



Council of the  
European Union

Brussels, 8 December 2015  
(OR. en)

14971/15  
ADD 1

COSI 184  
ENFOPOL 404  
ENFOCUSTOM 142  
CYBER 125  
CRIMORG 129

#### COVER NOTE

---

From:	European Commission
To:	JHA Counsellors / COSI Support Group Standing Committee on Operational Cooperation on Internal Security
No. Cion doc.:	COM(2015) 624 final - Annex 1
Subject:	ANNEX to the COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL Implementing the European Agenda on Security: EU action plan against illicit trafficking in and use of firearms and explosives

---

Delegations will find attached document COM(2015) 624 final - Annex 1.

---

Encl.: COM(2015) 624 final - Annex 1



Brussels, 2.12.2015  
COM(2015) 624 final

ANNEX 1

**ANNEX**

*to the*

**Communication from the European Commission to the European Parliament and the Council**

**Implementing the European Agenda on Security:  
EU action plan against illicit trafficking in and use of firearms and explosives**

## ANNEX: Priority actions

Objectives	Actions	Lead (and support by)	Timing
1. Restricting access to illegal firearms and explosives	a) Improve the intelligence pictures and monitor new risks through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve existing statistical and analysis tools and developing assessments at national level on movements of firearms and their availability, and prioritise exchange at EU level;</li> <li>• Europol to produce EU-wide analytical products and given the strong links with terrorism, to enhance EU IRU's monitoring role;</li> <li>• Mapping out global firearms trafficking routes to the EU by UNODC;</li> <li>• Engage with partners to improve knowledge on the illicit trafficking of firearms covering inter alia online trafficking and the diversion of legal trade;</li> <li>• Improve the access to all EU-wide and national analytical products to all law MS enforcement authorities;</li> <li>• Continue to provide financial assistance with a focus on projects with a comprehensive scope and a strong data collection impact;</li> <li>• Assess risks stemming from technological innovations, (such as 3D printing)</li> </ul>	Europol, MS, COM, UNODC	2016-2017
	b) Enhancing the security of explosives through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full implementation of the Regulation on Explosives Precursors;</li> <li>• Bringing forward the revision of the Precursors Regulation;</li> <li>• Assess the need to harmonise vetting standards and procedures at EU level</li> </ul>	COM, MS, stakeholders	From 2015
2. Enhancing operational cooperation	a) Full implementation of the Operational Action Plan (OAP) 2016 on firearms and additional support on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operational actions against online trafficking;</li> <li>• Evaluating the modalities for a system to exchange of information on the intra-EU transfers of firearms taking into account relevant existing EU information systems and instruments;</li> <li>• Exploring the possibility to prohibit cash payments in the context of sales or acquisition of firearms and ammunition by individuals;</li> </ul>	COM, Europol, Eurojust, CEPOL, MS	2015-2017

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reinforcing controls at the external borders by undertaking risk-based controls on goods and through establishing a Customs Priority Control Action;</li> <li>• Enhancing the tracing of firearms through the development of a handbook for tracking and tracing illegal firearms in the framework of the European Firearms Experts Group;</li> <li>• Developing common training curricula on firearms and explosives;</li> <li>• Developing innovative detection tools;</li> <li>• Joint operational actions involving all relevant law enforcement authorities.</li> </ul>		
3. Improving gathering and sharing of operational information on firearms by maximizing use of existing tools	a) Assessment of existing systems of exchange of information relevant to the fight against firearms and explosives trafficking with to ensure their technical compatibility with a particular attention given to the need to enhance police-customs cooperation and the development foreseen by the Firearms Directive	COM, Europol, Eurojust, INTERPOL, MS	2016
	b) Ensure effective interoperability between existing information systems, including SIS II, iARMS in relation with UMF	COM, Europol, INTERPOL	June 2016
	c) Extend the use of iTRACE, the European Bomb Data System (EBDS) and the Europol Analysis System while ensuring the full use of its Focal Point on firearms.	COM, EEAS, Europol, Eurojust, INTERPOL, MS	June 2016 and ongoing
	d) Enhance the exchange of ballistic information	COM, EEAS	Ongoing
4. Stronger cooperation with third countries	a) Enhancing operational activities and enlarging the scope of the EU/South East Europe region Action Plan	COM, EEAS, SEESAC	Ongoing
	b) Strengthening cooperation with Middle East and North African countries (MENA)	COM, EEAS, MS	Ongoing
	c) Enhancing cooperation with Ukraine and Turkey	COM, EEAS, MS	Ongoing and from 2015
	d) Enhancing cooperation with other relevant Third Countries', regional actors and international organisations	COM, EEAS, MS	From 2015