FFP and the CSI Unit was highlighted, together with plans for further support in these areas. Finally, support to physical security and stockpile management (PSSM) and awareness-raising activities was also highlighted.

Donor interventions

Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) Secretariat

- An overview was provided of the **MPTF** supporting the implementation of the SALW Control Roadmap in the Western Balkans. It was noted that the Trust Fund received new contributions from the Netherlands and France in 2025, bringing total contributions since its establishment to USD 30.4 million. The recent decision of the MPTF Steering Committee to allocate an additional USD 1 million for immediate priorities across the region in 2026 was also highlighted. Looking ahead, the Trust Fund is awaiting proposals for new activities from implementing organizations, to be developed in close coordination with and endorsed by the relevant SALW Commissions. In this context, in-kind and direct financial contributions from national authorities were encouraged as an important element in informing and guiding future support and priorities.