VERŻJONI ELETTRONIKA

MALTA

ATT Nru XX tal-2026

ATT maħruġ b'liġi mill-Parlament ta' Malta.

ATT sabiex jemenda l-Att dwar l-Armi, Kap. 480.

ACT No. XX of 2026

AN ACT enacted by the Parliament of Malta.

AN ACT to amend the Arms Act, Cap. 480.

VERŻJONI ELETTRONIKA

Nagħti l-kunsens tiegħi.

(L.S.) **MYRIAM SPITERI DEBONO**
President

30 ta’ Ottubru, 2026

ATT Nru XX tal-2026

ATT sabiex jemenda l-Att dwar l-Armi, Kap. 480.

IL-PRESIDENT bil-parir u l-kunsens tal-Kamra tad-Deputati, imlaqqgħa f’dan il-Parlament, u bl-awtorità tal-istess, ħarġet b’liġi dan li ġej:-

Titolu fil-qosor u għan.

1. (1) It-titolu fil-qosor ta’ dan l-Att hu l-Att tal-2026 li jemenda l-Att dwar l-Armi u dan l-Att għandu jinqara u jinftiehem ħaġa waħda mal-Att dwar l-Armi, hawn iżjed ’il quddiem imsejjaħ l-"Att prinċipali".

Kap. 480.

(2) L-għan ta’ dan l-Att hu li jkompli jittrasponi d-dispożizzjonijiet "tad-Direttiva (UE) 2021/555 tal-Parlament Ewropew u tal-Kunsill tal-24 ta’ Marzu 2021 dwar il-kontroll tal-akkwist u l-pussess ta’ armi (kodifikazzjoni)", u li jittrasponi "d-Direttiva ta’ Implimentazzjoni tal-Kummissjoni (UE) 2019/69 tas-16 ta’ Jannar 2019 li tistabbilixxi speċifikazzjonijiet tekniċi għall-armi tal-allarm u tas-sinjal skont id-Direttiva tal-Kunsill 91/477/KEE dwar il-kontroll tal-akkwist u l-pussess ta’ armi".

Emenda tal-artikolu 2 tal-Att prinċipali.

2. Fl-artikolu 2 tal-Att prinċipali t-tifsira "il-Kummissarju" għandha tiġi sostitwita bit-tifsira ġdida li ġejja:

" "Kummissarju" tfisser il-Kummissarju tal-Pulizija u l-uffiċjal li jokkupa tali kariga, kif ukoll kwalunkwe persuna li

jkollha s-setgħa espressa li taġixxi għall-imsemmi Kummissarju fit-twettiq tad-dispożizzjonijiet ta' dan l-Att;".

Sostituzzjoni tal-artikolu 4 tal-Att prinċipali.

3. L-artikolu 4 tal-Att prinċipali għandu jiġi sostitwit bl-artikolu ġdid li ġej:

"Awtorizzazzjoni speċjali.

4. (1) Bla ħsara għall-artikolu 3, il-Kummissarju jista' jagħti għal skopijiet edukattivi, kulturali, ta' riċerka jew storiċi, u f'każijiet individwali, eċċezzjonalment u b'mod debitament motivat, awtorizzazzjonijiet għal armi tan-nar, komponenti essenzjali u munizzjon ikklassifikati fl-Iskeda I, fejn dan ma jmurx kontra s-sigurtà pubblika jew l-ordni pubbliku.

(2) Kwalunkwe awtorizzazzjoni mogħtija taħt dan l-artikolu għandha tkun suġġetta għal reviżjoni mill-Kummissarju mill-inqas darba kull ħames (5) snin.".

Emenda tal-artikolu 5 tal-Att prinċipali.

4. Is-subartikolu (2) tal-artikolu 5 tal-Att prinċipali għandu jiġi sostitwit bis-subartikolu ġdid li ġej:

Kap. 37.

"(2) Bla ħsara għad-dispożizzjonijiet tal-Ordinanza tad-Dwana jew ta' kwalunkwe liġi oħra, u bla ħsara għar-rekwiżit li tinkiseb awtorizzazzjoni minn Stati Membri oħra jew Stati oħra kif applikabbli, l-ebda persuna ma għandha, mingħajr liċenzja jew permess mill-Kummissarju, timporta jew iddaħħal fi jew tesporta minn Malta kwalunkwe arma tan-nar jew munizzjon kif imsemmi fis-subartikolu (1):

Iżda meta arma tan-nar tasal Malta l-ebda persuna ma għandha tieħu l-pussess tagħha mingħajr l-approvazzjoni minn qabel tal-Kummissarju:

Iżda wkoll il-Kummissarju jista' jagħti permess temporanju għall-esportazzjoni u, jew l-importazzjoni ta' armi tan-nar u munizzjon kif imsemmija fis-subartikolu (1) taħt tali kundizzjonijiet kif jista' jidhirlu xieraq:

Iżda wkoll il-Kummissarju jista' jagħti awtorizzazzjoni f'konformità ma' dan l-artikolu sabiex il-persuna toħroġ l-arma minn Malta għal vjaġġ wieħed jew aktar għal perjodu ta' sena (1), soġġett għal tiġdid. Tali awtorizzazzjoni għandha tiddaħħal fil-Pass Ewropew tal-Armi tan-Nar:

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Iżda wkoll dan l-artikolu japplika għal armi tan-nar li jkunu ġew mibdula f'armi tan-nar li jisparaw fil-vojt, sustanzi irritanti, sustanzi attivi oħra jew balal pirotekniċi, jew f'armi tas-salut jew akustiċi li, jekk ikunu awtorizzati għall-importazzjoni f'Malta, għandhom jiġu kklassifikati taħt l-Iskeda I, l-Iskeda II jew l-Iskeda III bħallikieku ma kinux mibdula:

Iżda wkoll dan l-artikolu għandu japplika għall-importazzjoni ta' armi tan-nar diżattivati.".

Emenda tal-artikolu 14 tal-Att prinċipali.

5. Il-paragrafu (d) tal-artikolu 14 tal-Att prinċipali għandu jiġi sostitwit bil-paragrafu ġdid li ġej:

"(d) tkun ikkonformat ma' tali rekwiżiti oħra li jistgħu jiġu preskritti b'regolamenti jew bil-kondizzjonijiet ta' dik il-liċenzja li jikkonċernaw l-għarfien dwar u l-ħażna sigura ta' dawk l-armi, armi tan-nar u munizzjoni;" u minnufih wara għandu jiġi miżjud il-paragrafu ġdid li ġej:

"(e) ġie rreġistrat bħala negozjant mill-Kummissarju.";".

Emenda tal-artikolu 15 tal-Att prinċipali.

6. Fis-subartikolu (1) tal-artikolu 15 tal-Att prinċipali minnufih wara l-kliem "għandu jżomm reġistru b'inventarju ta' kull arma tan-nar" għandhom jiġu miżjuda l-kliem ", komponent essenzjali".

Emenda tal-artikolu 16 tal-Att prinċipali.

7. Minnufih wara s-subartikolu (2) tal-artikolu 16 tal-Att prinċipali għandu jiġi miżjud dan is-subartikolu ġdid li ġej:

"(3) L-ebda persuna ma għandha timmanifattura, timmodifika, tibdel armi tan-nar jew komponenti essenzjali, jew timmanifattura, timmodifika jew tibdel munizzjon sakemm ma tkunx fil-pussess ta' liċenzja ta' fabbrikant tal-armi maħruġa skont ir-Regolamenti dwar il-Liċenzji għall-Armi li speċifikament tippermettilha twettaq xi waħda minn dawn l-attivitajiet:

L.S. 480.02.

Iżda l-modifiki ta' komponenti mhux essenzjali jew bdil ta' komponenti tal-arma li ma jbiddlux l-iskedar tal-arma jistgħu jsiru wkoll minn negozjant tal-armi:

Iżda wkoll persuna liċenzjata li tispara bil-mira taħt dan l-Att, u persuna liċenzjata bħala kaċċatur skont ir-Regolamenti dwar il-Liċenzji tal-Kaċċa, tista' tagħmel assemblaġġ jew reloading ta' munizzjon għall-użu personali tagħha, diment:

L.S. 10.39.

(i) li dan il-munizzjon ikun tal-istess kalibru tal-arma jew armi tagħha u li dan il-munizzjon jaqa' taħt il-liċenzja tad-detentur;

(ii) li din il-persuna liċenzjata tkun konformi mal-kondizzjonijiet relevanti applikabbli għall-ħażna tal-porvli tal-isparar fl-Ordinanza dwar l-Esplożivi, inkluż l-artikolu 18 tagħha; u

Kap. 33.

(iii) li ma jkollhiex ħażna ta' porvli tal-isparar li teċċedi l-limitu stipulat fil-liċenzja.".

Emenda tal-artikolu 20 tal-Att prinċipali.

8. Minnufih wara s-subartikolu (2) tal-artikolu 20 tal-Att prinċipali għandu jiġi miżjud is-subartikolu ġdid li ġej:

"(3) Kwalunkwe negozjant jew persuna oħra li tbigħ, tittrasferixxi jew tikkonsenja kwalunkwe arma regolari skont dan l-artikolu għandha tagħti d-dettalji li bihom l-arma tan-nar u l-persuna li takkwistaha jistgħu jiġu identifikati.".

Żieda ta' artikolu ġdid fl-Att prinċipali.

9. Minnufih wara l-artikolu 20 tal-Att prinċipali għandu jiġi miżjud l-artikolu ġdid li ġej:

"Sistema ta' arkivjar ta' data.

20A. (1) Il-Kummissarju għandu jistabbilixxi u jżomm sistema kompjuterizzata ta' arkivjar ta' data li tiżgura li l-informazzjoni kollha meħtieġa għall-identifikazzjoni u l-intraċċar ta' kull arma tan-nar, komponent essenzjali u munizzjon, flimkien mal-informazzjoni dwar is-sidien tagħhom, tkun irreġistrata f'din is-sistema.

(2) L-informazzjoni rreġistrata f'din is-sistema għandha tinżamm għal perjodu ta' tletin (30) sena wara l-qerda tal-arma tan-nar jew tal-komponent essenzjali kkonċernat.".

Emenda tal-artikolu 24 tal-Att prinċipali.

10. L-artikolu 24 tal-Att prinċipali għandu jiġi emendat kif ġej:

(a) is-subartikolu (1) tiegħu għandu jiġi emendat kif ġej:

(i) is-subparagrafu (v) tal-paragrafu (a) tiegħu għandu jiġi sostitwit bis-subparagrafu ġdid li ġej:

"(v) ta' reat kontra l-liġijiet li għandhom x'jaqsmu mal-qirda tal-prostituzzjoni, mat-traffikar fil-kummerċ tal-prostituzzjoni jew mat-traffikar ta' persuni; jew";

(ii) il-paragrafu (ċ) tiegħu għandu jiġi sostitwit bil-paragrafu ġdid li ġej:

"(ċ) Kull meta persuna tkun ikkundannata għal mill-inqas tliet (3) snin priġunerija effettiva, ma għandhiex tkun eliġibbli għal liċenzja skont dan l-Att:

Iżda fejn japplikaw l-iskwalifiki stabbiliti fl-artikolu 24A, il-Kummissarju għandu jimplimenta l-iskwalifiki stabbiliti fl-imsemmi artikolu.";

(b) is-subartikolu (2) tiegħu għandu jiġi sostitwit bis-subartikolu ġdid li ġej:

"(2) Għall-fini ta' dan l-artikolu, liċenzja tal-kaċċa maħruġa skont ir-Regolamenti dwar il-Liċenzji tal-Kaċċa għandha titqies bħala liċenzja taħt dan l-Att.". L.S. 10.39.

11. Minnufih wara l-artikolu 24 tal-Att prinċipali għandu jiġi miżjud l-artikolu ġdid li ġej: Żieda ta' artikolu ġdid fl-Att prinċipali.

"Dispożizzjonijiet ulterjuri ta' skwalifika.

24A. (1) Kull meta persuna tiġi kkundannata għal mill-inqas ħames (5) snin priġunerija effettiva għal reat serju li jaqa' taħt waħda mill-kategoriji elenkati fis-subartikolu (2) hija ma għandhiex tkun intitolata li tapplika għal liċenzja għal perjodu ta' għoxrin (20) sena wara t-tmiem tas-sentenza tagħha:

Kap. 446.

Iżda minkejja kwalunkwe ħaġa li tinsab fl-Att dwar il-*Probation*, għall-finijiet ta' dan is-subartikolu persuna għandha titqies li ġiet ikkundannata anki jekk xi waħda mid-dispożizzjonijiet tal-imsemmi Att setgħet ġiet applikata fir-rigward tagħha u f'dan il-każ, il-perjodu li wieħed ma jkunx eliġibbli għal liċenzja jibda jgħodd mill-iskadenza tad-data tal-perjodu tal-probation:

Iżda wkoll għall-finijiet ta' dan l-artikolu, liċenzja għall-kaċċa maħruġa skont ir-Regolamenti dwar il-Liċenzi tal-Kaċċa għandha titqies bħala liċenzja taħt dan l-Att. L.S. 10.39.

(2) Għall-finijiet tas-subartikolu (1), reati serji għandhom jinkludu:

(a) reat li jinvolvi l-vjolenza jew tentattiv jew theddid ta' vjolenza kontra l-persuna;

(b) reat taħt dan l-Att;

(ċ) reat ta' offiżi fuq il-persuna b'armi regolari jew b'xi strument ieħor jew li tkun qabdet xi arma regolari jew strument ieħor kontra persuni oħra;

(d) reat ta' serq;

(e) reat kontra l-liġijiet li għandhom x'jaqsmu mal-qirda tal-prostituzzjoni, mat-traffikar fil-kummerċ tal-prostituzzjoni jew mat-traffikar ta' persuni;

(f) reat li jkollu x'jaqsam mat-traffikar ta' droga.".

Emenda tal-artikolu 25 tal-Att prinċipali.

12. Is-subartikolu (1) tal-artikolu 25 tal-Att prinċipali għandu jiġi sostitwit bis-subartikolu ġdid li ġej:

"(1) Liċenzja għandha tiġi miċħuda lil kwalunkwe persuna fl-interess tal-ordni pubbliku jew fl-interess tas-sigurtà ta' tali persuna jew tal-pubbliku ġenerali.".

Emenda tal-artikolu 35 tal-Att prinċipali.

13. L-artikolu 35 tal-Att prinċipali għandu jiġi emendat kif ġej:

(a) is-subartikolu (2) tiegħu għandu jiġi sostitwit bis-subartikolu ġdid li ġej:

"(2) Mużewijiet li jesebixxu armi tan-nar taħt l-Iskeda I, komponenti essenzjali u munizzjon huma meħtieġa li jikkonformaw mal-kundizzjonijiet li ġejjin imposti mill-Kummissarju. Dawn il-kundizzjonijiet jinkludu l-istess kundizzjonijiet applikabbli għal Liċenzja Speċjali ta' Kollettur A, kif ukoll kundizzjonijiet addizzjonali ta' sigurtà, inkluż bħala minimu l-installazzjoni ta' allarmi u sistemi oħra ta' sorveljanza. Il-Kummissarju jista' wkoll jeħtieġ erbgħa u għoxrin (24) siegħa ta' sorveljanza tal-bini.";

(b) fis-subartikolu (4) tiegħu l-kliem "juża xi arma tan-nar minn dawk elenkati taħt it-Taqsima I tal-Iskeda III" għandhom jiġu sostitwiti bil-kliem "juża xi arma tan-nar minn dawk elenkati taħt l-Iskeda III".

Tħassir tal-artikolu 67 tal-Att prinċipali.

14. L-artikolu 67 tal-Att prinċipali għandu jiġi mħassar.

Emenda tal-Iskeda II li tinsab mal-Att prinċipali.

15. It-Taqsima I tal-Iskeda II li tinsab mal-Att prinċipali għandha tiġi emendata kif ġej:

(a) il-partita 5 tagħha għandha tiġi sostitwita bil-partita ġdida li ġejja:

"5. Armi tan-nar twal semiawtomatiċi jew repeating b'kanen smoothbore, li ma jkunux inqas minn 45 ċm mit-tul, u l-kanen smoothbore li ma jkunux iktar minn 60 ċm mit-tul.";

(b) minnufih wara l-partita 10 tagħha għandha tiġi miżjuda l-partita ġdida li ġejja:

"11. Kwalunkwe arma tan-nar taħt din il-kategorija li ġiet mibdula biex tispara fil-vojt, sustanzi irritanti, sustanzi attivi oħra jew balal pirotekniċi, jew f'arma tas-salut jew akustika.".

Emenda tal-Iskeda III li tinsab mal-Att prinċipali.

16. L-Iskeda III li tinsab mal-Att prinċipali għandha tiġi emendata kif ġej:

(a) l-intestatura tagħha għandha tiġi sostitwita bl-intestatura ġdida li ġejja:

"SKEDA III
(artikolu 35(4))";

(b) minnufih wara l-partita 4 tagħha għandha tiġi miżjuda l-partita ġdida li ġejja:

"5. Kwalunkwe arma tan-nar f'din il-kategorija li ġiet mibdula biex tispara fil-vojt, sustanzi irritanti, sustanzi attivi oħra jew balal pirotekniċi, jew f'arma tas-salut jew akustika.".

Żieda ta' Skeda ġdida fl-Att prinċipali.

17. Minnufih wara l-Iskeda III li tinsab mal-Att prinċipali għandha tiġi miżjuda l-Iskeda ġdida li ġejja:

"SKEDA IV
(artikoli 2, 35(4))

SPEĊIFIKAZZJONIJIET TEKNIĊI GĦALL-ARMI TAL-ALLARM U TAS-SINJALI FL-ARTIKOLI 2 U 35(4)

1. L-apparati għandhom jiġu rreġistrati u awtorizzati biss jekk jissodisfaw ir-rekwiżiti li ġejjin:

(a) ikunu kapaċi jisparaw tiri pirotekniċi tas-sinjali jekk jitwaħħal adattatur mal-bokka tal-kanna biss;

(b) ikollhom apparat ieħor li jiflaħ fl-apparat stess li jipprevjeni li jiġu sparati skratać ikkargati b'tiri solidi uniċi jew multipli, b'balal solidi jew bi projettili solidi;

(ċ) ikunu ddisinjati għal skartoċċ elenkat, u li jikkonforma mad-dimensjonijiet u ma' standards oħra msemmija fit-Tabella VIII tat-Tabelli tad-Dimensjonijiet tal-Iskratać u taċ-Chambers (TDCC) stabbilita permezz tal-Kummissjoni Internazzjonali Permanenti għall-Immarkar tal-Armi ż-Żgħar (CIP), fil-verżjoni li tkun fis-seħħ mill-waqt tal-adozzjoni tad-Direttiva ta' Implimentazzjoni tal-Kummissjoni (UE) 2019/69 tas-16 ta' Jannar 2019 li tistabbilixxi speċifikazzjonijiet tekniċi għall-armi tal-allarm u tas-sinjal skont id-Direttiva tal-Kunsill 91/477/KEE dwar il-kontroll tal-akkwist u l-pussess ta' armi.

2. L-apparati ma jkunux jistgħu jiġu mmodifikati permezz ta' għodod ordinarji biex jisparaw, jew biex ikunu jistgħu jiġu mibdula biex jisparaw tir, balla jew projettili bl-azzjoni ta' propellant kombustibbli.

3. Il-komponenti essenzjali kollha tal-apparati jkunu ddisinjati b'tali mod li ma jkunux jistgħu jiġu ffittjati jew jintużaw bħala komponenti essenzjali ta' armi tan-nar.

4. Il-kanen tal-apparati ma jkunux jistgħu jinqalgħu jew jiġu mmodifikati mingħajr ma ssir ħsara sinifikanti lill-apparat jew mingħajr ma jinqered l-apparat.

5. Fil-każ ta' apparati b'kanna li ma taqbiżx it-30 ċm jew li t-tul ġenerali tagħhom ma jaqbiżx is-60 ċm, l-apparat jinkorpora barriers li ma jistgħux jinqalgħu tul it-tul kollu tal-kanna b'tali mod li tir, balla jew projettili ma jkunux jistgħu jgħaddu mill-kanna permezz tal-azzjoni ta' propellant kombustibbli, u b'tali mod li kwalunkwe spazju liberu li jitħalla fil-bokka tal-kanna ma jkollux tul ta' iktar minn 1 ċm.

6. Fil-każ ta' apparati li ma jaqgħux taħt il-partita 5, l-apparat jinkorpora barriers li ma jistgħux jinqalgħu fuq minn tal-inqas terz tat-tul tal-kanna b'tali mod li tir, balla jew projettili ma jkunux jistgħu jgħaddu mill-kanna permezz tal-azzjoni ta' propellant kombustibbli, u b'tali mod li kwalunkwe spazju liberu li jitħalla fil-bokka tal-kanna ma jkollux tul ta' iktar minn 1 ċm.

7. Fil-każijiet kollha, kemm jekk l-apparat jaqa' taħt il-partita 5 jew il-partita 6, l-ewwel barrier fil-kanna jitqiegħed kemm jista' jkun qrib wara ċ-chamber tal-apparat filwaqt li jippermetti l-espulsjoni tal-gassijiet mit-toqob tal-ħruġ.

8. Għall-apparati ddisinjati biex jisparaw fil-vojt, il-barriers imsemmija fil-partita 5 jew fil-partita 6 jimblukkaw il-kanna għalkollox għajr għal waħda jew iktar mit-toqob tal-ħruġ għall-pressa tal-gass. Barra minn hekk, il-barriers jimblukkaw il-kanna għalkollox

b'tali mod li l-ebda gass ma jkun jista' jiġi sparat min-naħa ta' quddiem tal-apparat.

9. Il-barriers kollha jkunu permanenti u ma jkunux jistgħu jinqalgħu mingħajr ma jinqerdu ċ-chamber jew il-kanna tal-apparat.

(a) Għall-apparati ddisinjati biex jisparaw fil-vojt biss, il-barriers ikunu magħmula għalkollox minn materjal li jkun reżistenti u ma jkunx jista' jinqata', jittaqqab, jitħaffer bil-bor jew jiġi ssegat (jew kwalunkwe proċess simili) u li jkollu ebusija minima ta' 700 HV 30 (skont it-test tal-ebusija ta' Vickers).

(b) Għall-apparati mhux koperti bil-paragrafu preċedenti, il-barriers ikunu magħmula minn materjal li jkun reżistenti u ma jkunx jista' jinqata', jittaqqab, jitħaffer bil-bor jew jiġi ssegat (jew kwalunkwe proċess simili) u li jkollu ebusija minima ta' 610 HV 30. Il-kanna jista' jkollha kanal tul l-assi tagħha biex l-irritanti jew sustanzi attivi oħra jkunu jistgħu jiġu sparati mill-apparat.

Fi kwalunkwe każ, il-barriers ikunu ddisinjati b'tali mod li jipprevjenu l-okkorrenza ta' dawn li ġejjin:

(i) il-ħolqien jew it-tkabbir ta' toqba fil-kanna tul l-assi tagħha;

(ii) it-tneħħija tal-kanna, għajr fejn il-qafas u ż-żona taċ-chamber tal-apparat isiru inutli bħala riżultat tat-tneħħija, jew fejn l-integrità tal-apparat tant tkun kompromessa li ma tkunx tista' tintuża biex tifforma l-bażi ta' arma tan-nar mingħajr tiswija jew żieda sinifikanti.

10. Iċ-chamber u l-kanna jkunu t-tnejn spostati jew inklinati jew mqassma b'tali mod li jipprevjenu li l-munizzjon jiġi kkargat fl-apparat u sparat minnu. Barra minn hekk, fil-każ ta' apparati bħar-rivolver:

(a) il-fetħiet ta' quddiem taċ-chamber taċ-ċilindru jidjiequ sabiex jiġi żgurat li l-balal jiġu bblukkati fiċ-chamber;

(b) dawk il-fetħiet jiġu spostati lejn iċ-chamber.".

A 840

Mgħoddi mill-Kamra tad-Deputati fis-Seduta Nru 28 tas-27 ta' Ottubru, 2026.

CARMELO ABELA
Speaker

ELEANOR SCERRI
Skrivan tal-Kamra tad-Deputati

VERŻJONI ELETTRONIKA

I assent.

(L.S.) **MYRIAM SPITERI DEBONO**
President

30th October, 2026

ACT No. XX of 2026

AN ACT to amend the Arms Act, Cap. 480.

BE IT ENACTED by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the House of Representatives, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows:-

Short title and scope.

Cap. 480.

1. (1) The short title of this Act is the Arms (Amendment) Act, 2026 and this Act shall be read and construed as one with the Arms Act, hereinafter referred to as the "principal Act".

(2) The scope of this Act is to further transpose the provisions of "Directive (EU) 2021/555 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 March 2021 on control of the acquisition and possession of weapons (codification)", and to transpose the "Commission Implementing Directive (EU) 2019/69 of 16 January 2019 laying down technical specifications for alarm and signal weapons under Council Directive 91/477/EEC on control of the acquisition and possession of weapons".

Amendment of article 2 of the principal Act.

2. In article 2 of the principal Act the definition "Commissioner" shall be substituted by the following new definition:

" "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Police and the officer holding such appointment, as well as any person having an express authority to act for the said Commissioner in carrying

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into effect the provisions of this Act;".

Substitution of article 4 of the principal Act.

3. Article 4 of the principal Act shall be substituted by the following new article:

"Special authorisation.

4. (1) Without prejudice to article 3, the Commissioner may grant for educational, cultural, research or historical purposes, and in individual cases, exceptionally and in a duly reasoned manner, authorisations for firearms, essential components and ammunition classified in Schedule I, where this is not contrary to public security or public order.

(2) Any authorisation granted under this article shall be subject to a review by the Commissioner at least once every five (5) years.".

Amendment of article 5 of the principal Act.

4. Sub-article (2) of article 5 of the principal Act shall be substituted by the following new sub-article:

"(2) Without prejudice to the provisions of the Cap. 37. Customs Ordinance or any other law, and without prejudice to the requirement to obtain authorisation from other Member States or other States as applicable, no person shall, without a licence or permit from the Commissioner, import or bring into or export from Malta any firearm or ammunition as referred to in sub-article (1):

Provided that when a firearm arrives in Malta no person shall take possession thereof without prior approval by the Commissioner:

Provided further that the Commissioner may grant a temporary permit for the export and, or importation of firearms and ammunition as mentioned in sub-article (1) under such conditions as he may deem fit:

Provided further that the Commissioner may grant authorisation in line with this article for the person to take the weapon out of Malta for one or more trips for a period of one (1) year, subject to renewal. Such authorisation shall be entered into the European Firearms Pass:

Provided further that this article applies to firearms that have been converted to fire blanks, irritants, other active substances or pyrotechnic rounds, or into salute or acoustic weapons which, if authorised for importation into Malta, shall be classified under Schedule I, Schedule II or Schedule III as if they had not been converted:

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Provided further that this article shall apply to the importation of deactivated firearms.".

5. Paragraph (d) of article 14 of the principal Act shall be substituted by the following new paragraph: Amendment of article 14 of the principal Act.

"(d) has complied with such other requirements as may be prescribed by regulations or by the conditions of such licence concerning knowledge about and secure storage for such weapons, firearms and ammunition;" and immediately thereafter there shall be added the following new paragraph:

"(e) has been registered as a dealer by the Commissioner.";

6. In sub-article (1) of article 15 of the principal Act immediately after the words "shall keep a register showing the movement of any arm proper" there shall be added the words ", essential component". Amendment of article 15 of the principal Act.

7. Immediately after sub-article (2) of article 16 of the principal Act there shall be added the following new sub-article: Amendment of article 16 of the principal Act.

"(3) No person shall manufacture, modify, convert firearms or essential components, or manufacture, modify or convert ammunition unless he is in possession of a gunsmith licence issued in accordance with the Arms Licensing Regulations that specifically permits him to conduct any of these activities: S.L. 480.02.

Provided that modification of non-essential components or the replacement of components of a firearm that do not modify the scheduling of the firearm may also be performed by dealers:

Provided further that a target shooter licenced under this Act, and a person licensed as a hunter under the Hunting Licenses Regulations, may assemble or reload ammunition for personal use, subject to the condition that: S.L. 10.39.

(i) such ammunition shall be of the same calibre of his firearm or firearms and that such ammunition falls under the holder’s licence;

Cap. 33.

(ii) the licenced person shall conform with the relevant conditions applicable to the storage of gunpowder under the Explosives Ordinance, including article 18 thereof; and

(iii) such person shall not keep gunpowder in storage exceeding the limit stipulated in his licence.".

Amendment of article 20 of the principal Act.

8. Immediately after sub-article (2) of article 20 of the principal Act there shall be added the following new sub-article:

"(3) Any dealer or other person selling, transferring or delivering any arm proper in accordance with this article shall give the particulars whereby the firearm and the person acquiring it may be identified.".

Addition of a new article to the principal Act.

9. Immediately after article 20 of the principal Act there shall be added the following new article:

"Data-filing system.

20A. (1) The Commissioner shall establish and maintain a computerised data-filing system ensuring that all information required for the identification and tracing of every firearm, essential component and ammunition, together with information on their owners, is recorded in this system.

(2) The information recorded in this system shall be retained for a period of thirty (30) years after the destruction of the firearm or essential component concerned.".

Amendment of article 24 of the principal Act.

10. Article 24 of the principal Act shall be amended as follows:

(a) sub-article (1) thereof shall be amended as follows:

(i) in the Maltese version only, sub-paragraph (v) of paragraph (a) thereof shall be substituted by the following new sub-paragraph:

"(v) ta' reat kontra l-liġijiet li għandhom x'jaqsmu mal-qirda tal-prostituzzjoni, mat-traffikar fil-kummerċ tal-prostituzzjoni jew mat-traffikar ta' persuni; jew;";

(ii) paragraph (c) thereof shall be substituted by the following new paragraph:

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"(c) Whenever a person is sentenced to at least three (3) years of effective imprisonment, he shall not be eligible for a licence under this Act:

Provided that where the disqualifications established in article 24A apply, the Commissioner shall implement the disqualifications established in the said article.";

(b) sub-article (2) thereof shall be substituted by the following new sub-article:

S.L. 10.39.

"(2) For the purposes of this article, a hunting licence issued under the Hunting Licences Regulations shall be considered as a licence under this Act.".

Addition of a new article to the principal Act.

11. Immediately after article 24 of the principal Act there shall be added the following new article:

"Further disqualification provisions.

24A. (1) Whenever a person is sentenced to at least five (5) years of effective imprisonment for a serious offence that falls under one of the categories listed in sub-article (2), he shall not be entitled to apply for a licence for a period of twenty (20) years following the completion of his sentence:

Provided that notwithstanding anything contained in the Probation Act, for the purposes of this sub-article a person shall be deemed to have been convicted even if any of the provisions of the said Act may have been applied in his regard and in this case, the period during which he shall not be eligible for a licence shall apply from the date of termination of the period of probation:

Cap. 446.

Provided further that for the purposes of this article, a hunting licence issued in accordance with the Hunting Licences Regulations shall be considered as a licence under this Act.

S.L. 10.39.

(2) For the purposes of sub-article (1), serious offences shall include:

(a) an offence involving violence or attempted or threatened violence against the person;

(b) an offence under this Act;

(c) an offence of bodily harm with an arm proper or other instrument or of taking up any arm proper or other instrument against other persons;

(d) an offence of theft;

(e) an offence against the laws relating to the suppression of prostitution, white slave traffic or trafficking of persons;

(f) an offence relating to trafficking in drugs.".

Amendment of article 25 of the principal Act.

12. Sub-article (1) of article 25 of the principal Act shall be substituted by the following new sub-article:

"(1) A licence shall be refused to any person in the interest of public order or in the interest of the safety of such person or of the general public.".

Amendment of article 35 of the principal Act.

13. Article 35 of the principal Act shall be amended as follows:

(a) sub-article (2) thereof shall be substituted by the following new sub-article:

"(2) Museums exhibiting firearms under Schedule I, essential components and ammunition are required to comply with the following conditions imposed by the Commissioner. These conditions include the same conditions applicable to a Collector Licence A Special, as well as additional security conditions, including as a minimum the installation of alarms and other surveillance systems. The Commissioner may also require twenty-four (24) hour surveillance of the premises.";

(b) in sub-article (4) thereof the words "use any of the firearms listed under Part 1 of Schedule III" shall be substituted by the words "use any of the firearms listed under Schedule III".

Deletion of article 67 of the principal Act.

14. Article 67 of the principal Act shall be deleted.

Amendment of Schedule II to the principal Act.

15. Part I of Schedule II to the principal Act shall be amended as follows:

(a) item 5 thereof shall be substituted by the following new item:

"5. Repeating and semi-automatic long firearms with smoothbore barrels, which are not less than 45 cm in length, and the smoothbore barrels of which do not exceed 60 cm in length.";

(b) immediately after item 10 thereof there shall be added the following new item:

"11. Any firearm in this category that has been converted to firing blanks, irritants, other active substances or pyrotechnic rounds, or into a salute or acoustic weapon.".

16. Schedule III to the principal Act shall be amended as follows: Amendment of Schedule III to the principal Act.

(a) the heading thereof shall be substituted by the following new heading:

"SCHEDULE III
(article 35(4))";

(b) immediately after item 4 thereof there shall be added the following new item:

"5. Any firearm in this category that has been converted to firing blanks, irritants, other active substances or pyrotechnic rounds, or into a salute or acoustic weapon.".

17. Immediately after Schedule III to the principal Act there shall be added the following new Schedule: Addition of a new Schedule to the principal Act.

"SCHEDULE IV
(articles 2, 35(4))

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS FOR ALARM AND SIGNAL WEAPONS IN ARTICLES 2 AND 35(4)

1. The devices shall be registered and authorised only if they satisfy the following requirements:

(a) they are capable of shooting pyrotechnic signalling rounds only if an adaptor at the muzzle is attached;

(b) they have a durable device within the same device that prevents the firing of cartridges loaded with single or multiple solid shots, solid bullets or solid projectiles;

(c) they are designed for a cartridge listed in, and complying with the dimensions and other standards referred to in Table VIII of the Tables of Dimensions of Cartridges and Chambers (TDCC) established by the Permanent International Commission for the Proof of Small Arms (C.I.P.), in the version in force at the time of adoption of the Commission Implementing Directive (EU) 2019/69 of 16 January 2019 laying down technical specifications for alarm and signal weapons under

Council Directive 91/477/EEC on control of the acquisition and possession of weapons.

2. The devices are not capable of being modified through the use of ordinary tools to expel, or to become capable of being converted to expel a shot, bullet or projectile by the action of a combustible propellant.

3. All essential components of the devices are designed in such a manner that they cannot be fitted or used as essential components of firearms.

4. Barrels of the devices are not capable of being removed or modified without significantly damaging or destroying the device.

5. In the case of devices with a barrel not exceeding 30 cm or whose overall length does not exceed 60 cm, the device incorporates irremovable barriers along the full length of the barrel such that a shot, bullet or projectile is not able to pass through the barrel by the action of a combustible propellant, and in such a manner that any free space left at the muzzle is not more than 1 cm in length.

6. In the case of devices not falling within item 5, the device incorporates irremovable barriers on at least one third of the barrel length in such a manner that a shot, bullet or projectile are not able to pass through the barrel by the action of a combustible propellant, and in such a manner that any free space left at the muzzle is not more than 1 cm in length.

7. In all cases, whether the device falls within item 5 or item 6, the first barrier in the barrel is placed as close as possible behind the chamber of the device while allowing the expulsion of gases through exit holes.

8. For devices designed to fire only blanks, the barriers referred to in item 5 or item 6 wholly block the barrel apart from one or more exit holes for gas pressure. In addition, the barriers wholly block the barrel in such a way that no gas can be fired from the front of the device.

9. All barriers are permanent and incapable of being removed without destroying the chamber or the barrel of the device.

(a) For devices designed to fire only blanks, the barriers are wholly made of a material which is resistant to being cut, drilled, bored or sawn (or any similar process) and which has a minimum hardness of 700 HV 30 (according to the Vickers

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hardness test).

(b) For devices not covered by the preceding paragraph, the barriers are made of a material which is resistant to being cut, drilled, bored or sawn (or any similar process) and which has a minimum hardness of 610 HV 30. The barrel may have a channel along its axis to enable the irritants or other active substances to be expelled from the device.

In either case, the barriers are such that they prevent occurrence of the following:

(i) creation or enlargement of a hole in the barrel along its axis;

(ii) removal of the barrel, except where the frame and chamber area of the device are rendered useless as a result of the removal, or where the integrity of the device is so compromised that it cannot be used to form the basis of a firearm without significant repair or addition.

10. The cartridge chamber and barrel are both offset or tilted or staggered in such a way as to prevent ammunition from being loaded in and fired from the device. In addition, in the case of revolver-type devices:

(a) the cylinder chamber front openings are narrowed to ensure that bullets are blocked in the chamber;

(b) those openings are offset to the chamber.".

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Passed by the House of Representatives at Sitting No. 28 of the 27th October, 2026.

CARMELO ABELA
Speaker

ELEANOR SCERRI
Clerk of the House of Representatives

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