



STRATEGIC TRADE CONTROLS
INFORMATION SHEET BROCHURE

STRATEGIC TRADE CONTROLS

Economical activities increasing tremendously as a result of globalisation, boosted world trade volume and this situation increased concerns for proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) and related items involved in production and use of such weapons and their delivery systems which is one of the most important security threats for international community.

Control mechanisms aiming at non-proliferation by providing control of international trade of such goods against to the proliferation threat are called strategic trade controls.



WHAT ARE STRATEGIC GOODS?

- · Weapons of mass destruction
- Conventional weapons and military equipment

- Their delivery systems
- Dual-use items involved in production and use of such weapons and their delivery systems

Dual-use goods are the following goods which can be used both civilian and military purposes:

- · Chemicals
- Explosives
- · Radioactive and nuclear materials
- · Metals, non-metals, alloys

- · Industrial machinery and equipment
- Electronics
- · Measuring and test equipment



MILITARY USE CIVILIAN USE





WHY ARE THESE CONTROLS IMPLEMENTED?

Turkey is obligated to implement strategic trade controls pursuant to provisions of international treaties and United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Resolutions which are legally binding for all UN Member States. In addition, Turkey has also made a commitment to implement such controls by participating to the multilateral export control regimes, although they are not legally binding.



INTERNATIONAL TREATIES

Main treaties that Turkey is a party to are the following;

- Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)
- · Biological Weapons Convention (BWC)

Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC)Hague Code of Conduct (HCOC)

Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) (signed but not ratified yet)



UNSC RESOLUTIONS

UNSC Resolutions are legally binding for UN Member States and they contain various sanctions and embargoes for certain countries and non-state actors. In this context, countries and non-state actors which are under partial or comprehensive arms embargo are; Al-Qaida, Eritrea, Iran, ISIL, Democratic Republic of Congo, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Libya, Central African Republic, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, Yemen.

In addition, UNSCR 1540 imposes additional comprehensive binding obligations on all states to take and enforce effective measures to prevent proliferation of nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery.



MULTILATERAL EXPORT CONTROL REGIMES

Since there are no provisions about dual-use goods in international treaties, multilateral export control regimes which have limited number of members and established on a voluntary basis are formed. Each of these regimes has guidelines and control lists involving WMD related material.

These regimes are the following;

- Nuclear Suppliers Group-NSG (nuclear and nuclear dual-use goods)
- Australia Group-ĀG (chemical and biological materials, equipment and technology)
- Missile Technology Control Regime-MTCR (Ballistic missiles)
- Wassenaar Arrangement-WA (Military goods and dual-use goods)



TURKEY'S STRATEGIC TRADE CONTROLS

In the light of the threatening dimension of terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, Turkey sincerely implement strategic trade controls and supports all international efforts for the goals of non-proliferation and a safer and more stable world.

In this context, destination country, end-use and end-user are the key assessment criterias in controls and in addition to the transfers to UN sanctioned countries, those of to the countries which are accepted as a threat to national and international security are also approached with maximum sensitivity.



Traders who wants to trade strategic goods have to firstly grant a license/permit from related licensing authority. In the case that the license/permit is absent, the customs procedures will take longer time and traders may be exposed to penalties.

According to the kind of goods, related authorities to apply for license/permit and information are shown in the following diagram:

Ministry of National Defence Ministry of Trade Turkey Atomic Energy Authority Ministry of Agriculture and Forest

Military goods

AG Chemical Precursors

Dual-use goods

Nuclear and nuclear dual-use goods

AG Animal and plant pathogens



ENFORCEMENT

The controls to prevent transfer of strategic goods without a license/permit are implemented by customs administrations and if there is a suspicion about an item to be strategic, assessments of Ministry of Foreign Affairs together with related authority according to the kind of the item, is requested by means of General Directorate of Customs. At this stage, it is very important to provide documents showing technical specifications of the item and information about consignor and consignee to our Ministry for a faster assessment process.



RECOMMENDATIONS

Traders of strategic goods need to understand that strategic trade controls, which are obligatory to be implemented according to the international commitments of our country, are one of the most significant criterias for a secure trade in international community and thus it has a boosting effect for export in the long term. In this context, traders need to make a comprehensive market analysis and should know national requirements as well while they establish their trade linkages.

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