

PUBLISHED REPLACEMENT EU ACT ASSESSMENT OF IMPACT

DSC Reference: DSC/06/2025

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Published Replacement EU Act

Regulation (EU) 2025/41 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 December 2024 on import, export and transit measures for firearms, essential components and ammunition, implementing Article 10 of the United Nations Protocol against the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime (UN Firearms Protocol) (recast).

[Regulation - EU - 2025/41 - EN - EUR-Lex](#)

EU act it is replacing

Regulation (EU) No 258/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 March 2012 implementing Article 10 of the United Nations' Protocol against the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime (UN Firearms Protocol), and establishing export authorisation, and import and transit measures for firearms, their parts and components and ammunition; Protocol Annex 2, 47 – Other.

[Regulation - 258/2012 - EN - EUR-Lex](#)

Summary of the Act

This regulation lays down rules governing import and export authorisation, and import, export and transit measures for listed goods, for the purpose of implementing Article 10 of the United Nations Protocol against the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime (the 'UN Firearms Protocol').

Department(s) Responsible

Cabinet Office is coordinating on behalf of UKG, with Home Office and the Department for Business and Trade having an interest.

Assessment of Impact

The regulation lays down rules on import, export and transit of firearms into/from the customs territory of the EU to combat and prevent firearms trafficking.

Import/export matters are not transferred, so outside DoJ's area of policy and legislative responsibility. As it is intended to address illicit activities and does not affect the application of Directive (EU) 2021/555 which relates to firearms for

civilian use, we do not anticipate that this regulation will impact everyday firearms licensing. We welcome any proposals to address illegal activity.

UK Government Explanatory Memorandum

We have not received a UKG Explanatory Memorandum but understand that Cabinet Office is working with UKG colleagues to prepare an EM.

Analysis by the European Commission on its Impact Assessment

The EU's Impact Assessment identified that the Replacement Act would have a positive impact on its citizens as the vast majority would benefit from a unified export and import control system for firearms. The impact in both areas of Security and Fundamental Rights was deemed as positive and there was no impact on the Environment. The assessment found there only to be a limited impact on National and EU Administration and SME's. However, it was considered that the Digitalisation of Import/Export authorisations would have a major impact due to the fact that the majority of stakeholders still operate with paper authorisations. Also, due to limitations in obtaining governmental and company data, it was noted that evaluating the economic impact was sensitive, however, this impact was expected to be positive as it would meet the expectations of businesses in terms of simplification. The Assessment contained no reference to any specific Northern Ireland stakeholder input.

[EU Impact Assessment](#)

Departmental Engagement

We had discussions with Cabinet Office, Home Office and the Department for Business and Trade in June/July 2024 on an early draft of the EU proposal. Cabinet Office were coordinating with colleagues from Home Office. The subject matter is not within DoJ's area of responsibility but we provided some general observations. There has not been any engagement on the published regulation.