

REPUBLIC OF SERBIA: CONTRIBUTIOIN TO BE INCLUDED IN THE REPORT OF THE UNITED
NATIONS SECRETARY-GENERAL TO REFER TO RESOLUTION 79/27 *CONFIDENCE-BUILDING
MEASURES IN THE REGIONAL AND SUBREGIONAL CONTEXT*

Serbia implements all the provisions of international agreements in the field of arms control consistently.

At the regional level:

Proceeding from the Vienna Document 2011, Chapter X *Regional Measures*, the Government of Serbia signed with the Government of Hungary a Bilateral Agreement on confidence- and security-building measures amending the Document.

On the same basis, the Ministry of Defence of Serbia signed with the Ministry of Defence of Bulgaria a Protocol on confidence- and security-strengthening measures amending the Vienna Document 2011.

Proceeding from the Vienna Document 2011, Chapter X *Regional Measures*, and in accordance with the Concluding Document of the Negotiations under Article V of Annex B-1 of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Verification Centre of the Department for International Military Cooperation of the Sector for Defence Policy of the Ministry of Defence of Serbia and the Bundeswehr Verification Centre sign every two years a Letter of Intent in the field of arms control.

Proceeding from the Vienna Document 2011, Chapter X *Regional Measures*, and in accordance with the Concluding Document of the Negotiations under Article V of Annex B-1 of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Verification Centre of the Department for International Military Cooperation of the Sector for Defence Policy of the Ministry of Defence of Serbia carries out additional activities in the field of arms control in cooperation with the Verification Centre of France.

At the subregional level:

Proceeding from the provisions of the Concluding Document of the Negotiations under Article IV of Annex B-1 of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Agreement on Subregional Arms Control) and in accordance with the Inspection Protocol, Section II of the Agreement and its Annual Inspection Plan, Serbia accepts inspection visits by the Contracting Parties to its territory as provided for by the Agreement, as well as arms reduction inspection visits. At the same time, Serbia realizes via the Verification Centre of the Department for International Military Cooperation of the Sector for Defence Policy of the Ministry of Defence of Serbia inspection visits with the other Contracting Parties as provided for by the Agreement.

The Serbian Armed Forces take part in the organization and realization of conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels in its own territory and in the territories of the States of the region. The organization and realization take place under the Vienna Document BD-2011 of 30 November 2011 and the Agreement on Subregional Arms Control of 14 June 1996 based on Article IV of Annex 1-B of the Dayton/Paris General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Conventional arms controls are realized under annual plans following special notices, not included in annual plans. Members of the Serbian Armed Forces take part in arms control escort teams in Serbia and inspection teams abroad. No violations of the Protocols and arms control Agreements in force were noted in the work of inspection teams abroad in which the members of the Serbian Armed Forces took part. By participating in arms control activities at the regional and subregional levels, the Serbian Armed Forces contribute to transparency in arms control and help promote peace and stability in the region and the world.

International, regional and national cooperation has been the key factor in Serbia's efforts to control small arms and light weapons. Always ready to exchange information, knowledge and experiences, the Ministry of the Interior has actively sought to improve the bilateral and multilateral relations of the country by enlisting its capacities in this area. In that context, better regional cooperation and greater transparency accounted for improved exchange of data, knowledge, experiences and best practices.

To fight the illegal possession, misuse and trafficking of small arms and light weapons, a Roadmap has been agreed upon within the Berlin Process for a sustainable solution to the illegal possession, misuse and trafficking of small arms and light weapons in the Western Balkans by 2024 and adopted at the Western Balkans Summit in London on 9 July 2018. In line with the Roadmap, the 2019-2024 Strategy for the control of small arms and light weapons contained the basic mechanisms envisaged by the Roadmap and provided for strengthening cooperation at the international, regional and national levels.

The Roadmap for a sustainable solution to the illegal possession, misuse and trafficking of small arms and light weapons, their ammunition, and explosives in the Western Balkans by 2030 was confirmed by all Western Balkan partners during the Ministerial Forum EU – Western Balkans held in Budva, Montenegro, on 28 and 29 October 2024.

Also, as part of the project *Support for Enhancing the Fight Against the Illegal Possession, Misuse and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons in the Western Balkans*, implemented in cooperation with SEESAC, a regional Working Group to raise awareness in the field of small arms and light weapons control has been established.