

# European Union's policies and actions on disarmament, non-proliferation and arms export control

Presentation  
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# Overview

- EU strategic and policy documents
- EU policies and principles
- EU Institutions, including EEAS
- Tools and instruments available to EU
- Examples of EU actions on NPD issues
- EU support for UNSG's Disarmament Agenda
- Main challenges for future work

# EU Documents

- **EU Global Strategy (2016)** replacing the European Security Strategy (2003)
- **EU Strategy against WMD proliferation (2003)**
- **EU Strategy against illicit Firearms and SALW (2018, replacing EU SALW Strategy from 2005)**
- **EU Common Position on arms exports (2008, latest review 2019)**
- **CBRN Action Plan (2009), CT and other docs.**

# Key threats since 2003

- **Terrorism** (WMD „most frightening scenario”)
- **Proliferation of WMD** („potentially the greatest threat to our security”)
- **Regional conflicts** („Regional insecurity can fuel the demand for WMD”)
- **State failure** (link to org.crime, terrorism)
- **Organized crime** (including cross-border trafficking in arms, links to terrorism)

# EU Global Strategy

- "Shared Vision, Common Action: A Stronger Europe: A Global Strategy for the European Union's Foreign and Security Policy"
- Presented in **June 2016** (previous Dec. 2003)
- Need to revise existing sectoral strategies as well as devise and implement new thematic or geographic strategies
- Timeframe 5-7 years, periodic reviews

# EUGS: shared interests

- **Peace and security** for citizens and territory
- **Prosperity**: promoting growth, jobs, equality, safe and healthy environment
- **Democracy**: human rights, fundamental freedoms, rule of law, justice, solidarity, equality, non-discrimination, pluralism, respect for diversity
- **A rules-based global order**

# EUGS: global order

- A **rules-based** global order
- **Multilateralism** as key principle, **UN** at its core
- Grounded in **international law**, incl. the UN Charter and Universal Decl. of Human Rights
- Agreed rules to **contain power politics** and contribute to a **peaceful, fair and prosperous** world with **open economies** and deep global connections, "**the European way**"

# Guiding principles

- **Unity** across institutions, States and peoples
- **Engagement** to fully participate in the global marketplace and co-shape the rules that govern it
- **Responsibility**: act promptly to prevent violent conflicts, facilitate local agreements
- **Partnership**: shared responsibility with other States, Int'l Orgs, civil society, private sector



# Principles of response

- Address root causes of insecurity & instability
- **Effective multilateralism:**
- Support universalisation and effective implementation of treaties and agreements
- Support relevant multilateral institutions
- National and coordinated export controls
- Non-proliferation to be mainstreamed into overall policies, all resources and instruments

# EU Institutions

- European Council - Heads of State and Govt.
- Foreign Affairs Council (**FAC**) - Ministers
- Political and Security Committee (**PSC**) – Amb.
- PSC Working Parties: **CONOP**, **COARM**, etc.
- **RELEX** Committee (on sanctions, projects)
- European Parliament, esp. **SEDE** and **AFET**
- European **Commission**, various DGs: DEVCO, HOME, JRC, ECHO, ENER, etc. EUROATOM

# EEAS & EU Delegations

- European External Action Service (**EEAS**)
- Established **2010**, officials from the European Commission (DG RELEX), Council Secretariat, MS Diplomatic Services (TAs); later EP, CoR
- EU High Representative/Vice-President (**HRVP**)
- Structure: Managing Directorates, Divisions, e.g. SECDEFPOL.4 Division, Special Envoys
- Network of **142 Delegations**, incl. to Int'l Orgs.

# Tools and instruments

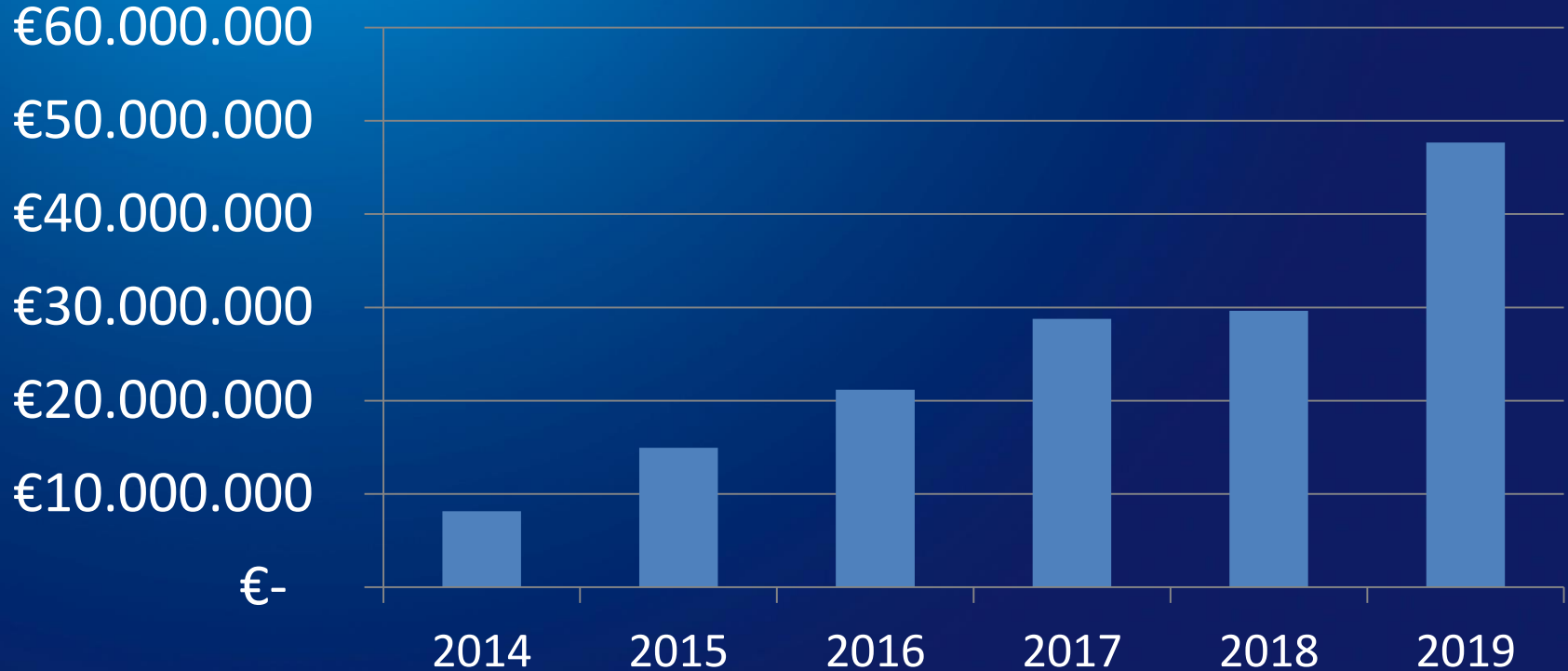
- Statements and public declarations (ca 160/yr)
- Diplomatic demarches (via EU Delegations)
- Political dialogues and partnerships
- NP clauses in partnership & coop. agreements
- Joint Actions > Council Decisions
- Other financial instruments and programmes
- Sanctions (UNSC Resolutions, EU autonomous)
- Negotiations (EU/E3+3 with Iran > JCPoA)

# Demarches

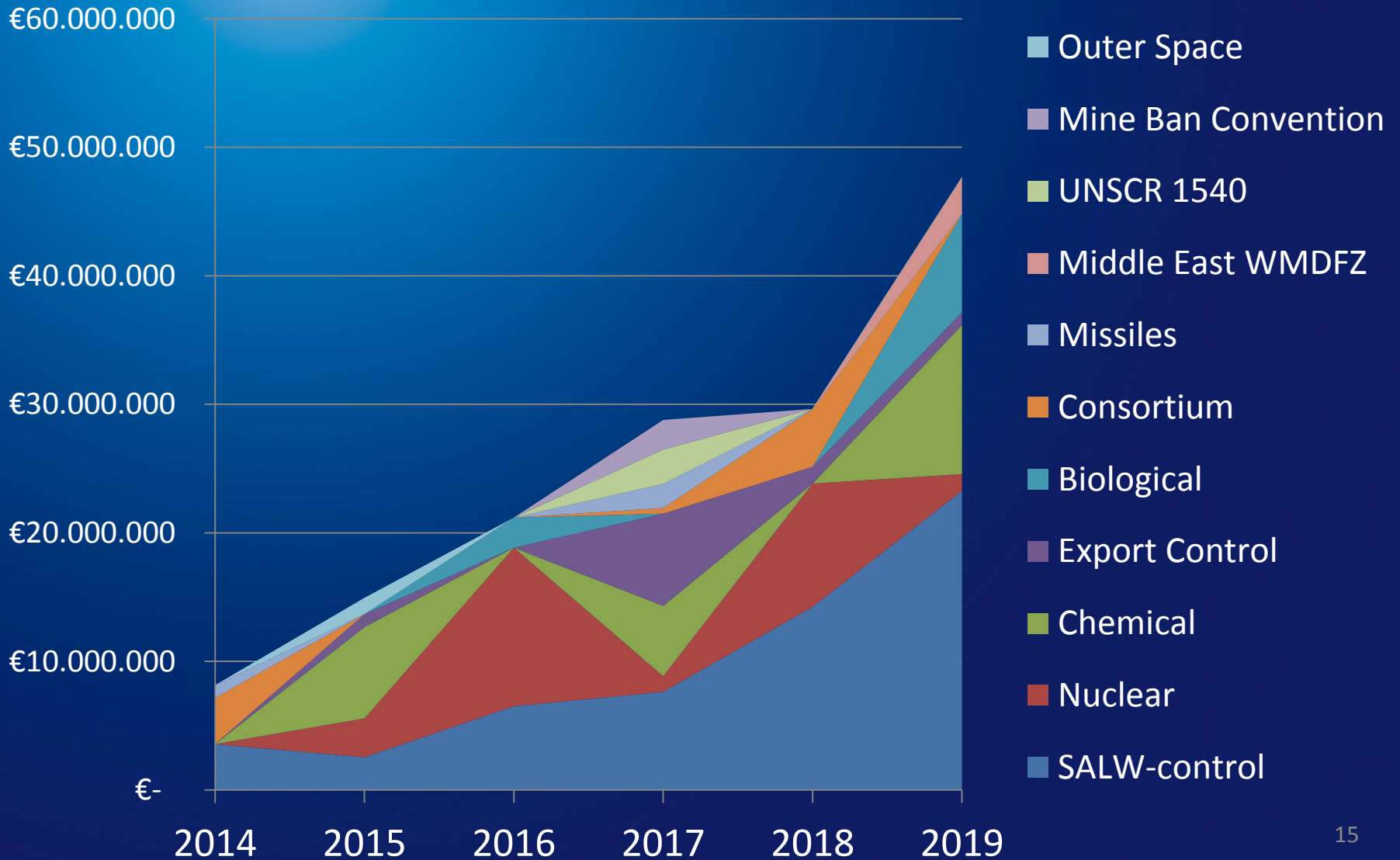
- To present a position and encourage or discourage certain action or behaviour
- **Terms of Reference** developed and approved
- Delivered via a network of EU Delegations and Member States' Embassies (Presidency)
- 2018: 4 subjects to 36 countries
- 2019: 6 subjects to 130 countries
- Examples: ATT, A-CPPNM, CTBT, HCoC, CWC.

# CFSP/NPD growth

## € committed/year for NPD Council Decisions 2014-2019

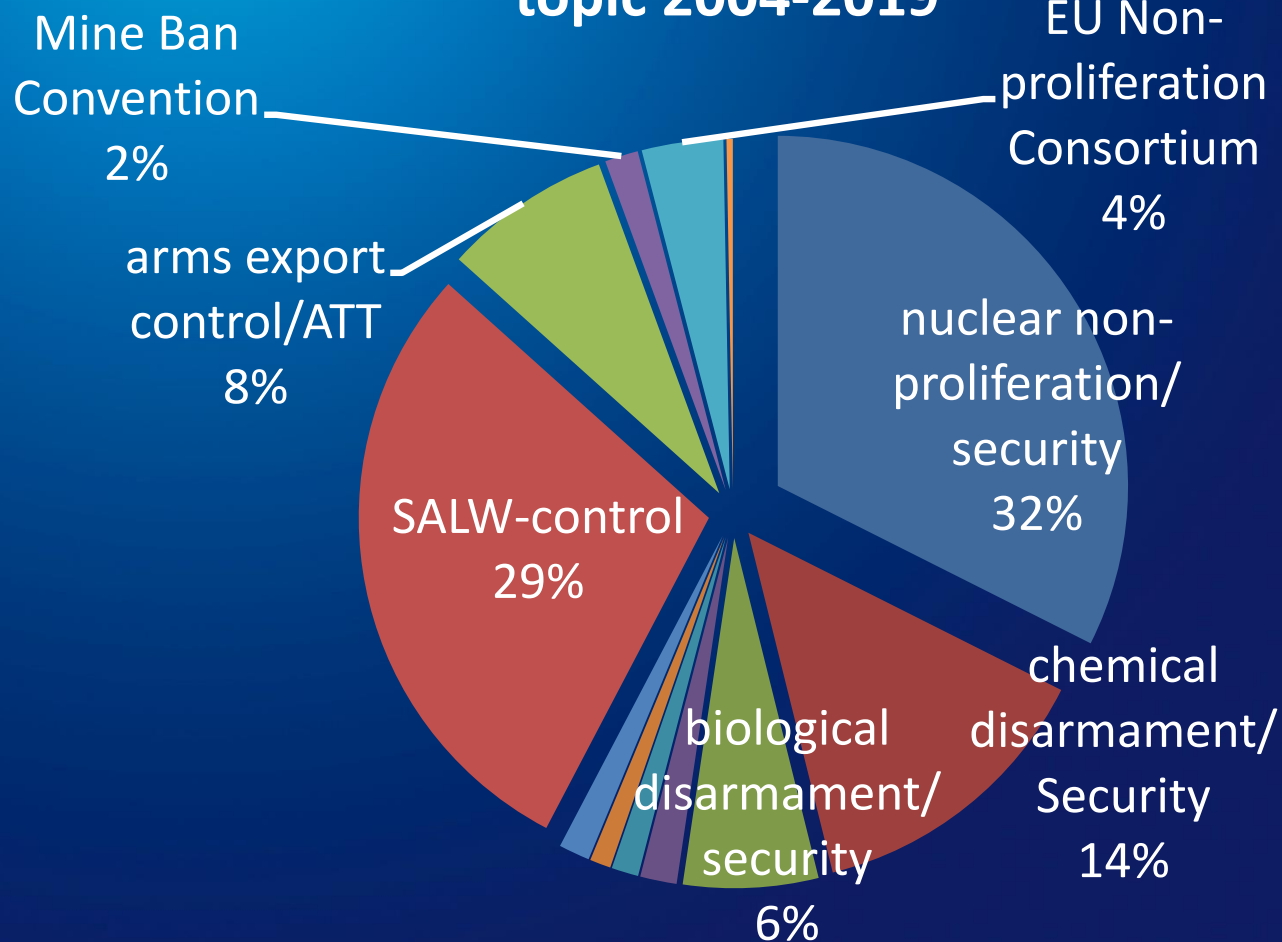


# CFSP/NPD breakdown



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## Proportion of amount committed to NPD projects per topic 2004-2019





# EU NPD Consortium

- EU NPD Consortium established in **2010**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> CD (Feb.2018): 4.5 MEUR / 42 months
- Now **90 think-tanks**: SIPRI, FRS, IISS, PRIF...  
Publications at [www.nonproliferation.eu](http://www.nonproliferation.eu)
- 18-19 Dec. 2018 7<sup>th</sup> EU NPD Conference with over 230 participants from ca 60 countries and int'l organisations incl. UN, NATO, OPCW, IAEA
- **13-14 Dec. 2019** 8<sup>th</sup> EU NPD Conf. in Brussels

# Arms export control

- Decisions on conventional arms export remain a **national prerogative**
- EU Common Position aims for **convergence**
- **Transparency**: annual reports
- COARM data base on denials
- **Exchange of information** in COARM on sensitive destinations, denials etc.
- **Assessments** based on the common criteria

# Common criteria

- 1) respect for **int'l obligations**, eg. UNSCR
- 2) respect for **human rights**, IHL
- 3) **internal** situation, armed conflicts
- 4) **regional** peace, security and stability
- 5) attitude to **terrorism**, other behaviour
- 6) National **security** of MS and allies
- 7) **Risk of diversion** (e.g. use of iTrace)
- 8) Compatibility with econ and tech **capacity**

# A multilateral event

- **UN PoA on SALW RevCon3 (June 2018)**
- **Council Decision (Apr 2017):** funding thematic seminars, regional consultations, participation
- **Council Conclusions (May 2018):** EU positions
- **Joint Communication on SALW (June 2018)**
- **Demarches** to encourage participation
- **3 working papers, 5 statements, side-events**
- **Many EU priorities reflected in the outcome**

- UNSG's Agenda for Disarmament  
*Securing Our Common Future*

**May 2019** EU declared **support** for **four** actions:

4: Bring CTBT into force

7: Conclude a treaty banning fissile materials

9: Restore respect for the norm against CW

22: Secure excessive and poorly maintained stockpiles of conventional weapons

**December 2019** support for **six more** actions:

8: Develop nuclear disarmament verification

10: Readiness to investigate alleged use of BW

34: Ensure financial stability of treaty support mechanisms

35: Increase engagement with regional orgs.

36-37: Full and equal participation of women in decision-making processes

# Main challenges

- Onslaught on **multilateralism** from many dir.
- Worsening **security** environment, reactions?
- Maintaining **unity** in face of growing global divisions, especially on nuclear NPD issues
- Maintaining **cohesion** among various EU political and financial instruments
- Ensuring **relevance** in view of techn. change
- Deepening **cooperation** with non-EU partners

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