

Model strategic trade control law components

Pr. Dr. Quentin MICHEL

Faculty of Law and Political Science Liège University Belgium

Breakout Session II



Objectives

- External constraints and commitments;
- Essentials legal components;
- Legislative and administrative articulation;



National strategic trade control law consists in the **implementation** of **commitments** take by Government authorities within

- International legally binding treaties CWC, BWC, NPT, UNSCR 1540, 1929 (Iran),...

Tend to universality

 International politically binding instruments : MTCR, WA, AG, NSG, Zangger Committee
 Do not tend to universality External constraints and commitments



- **Regional** legally or politically binding instruments

European Union (TEU and TFEU)

- **Bilateral** legally or politically binding instruments

Euratom/US agreement for the peaceful use of nuclear energy

- **Extraterritorial effect** of third State's legislation

US deemed export, Helms-Burton Act

External constraints and commitments



National room for manoeuvre is tied by external constraints and their potential political sensitivity



Essential components of a strategic trade control law shall be:

- An authorisation system;
- A verification and control principles;
- Sanctions;



An authorisation system shall include

- Authorisation principle

Including a non-proliferation principle and/or a prohibition of certain transfers ?

- Scope of implementation

Operations concerned : export, transit, brokering Definition of strategic items : dual-use items and/ or conventional weapons ?

Establishment of catch-all clause provision(s)



Conditions of supply

- Objective elements
- No often determined by the law
- Ad minima two

Ratification of certain **treaties** (NPT, CWC, BWC)

Comprehensive safeguards agreement for nuclear items



Criteria of supply

- Subjective elements
- Elements to be assessed by the Licencing Authority while considering a licence application Not necessarily comprehensive
 - EU Code of conduct



The trade control law shall also define:

 Authorities in charge of analysing licence applications and issuing denials or authorisations

Administrative and political process

- Appeal procedure in case of denial or authorisation



The law shall determine:

- Types of authorisations

Individual, global, general

- Specific procedure to use it

ICP requirement a specific condition for global authorisation



Verification and control principles

- Establishment of information exchange mechanisms between authorities

Consultative commission?

 Requirement of certain documents such as end-user certificate, Delivery Verification Certificate Law essential components



Sanctions

- Effective;
- Proportionate;
- Dissuasive;

Might include penalties for operators who have breach their *non-proliferation responsibility*

Violation of level 2 and 3 of catch-all clause

Legislative and administration articulation



Strategic trade control law is **an element** of national control regime built up by **two categories** of acts:

- Legislative acts
 Revision might be lengthy
- Implementing acts or administrative acts Therefore the law shall draft as part of one **integrated system**

Revision of the lists, possibility to restrain the use of certain types of licences



To conclude

National export control regime has to be understandable for operators to whom it will be applied