

Spanish Presidency of the European Union

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EU Statement on Wassenaar Arrangement

The European Union would like to welcome Ambassador Sune Danielsson, Head of the Secretariat of the Wassenaar Arrangement, to the Forum for Security Cooperation and thank him for his comprehensive presentation.

This Session follows a Special FSC Meeting on Small Arms and Light Weapons; both issues are very closely related, and focus on the need to prevent destabilising accumulations of conventional arms in order to address current and future challenges to regional and international security and stability.

The Wassenaar Arrangement plays a key role to provide transparency, an exchange of views and information and greater transparency in transfers of conventional arms and dual use goods, thus preventing destabilising accumulations of them.

The EU fully supports all the activities of the Arrangement. We will continue to participate actively in its work and fulfil commitments undertaken in this forum, reflecting them in EU legislation and instruments where appropriate.

In order to effectively implement them, the EU has included the WA control lists in its legislation and practices: the Dual Use control list is included in the EU Dual Use Regulation, while the WA Munitions List is mirrored in the Common Military List of the EU. Both documents are updated regularly. The WA Elements for Objective Analysis concerning Potentially Destabilising Accumulations of Conventional Weapons are reflected in the EU User's Guide to implement the Common Position on the Control of Arms Exports.

The European Union also supports outreach dialogue with non-participating States of the Wassenaar Arrangement, industry and international organizations aimed at promoting and sharing the WA Best Practices related to export controls and raising awareness of the WA and its work.

The EU is committed to the highest standards of export controls for dual use items and technology and for munitions and military items. The information exchange within the Wassenaar Arrangement provides a vital tool in enabling participants to implement their high export control standards. This is why the EU actively pursues the membership to the Arrangement of all its member States.

We are particularly grateful to Ambassador Danielsson for his extremely valuable and efficient work as Head of Secretariat, including the many outreach activities in which he has taken part. His sustained efforts throughout his mandate have certainly been an important contribution towards making the Wassenaar Arrangement the effective organisation that it is today.

The candidate countries CROATIA* and FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA*, the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries ALBANIA, MONTENEGRO and SERBIA, the European Free Trade Association country and member of the European Economic Area ICELAND, as well as UKRAINE, the REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA, ARMENIA, align themselves with this statement.

*Croatia and Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.