

**ANNEX: Priority actions**

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| **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:   * 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; * Europol to produce EU-wide analytical products and given the strong links with terrorism, to enhance EU IRU's monitoring role; * Mapping out global firearms trafficking routes to the EU by UNODC; * Engage with partners to improve knowledge on the illicit trafficking of firearms covering inter alia online trafficking and the diversion of legal trade; * Improve the access to all EU-wide and national analytical products to all law MS enforcement authorities; * Continue to provide financial assistance with a focus on projects with a comprehensive scope and a strong data collection impact; * Assess risks stemming from technological innovations, (such as 3D printing) | Europol, MS, COM, UNODC | 2016-2017 |
| b) Enhancing the security of explosives through:   * Full implementation of the Regulation on Explosives Precursors; * Bringing forward the revision of the Precursors Regulation; * Assess the need to harmonise vetting standards and procedures at EU level | 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:   * Operational actions against online trafficking; * 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; * Exploring the possibility to prohibit cash payments in the context of sales or acquisition of firearms and ammunition by individuals; * Reinforcing controls at the external borders by undertaking risk-based controls on goods and through establishing a Customs Priority Control Action; * 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; * Developing common training curricula on firearms and explosives; * Developing innovative detection tools; * Joint operational actions involving all relevant law enforcement authorities. | COM, Europol,  Eurojust, CEPOL, MS | 2015-2017 |
| 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 |