

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

Monitoring Framework

(13th Progress Reports)

Podgorica

Nenad Bošković
Project Analyst
SEESAC



ROADMAP IMPLEMENTATION

Monitoring & Coordination Platform

Monitoring

SALW Commissions submit progress reports on biannual and annual basis;

- Annual KPI Report (1 January – 31 December 2024);
- Biannual Roadmap narrative reports (1 January – 31 December 2024);

SEESAC integrates the data and information into a regional report.

Coordination

- Local Coordination Meetings
 - Regional Coordination Meetings (Sarajevo, 8-9 July 2025)
 - Multi Partner Trust Fund
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ROADMAP (2019-2024) FINAL REVIEW

- The review will look at the following key aspects at the regional and jurisdictions' level:
 - progress in the implementation of the Roadmap Goals during the first phase and follow up to the Mid-term Review recommendations;
 - the challenges and gaps identified in the implementation of the Roadmap's first phase;
 - mapping of support in the implementation of the Roadmap.
- To be completed by end of 2025.





Goal 1

(KPI 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.

- Key laws on **civil use of firearms and ammunition** remain partially harmonised with the EU Acquis:
 - **Draft Law on Weapons** was finalized;
 - **Draft Law on Explosives for Civilian Use** was finalized and submitted to the European Commission for final review;
 - Working group to develop the **Law on explosive precursors** established.
 - Legal framework on **military use of FAE** reported as harmonised with the EU Acquis;
 - Amendments of the **Criminal Code** were adopted since 2023.
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Goal 2

(KPI 2, 3, 7 & 8)

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

- **SALW Commission** coordinating and monitoring activities under the Roadmap and SALW Control Strategy and Action Plan (2019-2025).
 - Evaluation of the Strategy to be initiated.
- **Firearms Focal Point** established and operational in data collection and analysis, preparation of intelligence reports on firearms-related crimes.
- Improvements of the **Ballistic laboratory** continued through basic and advanced training.
- Capacities of the **Forensic Centre, CSI unit** and **Criminal Police** were improved through provision of equipment following specific needs assessments.
- Forensic Center, ballistic and crime scene investigation experts were supported with participation in international expert meetings, trainings and study visits.



Goal 2

(KPI 2, 3, 7 & 8)

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

- Regular use and exchange of information through **SIENA** and **iARMS** reported;
 - Participation in intelligence and operational phase of **JAD SEE 2024** including as co-leader was reported;
 - **Standardization and institutionalization of data collection and exchange** across law enforcement institutions remains to be implemented
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KPI 3

Illegal possession of FAE	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Reported cases during the reporting period	<i>No data</i>	0	279	241	108	<i>No data</i>	241
Reported individuals during the reporting period	368	329	393	257	306	194	<i>No data</i>
Solved with conviction (adjudicated)	274	281	274	152	181	103	124
Solved in another way	No data	No data	No data	No data	21	0	<i>No data</i>



Goal 3

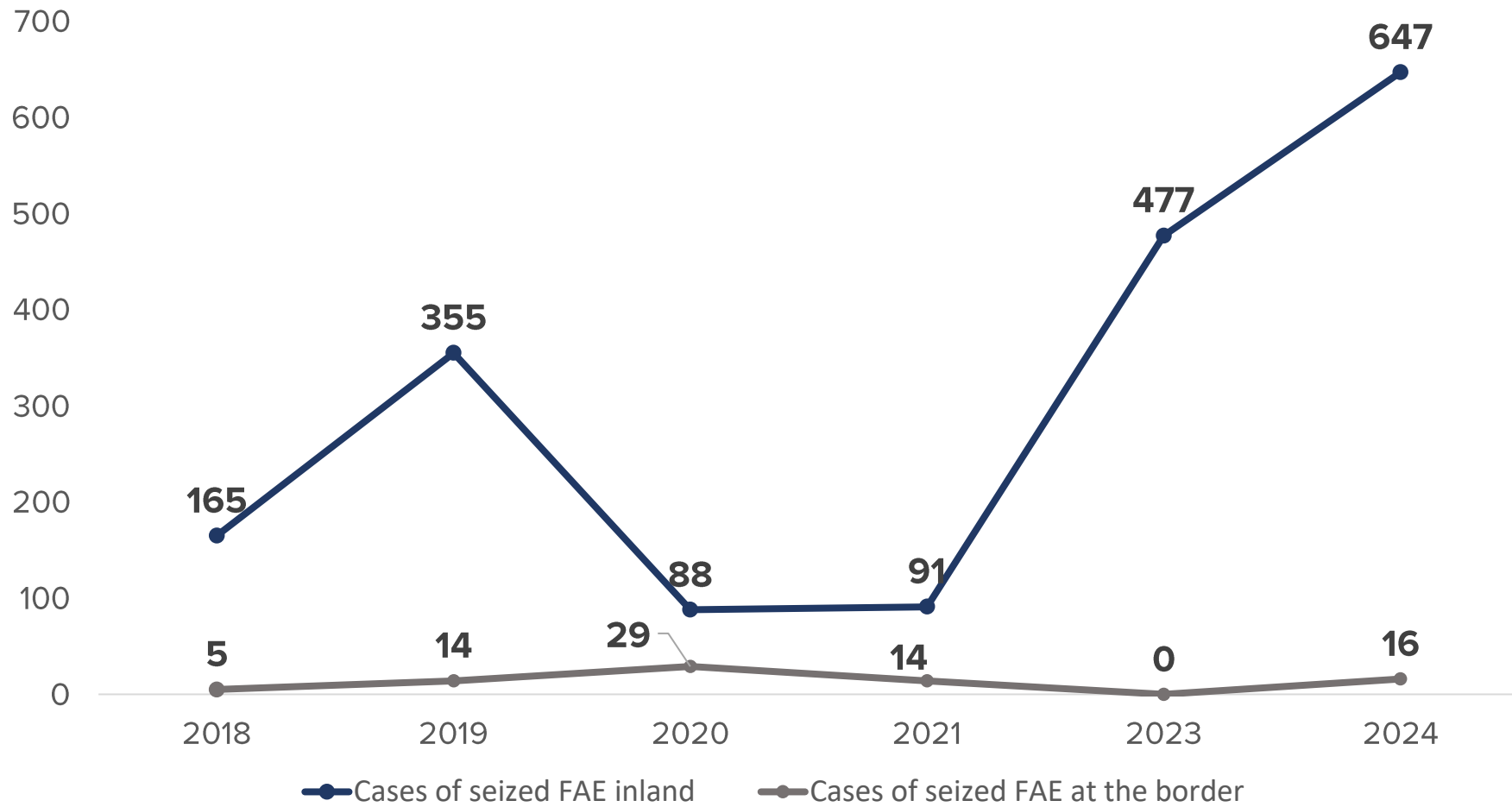
(KPI 4, 6 & 9)

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

- Enhanced capacities in preventing and countering trafficking of FAE:
 - Specialised equipment, training, workshops,
 - Enhanced K-9 capacities in detecting weapons and ammunition,
 - Enhanced sea border patrolling capacities,
 - Improved detection capacities of trafficking through parcels,
 - Cross-border cooperation was strengthened.
 - Continued cooperation in countering trafficking of firearms with **INTERPOL**, **EUROPOL**, and **FRONTEX** reported;
 - Active participation in Armstrong operation including as co-leader.
 - **No cases of diversion** of arms exports were reported.
 - A higher number of **seizures** took place inland than at the border.
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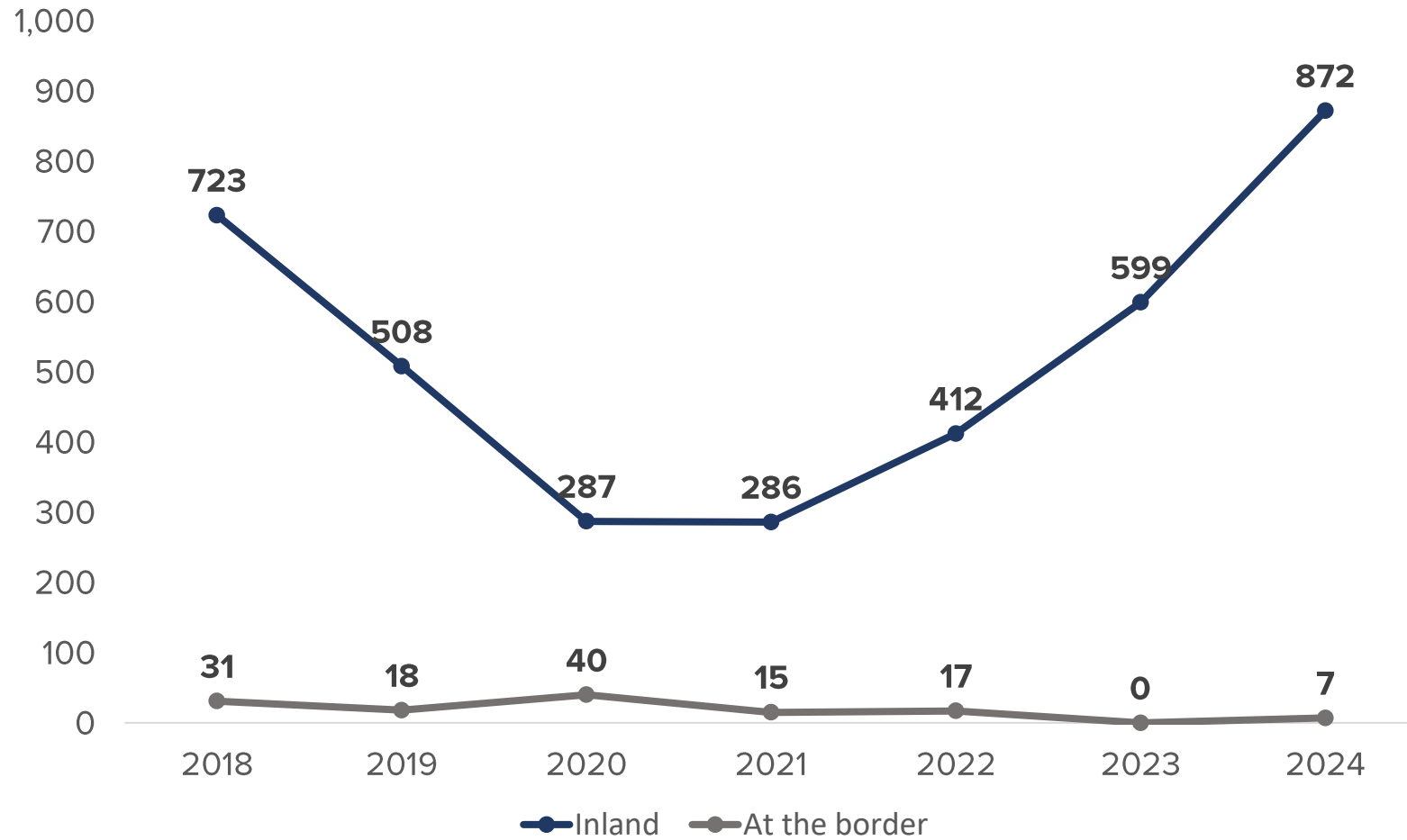
KPI 4

Cases of seized FAE 2018-2024



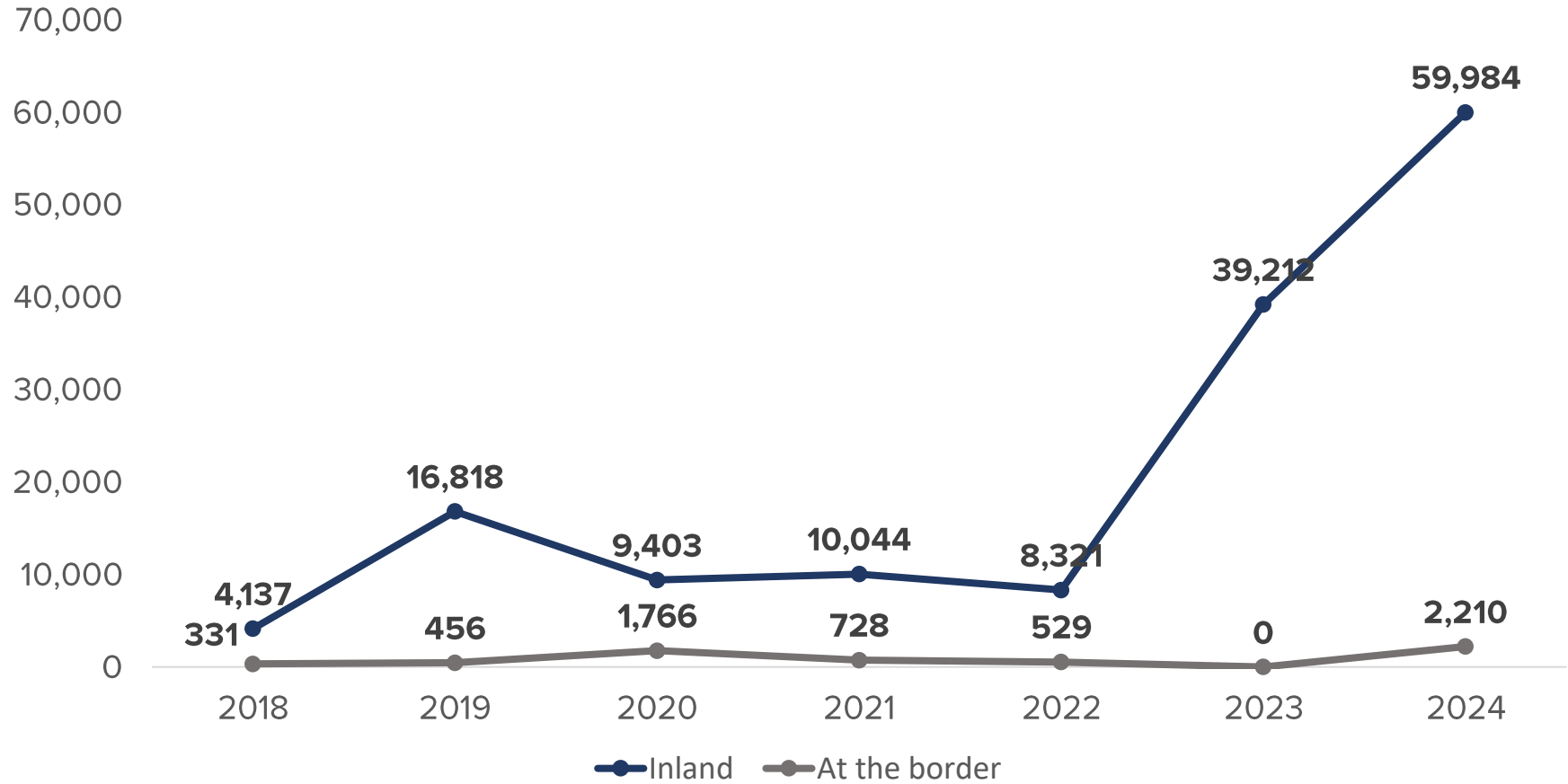
KPI 4

Quantity of seized firearms (pcs) 2018-2024



KPI 4

Quantity of seized ammunition (pcs) 2018-2024





Goals 4&5

(KPI 10 & 11)

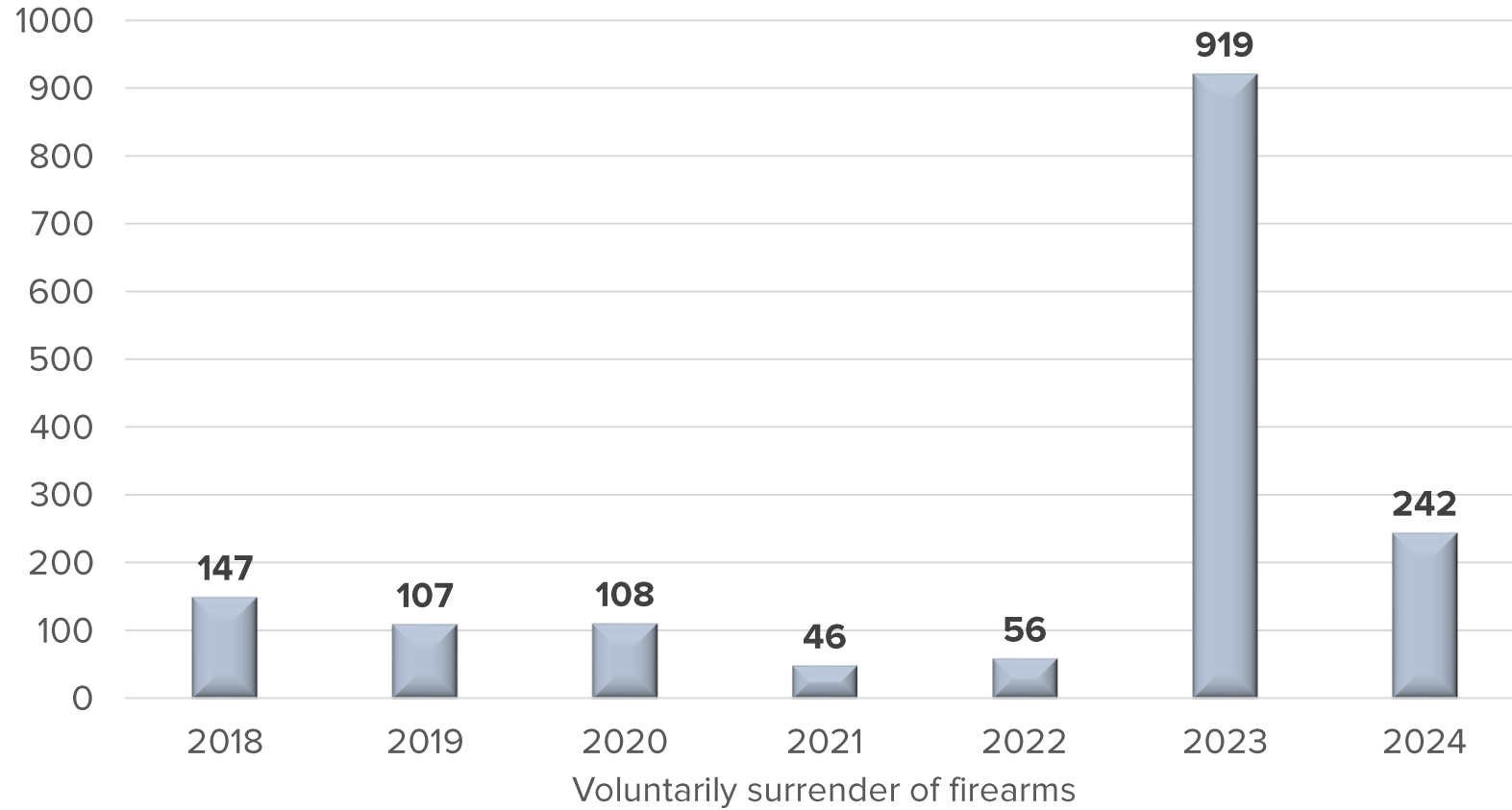
By 2024, significantly reduce the supply, demand and misuse of firearms through increased awareness, education, outreach and advocacy.

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

- Limited activities related to **awareness raising** on the dangers and risks related to the misuse, illicit possession, and trafficking of firearms/SALW;
- In 2024, 242 pieces of **firearms/SALW** were **voluntarily surrendered**;
- 3,930 pieces of **ammunition** were **voluntarily surrendered**;
- 52 pieces of registered weapons were **deactivated**;

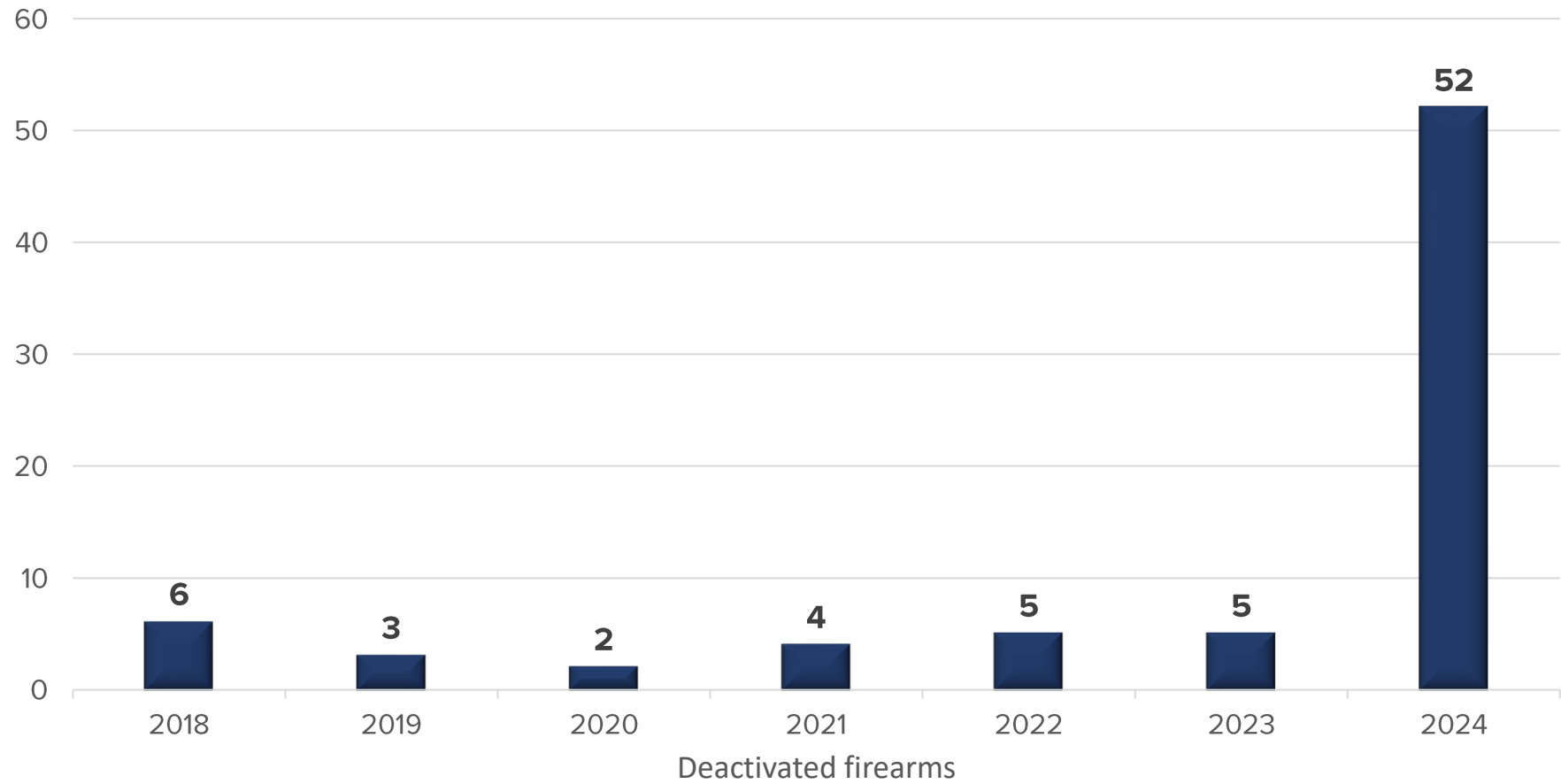
KPI 11

Voluntarily surrender of firearms 2018-2024



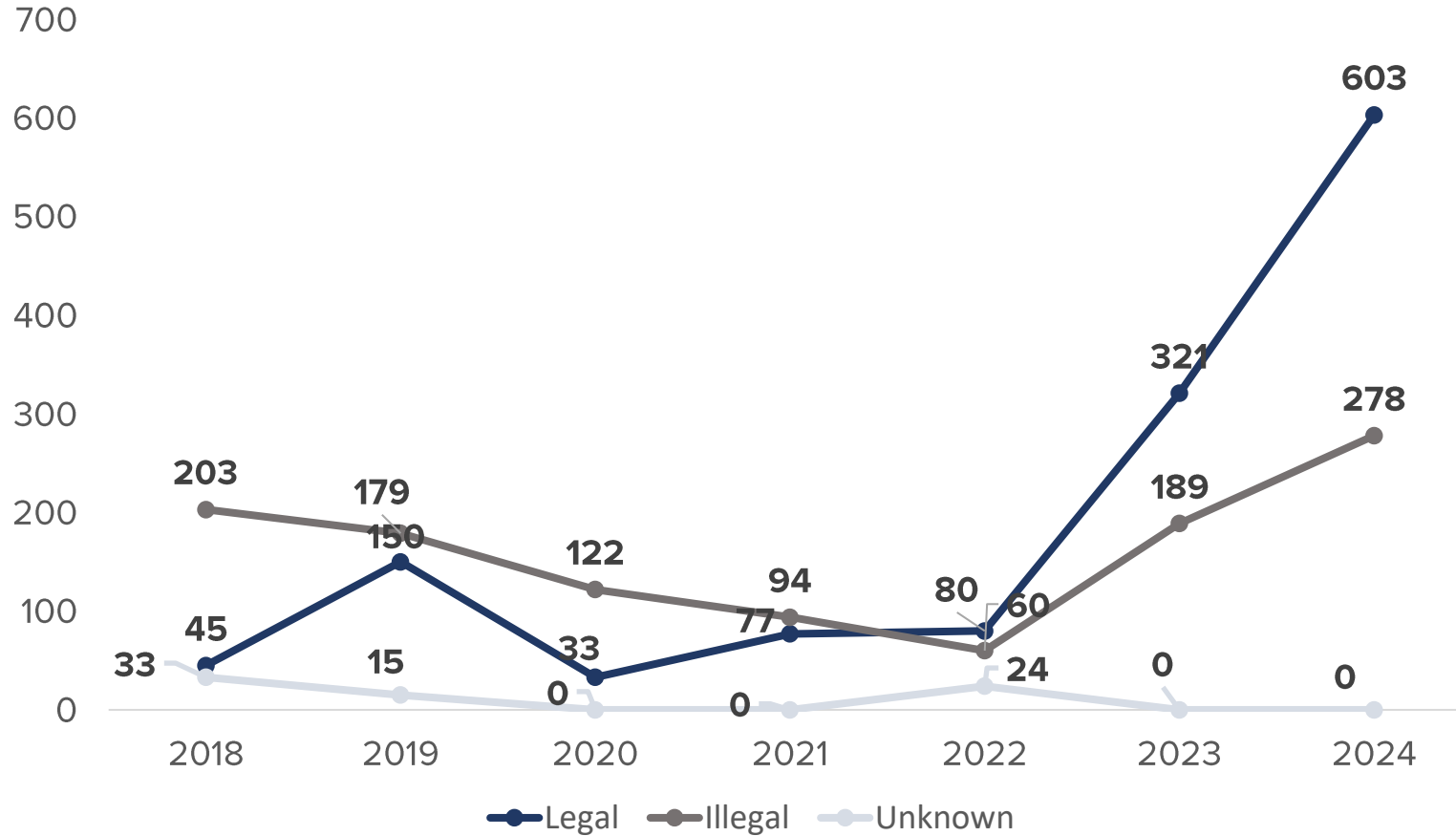
KPI 11

NUMBER OF DEACTIVATED FIREARMS 2018-2024



KPI 10

NUMBER OF FIREARM-RELATED INCIDENTS 2018-2024



- 2024 recorded the highest number of firearm-related incidents since 2018



Goals 4&5

(KPI 10 & 11)

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

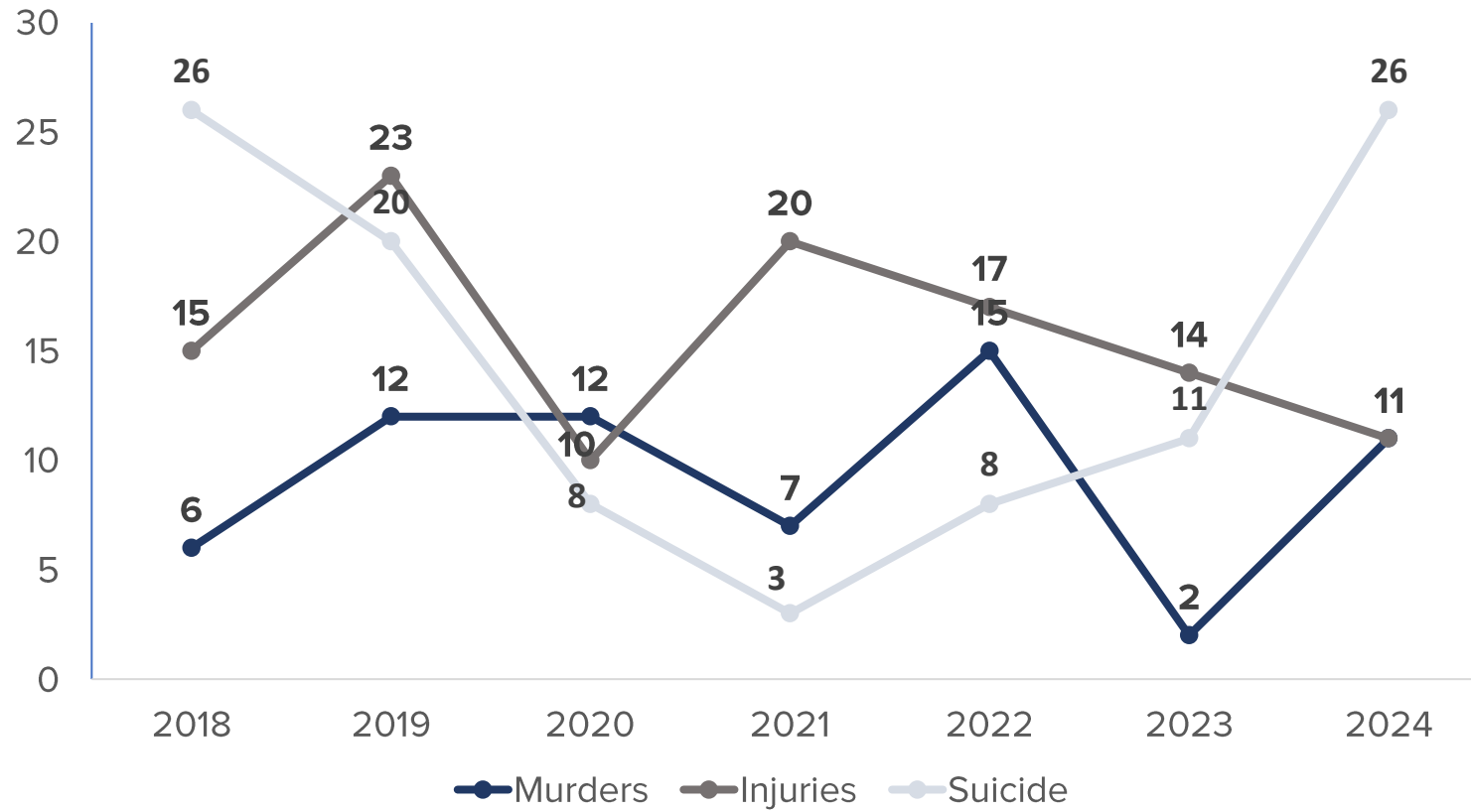
By 2024, substantially decrease the estimated number of firearms in illicit possession in the Western Balkans.

From 2019-2024:

- Incidents in the **criminal context** totaled 145 cases, with 44 **armed robberies** and 59 incidents linked to **organized crime** reported.
- Firearm incidents related to **domestic violence** fluctuated over the years, peaking in 2023 and totaling 37 incidents overall.
- Incidents with **handguns** were the most common recorded type of firearm (406 cases in total).
- Incidents with **gas pistols** (33 cases) and **automatic/military-grade weapons** (48 cases) showed an upward trend, especially in 2024.

KPI 10

OUTCOME OF INCIDENTS 2018-2024





Goals 6&7

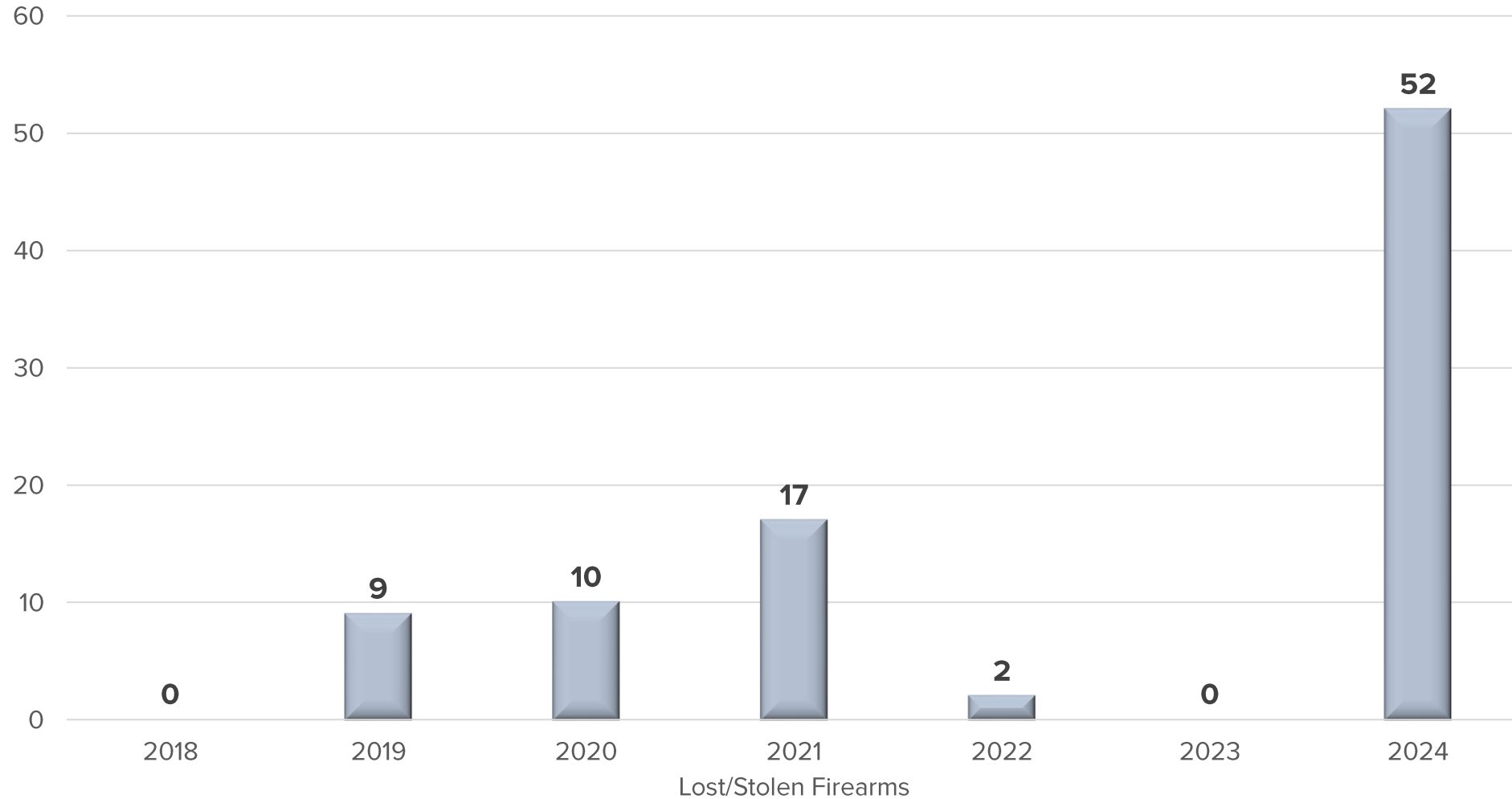
(KPI 12 & 13)

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.

- Surplus of ammunition and explosives were reduced by 630.54 tonnes
 - 531.63 tonnes were sold,
 - 64.73 tonnes were destroyed under the ITF programme,
 - 34.18 tonnes were disposed through donation.
 - Continued disposal of unexploded ordnances;
 - **Ad hoc inspections** of relevant legal entities dealing with firearms reported;
 - Work on improving storage security conditions of SALW/SCA reported.
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LOST AND STOLEN FIREARMS 2018-2024



THANK YOU!

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

www.seesac.org



Bulevar Zorana Đinđića 64,
11070 Belgrade,
Serbia



Tel: +381 11 415 5300
Fax: +381 11 415 5499
E-mail: seesac@undp.org



@SEESAC



@undp_seesac



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