



## INFORMATION SHEET FOR INTERNATIONAL ARMS, HUNTING AND MILITARY FAIRS

Herewith you can find all the necessary information about the obligations regarding import and export which every arms dealer as well as every private person will possibly have to fulfil upon the trade in antique weapons or essential parts at an arms fair in Belgium.

**→ Do you have your domicile, permanent residence or registered offices in Belgium and do you want to trade in antique weapons or essential parts at an arms fair in Belgium?**

1. If you intend to trade in antique weapons or essential parts at an arms fair in Belgium, you need to be certain that these arms are classified as 'Vuurwapens met een historische, folkloristische of decoratieve waarde' according to the Belgian legislation. For confirmation of their proper classification you can contact the Belgian proof house, Rue Fond des Tawes 45, Liège ([www.bancdepreuves.be](http://www.bancdepreuves.be)).

2. If you convey such arms or essential parts to a third person with domicile, permanent residence or registered offices outside of the Benelux, you are required to check on the country of destination and to record the following elements in the register that will be put at your disposal:

- ❖ the particulars of the conveyed arm or essential part (category, type, make, model, calibre and serial number);
- ❖ the country of destination.

After the fair you are required to hand over this register to the organizer of the fair. He will pass on your register to the Flemish Arms Trade Monitoring Unit. You can also hand over your register to the Unit yourself. You can find the details of the Unit below.

3. Alongside the registration you are also requested to point out to the recipients of your arms the possible obligations regarding the importation of firearms in the country of destination.

**→ Do you have your domicile, permanent residence or registered offices outside of the Benelux and do you want to trade in antique weapons or essential parts at an arms fair in Belgium?**

### *Before the arms fair*

1. When you import firearms or parts into Belgium, you are not only required to be in line with the relevant Belgian legislation but also with the export legislation of the country of origin. In order to monitor the compliance with these requirements, at least five working days before the date of the fair you are required to present to the organizer of the fair a copy of the export permit which you obtained in the country of origin for the (temporary) export of the arms which you intend to take to Belgium. If the local authorities do not require a permit for such transfer, you are required to present an official document which shows that no permit is required. In case you are not able to present the requisite document to the organizer in time, you are allowed to forward the document directly to the Arms Trade Monitoring Unit until one working day before the fair.



2. To be in line with the Belgian import and export legislation, you are required to draw up a list of all the firearms and the essential parts which you intend to take to Belgium for display and sale on the basis of the form which was sent to you, mentioning the category, type, make, model, calibre and serial number of the arms. At least five working days before the date of the fair you need to digitally transfer this list to the organizer of the fair, who will send this to the Arms Trade Monitoring Unit. You can also send this list to the Unit yourself, preferably by e-mail. Subject to a valid justification you can make non-substantial amendments to this list until three working days before the date of the fair.

The Arms Trade Monitoring Unit, in cooperation with the Belgian proof house in Liège, reserves the right to evaluate the proper classification of the firearms which you intend to bring to Belgium. In case of doubt, the proof house has the authority to demand the physical presentation of the firearm in question.

On the basis of your submission of the documents mentioned above you are authorized to temporarily transfer the firearms and the essential parts which are mentioned in the list to Belgium to display and possibly sell them at the fair. The organizer of the fair, who acts as your representative in these administrative matters, will receive a temporary import and re-export permit from the competent Flemish minister to that end. You will receive a document which registers all firearms and essential parts which you are authorized to bring to Belgium. Obviously you are charged with the responsibility for these arms and for the accuracy of the information which you convey to the Arms Trade Monitoring Unit.

The firearms and the essential parts for which you did not present an export permit or another official document, which were not included in the list that you provided to our Unit or which were not approved by the Belgian proof house will not be incorporated in that document. This entails that you will not be permitted to transfer these arms to Belgium nor to display or sell them at the fair.

#### *During the arms fair*

3. If you convey a firearm or essential part to a third person during the fair, you are required to check on the country of destination and to record the following elements in the register that will be put at your disposal:

- ❖ the particulars of the conveyed arm or essential part (category, type, make, model, calibre and serial number);
- ❖ the country of destination.

After the fair you are required to hand over this register to the organizer of the fair. He will pass on your register to the Flemish Arms Trade Monitoring Unit. You can also hand over your register to the Unit yourself. You can find the details of the Unit below.

4. Alongside the registration you are also requested to point out to the recipients of your arms the possible obligations regarding the importation of firearms in the country of destination. Concerning recipients who have their domicile, permanent residence or registered offices in Belgium you are requested to point out to them the proof obligation for firearms and essential parts which do not yet bear the proof mark of a member state to the CIP Convention.

**→ The requirements explicated above are imperative. Although the organizer of the fair takes care of the administrative settlement of these obligations, the responsibility for the compliance with them falls to the arms dealers and private persons concerned. This entails that you are accountable for your firearms and for your compliance with respectively the export legislation in your country of origin and with the Belgian import and export legislation, including the registration of the mentioned transactions.**