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"Exporting Nuclear Materials Items and Technology from Belgium: An Impossible Challenge?

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Fifteen years after

◆U.S.–India Civil Nuclear Agreement

Iran sanctions and their recent lifting

Russian embargo...





New business opportunities?

Indo-US nuclear deal

 Iran sanctions and their progressive lifting

 New peaceful nuclear programmes (UEA, Kenya, Pakistan..)





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Nuclear trade principles : EU competence

 Not anymore Euratom even of article 59

 Nuclear trade control : a part of WMD trade control system(s)

Essentially Regulation 428/2009





New constraints?

- 9/11 the fight against nuclear terrorism (NSG)
- Russian, North Korean embargo(es)... and nuclear items
- UNSCR 1540 from export control to trade management
- UNSCR 1887 adoption of international conditions of supply





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Extension of operators responsibilities ?

In terms of transactions	canying, intertering
In terms of operations	• intangible
In terms of items	 lists updating and catch-all (more)

Maybe easier to understand via



The gaz station syndrome



1930







1960



The gaz station syndrome









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The gaz station syndrome



2000





A example of extension of operator liability

- "Has been informed"
- "Knows"
- "Is aware"

That the items are or may be intended, in their entirety or in part, for use in connection with the development, production, handling, operation, maintenance, storage, detection, identification or dissemination of chemical, biological or nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices or the development, production, maintenance or storage of missiles capable of delivering such weapons.





Extension of operator liability and potential extension of scope

New potential end use to be controlled: Human security

"... the items in question are or may be intended, in their entirety or in part, for **use in connection with a violation of human rights**, **democratic principles** or freedom of speech as defined in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, by using **interception technologies and digital data transfer devices** for monitoring mobile phones and text messages and targeted surveillance of internet use, such as via monitoring centres or lawful interception gateways"

(European Parliament legislative resolution of 23 October 2012 on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No 428/2009 setting up a Community regime for the control of exports, transfer, brokering and transit of dual-use items (COM(2011)0704 – C7-0395/2011 – 2011/0310(COD))



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However new trade facilitations has been adopted

- **EU001** covers most Annex I exports Exports to **8 destinations**(AU, CA, JP, NZ, NO, CH, LI, US);
- **EU002** export of certain dual-use items to **6 destinations** (AR, HR, IS, ZA, KR, TR);
- **EU003** Export **after Repair / Replacement**. It authorises exports to 24 destinations (AL, AR, BA, BR, CL, CN (including HK and MO), HR, MK, TOM, IS, IN, KZ, MX, ME, MA, RU, RS, SG, ZA, KR, TN, TR, UA, AE);
- EU004 Temporary Export for Exhibition or Fair. It authorises exports to 24 destinations (AL, AR, HR, BA, BR, CL, CN (including HK and MO), MK, TOM, IC, IN, KZ, MX, ME, MA, RU, RS, SG, ZA, KR, TN, TR, UA, AE)
- **EU005 Telecommunications** Annex IIe Covers some category 5 part 1 items (for a specific list of covered items please refer to the legislation). It authorises exports to 9 destinations (AR, CN (including HK and MO), HR, IN, RU, ZA, KR, TR, and UA)
- EU006 chemicals Covers several items in category 1C350, 1C450.a. and 1C450.b. It authorises exports to 6 destinations (AR, HR, IC, KR, TR, and UA)





And most of nuclear materials, equipment and technology are included in Annex IV







What's about Belgium ?

Before 2004

- **One** licensing authority to apply for an export licence
- **One** committee to asses CANPAN/CANVEK to grant the authorisation
- One custom authority





After 2004

- **Three** regional licensing authority plus one federal to apply for a licence
- **One** committee (CANPAN/CANVEK) to asses, grant or deny the authorisation
- **Three** regional authority to assess grant or deny the authorisation
- One custom authority





How this happenned ?

Before 2004

- EU: Regulation 1334/2000 ruling the exports of dual use items
 Nuclear items: Annex I category 0 and 1
- Belgium Nuclear Trade Law of February 9 1980 and Ministerial Decrees

Establishing CANPAN/CANVEK and export control principles of nuclear items and a **list of items** to control





After 2004: Nuclear trade regionalization: an intended consequence...

Regionalization organized by the Special Law on Constitutional Reform.

Article 6§4 VI Special law is referring to :

- produits et des technologies à double usage
- producten en technologieën voor tweeërlei gebruik

... as defined by Annex I of EU Regulation, therefore nuclear trade is included





Statement during the debate at the Parliament by the Federal Minister in charge that "puclear items" are

charge that "nuclear items" are included....

Political statement in contradiction with the Law ...

so let's compromize





Informal adoption of **gentlemen agreement** between Federal and Regions

- Regional authorities will voluntary submit nuclear export application to CANPAN/CANVEK
- 2. Federal Authorities will invite Regions to participate to CANPAN meetings (with right to vote)





Why keep things simple when complexity is possible ?

Constitutional Court Judgment of November 2011(168/2011)





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- Acknowledging for a parallel competence of Federal and Regions
- Involve a double authorisation procedure Who is the first, who takes over the decision?
- List of items not necessarily identical
 - Law of February1981 and its implementing acts for the Federal authority
 - Regulation 428/2009 (Annex I) for Regions

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Gouvernment Agreement of December 2011

Comittment to:

Les Régions et le niveau fédéral s'engagent dans un accord de coopération à faciliter la coopération pour ce qui est de la politique en matière d'exportation de matières nuclé aires. L'accord de coopération se fondera sur les dispositions légales et institutionnelles en vigueur et sera axé sur les échanges d'information, le partage d'expertise et le moyen de rendre efficaces les procédures pré vues.





However in Dutch:

De Gewesten en het federale niveau verbinden er zich via een samenwerkingsakkoord toe om de samenwerking rond het nuclear exportbeleid te vergemakkelijken. Het samenwerkingsakkoord zal voortbouwen op de huidige geldende wettelijke en institutionele bepalingen en zich richten op informatie-uitwisseling, expertise-uitwisseling en het doeltreffend maken van de voorziene procedures.





Cooperation Agreement was
 not signed under the previous
 federal government

 No similar commitment taken by the new Federal Governement





Conclusion: Impact on Belgian nuclear trade?

- Number of licences issued didn't decrease
- Number of denials didn't increase
- No significant development of new nuclear activities

