



## **European Convention on the Control of the Acquisition and Possession of Firearms by Individuals**

Strasbourg, 28.VI.1978

### **Appendixes**

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#### **Appendix I**

A For the purposes of this Convention "firearm" shall mean:

- 1 Any object which i. is designed or adapted as a weapon from which a shot, bullet or other missile, or a noxious gas, liquid or other substance may be discharged by means of explosive, gas or air pressure or by any other means of propulsion, and ii. falls within one of the specific descriptions below, it being understood that sub-paragraphs a to f inclusive and i include only objects utilising an explosive propellant:
  - a automatic arms;
  - b short arms with semi-automatic, repeating or single-shot mechanism;
  - c long arms with semi-automatic or repeating mechanism with at least one rifled barrel;
  - d single-shot long arms with at least one rifled barrel;
  - e long arms with semi-automatic or repeating mechanism and smooth-bore barrel(s) only;
  - f portable rocket launchers;
  - g any arms or other instruments designed to cause danger to life or health of persons by firing stupefying toxic or corrosive substances;
  - h flame-throwers meant for attack or defence;
  - i single-shot long arms with smooth-bore barrel(s) only;
  - j long arms with gas propellant mechanism;
  - k short arms with gas propellant mechanism;
  - l long arms with compressed air propellant mechanism;
  - m short arms with compressed air propellant mechanism;
  - n arms propelling projectiles by means of a spring only.

Provided always that there shall be excluded from this paragraph 1 any object otherwise included therein which:

- i has been permanently rendered unfit for use;
- ii on account of its low power is not subject to control in the State from which it is to be transferred;
- iii is designed for alarm, signalling, life saving, animal slaughtering, harpooning or for industrial or technical purposes on condition that such objects are usable for the stated purpose only;
- iv on account of its antiquity is not subject to control in the State from which it is to be transferred.

- 2 The firing mechanism, chamber, cylinder or barrel of any object comprised in paragraph 1 above.
  - 3 Any ammunition specially designed to be discharged by an object comprised in sub-paragraphs a to f inclusive, i, j, k or n of paragraph 1 above and any substance or matter specially designed to be discharged by an instrument comprised in sub-paragraph g of paragraph 1 above.
  - 4 Telescope sights with light beam or telescope sights with electronic light amplification device or infra-red device provided that they are designed to be fitted to any object comprised in paragraph 1 above.
  - 5 A silencer designed to be fitted to any object comprised in paragraph 1 above.
  - 6 Any grenade, bomb or other missile containing explosive or incendiary devices.
- B For the purposes of this Appendix:
- a "automatic" denotes a weapon which is capable of firing in bursts each time the trigger is operated;
  - b "semi-automatic" denotes a weapon which fires a projectile each time the trigger alone is operated;
  - c "repeating mechanism" denotes a weapon the mechanism of which in addition to the trigger must be operated each time the weapon is to be fired;
  - d "single-shot" denotes a weapon whereof the barrel or barrels must be loaded before each shot;
  - e "short" denotes a weapon with a barrel not exceeding 30 centimetres or whose overall length does not exceed 60 centimetres;
  - f "long" denotes a weapon with a barrel exceeding 30 centimetres whose overall length exceeds 60 centimetres.
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## Appendix II

Any State may declare that it reserves the right:

- a not to apply Chapter II of this Convention in respect of any one or more of the objects comprised in sub-paragraphs i to n inclusive of paragraph 1 or in paragraphs 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 of Appendix I to this Convention;
- b not to apply Chapter III of this Convention;
- c not to apply Chapter III of this Convention in respect of any one or more of the objects comprised in sub-paragraphs i to n inclusive of paragraph 1 or in paragraphs 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 of Appendix I to this Convention;
- d not to apply Chapter III of this Convention to transactions between dealers resident in the territories of two Contracting Parties.