



European  
Commission

24 January, 2024

## EUROPEAN ECONOMIC SECURITY STRATEGY

# TOWARDS MORE EFFECTIVE CONTROL OF DUAL-USE GOODS EXPORTS



Controlling the exports of items with both civil and military uses is vital to ensure international peace, security, and the protection of human rights. It ensures that such items do not get into the wrong hands.

Most of today's controls are agreed in a multilateral setting and adopted into controls at EU level, with Member States taking the decisions on whether to authorize or block an export to a given country from their territories.

The current EU Framework dates from 2021. It contains the agreed lists of controlled items, which is updated annually, to ensure implementation and coordination between EU Member States' national export control authorities.

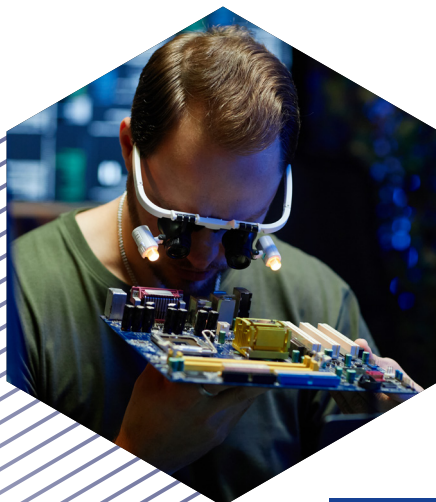
On 24 January 2024, the Commission published a White Paper to assess whether current rules can be improved in the face of geopolitical challenges and rapid technological developments to ensure uniform and effective controls across the EU.



## HOW DO CURRENT RULES WORK?

The current EU Regulation promotes better implementation and coordination of dual-use export controls across the EU by:

- ▶ Enhancing the coordination and information exchange about national export controls
- ▶ Promoting greater transparency on national licensing decisions
- ▶ Fostering cooperation with international partners to uphold multilateral export controls
- ▶ Developing guidelines to help exporters in areas like cyber-surveillance
- ▶ Working with Member States on emerging technologies





## SHORTCOMINGS OF CURRENT EU EXPORT CONTROLS

- ▶ Difficulty to adopt new controls under multilateral regimes as decision-making process is blocked by certain members
- ▶ The increasing use of unilateral export controls outside the multilateral regimes, which can pose a particular challenge within the EU internal market
- ▶ A lack of a single EU approach and voice internationally
- ▶ A lack of coordination of Member States' National Control Lists ahead of their adoption



## PROPOSED ACTIONS

The White Paper proposes the following short- and medium-term measures:

1. Introducing new items on the EU control list to close the gaps in controls that may be created by blockage of decision-making process within multilateral regimes by certain of their members
2. Creating a high-level forum to discuss export controls developments and foster a common EU position
3. Improving the coordination of Member States' National Control Lists ahead of their adoption (through a voluntary approach)
4. Bringing forward the evaluation of the current Dual-Use Regulation to the beginning of 2025

