

Seminar

“Firearms and Explosives – transversal dimension”

14 April de 2021

(VTC Format)

Introductory note:

The fight against illicit trafficking in firearms is one of the priorities defended at European level, by several institutions, which in a coordinated way has made efforts to increase control over arms and increase the security of European citizens. In this fight, the actions developed with the sponsorship of the European Commission, the coordination of EUROPOL and the execution of operational actions through EMPACT FIREARMS are highlighted, which is assumed as the true platform that brings together all the efforts related to this aspect of fighting organized crime and violent. However, other organizations contribute to this effort, as is the case of FRONTEX, CEPOL, UNODC and even EFE, among others.

However, the whole effort would not be enough without the participation of the Member States and Portugal, assuming the European Presidency joins this effort and proposes to organize a seminar for the presentation and discussion of subjects and themes related to this priority.

On the other hand, and no less important, the theme of explosives and pyrotechnics is going through an important moment, added that the pandemic situation has brought new challenges, not only to economic operators, but also to the Administrations that control and supervise the activities since the manufacture until employment, implementing mechanisms so that these products do not enter the illegal circuit and serve to commit crimes.

Thus, the application of the Recovery and Resilience Plans to these sectors, as well as the recent entry into force of the Regulation (EU) on explosive precursors, will be grounds for careful analysis.

Agenda

Date:

April 14, 2021

Localization:

CCB - Lisbon (VTC format)

Level:

Technician

Organization:

Ministry of Internal Administration - General Secretariat

Public Security Police

Objective:

The objective of this Seminar is to create a space for multidisciplinary debate in the context of combating the illicit trafficking in firearms and the future challenges that arise in terms of control and supervision of activities related to manufacturing, trade, storage, transportation and use of explosive products, pyrotechnic articles and explosive precursors. One of the main aims of the Seminar is the consolidation of recent approved legislation and action plans, such as the EU COM Action Plan (2020-2025) to combat arms trafficking, the new 3rd Policy Cycle of EMPACT (2022- 2025), the Handbook on Firearms for Border Guards and Customs, the Global Firearms Programme of UNODC and the Recovery and Resilience Plans in the area of explosives and pyrotechnics.

Program

Opening of the Seminar

09:15 - 09:30

Initial intervention for the presentation of the Seminar and its objectives.

PT Presidency official film

Minister of Internal Administration, Dr. Eduardo Cabrita

1st Panel - The new cycle of combating firearms trafficking (2021-2025)

09:30 - 12:00

This panel intends to address the strategic dimension of the plans to be adopted in the coming years, by different organizations, in a transversal perspective. In this sense, strategic approaches from the European perspective will be presented through the European Commission, EUROPOL, EMPACT Firearms, FRONTEX, UNODC and LEWP.

09:30 - 09:45 - Representative of the European Commission (DG HOME - Firearms Task Force)

09:45 - 10:00 - EUROPOL representative (AP W&E)

10:00 - 10:15 - EMPACT Firearms driver

10:15 - 10:30 - Coffee Break

10:30 - 10:45 - FRONTEX representative

10:45 - 11:00 – UNODC – Global firearms programme representative.

11:00 – 11:15 – LEWP Chair

11:15 - 11:30 - Questions / Debate

11:30 - 12:00 - Conclusions of the 1st Panel

12:00 - 14:00 - Lunch break

2nd Panel - New challenges for the safety of explosive products

14:00 - 15:40

This panel intends to carry out a technical approach regarding the processes that characterize the threat to the security of explosive products, namely in transport, common training of operators and administrative control, as tools for preventing crime and terrorism.

14:00 - 14:20 - Adco Explosives Chair

14:20 - 14:40 - Guardia Civil Expert (ES) - SEPYLT System (TBC)

14:40 - 15:00 - Expert at the University of Coimbra - Training operators

15:00 - 15:20 - Expert of the Public Security Police (PT) - Control of explosives in Portugal by road - SIGESTAME

15:20 - 15:30 - Questions / Debate

15:30 - 15:40 - Conclusions of the 2nd Panel

15:40 - 16:00 - Coffee Break

3rd Panel - Pyrotechnics in the face of the new post-pandemic reality

16:00 - 17:30

This panel proposes to discuss the future of the pyrotechnics sector in the face of the new post-pandemic reality, by presenting the objectives for the Recovery and Resilience Plans, especially taking into account the transversal dimension of trafficking in this type of articles and its use in illegal contexts, such as sporting events.

16:00 - 16:20 - Adco Pyrotechnics Chair

16:20 – 16:40 - EUROPOL expert (AP W&E)

16:40 - 17:00 - Dr Tom Smith, independent explosives consultant, author of the UEFA/FSE report on the safety of pyrotechnics in football stadia

17:00 - 17:10 - Conclusions of the 3rd Panel

17:10 - 17:30 - General conclusions of the seminar and Closing

General Secretary Ministry of Internal Administration, Dr. Marcelo Mendonça de Carvalho