

**Decision of the Management Board 34/2020/MB**

**ADOPTING OF THE UPDATED CONTENT DESCRIPTION OF THE ONLINE  
MODULE FIREARMS AND REPEALING DECISION 04/2016/MB**

**Adopted by the Management Board**

**on 07 December 2020**

## THE MANAGEMENT BOARD,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2015/2219 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2015 on the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training (CEPOL) and replacing and repealing Council Decision 2005/681/JHA<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Article 9(1)(s) thereof,

Having regard to the Management Board Decision 04/2016/MB adopting the Content Description of the Online Learning Module Firearms,

Having regard to the list of training activities planned for 2020<sup>2</sup>;

Whereas:

- (1) The steps to be taken and matching responsibilities in the development of the online learning modules are based on Governing Board Decisions 2/2009/GB and 18/2010/GB.
- (2) CEPOL National Units, National and Organisational, Contact Points and the Commission DG HOME have been involved in the final validation of the content of the online learning module.
- (3) The content of the module was developed by experts appointed through Executive Director's Decision 11/2020/DIR.
- (4) The update of the online module content on Firearms was planned to take place in 2020. This has been set in the list of training activities for 2020.
- (5) It is for the Management Board on the basis of Article 9(1)(s) of Regulation (EU) 2015/2219 of the European Parliament and of the Council to adopt the content descriptions of the online learning modules.
- (6) Therefore, there is a need to repeal Decision 04/2016/MB adopting the existing content description of the Online Learning Module on Firearms;

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L319, 4.12.2015, p.1.

<sup>2</sup> See quality document LI PLAN 001-1: List of training activities for 2020

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

*Article 1*

- 1) The Content Description of the Online Learning Module Firearms as detailed in the Annex to this Decision is hereby adopted.
- 2) Decision 25/2017/MB is hereby repealed.

*Article 2*

The present Decision shall take effect on the day following that of its adoption.

Done at Lisbon, on 09 December 2020

*For the Management Board*  
*<< Signature on file >>*

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*Mr José Leitao*  
*Chair of the Management Board*

## Annex

### Table of Contents

- A. Product Breakdown Structure
- B. Elaboration of the Content – Knowledge Landscape
- C. Diagnostic Self-evaluation: My Progress
- D. Glossary

#### A. Product Breakdown Structure

The Product Breakdown Structure (PBS) represents the content of the *Firearms* module as it is set up in the online learning environment. Key sections of the PBS are displayed below, covering the online learning module's topics of the Knowledge Landscape and the keywords.

*Firearms* Knowledge Landscape:

1. Introduction
  2. Legislation and Regulation
  3. Types of Firearms
  4. International Cooperation
  5. National Firearms Focal Points (NFFPs)
  6. Intelligence
  7. Trafficking and Smuggling
  8. Tracing and Marking
  9. Ballistics and Forensics
  10. Building Cases
  11. Case Study: 'Operation Flobert'
- Glossary

#### B. Elaboration of the Content – Knowledge Landscape

The online module aims at providing the users with a general understanding of different aspects of the illicit use of firearms for criminal purposes and the different measures to counter firearms-related criminal activities. The module is targeted at law enforcement officers, judicial authorities and forensic experts who are dealing with the illicit use of firearms for criminal purposes, and to those who need to know and apply the different measures to counter illegal firearms-related crimes.

The online module contains 10 chapters covering various key topics within the subject area, as well as a glossary of relevant terms and abbreviations, a case study and a quiz to test your knowledge and understanding. The module starts with an introductory chapter providing a context of the phenomenon and its prominent issues and introducing the EMPACT priority Firearms. The other chapters cover the following:  
Chapter 2: Legislation and Regulation: This chapter introduces the legislation and instruments relating to the regulation of firearms in the EU.  
Chapter 3: Types of Firearms: This chapter discusses the various types of firearms available, categorised on the basis of their intended purpose and function.

Chapter 4: International Cooperation: This chapter covers the tools and systems, organisations and networks, which support and facilitate cooperation between the Member States to combat fire-arms related crime.

Chapter 5: National Firearms Focal Points (NFFPs): This chapter covers the network of NFFPs that is being developed, including their role, functions and staff.

Chapter 6: Intelligence: This chapter covers the features of firearms-related crime, and how intelligence is acquired and employed to counter it, including from the interviewing of suspects.

Chapter 7: Trafficking and Smuggling: This chapter covers the various aspects of trafficking of firearms, including its extent, the source countries and trafficking routes, and the modi operandi used.

Chapter 8: Tracing and Marking: This chapter covers the process of tracing the legal ownership of a firearm and the markings that facilitate the identification and tracing of the firearm.

Chapter 9: Ballistics and Forensics: This chapter covers the various ballistic and forensic examinations made on firearms to support investigations.

Chapter 10: Building Cases: This chapter examines how an understanding of the modi operandi of firearms trafficking can support investigators and prosecutors. It focuses specifically on the modi operandi of illicit firearms trafficking from Slovakia to the Netherlands and provides an intervention methodology for preparing and carrying out targeted investigations.

Chapter 11: Case Study: Operation Flobert: A description of a Portuguese investigation.

### **C. Self Evaluation: Test my knowledge**

Users can test their own knowledge on *Firearms* at any time while using the online module through the test my knowledge sections of the module. Test items are pooled according to the topics of the knowledge landscape. A random selection of the items will be offered to users every time they decide to take the self-test for each of the individual topics. Based on the outcomes of the self-test, users will receive feedback and reflection possibilities, which enable them to increase their further professionalisation in the domain of the module.

### **D. Glossary**

The keywords and acronyms from individual chapters are listed together (in alphabetical order) in the online module and are provided to the user to aid navigation through the material.

## **Annex I**

### ***Firearms*** **Online Module Content**

(The content of the module will be made **available only** in a restricted area in CEPOL's LEEed),