

# *Flemish Foreign Arms Trade 2011*

Report  
May 2012

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# Summary

Competence for arms trade in Belgium has been devolved to the three regions since 2003, with the exception of imports and exports of military equipment on behalf of the Belgian armed forces and police. Pending parliamentary approval of Flanders' own Arms Trade Act, federal legislation from 1991 still applies for the present. Persons in Flanders wishing to import, export or transit military equipment must request the required licences from the Strategic Goods Monitoring Unit (SGMU) of the Flemish authorities. The Flemish authorities report to the Flemish Parliament on the exercise of their competence, and these reports are also made public through the SGMU website. Every year the Flemish Peace Institute publishes an analysis of licences for foreign arms trade issued and denied in Flanders.

## **Imports**

In 2011, the Flemish authorities issued 368 licences with a collective value of 18.3 million euro for arms imports.

- The value of licensed imports was of approximately the same magnitude as in 2010.
- Arms import licences in Flanders concerned primarily two types of products: firearms and accessories (7.8 million euro) and military vehicles and components (9.4 million euro).
- The value of licensed imports of firearms and accessories rose by a total of 11% as compared to 2010. The value of licensed imports of firearms doubled in 2011 to 2.1 million euro. The value of licensed imports of ammunition remained rather stable at 4.2 million euro.
- One licence application was denied.

## **Exports**

In 2011, 308 licences with a combined value of 200.9 million euro for arms exports were issued in Flanders.

- In 2011, the value of licensed arms exports was significantly lower than in previous years. The Flemish defence-related industry appears to be feeling the squeeze of the economic crisis. This assessment should however be nuanced: on the one hand, because of its specific nature, the Flemish defence-related industry is very sensitive to fluctuations, and on the other hand, the Flemish authorities do not report on all licences issued or on actual arms exports.
- In 2011, hardly any licences were issued for certain products whose export value had sharply increased in recent years: vehicles and components, military electronic equipment and specialised equipment for military training.

- Licensed arms exports in 2011 primarily consisted of:
  - visualization screens (92 million euro), particularly destined for foreign industry.
  - aircraft components (22.9 million euro), particularly in the framework of participation in the A400M project, but also - for the first time - for use in unmanned military aircraft, related equipment and/or components.
  - electronic equipment falling under the catch-all clause (22.3 million euro).
- The largest portion of Flemish licensed arms exports is destined for European countries (45%) and the United States (31%). Asia (18%) is also an important market.
- The Flemish defence-related industry is primarily focused on transfers to other companies. In nearly two-thirds of licensed arms exports (62%), the ultimate end-user of Flemish defence products is unknown. Whether the ultimate end-use is known during the licensing procedure varies not only according to the nature of the products, but also markedly according to the recipient region.
- In the period 2007-2011, the Flemish authorities issued 76 million euro worth of licences with a last reported user in the Middle East or North Africa. In 2011, the value of these licensed exports amounted to 15.5 million euro (destined for the United Arab Emirates, Turkey, Algeria and Saudi Arabia). Given the high prevalence of unknown end-use in the licensing procedure, the value of licensed arms exports with end-use in the Middle East or North Africa is probably even higher.
- No application for an arms export licence was denied.

### ***Transit***

In 2011, Flanders issued 31 licences with a combined value of 85.2 million euro for the transit of arms.

- The number of transit licences sharply increased as compared to 2010, but was still significantly lower than at the time when competence for foreign arms trade was regionalized.
- Most Flemish transit licences related to (1) vehicles, (2) firearms and/or ammunition, and (3) heavy explosive mechanisms and explosives.
- In 2011, the last reported users of these goods were usually the (defence-related) industry. Armed forces and dealers also received a significant portion of these goods.
- The Flemish authorities denied three licence applications for the transit of arms, including a transaction that had earlier been approved by the French authorities (exports of metal presses for the production of ammunition components to Egypt).

# 1 Introduction

For political and economic reasons, trade in arms, military equipment and goods that can be used for the production of weapons of mass destruction is not banned, but a control system with licences allows for security aspects to be taken into consideration. Governments manage risks by assessing the appropriateness of transactions related to these strategically important goods in the frame of their licensing policies based on internationally agreed directives. The Flemish authorities report to the Flemish Parliament on the exercise of their competence in this matter.

A significant distinction is made between military equipment on the one hand, and dual-use items on the other, when monitoring strategic goods - also in view of the divergent regulatory framework. The Flemish Peace Institute therefore analyses trade in these two product categories in two separate annual reports. For an analysis of Flemish foreign trade in dual-use items, the reader is referred to the report, 'Flemish foreign trade in dual-use items 2011'.<sup>1</sup> The present report provides an analysis of licences issued and denied for arms and military equipment in 2011.

Persons in Flanders wishing to import, export or transit military equipment must apply for the required licences to the Strategic Goods Monitoring Unit (SGMU) of the Flemish authorities. Licence applications are assessed on a case-by-case basis according to internationally agreed directives. Not only where, but also by whom arms are used is a determining factor in this assessment. Every year the Flemish Peace Institute publishes an analysis of licences for foreign arms trade issued and denied in Flanders that year. Before starting this analysis, we provide a brief explanation of a few key elements: the applicable legislation, the licensing procedure and reporting.

## ***The legal framework<sup>2</sup>***

Legislation concerning arms export is very complex: international, national and regional agreements and regulations all play their part. Internationally, there are specialized working groups in which countries make agreements and exchange information on arms trade. In addition, the United Nations (UN) also takes initiatives with respect to arms trade. For instance, UN-level negotiations on the establishment of a worldwide treaty on arms trade (*Arms Trade Treaty* or ATT) are in full swing. The role of the European Union is of great importance as well. One of the most important instruments to harmonize the approach of the arms trade in the EU countries is the Council Common Position defining common rules governing the control of exports of military technology and equipment.<sup>3</sup> This Common Position specifies eight criteria which governments must take into consideration when deciding whether or not to allow arms exports: for instance, internal tensions, respect for human rights, regional stability, and so on. The Common Position is legally binding on all EU Member States.

There is also another fundamental change taking place at the European level with respect to legislation on arms trade. On 23 April 2009, the Council of the European Union adopted a Directive on intra-community trade in defence-related products.<sup>4</sup> The implication of this Directive is that 'exports' in the customs-technical sense of the word will now only refer to trade with non-EU Member States. Intra-community trade in military equipment remains subject to control, but with a more flexible licensing system.<sup>5</sup> This European Directive sets out a new course for national

legislation on the arms trade in EU Member States and thus also in Belgium and Flanders. This legislation must be applied by the end of June 2012 at the latest. Within Europe, Belgium is also part of a union with Luxembourg (BLEU) and the Netherlands (BENELUX). Within these unions, special agreements again apply.<sup>6</sup> Additionally, the European Firearms Directive 91/477 also has to be taken into consideration.<sup>7</sup> This directive concerns monitoring of the acquisition and possession of arms by private individuals as well as the transfer of firearms between EU Member States.<sup>8</sup>

Finally, the authority for arms trade in Belgium has been regionalized. The three regions have taken over this competence since 2003, with the exception of imports and exports of military equipment on behalf of the Belgian armed forces and police. For now, federal legislation from 1991<sup>9</sup> remains in force, but Flanders is working on developing its own 'Arms Trade Act'. In his policy note for the new parliamentary term (2009-2014) the Flemish Minister-President stated the objective of updating the current legislation via a specific Flemish Act.<sup>10</sup> During this term, a proposal by the 'Groen' faction [Green progressive opposition party] for a Flemish Parliament Act on foreign arms trade,<sup>11</sup> and a draft act by the Flemish Government,<sup>12</sup> were laid before the Flemish Parliament. On 28 February and 6 March 2012, the Flemish Parliament's Committee for Foreign Policy, European Affairs and International Cooperation organized hearings with a view to discussing this proposal and draft act. At the time of writing, pending parliamentary approval of a Flemish Arms Trade Act, federal legislation was still in force.

As regards the definition of 'arms' or 'military equipment', the European Union has drawn up a list of products for which an export licence is required. We shall refer to these items as 'arms', 'military products' or 'military equipment'. Some countries have further extended this list. Additionally, a number of countries, such as Germany, also have a 'catch-all' provision in their legislation: on the basis of a catch-all clause, exports of a product that is not on the list of military equipment can also be subject to a licence obligation when it has a military end-use. In Belgian legislation, the list is more extensive than the EU list and, in addition, a catch-all clause applies.<sup>1</sup>

### ***General procedure***

Besides an understanding of the legal framework for arms trade, an insight into the current procedures for Flemish legal arms exports is also important for a good understanding of this annual report. These procedures are illustrated by way of an example: company X has signed a contract with a customer in country Y for 200 weapons sights and thus wants to export its products. X submits an application to the Strategic Goods Monitoring Unit (SGMU) to obtain an export licence. The SGMU is an administrative unit within the Flemish Department of Foreign Affairs. The company must include in its application - among other documents - an arms dealer licence from the Federal Public Service (FPS) for Justice, as well as an import certificate or an end-use certificate, in this case from the customer in country Y. The SGMU then compiles a dossier with an advisory opinion based on technical, legal and political considerations. To assess the situation in country Y, the unit makes use inter alia of the country file kept by the FPS for Foreign Affairs. Based on the entire dossier, the competent Minister makes the final decision. If this is negative, no licence is issued. If the decision is positive, the licence is sent to company X. The licence is enclosed with the weapons sights package and all this is sent to the customer. During transport, the transaction must be reported to Belgian customs, who verify that everything is in accordance with the information on the licence. After effective delivery in country Y, company X must submit proof of delivery to the SGMU. This is

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<sup>1</sup> An overview of military items with a licence obligation is available in annex 7.2 of this report.

the general model of the procedure for exports of military equipment. Specific procedures apply to certain recipient countries, types of end-use and products.

### **Reporting**

Companies that import, export or carry out transit of military products have to apply to the Flemish authorities for the appropriate licences. Based on Article 17 of the Federal Act of 1991, the authorities must report these licence applications to Parliament. Since the start of the new legislature, all reporting on the Flemish licensing policy on arms trade takes place in the Flemish Parliament's Committee on Foreign Policy, European Affairs and International Cooperation. The Parliament does not have a say in the approval or denial of an export licence, but it can subsequently evaluate any decisions taken. Every month, every six months and every year, reports on licences are also made public through the SGMU's website.<sup>13</sup>

Based on the information in these periodic reports, the Flemish Peace Institute has developed a database consisting of all Flemish licences approved and denied for the import, export and transit of military goods as published on the website of the SGMU since the regionalization of this competence. This database, in the form of an SPSS file<sup>I</sup>, allows us to make comparisons and thereby recognize and analyse developments and trends in the foreign trade of military goods.<sup>II</sup> Unless otherwise indicated explicitly, figures and analysis mentioned in this report derive from our database.

### **Structure of the report**

In the current report, applications for Flemish import, export and transit licences for military equipment are analysed on the basis of these available figures. In this analysis we consider not only the total numbers but also the nature and destination of these trade flows. We indicate developments and trends and also take a closer look at some noteworthy recipient countries of Flemish arms exports. In **Chapter Two** we discuss reports on Flemish foreign arms trade on which the analyses are based. In **Chapter Three** we address arms imports and analyse the development, nature and origin of licensed arms imports. Further, we discuss licensed imports of firearms and accessories in greater detail. Import licences that have been denied are also covered in this chapter. In **Chapter Four** we discuss licences for arms exports. We analyse developments in the value of licensed Flemish arms exports and place these arms exports in a European and Belgian context. This chapter also analyses the nature, destination and last reported use of licensed exports. We end this chapter with an overview of denied licence applications. **Chapter Five** consists of an analysis of licenses approved and denied for transit. **Chapter Six** contains the conclusions from our analyses.

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<sup>I</sup> SPSS is a statistical program for data management and analysis.

<sup>II</sup> The data in these databases were taken entirely from the related periodical reports of the Flemish Government. Every month the databases are completed with data from the monthly reports published on the website of the Arms Trade Monitoring Unit. As far as the database for licences for trade in military equipment is concerned, information in the databases is compared with this half-yearly report and corrected where necessary after publication of the half-yearly reports to Parliament (using the half-yearly report as a reference).



## 2 Flemish reporting methodology on foreign trade in military equipment in 2011

Since the regionalization of competence for monitoring foreign arms trade in the summer of 2003, the three Belgian regions have been responsible for mandatory reporting to their respective Parliaments on licence applications approved and denied.

Over the past few years, there has been a clear trend towards greater transparency in the reporting methodology used by the Flemish authorities. Gradually, the reporting has evolved from aggregate figures per country of destination/origin, broken down solely into the number of licences per category of recipients, and a rough classification of military equipment,<sup>i</sup> towards a reporting method that lists several different indicators for each individual licence application.

In recent years, in the periodic reports on foreign trade in military equipment by the Flemish authorities, the following indicators have been mentioned for each individual licence application approved or denied:

- the nature of the military goods<sup>ii</sup>
- The value of the licence application<sup>iii</sup>
- the country of origin
- the recipient country
- the type of recipient
- the type of end-user (if known and different from the recipient)
- the country of end-use (if different from the recipient country).

As concerns the frequency of reporting, a semi-annual and an annual report of the Government to the Parliament have been laid down by law. In addition to these obligatory reports, since October 2005 the Flemish authorities have also published monthly overviews of licences approved and denied for import, export and transit.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>i</sup> The classification of military equipment prior to 2005 had only four broad categories: 'light' equipment (small and light arms and ammunition, parts and components thereof); 'semi-light' equipment (mortars, grenades, explosives, missiles and components); 'heavy' equipment (equipment that was included in the United Nations' arms registry); and 'other' equipment (electronic and optical systems, radars, communication systems, chemical products and OC sprays).

<sup>ii</sup> This classification according to the nature of the goods is based on the classification of the Common Military List of the European Union (completed with a number of Flemish categories). The most recent version of the Common Military List of the European Union can be found in Annex 7.2 of this report.

<sup>iii</sup> This value does not necessarily coincide with the value of the actual exports. For instance, sometimes licences are not used or not completely 'used up'.

## 3 Imports

Persons in Flanders wishing to import arms and/or military equipment must request a licence from the Strategic Goods Monitoring Unit.<sup>i</sup> This licence obligation arises from the Belgian Act of 5 August 1991 on the import, export and transit of, and combating illegal trafficking of arms, ammunition and equipment specifically intended for military use or law enforcement and related technology. The annex of the Royal Decree of 8 March 1993 specifically defines what is to be understood by 'arms, ammunition and equipment specifically intended for military use or law enforcement and related technology'. This annex contains a list of goods and technology the import of which is subject to a licence obligation (2nd category, section 2) as well as a list of goods and technology the import of which is not allowed (1st category). In addition to these Belgian lists there is also the Common Military List of the European Union.<sup>ii</sup> This list is updated regularly (it was last reviewed on 12 September 2011) and is de facto identical to the Wassenaar Arrangement Munitions List.<sup>iii</sup> EU Member States must use this EU list as a reference for their own national lists. In practice, the Flemish authorities also base themselves upon this EU list of licensable products. In addition, Flanders must take into consideration the provisions on the transfer of firearms set out in the European Union Firearms Directive 91/477.

**In 2011, the Flemish authorities issued 368 import licences. These import licences had a combined value of 18,272,709.14 euro.**

### 3.1 Trends

Flanders issued significantly fewer import licences in 2011 than in the preceding years. This decline in the number of import licences issued can be fully attributed to the sharp decrease of the number of import licences for firearms and accessories from category ML23.

Despite the decline in the number of import licences issued, the total value of licensed imports - 18.3 million euro - was of approximately the same magnitude as in 2010 (-3.5%). Figure 1 gives an overview of the total value of import licences issued since 2001.<sup>iv</sup> For most years the value of licensed arms imports fluctuated between 16 and 29 million euro. This is significantly lower than the value of licensed arms exports from Flanders. Noteworthy in Figure 1 is the exceptionally high value of licensed imports in the period 2007-2009. This high value was largely due to the participation of a number of Flemish companies in an order placed by the Belgian armed forces with foreign defence companies. In the context of this order, these Flemish companies requested

<sup>i</sup> If the import is destined *directly* for the Belgian armed forces or police (meaning without a dealer or a company as intermediary) then these agencies need to apply for an import licence from the federal authorities.

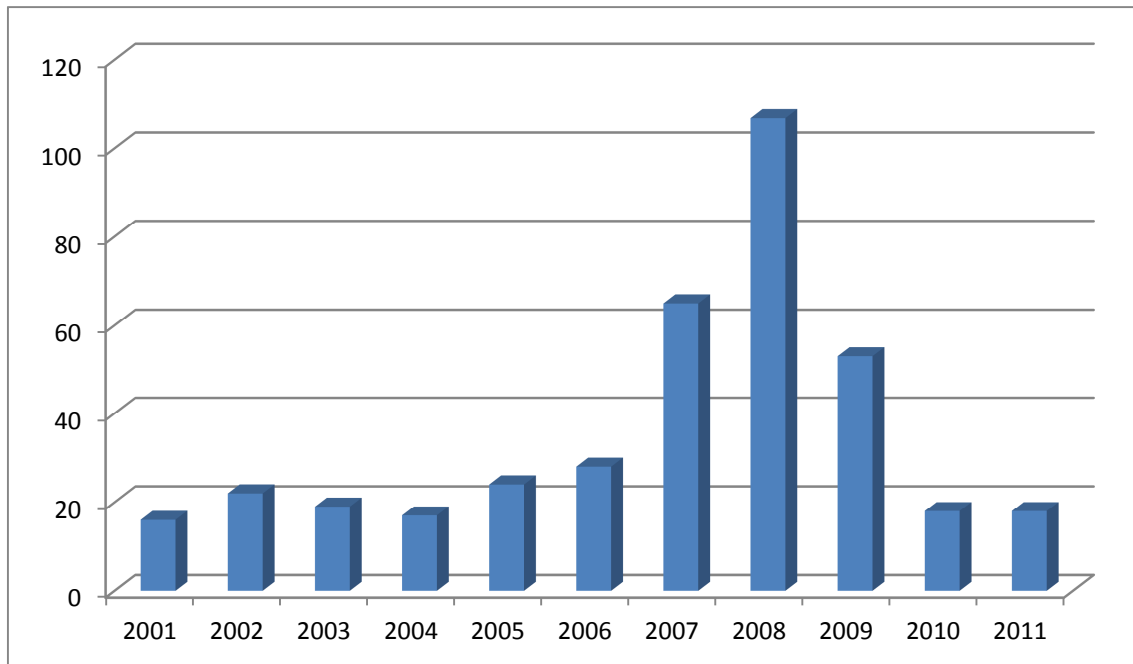
<sup>ii</sup> See Annex 7.2. for an overview of the goods on this Common Military List of the European Union.

<sup>iii</sup> The Wassenaar Arrangement is an informal agreement in which approximately 40 countries, including Belgium, participate. It was established in 1996 as the successor to the *Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls*, with the aim of strengthening regional and international security by means of promoting transparency and the exchange of information as regards the transfer of military goods and dual-use items. For more information about the Wassenaar Arrangement, see Castryck, G., Depauw, S. & Duquet, N., *The Flemish Arms Export Policy: An Analysis of the Legal Framework*, p.18-19.

<sup>iv</sup> The figures from the period prior to the competence transfer in 2003 relate to Dutch-language applications for a licence from the federal authorities.

import licences for military vehicles, vehicle components and fire control systems in which the Belgian Army was indicated as end-user of the defence products.

Figure 1: Annual value of import licences (in million euro), 2001-2011.<sup>i</sup>



## 3.2 Nature of the licensed imports

Arms import licences in Flanders primarily concern two types of products: (1) firearms and accessories, and (2) military vehicles and components. Most licences are intended for imports of firearms and accessories (such as ammunition and accessories, e.g. weapons sights). These licences account for 43% of the total value of licensed imports in Flanders and are discussed in detail in section 3.4.

Licences for imports of vehicles and vehicle components were fewer in number in 2011, but represented - as in previous years - approximately half (52%) of the total value of licensed arms imports in Flanders. In 2011, 34 licences with a combined value of 9.3 million euro were issued for imports of these products. They mainly consisted of ground vehicles and components therefor, specially designed or modified for military use (ML6.a), but also to a lesser extent all-wheel drive vehicles manufactured or fitted with materials to provide ballistic protection (ML6.b). These vehicles and components came from four countries: Italy, the United States, Germany and France. Licences were mainly applied for by the Flemish (defence-related) industry and also to a lesser extent by dealers or private individuals. One licence indicated the Belgian Army as end-user, namely for imports of vehicle components from Italy (6.6 million euro).

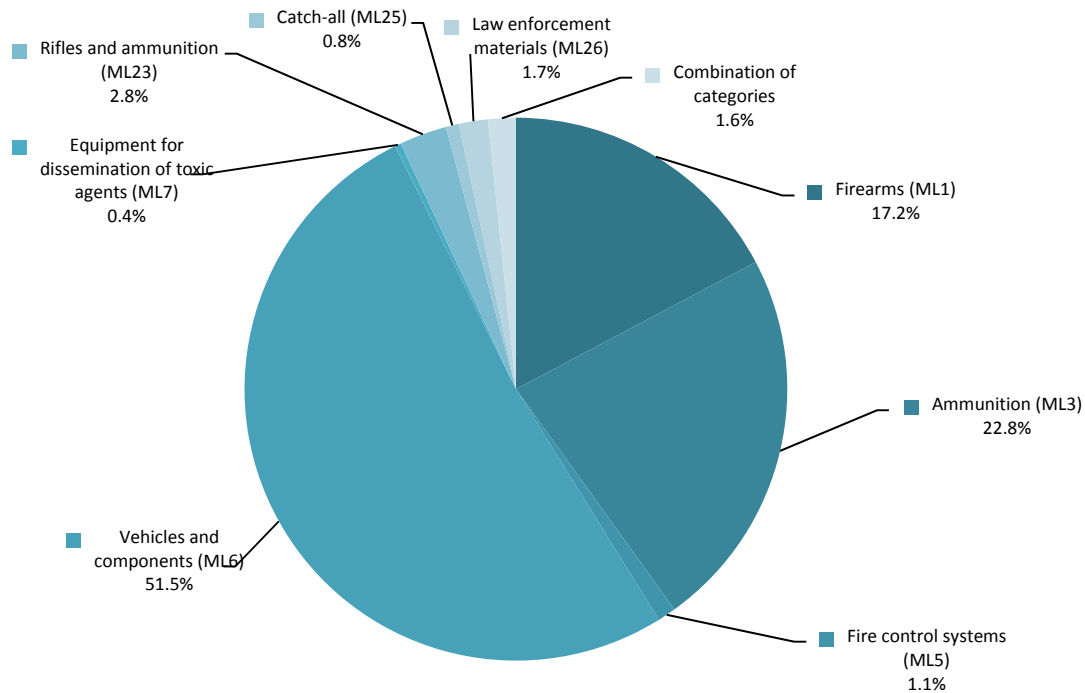
In 2011, aside from firearms and accessories and for vehicles and vehicle components, licences were also issued on a small scale for imports of fire control systems (ML5.b)<sup>ii</sup>, military equipment

<sup>i</sup> For the exact number and value of import licences issued, see Table 8 in annex.

<sup>ii</sup> This involved two licences (with a combined value of 201,031.60 euro) for fire control systems coming from Israel and destined for the Flemish defence-related industry: or more specifically, products from the following category: 'Target

for the dissemination of toxic agents (ML7.e)<sup>i</sup>, equipment for law enforcement, (ML26)<sup>ii</sup> and software and/or hardware subject to a licence obligation on the basis of the catch-all clause - ML25.c<sup>iii</sup>. Together these licences represented approximately 5% of the total value of licensed imports in 2011.

Figure 2: Share of licensed imports per type of military equipment (in value), 2011



acquisition, designation, range-finding, surveillance or tracking systems; detection, data fusion, recognition or identification equipment; and sensor integration equipment’.

<sup>i</sup> An import licence for this equipment, coming from France, was issued to a Flemish dealer for end-use by the government. More specifically, it concerned equipment specially designed or modified for military use, for the dissemination of chemical or biological toxic materials, riot control agents or radioactive materials, and components specially designed for this. This licence covered products with a value of 66,800 euro.

<sup>ii</sup> In 2011, 9 licences were issued for imports of riot control agents. Flemish dealers applied for these licences (with the government as end-user). The products had a value of 317,000 euro and came from Germany and Switzerland.

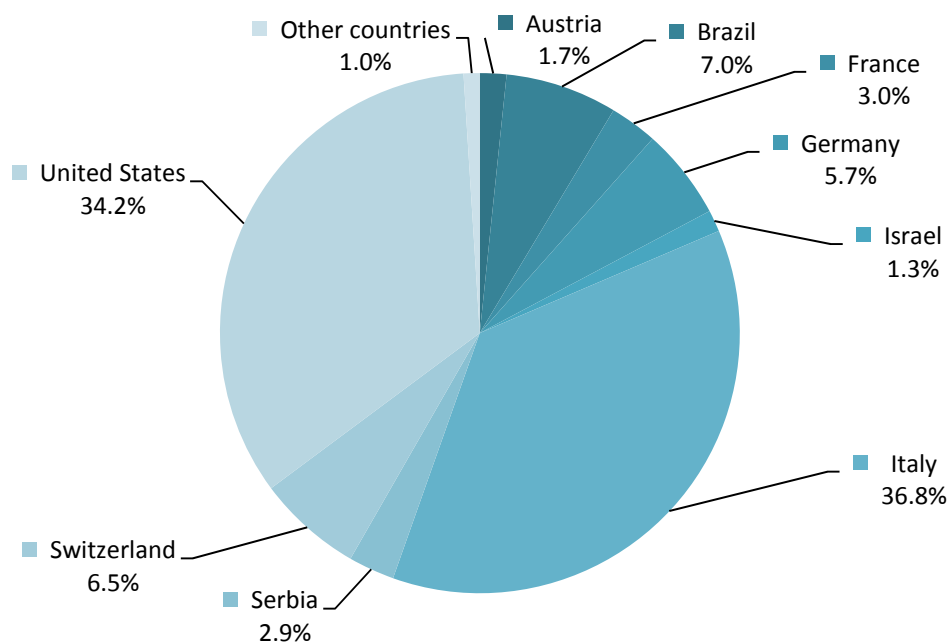
<sup>iii</sup> This related to a licence for imports of software and/or hardware not listed in the Royal Decree of 1993 or the Common Military List of the EU, but whose import is subject to a licence obligation on the basis of the catch-all clause in this Royal Decree. These products came from Italy, had a value of 141,986.45 euro and were destined for the Flemish industry (with the armed forces as end-user).

### 3.3 Origin of licensed imports

Import licences issued in 2011 involved products originating from 16 countries.<sup>1</sup> The two most important countries of origin (in terms of value) were Italy (37%) and the United States (34%). The high value for Italy (6.7 million euro) was mainly the result of import licences for vehicle components. Import from the United States (6.2 million euro) consisted of firearms and ammunition as well as (components of) vehicles.

Approximately half of licensed imports come from EU Member States. Besides Italy, the other EU Member States from which significant quantities of defence products were imported were Germany (1.0 million euro), France (0.5 million euro) and Austria (0.3 million euro). Flanders also imported significant quantities of defence products from Brazil (1.3 million euro), Switzerland (1.2 million euro), Serbia (0.5 million euro) and Israel (0.2 million euro). Imports from Israel mainly consisted of fire control systems; imports from Germany and France mainly of vehicles and components; and imports from the other countries mainly of firearms and/or ammunition.

Figure 3: Share of licensed imports (in value) by country of origin, 2011



<sup>1</sup> For the exact number and value of import licences issued per country of origin, see Table 9 in annex.

## 3.4 Licensed imports of firearms and accessories

In 2011, Flanders issued 320 licences for imports of firearms, ammunition and associated accessories, such as weapons sights and gun-mountings. Licences for these firearms and accessories had a combined value of 7,838,421.74 euro. Year by year, licences for these products have accounted for the bulk of import licences: in 2011 they represented 87% of all import licences issued. However, there was a great deal of variation among these licences for firearms and accessories. Approximately half of the licences concerned products with a maximum value of 500 euro and approximately two-thirds, products with a maximum value of 1,000 euro. They generally involved licences for imports of a limited number of firearms and/or accessories for these firearms. These licences were applied for primarily by private individuals and only to a lesser extent by dealers. At the other end of the spectrum, however, were licences covering products worth tens of thousands of euros: for example, in 2011, 55 licences were issued with a value of at least 25,000 euro. These licences were always applied for by dealers and were intended for imports of ammunition and large quantities of firearms.

A list of firearms and accessories for which one must apply for an import licence in Flanders is found in Section 2 of the 2nd category of the Annex to the Royal Decree on foreign arms trade from 1993. This concerns:

- small arms and light weapons, the possession of which is subject to a licence obligation on the basis of the Federal Weapons Act of 2006; rifles and carbines for hunting, self-defence or sport shooting; automatic firearms; as well as their parts and components and accompanying accessories
- large-calibre weapons of war, as well as their parts, components and accessories
- projectiles and ammunition, gunpowder and explosives

Reports by the Strategic Goods Monitoring Unit make use of the categorization of the Common Military List of the EU, complemented by a number of Flemish categories.

Falling under ML1 are 'smooth-bore weapons with a calibre of less than 20 mm, other arms and automatic weapons with a calibre of 12.7 mm (calibre 0.50 inches) or less, and accessories... and specially designed components therefor'. Category ML1 distinguishes three subcategories of firearms (ML1.a, ML1.b and ML1.c) and an accessories subcategory (ML1.d).

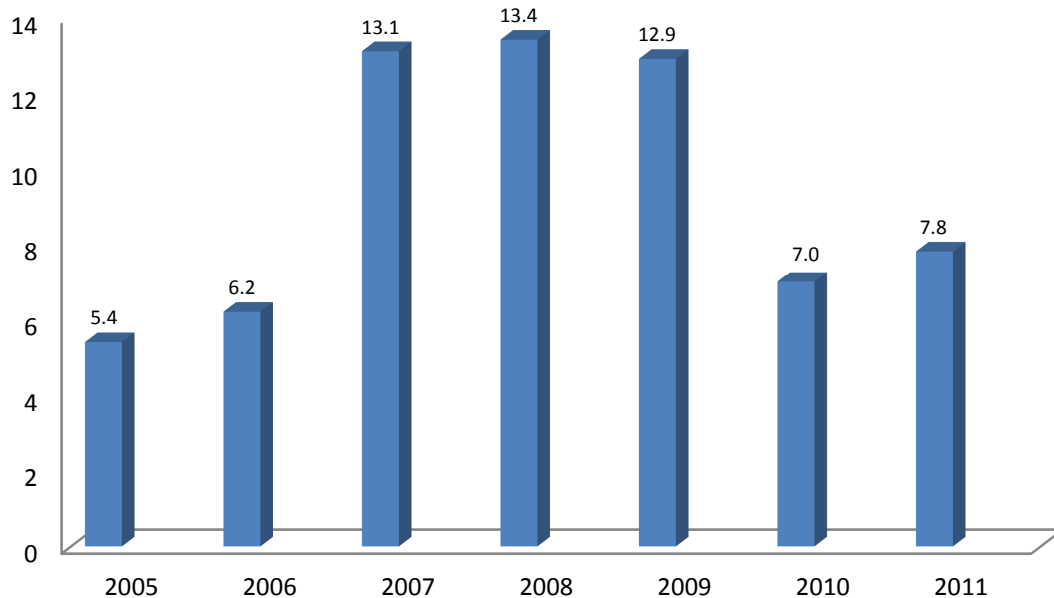
Falling under ML3 are ammunition and fuse setting devices and specially designed components therefor. ML3 distinguishes two subcategories: one the one hand, ammunition for the weapons specified by ML1, ML2 and ML12 (ML3.a), and on the other hand, fuse setting devices specially designed for ammunition specified by ML3.a (ML3.b).

Under ML23, the Strategic Goods Monitoring Unit groups the remaining rifles and ammunition subject to an import licence obligation in Flanders.

The value of licensed imports from the group firearms and accessories underwent a spectacular increase between 2006 and 2008. This increase came to a standstill in 2009 and in 2010 was

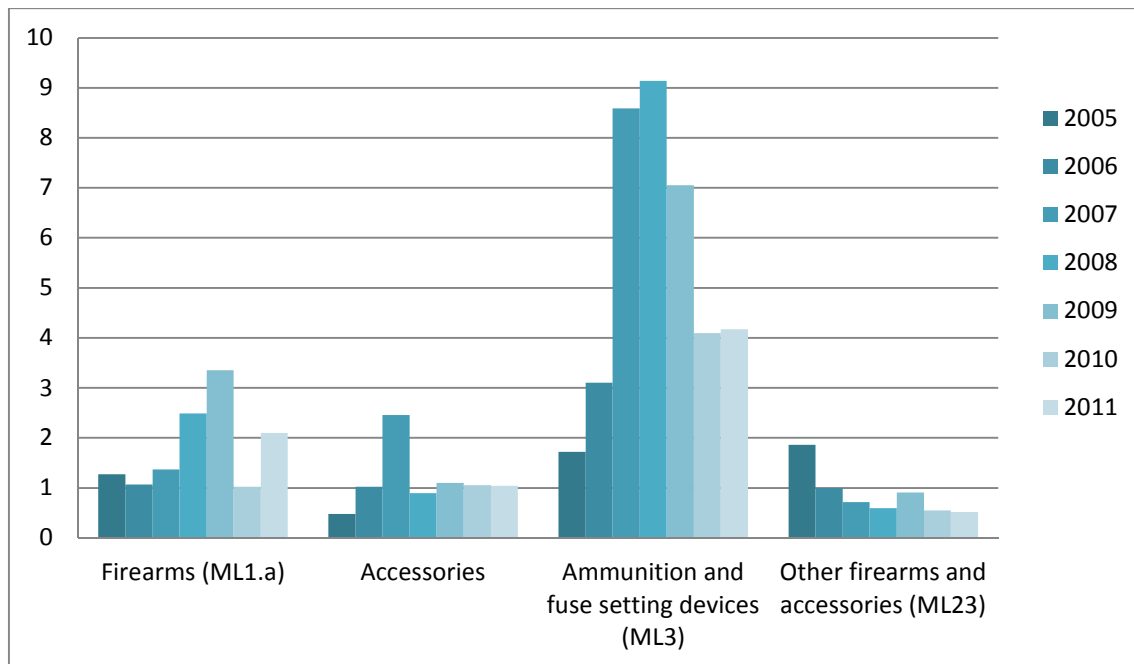
followed by a spectacular decrease (see Figure 4). In 2011, the value of licensed imports of these firearms and accessories again rose significantly (+11%).

*Figure 4: Value of licensed imports of firearms and accessories (in million euro), 2005-2011.*



The increased value of licensed imports of these products in 2011 may be attributed entirely to the sharp increase of licensed imports of firearms, mainly from the United States and to a lesser extent Switzerland. It is possible that this increase was in part the result of increasing demand for firearms by the Belgian police, but in view of the fact that the end-user was generally not mentioned by the dealers filing the applications, this cannot be determined on the basis of reports from the Strategic Goods Monitoring Unit. The end-user was indicated in only 6 of the 105 import licences issued to dealers, which included four licences for imports of firearm accessories and/or components with the government as end-user, and two licences for imports of ammunition with the government and the army as end-user. No end-user was indicated in the other licences. With the change to the Federal Weapons Act in 2006 and the corresponding implementation of decrees and circulars, an extensive registration system was developed with the federal police's Central Weapons Registry as its most important instrument. Some special considerations apart, the registration of firearms in Belgium has become significantly stricter. In principle, it is always possible to monitor who ultimately obtained possession of the imported firearms, though the Flemish authorities do not always do so.

Figure 5: Trends in the value of licensed imports of firearms and accessories (in million euro), per type, 2005-2011<sup>I</sup>



In the following sections we will analyse in greater detail the licensed imports of firearms, their accessories and ammunition in 2011.

### 3.4.1 Firearms (ML1)

The Common Military List of the EU includes 3 subcategories (ML1.a, ML1.b<sup>II</sup> and ML1.c<sup>III</sup>). Based on the regular reports by the Flemish authorities, we can establish that only small-bore weapons of the ML1.a type were imported into Flanders. These included '*rifles, carbines, revolvers, pistols, machine pistols and machine guns*'.<sup>IV</sup>

In 2011, 67 licences were issued for imports of various types of firearms (including mainly pistols, rifles and carbines) and firearm components and other specific accessories.<sup>V</sup> Licences for firearms had a combined value of 2.1 million euro, which signifies a doubling in comparison to 2010 (1.0

<sup>I</sup> With a view to comparability of the data, a number of firearms and accessories licences were excluded from the selection; more specifically, licences which concerned a combination of several types of products (e.g. ML1.a and ML1.d) and licences for fuse setting devices for ammunition (ML3.b).

<sup>II</sup> ML1.b includes smooth-bore weapons, as follows:

- smooth-bore weapons specially designed for military use;
- other smooth-bore weapons, as follows:
  - a. of the fully automatic type;
  - b. of the semi-automatic or pump-action type;

<sup>III</sup> ML1.c includes weapons using caseless ammunition.

<sup>IV</sup> Certain older versions of these firearms and reproductions, however, do not fall under ML1.a and are thus not subject to a licence obligation based on the Common Military List of the European Union. These include:

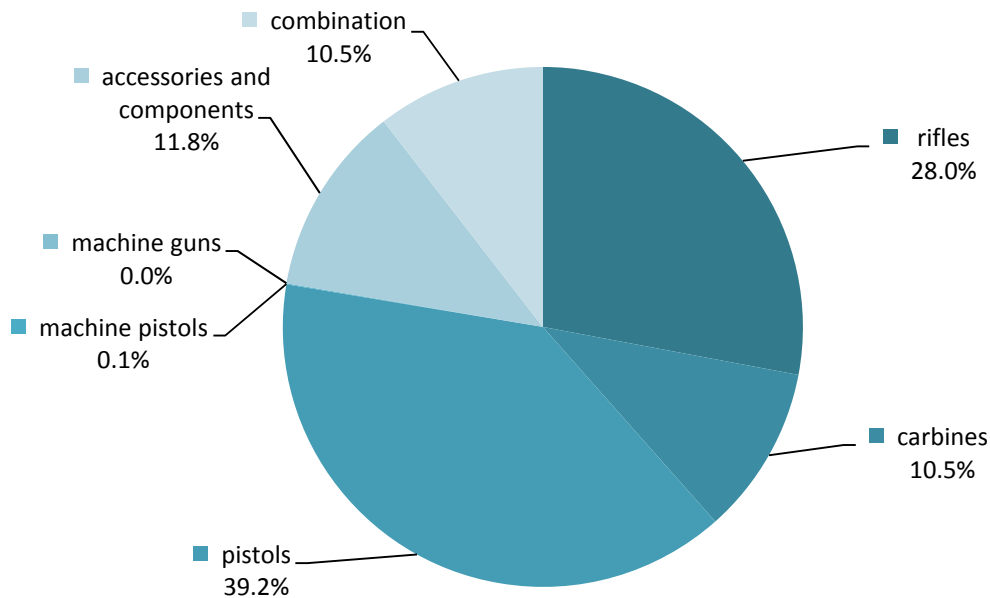
- muskets, rifles and carbines manufactured before 1938
- reproductions of muskets, rifles and carbines the originals of which were manufactured earlier than 1890
- revolvers, pistols and machine guns manufactured earlier than 1890 and their reproductions

<sup>V</sup> Furthermore, two import licences with a combined value of 9,690.34 euro were issued for a combination of firearms and/or components (ML1.a) and accessories (ML1.d) from the United States.



million euro). In 2011, licensed imports of firearms in Flanders consisted mainly of pistols (39%) and rifles (28%). Approximately 10% of imports consisted of firearms components and/or specific accessories (see Figure 6).

Figure 6: Distribution of value of licensed imports of firearms (ML1.a), 2011



Imported firearms came mainly from the United States (1.4 million euro) and Switzerland (0.7 million euro). The fact that the value of licensed imports of firearms doubled as compared to 2010 was the result of a sharp increase in firearm imports from these two countries. Licensed imports from the United States mainly involved pistols (and on a smaller scale, revolvers, carbines, rifles and firearm components). Licensed imports from Switzerland mainly involved rifles (and on a smaller scale, pistols, carbines, machine pistols and firearm components). Furthermore, licences were also issued for imports of firearms and/or firearm components from Israel, Australia, the United Kingdom, South Africa and Germany.

### 3.4.2 Ammunition and fuse setting devices (ML3)

Not only firearms, but also imports of ammunition (and specially designed components and fuse setting devices) require a licence. The Federal Weapons Act changed drastically in 2006, and in the following years, the value of licensed imports of ammunition (ML3.a) and corresponding fuse setting devices (ML3.b) experienced a spectacular increase (from 1.7 million euro in 2005 to 9.1 million euro in 2008). The sharp increase of licensed imports of ammunition was in part the result of new arms legislation whereby many gun owners became members of a shooting club, which enabled them to meet the requirement for a 'legal justification' and to keep their firearms. In order to retain their marksman licence, however, members of shooting clubs were required to participate in at least twelve shooting events per year, which resulted in an increased demand for ammunition.

In recent years however, the value of licensed imports of ammunition has decreased spectacularly. In 2011, the value of licensed imports of ammunition and fuse setting devices amounted to 4.2 million euro,<sup>i</sup> which was slightly more than in 2010 (4.1 million euro). In comparison to the record year of 2009 (9.1 million euro), however, it represented a halving of value.

Imported ammunition (ML3.a) came mainly from the United States (2.1 million euro)<sup>ii</sup> and Brazil (1.1 million euro). The other countries of origin were Serbia (500,000 euro), Switzerland (110,560 euro) and Germany (1,500 euro). Ammunition was imported almost exclusively by dealers. The Belgian government was mentioned as end-user for two licences - once for the 'government' and once for the 'armed forces' - and ammunition was thus imported in the framework of contracts between the dealer and the Belgian police and Belgian armed forces respectively. However, the vast majority of licences did not indicate an end-user, which implies that this ammunition was probably destined for retail sales to private individuals. Besides actual ammunition (ML3.a), Flanders also issues a limited number of licences annually for imports of fuse setting devices for ammunition (ML3.b). In 2011, Flanders issued 6 licences with a combined value of 343,348 euro for fuse setting devices coming from the United States, Brazil, Serbia and Australia.

### 3.4.3 Miscellaneous firearms, accessories and ammunition (ML23)

Under this category, import licences are separately listed for firearms and accessories which are not on the Common Military List of the EU, but whose import is nevertheless subject to licensing on the basis of Belgian legislation concerning foreign arms trade. The Strategic Goods Monitoring Unit has made a distinction according to the type of product in its monthly reports since September 2011.

In 2011, 187 licences with a combined value of 0.5 million euro were issued for these rifles and accessories. These goods came from nine countries of origin, the most important of which were Germany, the United States and Switzerland.<sup>iii</sup> On the basis of more detailed data released by the Strategic Goods Monitoring Unit since September 2011, we can conclude that approximately three-quarters of these imports involved firearms (primarily rifles and revolvers), and one quarter involved accessories and ammunition (see Figure 7).

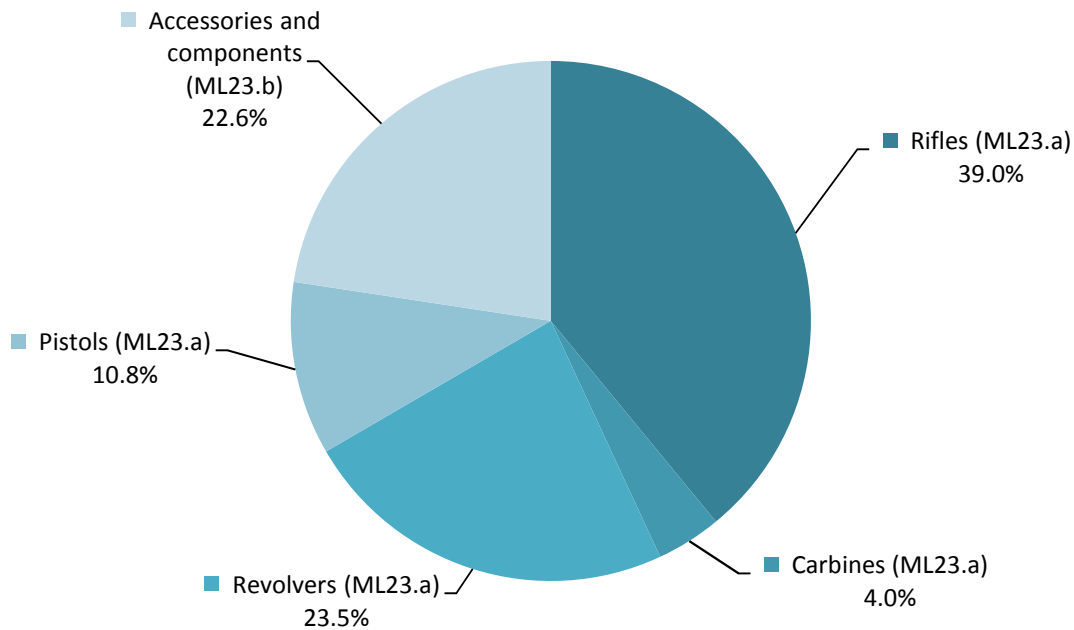
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<sup>i</sup> This does not include two licences for imports of a combination of ammunition and corresponding fuse setting devices (930,000 euro) from the United States.

<sup>ii</sup> They concerned 5 licences for imports of ammunition and 2 licences for imports of a combination of ammunition and corresponding fuse setting devices (930,000 euro).

<sup>iii</sup> The other countries of origin were Turkey, the United Kingdom, Australia, Italy, Denmark and Austria.

Figure 7: Distribution of value of licensed imports of firearms and accessories (ML23) by type, September-December 2011.



#### 3.4.4 Accessories for firearms (ML1.d)

The value of licensed imports of accessories has remained rather stable in recent years. In 2010, the combined value of the 36 import licences was 1.0 million euro. 90% of the licensed imports of these products involved weapons sights (primarily from the United States, but also from China, South Korea and Hong Kong) and 10% involved special gun-mountings (from the United States). Furthermore, licences were issued on a very small scale for imports of clips (coming from the United States).

## 3.5 Denied licence applications

Not all import licence applications were approved by the Flemish authorities. In 2011, Flemish authorities denied one application for an import licence. More specifically, it was an application by a private individual for imports of 'accessories and specially designed components' of firearms (ML1.a) from the United States valued at 171.10 euro.

The limited number of import licences denied in 2011 is in keeping with the trend from previous years. From the overview of the number of denied import licences since competence was devolved to the regions (see Table 1), it appears that a maximum of 1% of applications are denied every year. These denials are generally on account of administrative reasons<sup>15</sup> or because they relate to illegal weapons.<sup>16</sup> In the other two Belgian regions, no import licence has been denied since the competence devolved to the regions.

*Table 1: Overview of the number and total value of import licences denied, September 2003-2011*

	Number	% total number	Value	% total value
<b>Sept. 2003-04</b>	3	0.9%	301,233.92	1.4%
<b>2005</b>	0	0.0%	-	-
<b>2006</b>	1	0.4%	3,830.95	0.0%
<b>2007</b>	1	0.4%	342.52	0.0%
<b>2008</b>	2	0.7%	1,072.33	0.0%
<b>2009</b>	1	0.2%	460.00	0.0%
<b>2010</b>	2	0.4%	11,702.00	0.1%
<b>2011</b>	1	0.3%	171.10	0.0%

## 4 Exports

Persons and companies in Flanders wishing to export arms and/or military equipment must apply for a licence to the Strategic Goods Monitoring Unit. This licence obligation arises from the Belgian Act of 5 August 1991 on the import, export and transit of, and combating illegal trafficking of arms, ammunition and equipment specifically intended for military use or law enforcement and related technology. The Annex of the Royal Decree of 8 March 1993 specifically defines what is to be understood by 'arms, ammunition and equipment specifically intended for military use or law enforcement and related technology'. This annex contains a list of goods and technology the import of which is subject to a licence obligation (2nd category, section 2) as well as a list of goods and technology the import of which is forbidden (1st category). In addition to these Belgian lists there is also the Common Military List of the European Union.<sup>I</sup> This List is updated regularly (it was last reviewed on 12 September 2011) and is de facto identical to the Wassenaar Arrangement Munitions List.<sup>II</sup> The EU Member States must use this EU list as a reference for their own national lists. In addition, Flanders also must take into consideration the provisions on the transfer of firearms set out in the European Union Firearms Directive 91/477.

**In 2011, the Flemish authorities issued 308 export licences. These export licences had a combined value of 200,861,793.01 euro.**

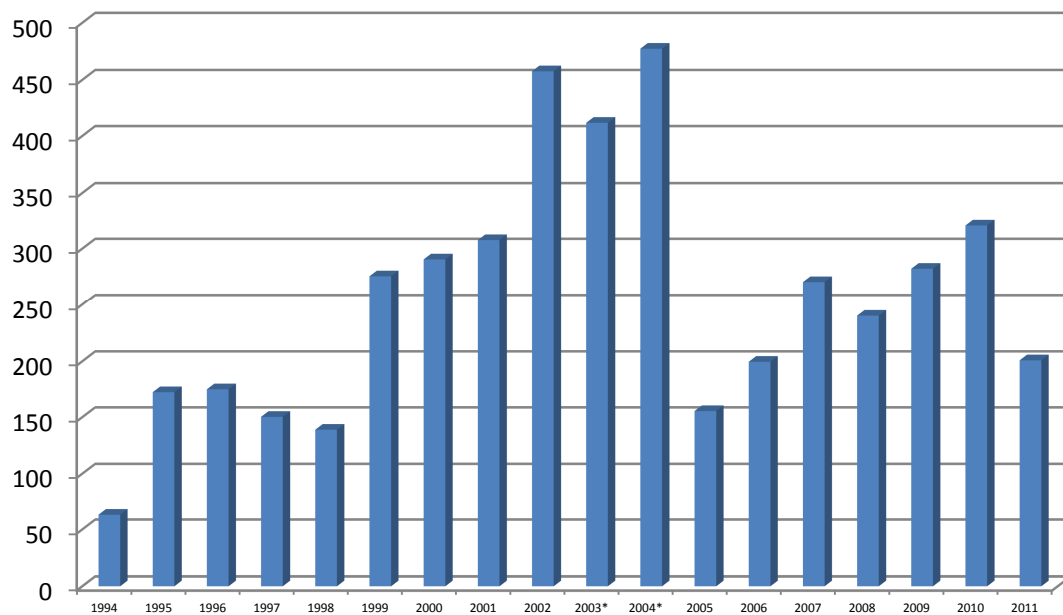
### 4.1 Sharp decline in value of licensed arms exports

In recent years, Flemish arms exports have experienced rapid growth: between 2005 and 2010, the value of licensed arms exports doubled from 155.5 million euro to 320.5 million euro. This sharp increase was in line with a number of international trends. Flemish defence-related companies were profiting from rising worldwide military expenditures as suppliers to the larger European defence companies. In 2011, however, with a value of 200.8 million euro, Flemish licensed arms exports experienced a sharp decline as compared to 2010 (-37%). The high value of licensed arms exports in previous years was more specifically the result of the increased value of exports of a number of specific products such as electronic equipment (ML 11.a), ground vehicles and components (ML6.a) and specialized equipment for military training (ML 14). In 2011, the value of licensed exports of these products was significantly lower (see 4.3). The Flemish defence-related industry - which is heavily oriented toward the European market (see 4.4) - appears to have felt the squeeze from the economic crisis and the accompanying cutbacks on defence spending. In comparison to 2010, there was a notable decrease of exports of most types of defence products from Flanders. Exports to Germany in particular decreased sharply, but the value of licensed arms exports to Switzerland and the United States also declined significantly as compared to 2010.

<sup>I</sup> See Annex 7.2. for an overview of the goods on this Common Military List of the European Union.

<sup>II</sup> The Wassenaar Arrangement is an informal agreement in which approximately 40 countries - including Belgium - participate. It was established in 1996 as the successor to the *Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls*, with the aim of strengthening regional and international security by means of promoting transparency and the exchange of information as regards the transfer of military goods and dual-use items. For more information about the Wassenaar Arrangement, see Castryck, G., Depauw, S. & Duquet, N., *The Flemish Arms Export Policy: An Analysis of the Legal Framework*, p.18-19.

Figure 8: Annual value of export licences (in million euro), 1994-2011.<sup>I</sup>



However, some nuancing is needed here. First, because of its specific nature - a limited number of companies which are often primarily active on the civil market - the Flemish defence-related industry is very sensitive to sharp fluctuations. Winning or losing a large contract has major consequences for the company involved, as well as for the overall figures for Flemish licensed arms exports. Secondly, the Flemish authorities did not report to the Flemish Parliament on all licences issued (e.g. extensions), or on actual exports. This makes estimating developments and trends more difficult.

## 4.2 Flemish arms exports in a European and Belgian context

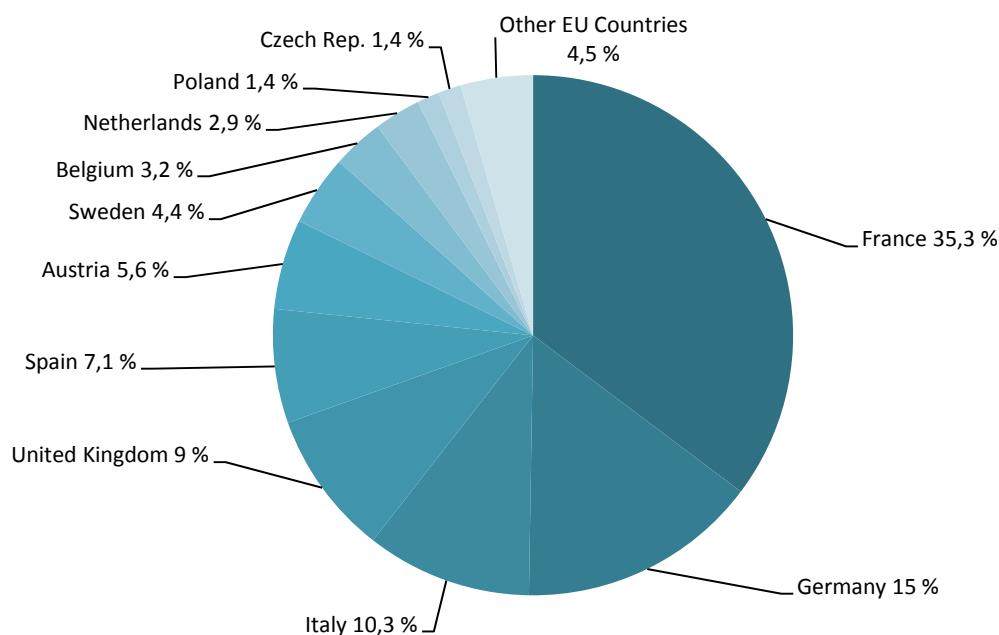
The European Union Working Group on Conventional Arms Exports (COARM) publishes annually an overview of arms export licences from EU Member States. Based on this data, it is generally possible to conduct a detailed investigation, for every recipient country, of the kind of military equipment the various EU Member States issued export licences for. However, this official European report, which is based on information received by this working group from the various Member States and is collated by COARM, also contains errors. Information from this report must therefore be interpreted carefully.<sup>II</sup> This does not change the fact, however, that the COARM reports can offer insights into the relative scale of Belgian licensed arms exports in an EU perspective.

<sup>I</sup> For the exact number and value of export licences issued, see Table 12 in annex.

<sup>II</sup> In late December 2011, COARM published its thirteenth annual report covering licensed arms exports in 2010. This report also contained several errors. For instance, we noted that a Flemish transit licence for firearms (ML1) destined for Jordan was wrongly listed in the COARM report as an export licence.

It appears from the most recent COARM report that in 2010, EU Member States issued export licences worth 31.7 billion euro. The five leading arms exporting countries from the European Union were France, Germany, Italy, the United Kingdom and Spain. With a total value of 1 billion euro, in 2010 Belgium was in eighth place in terms of licensed arms exports (see Table 13 in annex).<sup>1</sup> As for licensed exports of firearms specifically, Belgium finds itself in the top three (after Germany and Austria).

*Figure 9: Share of EU Member States in total value of licensed exports of military goods (ML1-22), 2010.*



In terms of their scope as well as their nature, licensed exports from Belgium differ significantly according to region. First of all, licensed arms exports from the Flemish region are significantly smaller than from the Walloon region. As in previous years, the value of licensed arms exports from Flanders in 2010 (320.5 million euro) amounted to less than half the value of licensed arms exports from Wallonia (685.4 million euro). Licensed arms exports from the Brussels Capital Region are traditionally very limited. Licensed arms exports by the federal authorities mainly involve the sale of surplus equipment from the Belgian Army. The value of these exports fluctuates greatly from one year to the next.

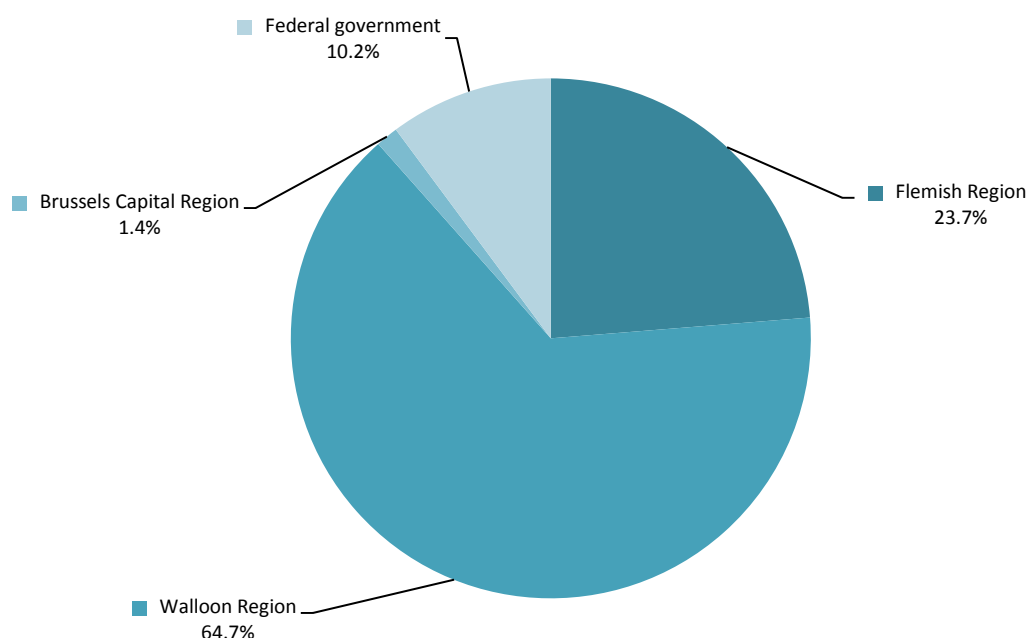
In the period 2005-2010, 24% of all Belgian licensed arms exports originated from the Flemish region, as compared to 65% from the Walloon region, 10% from the federal authorities and only 1% from the Brussels Capital Region (see Figure 10).

<sup>1</sup> Since the COARM report only concerns equipment listed in the Common Military List of the EU, the value of Belgian licensed arms exports in the COARM report is an underestimate of the actual value of export licences issued by the three Belgian regions and by the federal authorities. Particularly in Flanders, licences were in fact also issued for exports of goods which are not on this EU list, but which are subject to a licence obligation (primarily visualization screens).

Table 2: Comparison of the value of exports licensed (in million euro) in the three regions and at the federal level, 2005-2010

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
<b>Flanders</b>	155.5	199.6	270.3	240.0	282.2	<b>320.5</b>
<b>Wallonia</b>	446.0	760.4	621.0	688.6	805.2	<b>685.4</b>
<b>Brussels</b>	10.2	25.8	8.9	1.4	5.3	<b>35.2</b>
<b>Federal</b>	36.7	27.5	99.8	264.5	150.3	<b>50.1</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>648.4</b>	<b>1,013.3</b>	<b>1,000.0</b>	<b>1,194.5</b>	<b>1,243.1</b>	<b>1,091.3</b>

Figure 10: Percentage of the value of licensed arms exports of the three regions and the federal level, 2005 – 2010



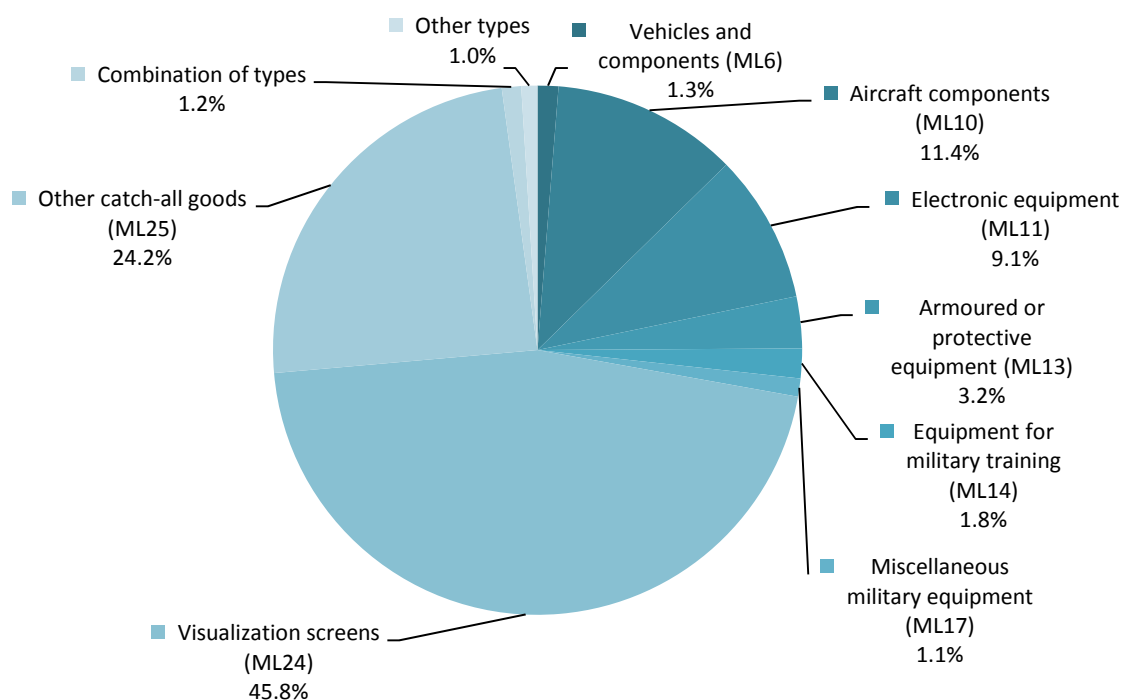
The nature of exported military goods was also highly differentiated. While exports from Flanders consisted mainly of components for larger weapon systems (aircraft, vehicles and vessels) destined for European and US companies, exports from Wallonia to a significant extent involved finished weapon systems such as firearms and ammunition. The very limited exports from Brussels mainly concerned aircraft components and firearms. Exports which were approved by the federal authorities related to superfluous army equipment from the Belgian Armed Forces, for example, the sale of F-16 aircraft and M-113 vehicles to Jordan.



## 4.3 Nature of licensed exports

The nature of licensed arms exports from Flanders was remarkably different in 2011 as compared to previous years. The high value in previous years was primarily the result of increased exports of a limited number of products, in particular electronic equipment (ML 11.a), ground vehicles and components (ML6.a) and specialized equipment for military training (ML 14). Licensed exports of these three types of products largely ceased in 2011. While these three types of products, worth a combined 155.7 million euro in 2010, represented nearly half (49%) of the total value of licensed arms exports, in 2011 this share was only 12% (24.5 million euro).<sup>1</sup> Licensed exports of a number of other types of military goods, such as imaging equipment (ML15), also represented a significantly lower value than in previous years. Only the value of licensed arms exports of visualization screens (ML24) stayed relatively stable and represented nearly half of the total value of Flemish licensed arms exports. Also noteworthy is the sharp increase in the value of licensed exports of aircraft components, mainly as a result of new exports of (components of) unmanned aircraft (ML10.c).

Figure 11: Percentage of licensed exports by type of military equipment (in value), 2011



<sup>1</sup> The percentage in 2011 rises to 23% if licences for exports of electronic equipment on the basis of the catch-all clause are also included (see 4.3.2).

### 4.3.1 Visualization screens (ML24)

Nearly half the value of licensed arms exports in 2011 involved exports of visualization screens. 133 licences with a combined value of 92.0 million euro were issued for these products in the past year. These licences concerned exports to some two dozen countries worldwide. The most important recipient country in terms of value was clearly the United States (41.4 million euro), followed by Singapore (12.4 million euro), the United Kingdom (7.6 million euro), France (6.9 million euro) and Spain (4.4 million euro). These screens were almost always destined in the first instance for foreign (defence-related) industry. The ultimate end-user (generally an armed force) was also indicated in more the half of the licences. In terms of value, however, for 72% of licensed exports of visualization screens the ultimate end-user is not known.

### 4.3.2 Other catch-all goods

A large percentage of exports of visualization screens from Flanders is subject to a licence obligation on the basis of the catch-all clause of the Royal Decree on foreign arms trade. Besides these screens, in 2011, 80 licences were also issued for exports of a number of other 'free' goods on the basis of the catch-all clause. These licences concerned various types of goods with a combined value of 48.7 million euro, thus representing nearly a quarter (24%) of the value of licensed exports in 2011.

In 2011, on the basis of the catch-all clause, remarkably high values of licences were issued for *electronics* (ML25.i – 22.3 million euro). These electronics were mainly destined for the industry in the United States, but also for the defence-related industry in Germany and Turkey, defence-related industry in Japan (with the armed forces as end-user), and the armed forces in Ecuador and India.

As in previous years, dozens of licences were issued for exports of *airport lighting and perimeter security barrier systems* (ML25.a – 5.3 million euro) on the basis of the catch-all clause. These products were intended for use - generally by armed forces (possibly via the industry) - in Afghanistan, Estonia, Germany, Gibraltar, Ireland, Italy, Kenya, New Zealand, Pakistan, Slovenia, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States. Furthermore, a remarkable number of licences were issued for exports of *software and/or hardware* (25.e – 8.9 million euro). These products were intended for the armed forces of South Korea and for international organizations in Afghanistan, Germany, Greece, Italy, Kosovo, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States.

In 2011, exports of *construction materials* (25.h – 6.4 million euro) for the industry in the United Kingdom were also subject to a licence obligation on the basis of the catch-all clause because of their end-use by the United Kingdom's Armed Forces. The same was true of exports of *components and accessories for vessels, transport trucks and airplanes* (25.g – 4.6 million euro) intended for the Bangladesh Armed Forces and the defence-related industry in Algeria.

Furthermore, licences – for a rather limited value – were also issued for exports of *telecommunications* (ML25.c – 0.4 million euro) for the industry in Malaysia with the armed forces as end-user, and for international organizations in Germany and Italy; *vessels, vehicles and aircraft* (ML25.k – 0.2 million euro) for the Nigerian Armed Forces; and *projection equipment* (ML25.m – 0.5 million euro) for the French defence-related industry.

### 4.3.3 Aircraft components (ML10)

In 2011, 12 licences were issued for military aircraft components (ML10). These licences had a combined value of 22.9 million euro and thereby represented 11% of the total value of licensed arms exports from Flanders. As in previous years, they applied largely to exports of aircraft components in the framework of Flemish industry's participation in the Airbus A400M project <sup>17</sup> (ML10.b – 14.7 million euro), and in particular, exports to the (defence-related) industry in France and Germany.

It is notable that in 2011, there were two licences issued for exports of unmanned aircraft, related equipment and/or components (ML10.c - 7.4 million euro). This is the first time that Flanders has approved licences for these types of products. These products were intended for the industry in the United Arab Emirates and had the armed forces as end-user.

In addition, licences were also issued for exports of components of combat aircraft (ML10.a - 0.4 million euro) for the defence-related industry in the United Kingdom, and propulsion aero-engine components (ML10.d - 0.3 million euro) for the defence-related industry in France, defence-related industry in the United Kingdom and the industry in Turkey (with German industry as end-user).

### 4.3.4 Electronic equipment (ML11)

11 licences with a combined value of 18.3 million euro were issued last year for exports of military electronic equipment (ML11.a). As a result, these types of goods represented nearly 10% of the total value of licensed arms exports in 2011, primarily relating to exports to Germany (18.2 million euro). In addition there were also two export licences issued - with a rather limited value - for France and one export licence for the United Kingdom. Military electronic equipment was always destined for the defence-related industry. No licence mentioned the ultimate end-user of these products.

Exports of military electronic equipment (ML11.a) were significantly lower in 2011 than in prior years. In 2010, the value of licensed exports of these products was as high as 88.3 million euro. In 2011 however, licences of remarkably high value were also issued for electronics (ML25.i – 22.4 million euro) on the basis of the catch-all clause. The value of licensed exports of these two types of electronic equipment in 2011 together amounted to 40.6 million euro, which is the same order of magnitude as in 2009 (37.5 million euro) and represented 20% of the total value of licensed arms exports in 2011.

### 4.3.5 Armoured or protective equipment (ML13)

In 2011, four licences with a combined value of 6.3 million euro were issued for exports of body armour and/or protective garments (ML13.d). They related to exports of these products to the armed forces of the United Kingdom (5.8 million euro), the armed forces of France (0.5 million euro) and on a smaller scale to a dealer in Norway (with the Norwegian industry as end-user).

#### 4.3.6 Specialized equipment for military training (ML14)

In 2011, Flanders issued 9 licences for specialized equipment for military training, including equipment for military training or for simulating military scenarios, simulators specially designed for training in the use of any firearm or weapon specified by ML1 or ML2, and specially designed components and accessories therefor. In 2011, exports of this specialised equipment for military training were destined for approximately ten countries. The last known users of these products were the (defence-related) industry in Germany, Japan and the United Kingdom, and the armed forces of Ecuador (via Brazilian industry), India, Japan (via local industry), Singapore (via local defence-related industry), the United Arab Emirates (via Swiss defence-related industry) and South Korea (via local industry). The combined value of licensed exports of these products was 3.7 million euro, or 1.8% of the total value of licensed arms exports, representing a value significantly lower than in 2010 (24.4 million euro).

#### 4.3.7 Ground vehicles and components (ML6)

In this category, Flemish authorities issued 19 licences in 2011. One licence for exports of military vehicles was issued for the armed forces of the United Kingdom. The other 18 licences involved exports of vehicle components destined for the defence-related industry in Sweden (1.2 million euro) and Finland (0.7 million euro). Licences were also issued – on a smaller scale - for exports of vehicle components to Turkey, Switzerland, Spain, the United Kingdom, Italy and the United States. These components were primarily for the defence-related industry. The ultimate end-user (armed forces) was also indicated in the majority of licences.

#### 4.3.8 Technology (ML22)

Since 2010, Flanders has also issued licences for '*intangible technology transfer*'. In 2011, 8 licences - always a value of 0 euro - were issued for exports of technology (ML22). They involved export licences for specific information in the form of technical data or assistance needed for the development, production or use of military goods intended for France, Switzerland, the United States (3x), Canada and Turkey (2x).

#### 4.3.9 Other defence products

In 2011, Flanders also issued licences - for a rather limited value - for exports of:

- revolvers (ML1.a), in particular for Turkey.
- weapons sights (ML1.d) to armed forces in Argentina, Brazil, Singapore, Slovenia and Sweden
- torpedoes and related equipment (ML4.a) for the defence-related industry in Germany,
- fire control systems (ML5.a and ML5.b) for the armed forces of India (via the Indian defence-related industry) and Romania (via the Israeli defence-related industry)
- vessel components (ML9.a) and silent bearings for military use (ML9.g), for the defence-related industry in the United Kingdom
- cameras (ML15.b) for the French defence-related industry
- image intensifier equipment (ML15.c) for Argentina (armed forces), Chile (authorities and armed forces), Croatia (authorities via defence-related industry), Lithuania (defence-related industry), and Sweden (armed forces)

- infrared and thermal imaging equipment (ML15.d) for the German industry
- mobile repair shops for service of military equipment (ML17.j), for the armed forces of India (via local defence-related industry)
- production equipment for military goods (ML18.a), for the Polish industry
- firearms (ML23.a) destined for a dealer in Chile and private individuals in Georgia, Russia, Switzerland and the United States

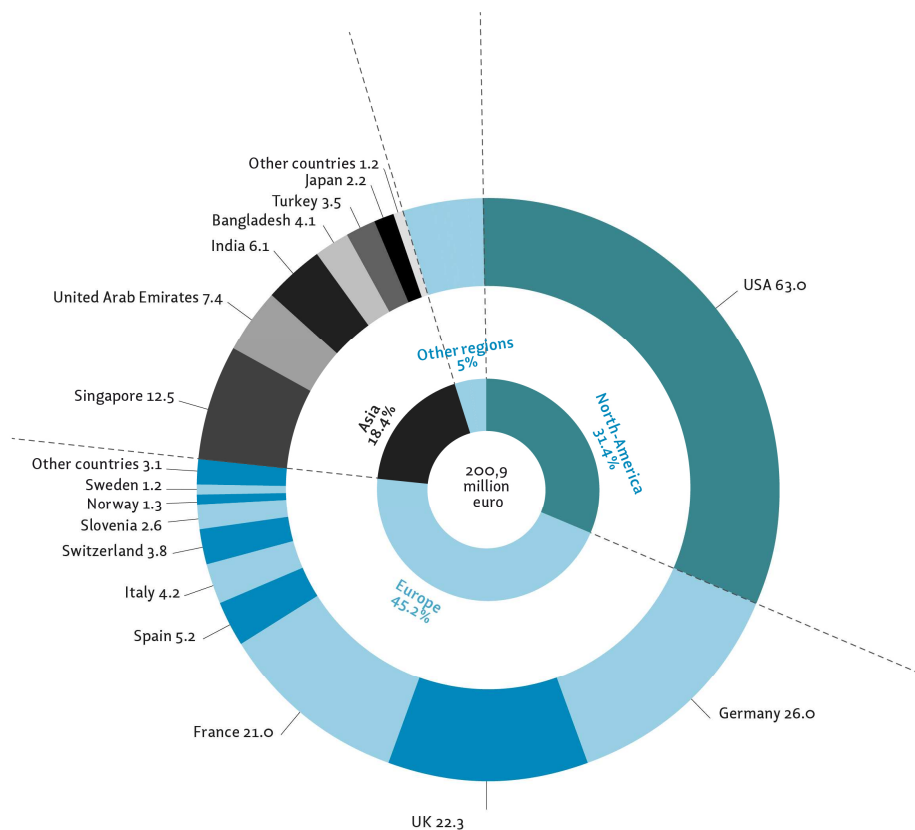
These licences had a combined value of 6.5 million euro.

## 4.4 Destination and last reported use of licensed exports

### 4.4.1 Destination of licensed exports

In 2011, licensed arms exports from Flanders were intended for nearly 50 recipient countries worldwide. These exports were intended primarily for European countries (45%) and the United States (31%). Asia (18%) was also an important market for Flemish military equipment. Flemish arms exports to countries from Africa (2.5%), South America (2.0%) and Oceania (0.5%) were rather limited (see Figure 12).

Figure 12: Most important regions and recipient countries (in million euro)<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> For the exact number and value of export licences issued per recipient country, see Table 13 in annex.

Licensed arms exports to **European recipient countries** amounted to 90.7 million euro in 2011 and represented nearly half the total value of Flemish licensed arms exports. These licensed exports - as in previous years - were principally intended for EU Member States (84.8 million euro), but Switzerland and Norway also received a sizeable quantity of military equipment from Flanders. Licensed arms exports to European recipient countries consisted of a wide range of defence products. In terms of value, however, they mainly concerned exports of visualization screens (ML24), military electronic equipment (ML11.a), aircraft components (ML10), body armour and/or protective garments (ML13.d) and products requiring a licence on the basis of the catch-all clause (ML25). These products - often components for integration into larger weapon systems - were primarily intended for the (defence-related) industry (81%). The five most important recipient countries were Germany, the United Kingdom, France, Spain and Italy. It is no coincidence that these are also the European countries with the most important defence industries and largest arms exports.<sup>18</sup> The ultimate end-user was also indicated in some licences for arms exports to the (defence-related) industry in European recipient countries. The end-user was not necessarily located in Europe, but also for instance in the United Arab Emirates, South Korea or the United States. A small proportion of Flemish licensed arms exports in 2011 was not initially intended for the European (defence-related) industry, but was delivered directly to European armed forces or an international organization present in a European country.

Licensed arms exports to **North America** (63.0 million euro) primarily concerned exports to the United States. These exports consisted principally of visualization screens (ML24) and electronic equipment falling under the catch-all clause (ML25.i) and were almost always destined for the (defence-related) industry in the country. Only in a limited number of instances was the ultimate end-user also mentioned, one of which was the Brazilian Armed Forces. In addition to exports to the United States, in 2011 a licence was also issued for the export (ML22) of technology destined for the Canadian industry.

Licensed arms exports to recipients in **Asia** amounted to 37.0 million euro in 2011, thereby representing 18% of the total value of Flemish licensed arms exports. These exports were mainly intended for recipients in Singapore, the United Arab Emirates, India, Bangladesh, Turkey and Japan. In recent years, export licences with a relatively high value were issued for these recipient countries as well. Export licences from 2011 in large part involved visualization screens (ML24 - Singapore, Japan and Turkey), but also (components for) unmanned aircraft (ML10.c - United Arab Emirates) and components and accessories for vessels, transport trucks and airplanes (ML25.g - Bangladesh). Licences were also issued for exports of, inter alia, mobile repair shops for service of military equipment (ML17.j), software and/or hardware (25.e), specialized equipment for military training (ML14), fire control systems (ML5), ground vehicle components (ML6.a), and airport lighting and perimeter security barrier systems (ML25.a). While the vast majority of licences for arms exports to Asian recipient countries involved exports to the (defence-related) industry, the ultimate end-user was known in three quarters of licences.

Flemish authorities only issue a limited number of licences annually for arms exports to **Africa**. In 2011 these were 5 licences with a combined value of 5.1 million euro. South Africa was the most important African recipient country: in 2011 this involved a licence for visualization screens for the defence-related industry and a licence for firearms, ammunition and weapons sights for private individuals. Other African recipient countries in 2011 were Kenya (airport lighting and perimeter security barrier systems for the industry with the armed forces of Kenya as end-user), Algeria

(components and accessories for vessels, transport trucks and airplanes intended for the defence-related industry), and Nigeria (vessels, transport trucks and airplanes for the armed forces).

Licensed arms exports intended for countries in **South America** amounted to 4.0 million euro in 2011 and were destined for Brazil, Ecuador, Argentina Peru and Chile. These exports primarily concerned visualization screens (ML24), electronic equipment (ML25.i), image intensifier equipment (ML15.c), specialized equipment for military training (ML14) and weapons sights (ML1.d). They generally involved direct deliveries to the armed forces or other end-users in these countries. In 2011, only exports to Brazil were, for a number of licences, in the first instance destined for the (defence-related) industry. The ultimate end-user was usually mentioned in these licences.

Licensed arms exports to **Oceania** amounted to 1.0 million euro and were intended for Australia (visualization screens for the defence-related industry and with the armed forces as end-user) as well as New Zealand (airport lighting and perimeter security barrier systems for the armed forces).

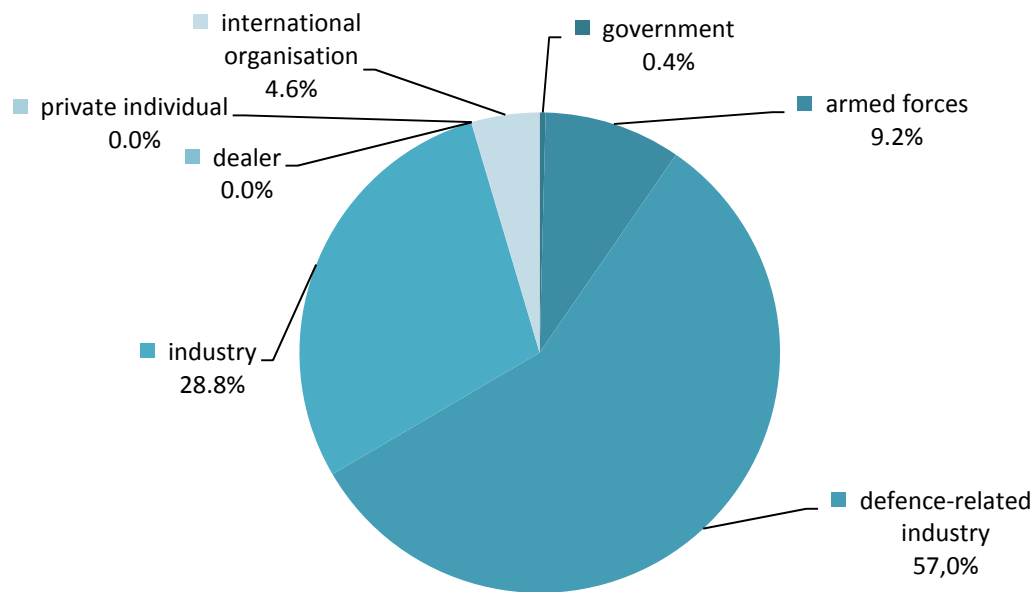
#### 4.4.2 Last reported users of licensed exports

In its half-yearly reports to Flemish Parliament, the Flemish Government lists the type of recipient for each licence application issued or denied since mid-2007. Eight types of recipients are distinguished:

1. government
2. armed forces
3. defence-related industry
4. industry
5. dealer
6. private individual
7. international organization
8. other

The Flemish Government defines the 'recipient' as *'the person, company or organization which receives the goods after dispatch from Belgium'*. From our analyses, it appears that exports from the Flemish defence-related industry are focused heavily on other companies. In terms of value, these represented as much as 86% of Flemish licensed arms exports in 2011, while less than 10% of exports are intended directly for foreign armed forces (see Figure 13).

Figure 13: Percentage of licensed exports per type of recipient, 2011



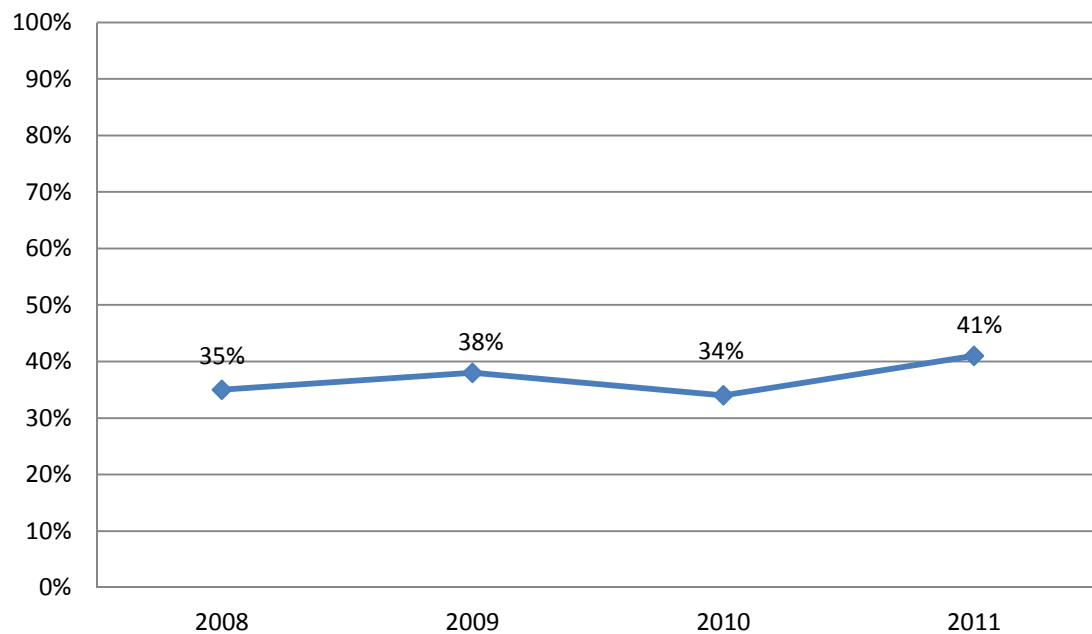
The recipient listed in licences is not, in fact, necessarily the end-user of the products. In addition to the type of recipient, reports from the Flemish authorities also indicate the type of end-user for certain licences.<sup>1</sup> For instance, when products are initially intended for a foreign defence company that integrates them into a larger weapons system and then sells this weapons system on to armed forces, the recipient will be 'defence-related industry' and the end-user 'armed forces'.

In approximately 40% of export licences that were issued in 2011, not only was the type of recipient indicated, but also the type of end-user. This was approximately the same as in previous years (see Figure 14). When a recipient as well as a (different) end-user was mentioned, this end-user was usually located in the recipient country. These cases generally involved exports from Flanders destined for the (defence-related) industry in country X with indicated end-user as the armed forces or another public service of country X. In a rather limited number of licences, the end-user indicated was located in a third country; for instance, exports of visualization screens for the Spanish defence-related industry with the Brazilian Armed Forces as end-user.

<sup>1</sup> The same eight types are distinguished as is the case for the recipient.



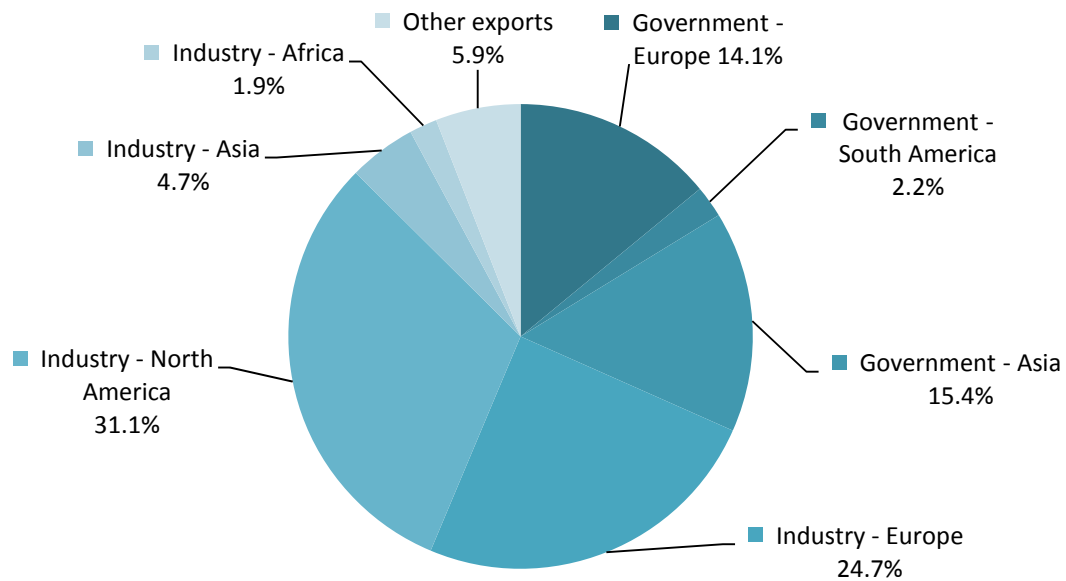
Figure 14: Percentage of number of export licences where end-user is indicated, 2008-2011



In order to avoid possible confusion between recipient and end-user, in the following analysis in this section we refer to the 'last reported user' of the defence products for which export licences are requested in Flanders. The 'last reported user' refers to the individual, organization or instance listed by the Flemish authorities as the last user of the goods for which a licence was requested. In practice this means that for those cases in which an end-user is listed, the last reported user is the end-user. In all other cases the recipient is the last reported user.

Our analysis shows that the American industry (31%) and European industry (25%) were the most important last reported users of Flemish licensed arms exports in 2011. Industry in the other regions was a less important market for Flemish defence-related products. In addition to American and European industry, the public services of Asian countries (15%) - mainly the armed forces of United Arab Emirates, Singapore, India and Bangladesh - and public services of European countries (14%) - mainly the armed forces of EU Member States – were often mentioned in the licences as last users of exported Flemish defence products (see Figure 15).

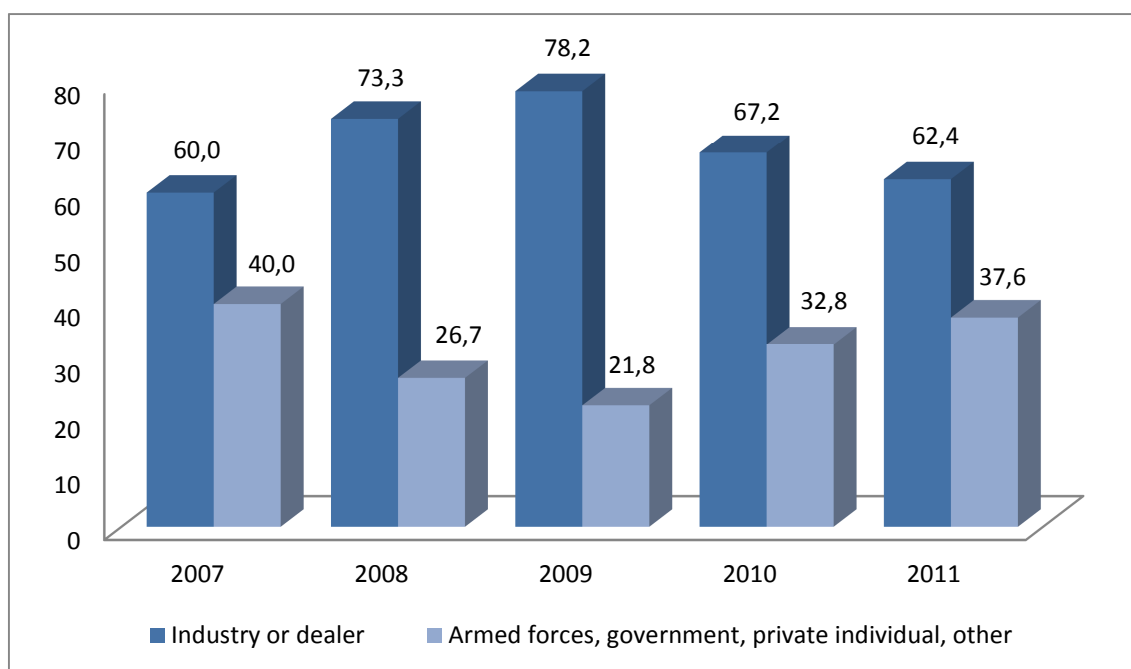
Figure 15: Percentage of licensed arms exports by type of last reported user per region (in value), 2011



#### 4.4.3 Known and unknown end-use

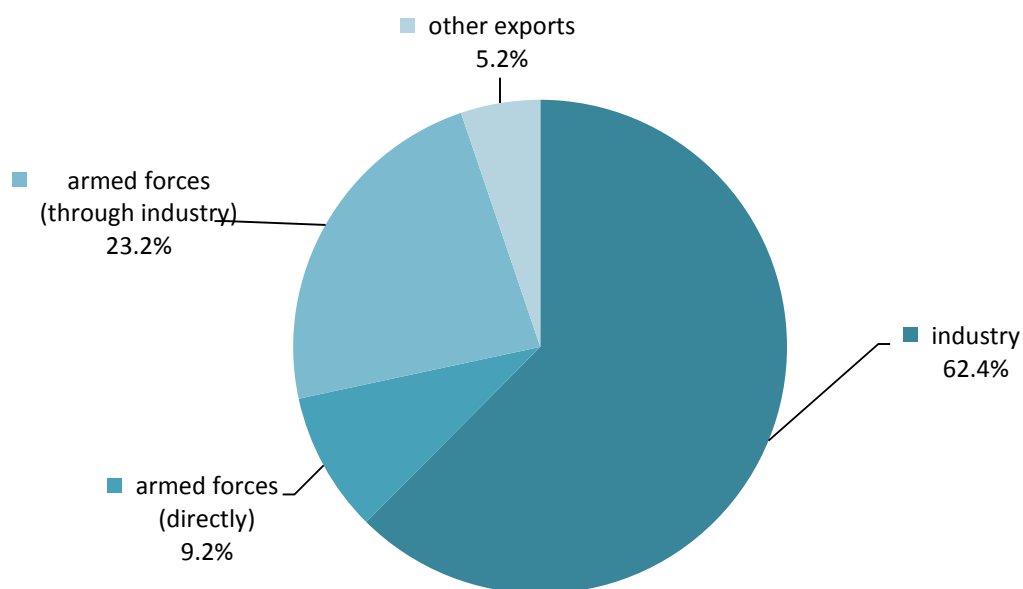
From our analysis, it further appears that - in terms of value - 62% of Flemish licensed arms exports in 2011 had another company (industry or dealer) as last reported user. This corresponds with figures from the past few years (see Figure 16). It means that in nearly two-thirds of licensed arms exports, the ultimate end-user was not known and was not included at the time of the licensing procedure. The Flemish authorities are then transferring the decision and accountability as regards possible re-export and ultimate end-use of Flemish goods to the authorities of the initial recipient country, even if these authorities employ a considerably different export control policy.<sup>19</sup>

Figure 16: Percentage of licensed arms exports by type of last reported user (in value), 2007-2011



The last reported user of a third of licensed arms exports was a foreign armed force. This mainly concerned Flemish defence products ending up with such armed forces via export to a foreign company. Direct deliveries to foreign armed forces occurred significantly less often (see Figure 17).

Figure 17: Percentage of licensed arms exports by type of last reported user (in value), 2011

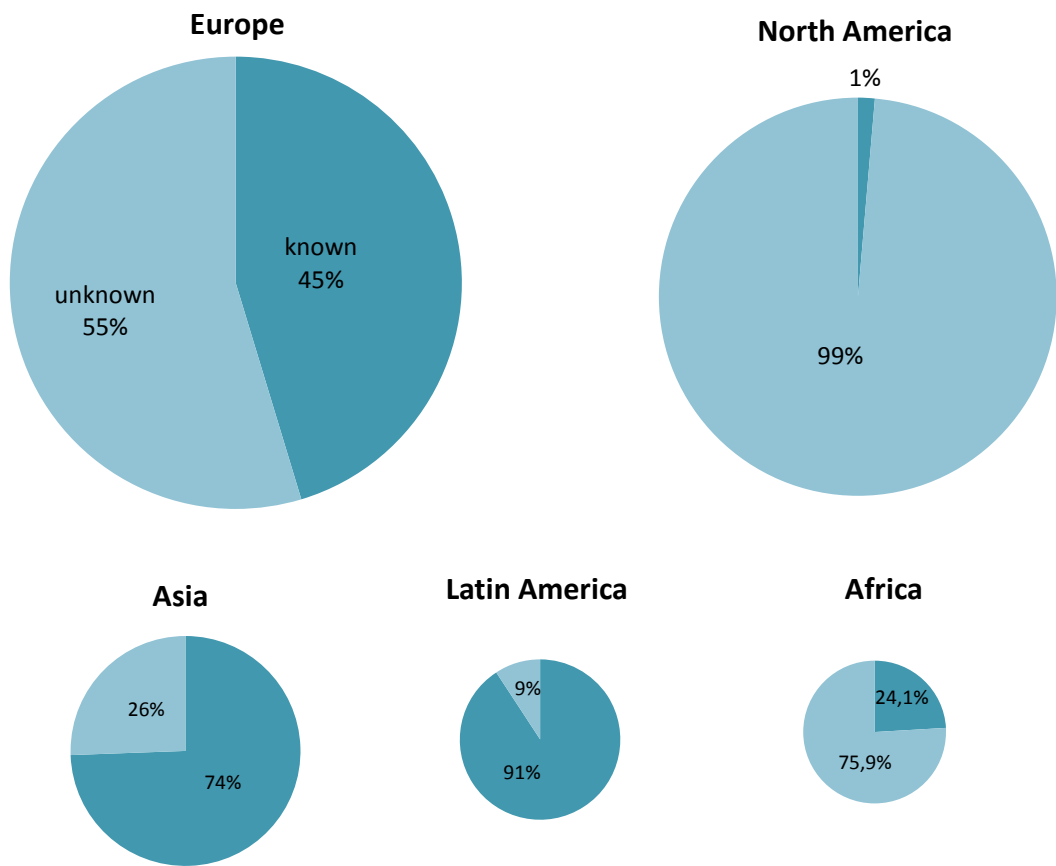


Previous analyses have stressed that the nature of the defence products has a significant bearing on whether or not the ultimate end-user is known or not: while the Flemish licensing procedure usually includes the ultimate end-user for exports of vehicle components and imaging equipment,

this is significantly less often the case for exports of electronic equipment, visualization screens and aircraft components.<sup>20</sup>

New analyses demonstrate that knowing the ultimate end-user also depends heavily on the recipient region. While in Asia, the ultimate end-user of licensed arms exports was known (namely, an armed force, government, private individual or other known individual as last reported user), the ultimate end-user for licensed arms exports to North America was not known during the licensing procedure in 99% of cases. This means that the Flemish authorities have scarcely any idea of the end-user of Flemish defence products exported to the United States. Responsibility for continued monitoring of end-use has thus been transferred to the American authorities. For licensed arms exports to European recipient countries, slightly more than half (55%) concerned exports with the industry (or to a lesser extent a dealer) as last reported user, and thus the Flemish licensing procedure did not include the ultimate end-user. Also among the 'smaller' recipient regions we can find remarkable variations in known ultimate end-users: while the industry or a dealer was the last reported user in three quarters of exports to Africa, for South America this was less than 10%.

Figure 18: Percentage of known end-use (armed forces, government, private individual, other) and unknown end-use (industry/dealer) of licensed arms exports by region, 2011.



#### 4.4.4 Noteworthy recipient and end-use countries

The present annual report also examines a number of licences which stand out because of their recipient and/or end-use country. This should not be taken to mean that these licences infringe upon Belgian legislation as regards foreign arms trade or the European Code of Conduct. The identification of noteworthy recipient and end-use countries is based on a number of resolutions by the Flemish Parliament.

In June 2005, the former Subcommittee on Arms Trade of the Flemish Parliament unanimously adopted a resolution in support of a just peace in Palestine and Israel. In this resolution, the Flemish Parliament asked the Flemish Government to exercise the greatest possible caution when dealing with arms export licences to Israel and to systematically inform the competent committee on this subject.<sup>21</sup> Arms exports to Israel are a very sensitive issue in Flanders. The Flemish Government has been implementing a policy for several years whereby applications for arms export licences to Israel are denied when the end-user is situated in Israel. This means that exports of military equipment to the Israeli defence-related industry are generally allowed on condition that the end-user is situated in a third country. If the military equipment is not re-exported, e.g., because the end-user is the Israeli armed forces, then applications are in principle denied. In 2009 this policy was explained as follows by the former competent minister for monitoring foreign arms trade: *'Since September 2006 Flanders' export policy with regard to Israel allows for the licensing of exports or transit of arms and related equipment to Israel insofar as these are re-exported from Israel to a third country to which Flanders would grant a licence for this export or transit in the case of a direct application.'*<sup>22</sup> In January 2009, the plenary meeting of the Flemish Parliament adopted a proposal for a resolution on the war in Gaza in which it asked the Flemish Government *'to continue its policy by which no arms exports licences are issued with Israel as destination'*.<sup>23</sup>

Secondly, on 16 February 2011, the Flemish Parliament adopted a resolution as regards developments in the Middle East and North Africa. This resolution was drafted following political unrest in various countries in the Middle East and North Africa. In the resolution, the Flemish Parliament asked the Flemish Government to *'exercise the greatest caution when dealing with the granting of licences for exports, imports and transit of arms, ammunition and equipment that has been specially designed for military use or law enforcement purposes to and from the region, in accordance with applicable legislation'*.<sup>24</sup> On 25 October 2011, the Minister President further explained the current Flemish arms export policy concerning countries in the Middle East and North Africa in the Committee on Foreign Policy of the Flemish Parliament.<sup>25</sup> He stated that the competent services were closely following the situation in countries in the Arab world and that exports of military equipment to four countries (Yemen, Bahrain, Tunisia and Egypt) were *'on hold'*. Specifically, this meant that no licences for arms exports to these countries were being issued or denied by the Flemish authorities.<sup>1</sup> Issuing licences for arms exports to Libya (Council decision 2011/137/CFSP<sup>26</sup> and Council regulation No 204/2011<sup>27</sup>) and Syria (Council decision 2011/782/CFSP<sup>28</sup> and Council regulation No 442/2011<sup>29</sup>) is in any case impossible because of European arms embargoes on these countries.

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<sup>1</sup> The fact remains that in May 2011, the Flemish authorities denied a licence for transit of production equipment from France to Egypt (see 4.5).

#### 4.4.4.1 Licensed arms exports to Israel

In 2011, one licence was issued for arms exports to Israel. This involved fire control systems (ML5.b) with a value of 26,400 euro for the defence-related industry in Israel and with the armed forces of Romania as indicated end-user. No licence application for arms exports to Israel was denied in the past year.

From official annual reports of the EU Council Working Group on Conventional Arms Exports (COARM), it appears that between 2008 and 2010, EU Member States issued 389.6 million euros' worth of licences for arms exports to Israel. 65 licence applications were denied in this period (2.5% of all applications). These denials occurred on the basis of criterion 2 (respect for human rights in the country of final destination), criterion 3 (internal situation in the country of final destination), criterion 4 (preservation of regional peace, security and stability), and criterion 7 (danger of re-routing or undesirable re-export) of the European Code of Conduct/Common Position.

#### 4.4.4.2 Licensed arms exports to the Middle East and North Africa

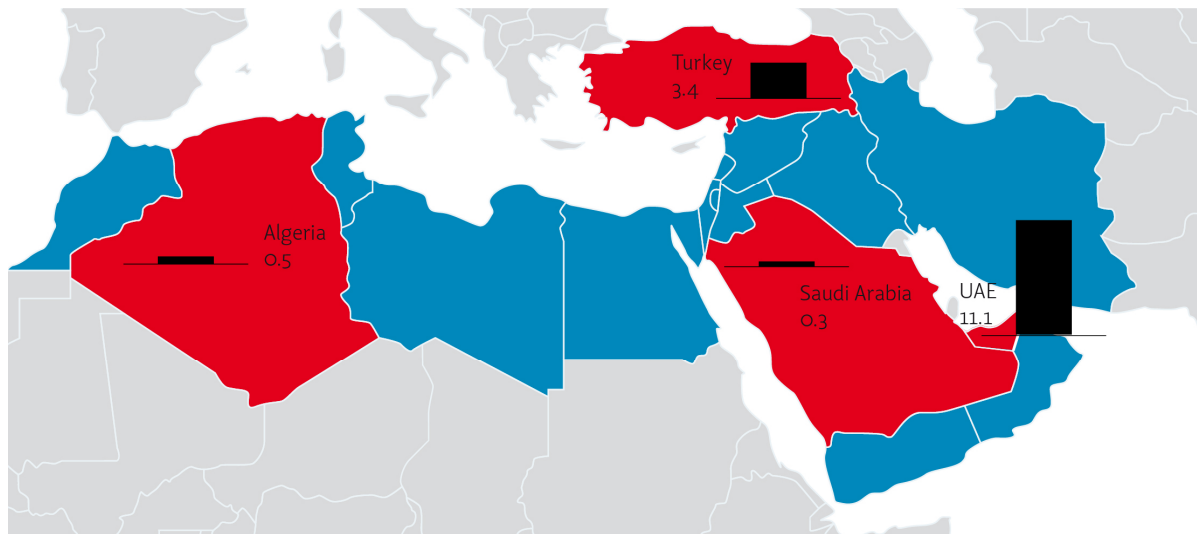
In 2011, 36 Flemish licences with a combined value of 15.5 million euro were issued for exports of military equipment with a last reported end-user in the Middle East or North Africa. 151 licences have been issued for exports to countries in these regions since 2007. The total value of licensed exports since 2007 amounts to approximately 76 million euro.

*Table 3: Number and value of issued export licences, with the last reported user in the Middle East and North Africa, 2007-2011*

Year	Number	Value	% total value licensed arms exports
2007	9	4,047,105.17	1.5%
2008	17	16,458,888.05	6.9%
2009	51	9,312,675.75	3.3%
2010	38	30,627,481.17	9.6%
2011	36	15,537,132.44	7.7%
Total	151	75,983,282.60	5.8%

In 2011, licensed exports to the Middle East and North Africa consisted of various types of defence items, but - in terms of value - primarily of unmanned aircraft (ML10.c), visualization screens (ML24) and image intensifier equipment and thermal imaging equipment (ML15). Licences that were issued for exports to these regions in 2011 related to four countries: the United Arab Emirates (11.2 million euro), Turkey (3.5 million euro), Algeria (0.5 million euro) and Saudi Arabia (0.4 million euro).

Figure 19: Last reported users of licensed Flemish arms exports in the Middle East and North Africa, 2011.



The largest percentage of licensed arms exports were delivered directly to these four countries, but a significant share of them went by way of the European defence-related industry (in Spain, Italy, United Kingdom and Switzerland). These latter deliveries always involved exports of visualization screens (ML24) and specialized equipment for military training (ML14).

We may assume that the actual exports of Flemish defence products ultimately ending up in the Middle East or North African countries were significantly greater, considering the large scale of licensed arms exports with unknown end-use to the other European countries and the United States (see 4.4.2). From the official annual reports of the EU Council Working Group on Conventional Arms Exports (COARM), it appears that between 2008 and 2010, EU Member States issued licences for arms exports to the Middle East and North Africa worth 25.9 billion euro. In this period, 183 export licences were denied, which amounts to 1,1% of all export licence applications. The most commonly used ground for denial was criterion 7 (danger of re-routing or undesirable re-export) of the European Code of Conduct/Common Position; but criterion 2 (respect for human rights in the country of final destination), criterion 3 (internal situation in the country of final destination), and criterion 4 (preservation of peace, security and stability in the region) were also invoked repeatedly in order to deny an export licence.

Table 10: Export licences issued with last reported user in the Middle East and North Africa, by country, 2011

Recipient	End-user	Nature of the items	Number	Total
<b>Algeria</b>			<b>2</b>	<b>508,791.00</b>
Defence-related industry	-	Components and accessories for vessels, transport trucks and airplanes (ML25.g)	1	489,991.00
Defence-related industry (Italy)	Armed forces (Algeria)	Visualization screens (ML24)	1	18,800.00
<b>Saudi Arabia</b>			<b>3</b>	<b>373,632.00</b>
Defence-related industry (Spain)	Armed forces (Saudi Arabia)	Visualization screens (ML24)	3	373,632.00
<b>Turkey</b>			<b>24</b>	<b>3,481,777.01</b>
Defence-related industry	Government	Image intensifier equipment (ML15.c), thermal imaging equipment (ML15.d) and catch-all goods (ML25)	1	1,934,327.00
International organization	-	Software and hardware (ML25.e)	2	720,000.00
Defence-related industry	Armed forces	Vehicle components (ML6.a)	3	244,904.94
Defence-related industry	Government	Visualization screens (ML24)	5	208,711.30
Government	-	Visualization screens (ML24)	2	107,000.00
Defence-related industry	-	Electronic equipment (ML25.i)	2	97,500.00
Defence-related industry	Armed forces	Visualization screens (ML24)	3	64,786.00
Industry	Armed forces	Airport lighting systems and perimeter security barrier systems (ML25.a)	1	50,239.32
Defence-related industry	-	Visualization screens (ML24)	1	38,940.00
Defence-related industry (U.K.)	Armed forces (Turkey)	Visualization screens (ML24)	1	14,313.90
Private individual	-	Revolvers (ML1.a)	1	1,054.55
Defence-related industry	-	Technology (ML22)	2	0.00
<b>U.A.E.</b>			<b>7</b>	<b>11,172,932.43</b>
Industry	Armed forces	Unmanned aircraft (ML10.c)	2	7,447,418.26
Defence-related industry (Switzerland)	Armed forces (U.A.E.)	Visualization screens (ML24)	1	2,622,723.17
Defence-related industry (Switzerland)	Armed forces (U.A.E.)	Specialized equipment for military training (ML14)	1	770,535.00
Defence-related industry (Spain)	Armed forces (U.A.E.)	Visualization screens (ML24)	2	320,256.00
Defence-related industry (Italy)	Armed forces (U.A.E.)	Visualization screens (ML24)	1	12,000.00



## 4.5 Denied licence applications

In 2011, the Flemish authorities did not deny any applications for an export licence

*Table 5: Overview of the number and total value of export licences denied, September 2003-2011*

	Number	% total number	Value	% total value
<b>Sept 2003-04</b>	8	2.2%	2,833,569.00	0.5%
<b>2005</b>	6	3.5%	1,204,271.21	0.8%
<b>2006</b>	5	2.7%	321,944.00	0.2%
<b>2007</b>	8	4.2%	5,665,414.45	2.0%
<b>2008</b>	2	0.8%	56,556.31	0.0%
<b>2009</b>	2	0.6%	2,922,530.00	1.0%
<b>2010</b>	2	0.7%	1,663,200.00	0.1%
<b>2011</b>	0	-	-	-

In contrast to the federal authorities<sup>1</sup>, the Flemish authorities do not indicate the underlying reasons for their denials in periodic reports.

<sup>1</sup> For instance in their half-yearly report for the second half of 2011, in the case of a denied export licence for ammunition (ML3) intended for Thailand, the federal authorities referred to criterion 2 (respect for human rights in the country of final destination), criterion 3 (internal situation of the country of final destination) and criterion 4 (preservation of peace, security and stability in the region).

## 5 Transit

As a result of its central location and extensive logistical infrastructure, Flanders is an important transit region for various types of industrial products. The Port of Antwerp in particular is very important in this regard, but also the ports of Ghent and Zeebrugge have experienced strong growth in recent years.<sup>30</sup> Furthermore, Flanders, in addition to the National Airport in Zaventem, also has a number of regional airports with (rather limited) cargo traffic.

Not only civil items, but also military goods from various countries around the world are transported through the Flemish region. This 'transit' is subject to a licence obligation if there is a question of transshipment during transport or when there is processing or other actions involving the cargo. In the case of uninterrupted transit (where the goods are not subject to a customs procedure), from a technical customs standpoint no 'transit' has occurred and the transport does not require a licence. Furthermore, not all 'transit' requires a licence in Flanders: for instance, mutual transit between EU Member States; if the country of origin or recipient country is the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg; or transit from or to the Netherlands of goods to which no trade embargo applies.<sup>31</sup> Furthermore, transit of military equipment intended for official use by NATO Armed Forces and for private use by members of these armed forces serving or on official mission in one of the NATO Member States is not subject to a licence obligation on the basis of NATO Form 302.<sup>32</sup>

### 5.1 Developments in licensed transit

In 2011, Flanders issued 31 transit licences with a combined value of 85.2 million euro. This was a significant increase in licences compared to previous years. The cause of this remarkable increase is not known.

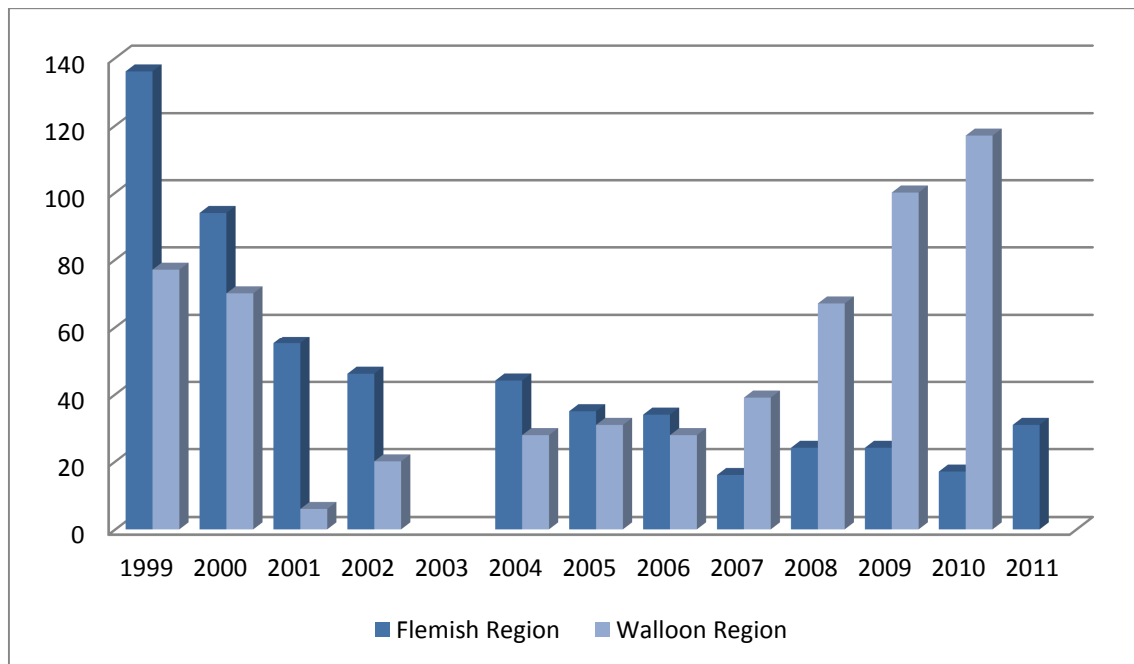
Despite the sharp increase in the number of transit licences the Flemish Region issued in 2011, the number remained very low in comparison to the period around the turn of the century<sup>I</sup> and in comparison to the sharp increase in transit licences granted by the Walloon Region (see Table 20).<sup>II</sup>

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<sup>I</sup> For an overview of the number and value of transit licences issued, see Table 15 in annex.

<sup>II</sup> From the 2010 annual report of the Walloon Regional Government, it appears that the sharp increase in the number of transit licences in the Walloon Region was a consequence of economic activities of a Walloon company which acted as a distribution centre for the European market on behalf of an American company.

Figure 20: Comparison of the number of transit licences approved by the Flemish and Walloon Regions<sup>1</sup>, 1999 – 2010



## 5.2 Nature of licensed transit

Flemish transit licences issued in 2011 involved various types of military equipment. The majority of licences were issued for transit of: (1) vehicles, (2) firearms and/or ammunition, and (3) 'heavy' explosive mechanisms and explosives. In terms of value, licences for transit of military aircraft were particularly important (see Table 8). Military goods transiting through Flanders were mainly destined for EU Member States, North America (United States and Canada), South America (Brazil, Peru, Uruguay) and Sub-Saharan Africa (Senegal, Sierra Leone and South Africa). In contrast to previous years, the last reported user of these goods was usually the (defence-related) industry (14x) rather than armed forces (8x). Also noteworthy was the rather frequent transit with a dealer as last reported user (6x). This always involved a dealer in France or Canada who received firearms from Flanders.

<sup>1</sup> Flemish and Walloon figures for the period prior to 1999-2003 concern respectively: (1) applications for a federal transit licence from the Flemish Region and Dutch-language applications from the Brussels Capital Region and (2) applications for a federal transit licence from the Walloon Region and French-language applications from the Brussels Capital Region.

Table 6: Transit licences issued, by recipient country, 2011

Recipient country	Last reported user	Nature of the items	Country of origin	Total
Australia	Defence-related industry	Military vehicles (ML6.a)	Canada	603,280.00
Brazil	Armed forces	Military ground vehicles and components (ML6.a)	Switzerland	5,394,321.34
Brazil	Industry	Vessels, vehicles and aircraft ( ML25.k)	Finland	307,785.00
Brazil	'Other' user	Military ground vehicles and components (ML6.a)	Spain	183,183.00
Canada	Dealer	Rifles, carbines, pistols, accessories and specially designed components (ML1.a)	Switzerland	80,300.00
Canada	Dealer	Rifles	Spain	76,733.78
Finland	Industry	Vessels, vehicles and aircraft ( ML25.k)	Brazil	307,785.00
France	Defence-related industry	Military aircraft (10.b)	United States	21,141,898.87
France	Dealer	Rifles (ML1.a)	United States	1,200,000.00
France	Dealer	Carbines (ML1.a)	United States	193,600.00
France	Dealer	Carbines (ML1.a)	United States	128,100.00
Hungary	Dealer	Rifles (ML1.a)	Saudi Arabia	800.00
India	Armed forces	Military vessels	France	2,474,100.00
Israel	Defence industry Switzerland	Military ground vehicles and components (ML6.a)	Switzerland	16,680.00
Morocco	Government	Military vehicles (ML6.a)	United States	177,212.00
Netherlands	Defence-related industry	Military ground vehicles (ML6.a)	Spain	170,000.00
Peru	Industry	HMX and derivatives (ML8.a)	Switzerland	138,438.71
Peru	Industry	HMX and derivatives (ML8.a)	Switzerland	97,907.62
Russia	Industry	Military electronic equipment (ML11)	United Kingdom	18,000.00
Senegal	Armed forces	Ammunition for 'heavy' weapons (ML3.a)	France	707,840.00
Sierra Leone	International organization	Accessories and specially designed parts for firearms (ML1.a)	United Kingdom	1,910.13
South Africa	Defence-related industry	Ammunition for firearms (ML3.a)	Brazil	106,689.00
South Africa	Defence-related industry	Ammunition for 'heavy' weapons (ML3.a and specialised equipment for military training (ML14)	The Netherlands	170,000.00
Spain	Defence-related industry	Off-road vehicles with ballistic protection (ML6.b)	Germany	41,400.00
Spain	Defence-related industry	Military ground vehicles (ML6.a)	France	29,932,303.50
United States	Armed forces	Field engineer equipment specially designed for use in a combat zone (ML17.d)	France	21,141,898.87

United States	Defence-related industry	Military aircraft (10.b)	France	46,684.95
United States	Armed forces (via defence-related industry)	'Energetic materials' and related substances (ML8)	Bulgaria	158,928.60
United States	Armed forces (via defence-related industry)	Grenades and related equipment (ML4.a)	Bulgaria	138,553.45
United States	Armed forces (via defence-related industry)	Grenades and related equipment (ML4.a)	Norway	13,011.44
Uruguay	Armed forces (via dealer)	Ammunition for firearms (ML3.a)	Norway	12,550.93

## 5.3 Denied transit licences

In 2011, Flemish authorities denied three applications for a transit licence.

A first denial concerned the transit (from Turkey) of fifty 9mm pistols (ML1.a) with a value of 41,400 euro destined for the Gambian Police's training unit. This licence application was denied in April 2011 because of the human rights situation in the country and the risk that these pistols would be used for domestic suppression.<sup>33</sup>

The second denial concerned the transit to Egypt from France of production equipment for ammunition (ML18.a) with a value of 8,189,604 euro. It concerned metal presses designed for the production of large calibre ammunition components which were destined for a defence-related company in Egypt with the Egyptian Army and internal security services as potential end-users. This licence was denied in May 2011 because of tensions in the country. Furthermore, in 2010 a nearly identical case was denied by another EU Member State.<sup>34</sup>

The third denial concerned the transit of rifles (ML1.a) from Israel to Honduras with a value of 4,300,799.33 euro. These rifles were for the country's armed forces.

A number of transit licences were also denied in the past. We can observe that Flanders denies a significantly higher proportion of applications for transit licences than export licences. This is a result of differences in the nature of the items and their (final) destination.

*Table 7: Overview of the number and total value of transit licences denied, September 2003-2011*

	Number	% total number	Value	% total value
<b>Sept 2003-04</b>	2	3.6%	989,814.48	0.2%
<b>2005</b>	4	10.3%	5,254,336.45	20.2%
<b>2006</b>	3	8.1%	17,122,533.00	10.7%
<b>2007</b>	0	-	-	-
<b>2008</b>	3	11.1%	6,059,427.55	2.5%
<b>2009</b>	0	-	-	-
<b>2010</b>	0	-	-	-
<b>2011</b>	3	8.8%	12,531,803.33	12.8%

## 6 Conclusions

### **Imports**

In 2011, Flemish authorities issued 368 licences for imports of arms. These licences had a combined value of 18.3 million euro and arms imports were thus of the same magnitude as in 2010. Only one licence application was denied. It concerned an application by a private individual for imports of accessories and components of firearms from the United States valued at 171 euro.

Arms import licences in Flanders primarily involved two types of products: (1) firearms and accessories, and (2) military vehicles and components. Further, also in 2011, licences were issued on a smaller scale for imports of fire control systems, military equipment for dissemination of toxic agents, law enforcement equipment and software and/or hardware.

Import licences for ground vehicles and components had a combined value of 9.4 million euro and primarily involved ground vehicles and vehicle components specially designed or modified for military use, but also to a lesser extent *all-wheel drive vehicles* manufactured or fitted with materials to provide ballistic protection. These ground vehicles and components came from Italy, the United States, Germany and France. Licences were mainly requested by the Flemish industry and also to a lesser extent by dealers and private individuals. One licence indicated the Belgian Army as end-user of the items (ground vehicle components from Italy).

Licences for firearms and accessories had a combined value of 7.8 million euro and were mainly requested by dealers and private individuals. The value of licensed imports of firearms and accessories rose by 11% as compared to 2010. This increase can be attributed entirely to imports of firearms, mainly from the United States and to a lesser extent Switzerland: in comparison to 2010, the value of licensed imports of firearms doubled to 2.1 million euro. The value of licensed imports of ammunition remained rather stable at 4.2 million euro. Furthermore, licences for firearms and accessories can be split into two groups. Approximately two-thirds of the licences related to a limited number of arms and/or accessories - maximum value of 1,000 euro - and were generally requested by private individuals. On the other side of the spectrum, licences were also issued for imports of large quantities of firearms and ammunition with a value of tens of thousands of euro. These licences were always requested by dealers.

### **Exports**

In 2011, Flanders issued 308 licences for arms exports. No application for an arms export licence was denied. With a combined value of 200.9 million euro, the value of licensed arms exports in 2011 was significantly less than in previous years. The Flemish defence-related industry - which is heavily oriented toward the European market – seems thus to have felt the squeeze from the economic crisis and the accompanying cutbacks on defence spending. This assessment should however be nuanced: on the one hand, because of its specific characteristics, the Flemish defence-related industry is very sensitive to major fluctuations, and on the other hand, the Flemish authorities do not report on all licences issued or on actual arms exports, which makes estimating developments and trends more difficult.

As in previous years, licences worth a substantial amount (92 million euro) were issued for exports of visualization screens. These screens with a military purpose were exported to some two dozen recipient countries. In the first instance they were intended for the (defence-related) industry, particularly in the United States. In 2011, the value of licensed arms exports of visualization screens remained relatively stable. Licences worth a significant amount were also issued for exports of aircraft components (22.9 million euro). In large part they concerned exports of aircraft components for the French and German defence-related industry in the framework of participation in the A400M project; but notably also exports of unmanned aircraft, related equipment and/or components for the industry in the United Arab Emirates, with the country's armed forces as end-user. This means that, since last year, the Flemish defence-related industry has been participating in the construction of *drones* for military use.

With the exception of visualization screens and aircraft components, the nature of Flemish licensed arms exports in 2011 differed significantly from previous years. Last year, for instance, licences worth a remarkably high value were issued for exports of electronic equipment falling under the catch-all clause (22.3 million euro). Further, we may note that licences for products whose export value had been sharply increasing in recent years - more specifically ground vehicles and vehicle components, military electronic equipment and specialized equipment for military training - largely ceased in 2011. Whereas in 2010 these three types of items still represented half the total value (155.7 million euro) of licensed arms exports, in 2011 this share was only 12% (24.5 million euro).

Flemish licensed arms exports were destined for nearly 50 recipient countries worldwide. The largest portion was destined for European countries (45%) and the United States (31%). Exports to European countries were primarily intended for EU Member States (in particular Germany, the United Kingdom and France) and covered a wide range of defence products. These products - often components for integration into larger weapon systems - were primarily intended for the (defence-related) industry. Licensed arms exports to the United States were almost always intended for the (defence-related) industry in the country and mainly consisted of visualization screens and electronics falling under the catch-all clause. Asia (18%) was also an important market for Flemish defence items and usually involved exports to recipients in Singapore, the United Arab Emirates and India. Licensed arms exports from Flanders to countries in South America, Africa and Ukraine were - as always - rather limited (a combined 5% of the total value).

The Flemish defence-related industry is mainly oriented toward deliveries to other companies: the (defence-related) industry was the initial recipient of 86% of Flemish licensed arms exports. Less than 10% of licensed exports were directly destined for foreign armed forces. Not only the recipient, but also the end-user was indicated in nearly half of the licences. This end-user was usually located in the recipient country, but also occasionally in a third country. In this report we use the term 'last reported user' in order to avoid possible confusion between recipient and end-user. In nearly two-thirds of licensed arms exports (62%), the last reported user was the industry - or, much less often, a dealer - and the ultimate end-user of Flemish defence items was thus not known and not included during the licensing procedure. This corresponds with figures from the past few years. This means that for the majority of Flemish exports, the authorities transferred the decision and accountability as regards end-use and possible re-export to the authorities of the initial recipient country, even if these authorities might employ a considerably different control policy. Our analysis shows that the most important last reported users of licensed Flemish arms exports were the American (31%) and European industries (25%), followed by the public services of Asian countries (15%) and public services of European countries (14%). Also noteworthy is that the recipient region has a strong bearing on whether or not the ultimate end-use is known during the licensing procedure: while the ultimate end-user was known for three-quarters of arms exports to



Asian countries, the ultimate end-user for arms exports to the most important recipient country - the United States - was unknown at the time of licensing in 99% of cases.

Due to the political unrest in the region, Flemish arms exports to the Middle East and North Africa are currently a very delicate issue in Flanders. In February 2011, the Flemish Parliament adopted a resolution in which the Government was asked to treat licences for exports and transit to the region with the greatest possible caution. There is currently a European arms embargo on exports to Libya and Syria, and the Flemish authorities have put exports to Yemen, Bahrain, Tunisia and Egypt *on hold*. In the period 2007-2011, the Flemish authorities issued 151 licences with a combined value of 76 million euro for exports with a last reported user in the Middle East or North Africa. In 2011, 36 licences worth 15.5 million euro were issued for exports to the United Arab Emirates, Turkey, Algeria and Saudi Arabia. Licensed exports consisted of various types of products, but - in terms of value - primarily of unmanned aircraft, visualization screens and image intensifier equipment and thermal imaging equipment. The largest part of these exports was delivered directly to these countries, but a significant proportion of them also went by way of the European defence-related industry. In reality, however, considering the large extent of unknown end-use during the licensing procedure for exports to European countries and the United States, even more Flemish defence products will have their end-use in the Middle East or North Africa.

### ***Transit***

Not only civil items, but also defence-related products from various countries around the world are transported through the Flemish region. This transit is only subject to a licence obligation if there is a question of transshipment during transport or when there is processing or other actions involving the cargo. Furthermore, no licence obligation is applicable to mutual transit between EU Member States if the land of origin or destination is the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg or the Netherlands, or if this transport occurs in the framework of NATO operations.

In 2011, Flanders issued 31 licences with a combined value of 85.2 million euro for the transit of arms. This represented a sharp increase in the number of transit licences as compared to 2010, but the number is still significantly lower than at the time when competence for foreign arms trade was regionalized. It is also noteworthy that the number of transit licences issued by the Walloon Region has sharply increased precisely since that time.

Most Flemish transit licences related to (1) vehicles, (2) firearms and/or ammunition, and (3) heavy explosive mechanisms and explosives. Transit of military aircraft was also important in terms of value. In contrast to previous years, the last reported user of these goods was usually the (defence-related) industry. Armed forces and dealers also received large quantities of these goods.

In 2011, the Flemish authorities denied three licences for the transit of arms. We can observe that Flanders denies a significantly higher proportion of applications for transit licences than for export licences. This is a result of differences in the nature and the (final) destination of these items. The three denials concerned: (1) fifty Turkish 9mm pistols (41,400 euro) intended for the Gambian Police and denied because of the human rights situation in the country and the risk of use for domestic suppression, (2) metal presses for production of ammunition components (8.2 million euro) from France intended for a defence-related company in Egypt and denied because of tensions in the country and possible end-use by the Egyptian Army and internal security services, and (3) rifles (4.3 million euro) from Israel intended for the armed forces of Honduras. The second denial mentioned is particularly interesting: not only because of the events in the Middle East and

North Africa, but also because it demonstrates that the Flemish authorities do not always agree with the export policies of other EU Member States.

## 7 Annexes

### 7.1 Additional tables

#### 7.1.1 Licensed imports

Table 8: Number and value of import licences, 2001-2011

Year	Number	Value
2001	258	16,107,131.00
2002	295	22,637,773.00
2003	256	19,382,012.65
2004	266	17,219,446.59
2005	274	24,313,938.75
2006	256	28,529,176.57
2007	280	65,904,921.42
2008	430	107,783,403.63
2009	450	53,300,380.30
2010	443	18,927,124.69
<b>2011</b>	<b>368</b>	<b>18,272,709.23</b>

Table 9: Number and value of import licences, by country of origin, 2011

Country of origin	Number	Value
Australia	3	4,230.00
Austria	5	302,021.00
Brazil	7	1,270,000.00
China	3	105,050.85
Denmark	6	2,034.98
France	5	540,940.05
Germany	158	1,037,074.56
Hong Kong	3	140.24
Israel	11	244,759.87
Italy	8	6,732,499.35
Serbia	4	525,000.00
South Africa	2	100.00
South Korea	36	31,500.00
Switzerland	1	1,193,057.96
Turkey	2	30,000.00
United Kingdom	2	10,400.00
United States	112	6,243,900.37
<b>Total</b>	<b>368</b>	<b>18,272,709.23</b>

*Table 10: Percentage of firearms and accessories in the total number of import licences, 2005-2011*

	Number of import licences for firearms and accessories	Value of import licences	% number of import licences for firearms and accessories	% value import licences firearms and accessories
2005	228	5,413,674.70	83.2%	22.3%
2006	193	6,239,868.40	75.4%	21.9%
2007	226	13,132,930.89	80.7%	19.9%
2008	348	13,386,469.70	80.9%	12.4%
2009	374	12,873,931.65	83.1%	24.2%
2010	400	7,039,567.04	90.3%	37.2%
2011	320	7,838,421.74	87.0%	42.9%

*Table 11: Trend of the value of the licensed imports of small arms and light weapons and accessories, 2005-2011*

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<b>Firearms (ML1.a)</b>	1,273,392.13	1,071,395.04	1,371,101.40	2,487,326.34	3,352,942.03	1,022,098.31	2,098,618.71
<b>Accessories (ML1.d)</b>	478,277.38	1,020,443.90	2,454,772.30	893,715.08	1,103,186.17	1,058,345.48	1,041,460.32
<b>Ammunition and fuse setting devices (ML3)</b>	1,722,268.21	3,105,877.81	8,589,499.96	9,139,607.05	7,055,729.87	4,093,267.88	4,171,533.00
<b>Miscellaneous rifles and accessories (ML23)</b>	1,863,811.68	999,540.55	716,374.76	593,772.08	909,933.89	549,143.37	516,527.37
<b>Combination of categories</b>	75,925.30	42,611.10	565.00	267,452.01	217,289.69	316,712.00	592.00

## 7.1.2 Licensed exports

Table 12: Overview of the total number and value of export licences approved per year, 1994-2009<sup>1</sup>

Year	Total number of licences	Combined value of licences
1994	Unknown	62,940,165.94
1995	242	172,914,174.55
1996	220	175,470,575.48
1997	216	150,336,230.73
1998	204	138,920,620.75
1999	217	275,509,535.72
2000	194	290,490,815.82
2001	207	307,573,874.00
2002	277	457,558,042.00
2003	242	411,510,277.38
2004	258	477,339,775.88
2005	168	155,451,073.79
2006	181	199,576,501.19
2007	182	270,311,449.39
2008	256	240,036,397.67
2009	325	282,218,468.22
2010	329	320,500,306.01
2011	308	200,861,793.01

Table 13: Value of licensed exports of military goods on the EU list (ML1-22) by country, 2007-2010

	Country	2007	2008	2009	2010
1	France	9,849,112,123	10,557,931,822	12,677,994,802	11,181,813,034
2	Germany	3,667,684,031	5,788,261,143	5,043,396,852	4,754,136,037
3	Italy	4,743,681,726	5,661,124,332	6,692,569,257	3,251,458,929
4	United Kingdom	1,312,186,190	2,466,095,607	3,461,836,404	2,836,853,872
5	Spain	1,961,820,145	2,526,414,585	3,193,442,457	2,238,406,427
6	Austria	1,378,664,623	946,336,042	2,249,560,332	1,768,320,054
7	Sweden	1,010,289,824	877,337,230	1,097,417,641	1,402,198,197
8	Belgium	899,780,327	1,334,913,206	1,102,068,682	1,002,810,809*
9	The Netherlands	717,034,810	1,257,674,612	1,314,706,483	912,881,300
10	Poland	275,980,070	368,077,372	1,391,156,932	457,109,577
11	Czech Republic	477,873,597	212,293,974	390,180,726	451,075,224
12	Denmark	195,576,594	163,250,000	252,405,004	375,977,554
13	Greece	33,267,987	47,803,849	227,426,421	295,020,442
14	Bulgaria	377,918,135	149,633,794	315,543,209	257,834,535
15	Romania	123,266,387	118,804,350	165,449,414	151,900,223
16	Hungary	95,689,406	118,844,982	127,472,180	138,164,302
17	Finland	56,579,170	337,284,128	186,805,437	61,219,431

<sup>1</sup> As was the case with import licences, the figures from the period prior to the competence transfer in 2003 relate to Dutch-language applications for a licence to the federal authorities.

18	Slovakia	74,104,980	71,306,906	107,224,289	57,749,068
19	Ireland	32,668,295	30,689,637	44,614,642	24,356,333
20	Lithuania	63,263,143	46,598,748	79,226,586	23,417,328
21	Portugal	26,835,434	75,985,585	27,557,935	21,002,406
22	Slovenia	4,509,214	5,257,157	11,500,127	10,912,926
23	Latvia	763,541	643,567	460,597	7,669,119
24	Estonia	2,997,237	6,224,928	3,126,432	1,977,337
25	Malta	611,312	3,222,612	133,665,837	436,468
26	Luxembourg	-	-	42,664	211,266
27	Cyprus	86,209	1,545,354	608,538	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>27,382,244,510</b>	<b>33,173,555,522</b>	<b>40,302,105,074</b>	<b>31,722,887,511</b>

Source: COARM<sup>35</sup>

Table 14: Number and value of export licences, by recipient country, 2011

Recipient country	Number	Value
Afghanistan	2	595,714.67
Algeria	1	489,991.00
Argentina	2	695,556.00
Australia	1	68,512.17
Austria	1	27,090.00
Bangladesh	1	4,072,175.00
Brazil	5	2,289,922.48
Canada	1	0.00
Chile	3	143,395.75
Croatia	1	75,825.00
Czech Republic	1	303,411.00
Ecuador	1	767,200.00
Estonia	1	8,458.05
Finland	4	798,680.00
France	14	20,963,055.03
Georgia	1	1,295.00
Germany	72	25,968,561.16
Gibraltar	1	26,978.43
Greece	1	10,000.00
India	18	6,149,049.42
Ireland	1	8,337.47
Israel	1	26,400.00
Italy	17	4,165,007.33
Japan	5	2,210,185.42
Kenya	1	1,007,980.00
Kosovo	2	720,000.00
Lithuania	1	204,750.00
Malaysia	1	14,164.00
New Zealand	1	895,881.41
Niger	1	218,500.00
Norway	9	1,287,840.00
Pakistan	1	65,454.51
Peru	1	150,480.00

Poland	1	171,301.68
Portugal	2	720,000.00
Russia	1	12,500.00
Singapore	5	12,489,718.22
Slovenia	2	2,644,469.79
South Africa	2	3,392,860.00
South Korea	5	461,712.00
Spain	27	5,205,840.00
Sweden	8	1,248,504.04
Switzerland	7	3,825,530.33
Turkey	25	3,479,534.64
United Arab Emirates	2	7,447,418.26
United Kingdom	29	22,320,680.85
United States	18	63,011,872.90
<b>Total</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>200,861,793.01</b>

### 7.1.3 Licensed transit

Table 15: Overview of the total number and value of transit licences by year, 1999 - 2011<sup>I</sup>

Period	Total number of licences	Combined value of licences
1999	136	40,820,924.89
2000	94	70,793,970.88
2001	55	40,977,158.00
2002	46	120,174,581.00
2003*	26	175,555,110.33
2004*	44	353,459,680.89
2005	35	20,783,983.37
2006	34	142,324,101.44
2007	16	35,277,380.24
2008	24	235,938,153.56
2009	24	42,301,084.41
2010	18	75,818,892.44
2011	31	85,181,896.19

\* Estimated value for 2003 and 2004 based on the available figures<sup>II</sup>

<sup>I</sup> Figures for the period before 1999-2003 concern applications for a federal transit licence from the Flemish Region and the Dutch-language applications from the Brussels Capital Region.

<sup>II</sup> The estimated figures for 2003 and 2004 were calculated in the same way as the estimated import and export figures for these same years.

## 7.2 Publications of the Flemish Peace Institute on arms trade and arms production in 2011

### 7.2.1 Reports

**Made in Flanders: the end-use of Flemish military equipment**

**Author:** Nils Duquet

Brussels - 13/12/2011 - ISBN 9789078864479, 156 p.

**SIPRI Yearbook 2011 - Summary in Dutch**

**Author:** SIPRI

Brussels - 22/09/2011 - 24 p.

**The EU Defence Market: balancing effectiveness with responsibility**

**Authors:** Alyson JK Bailes & Sara Depauw (Eds.)

Brussels - 15/09/2011 - ISBN 9789078864455, 92 p.

**Flemish foreign trade in dual-use items 2010**

**Author:** Nils Duquet

Brussels - 31/05/2011 - ISBN 9789078864424, 56 p.

**The legal framework for the control on trade in dual-use items in Flanders**

**Author:** Sara Depauw

Brussels - 25/05/2011 - ISBN 9789078864448, 40 p.

**Flemish foreign arms trade 2010**

**Author:** Nils Duquet

Brussels - 30/03/2011 - ISBN 9789078864417, 78 p.

### 7.2.2 Book

**Firearms: trafficking, possession and use**

**Authors:** Nils Duquet & Maarten Van Alstein

Leuven/Den Haag (Acco) – 2011 – ISBN 9789033484919, 243 p.

### 7.2.3 Advisory notes

**Advice concerning the draft for a Flemish Arms Trade Act by Bart Caron, Filip Watteeuw and Mieke Vogels**

Brussels, 5 July 2011



**Advice concerning the preliminary draft for a Flemish Arms Trade Act**

Brussels, 3 June 2011

**Advice concerning the annual report of the Flemish Government about the Flemish foreign arms trade in 2010**

Brussels, 16 May 2011

## End notes

- <sup>1</sup> Duquet, N. (2012), *Flemish foreign arms trade in dual-use items*, Brussels: Flemish Peace Institute.
- <sup>2</sup> For an extensive analysis of the legal framework for arms trade, see: Castryck, G., Depauw, S. & Duquet, N. (2006), *The Flemish Arms Export Policy: An Analysis of the Legal Framework*. Brussels: Flemish Peace Institute.
- <sup>3</sup> Common Council Position defining common rules governing the control of exports of military technology and equipment, 8 December 2008 (doc. no. 15972/1/08) - <http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/08/st15/st15972-re01.en08.pdf> (consulted on 13 January 2010).
- <sup>4</sup> Directive 2009/43/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council simplifying terms and conditions of transfers of defence-related products within the Community - <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2009:146:0001:0036:EN:PDF> (consulted on 26 January 2010).
- <sup>5</sup> For an extensive discussion of this, see: Depauw, S. (2010), *The Common Position on arms exports in the light of the emerging European defence market*. Brussels: Flemish Peace Institute, background note
- <sup>6</sup> For an extensive analysis of the legal framework for arms trade, see: Castryck, G., Depauw, S. & Duquet, N. (2006), *The Flemish Arms Export Policy: An Analysis of the Legal Framework*. Brussels: Flemish Peace Institute.
- <sup>7</sup> Council Directive 91/477/EEC of 18 June 1991 on control of the acquisition and possession of weapons, *Official Journal*, no. L 256 of 13 September 1991, p. 0051-0058.
- <sup>8</sup> For a more detailed discussion of the European Firearms Directive 91/477, see Duquet, N. & Van Alstein, M. (2011), *Vuurwapens. Handel, bezit en gebruik*. Leuven: Acco, p.40-42
- <sup>9</sup> Act of 5 August 1991 on the import, export and transit of, and combating illegal trafficking in arms, ammunition and equipment for military use or law enforcement purposes and related technology, as last amended on 26 March 2003.
- <sup>10</sup> Peeters, Kris, Beleidsnota Buitenlands Beleid, Internationaal Ondernemen en Ontwikkelingssamenwerking 2009-2014, Stuk 195 (2009-2010) – No 1, submitted on 26 October 2009 - <http://isp.vlaamsparlement.be/docs/stukken/2009-2010/g195-1.pdf> (consulted 13 January 2010)
- <sup>11</sup> Voorstel van decreet van de heren Bart Caron en Filip Watteeuw en mevrouw Mieke Vogels houdende de overdracht, in-, uit-, en doorvoer, transit en tussenhandel van vuurwapens voor civiel gebruik, defensiegerelateerde producten en ander voor militair gebruik of ordehandhaving dienstig materiaal en daaraan verbonden technologie, Stuk 944 (2010-2011) – No.1, submitted on 4 February 2011, <http://docs.vlaamsparlement.be/docs/stukken/2010-2011/g944-1.pdf>
- <sup>12</sup> Ontwerp van decreet betreffende de in-, uit-, doorvoer en overbrenging van defensiegerelateerde producten, ander voor militair gebruik dienstig materiaal, ordehandavingsmateriaal, civiele vuurwapens, onderdelen en munitie, Stuk 1371 (2011-2012) – No.1, submitted on 21 November 2011, <http://docs.vlaamsparlement.be/docs/stukken/2011-2012/g1371-1.pdf>
- <sup>13</sup> These reports are available on the website of the Arms Trade Monitoring Unit: <<http://www.vlaanderen.be/wapenhandel>>.
- <sup>14</sup> These monthly overviews are available on the website of the Arms Trade Monitoring Unit <<http://www.vlaanderen.be/wapenhandel>>.
- <sup>15</sup> *Verslag van de Vlaamse Regering. Zesmaandelijks verslag van de Vlaamse Regering aan het Vlaams Parlement over de verstrekte en geweigerde vergunningen voor wapens, munitie en speciaal voor militair gebruik of voor ordehandhaving dienstig materieel en daaraan verbonden technologie. Periode van 1 september 2004 tot 31 december 2004. Verslag namens de Subcommissie voor Wapenhandel uitgebracht door de heer Kurt De Loor aan de Commissie voor Economie, Werk en Sociale Economie. 25 mei 2005. Stuk 33-A (2004-2205) – Nr.2, p.6*
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